Transcript: Sok Sareth | 24-06-18 | 35mn16sec **(15-07-18 at 10:40-11:30am and 6:30-8:20pm)**

R: What is your name and how old are you?

Sareth: My name is Sareth, 30.

R: Are you married?

S: Yes.

R: How many kids do you have?

S: 3 children, 1 son and 2 daughters.

R: What do you do today?

S: I am selling fish, everything like Kror oaw Chhuk(edible rhizome of the lotus).

R: Most of people here are fishermen?

S: Yes.

R: I would to know who does cooking in the household?

S: Me.

R: Only you?

S: Yes.

R: When you are cooking, who can come to help you?

S: My husband.

**R: Do you like cooking? Why?**

**S: Yes. If we don’t do it, what we can eat. It’s a must.**

R: How many members in the family?

S: 5 members with our children.

R: What do you use to cook?

S: Use gas, rarely use solar stove since I first bought, only times I used it.

**R: Why don’t you use it?**

**S: Difficult, it requires to find wood and don’t have time.**

I: How long did she buy it?

S: Long time I forget. Never pay for it.

I: She uses the lamp.

R: Do you use the lamp?

S: Rarely use, only one time when there was no battery.

I: Why does she charge it?

S: Charge it to use with phone.

R: Don’t you have electric?

S: Yes.

R: Who can make decision to buy things relating to cooking.

S: My husband and I decided.

R: After you bought the stove, how did your children react to this purchase?

S: Yes, they said they why mother bought it if we already have the gas.

R: You used only two times, right?

S: Yes, because kids don’t find wood and it is difficult to make fire.

I: Is it more difficult than Changran Lauw?

R: Do you use Changran Lauw?

S: Neve use.

R: What features do you like about the stove?

S: It looks good to use. I like phone charging and light.

R: What features don’t you like about the stove?

S: I like it but I rarely use because I am difficult to tell children to find wood.

I: Why did she buy the stove?

**S: First, it looks easy to use, they I bought it but after I bought it, it is difficult and makes pans black. Then, lazy to use.**

I: Does she have only one reason?

S: Yes, one more thing, it is too short for using with battery inside. First, I bought it I charged the stove at other house with electric. I cooked rice and made dish one time, the battery was gone. Then, I stopped to use it.

R: How long do you use after charging the stove?

S: I never use.

R: How’s about charging phone?

S: When I charge my phone, I can use it for 3 or 4 days. And I charge the stove with solar panel all the time.

I: Go back to black pan. Why doesn’t she like black pan?

S: Because it doesn’t look good, I try to clean but it sticks with pan.

R: Why don’t you like black pan? Is it about other people look and judge?

S: No, I don’t like it. Besides, the stove is high and not suitable and the fire comes out that can make the whole pan black.

R: If you have a chance to buy it again, would you buy it?

S: I’m not sure. Why should we buy it if I already have one?

I: If she doesn’t have it. Would she buy it?

S: No, because I don’t have money. Since I bought it, I have never paid.

R: You don’t pay even the first time?

S: Yes. First, I didn’t want to buy it, they said we should try to use it first and pay little. But I can’t earn money.

R: First, customers buy it, they have to pay for the first time. Did you pay it?

S: I don’t remember.

I: Why did she decide to buy it?

S: At that time, my stove broke. My neighbors told that I should buy because it is easy to use and has many things, then I bought it.

R: If you were to make change on the stove, what would you change it?

**S: Potrest is high, not stable, difficult to poke wood, it needs small wood and sometimes fire can touch hands.**

R: Would you recommend the stove to others?

S: Yes. Some said that it’s likely good to use, but after we used it we realize that it is complex. My neighbors said it is expensive. One organization that helps poor family said that the stove is expensive, even $10 is still expensive.

R: Which organization?

S: The organization which helps poor people to build house.

R: Do they lend villagers money?

S: If we don’t have home, they help to build it for us. We pay haft and they help to pay haft. Like people mortgage their land and house, that organization returns it to us. Then we pay to organization.

R: Is it local or foreign organization?

S: Foreign.

R: Which country?

S: I don’t know. My sister told me.

R: Did they build the house for you?

S: Not my house, my sister’s.

I: What kind of house? How do they select?

S: Bamboo house.

R: Do they spend much to build that house?

S: I don’t know. They build a lot of house.

R: Did the organization come to tell you about the stove?

S: No, my sister told them and they met her and saw the stove.

R: Where is her house?

S: Over there, she lives in house built by organization.

Personal

R: What does your day look like?

S: Difficult. There are something to sell, but sometimes I don’t have anything for sale. Fish is not good, we can sell little of it.

R: Have you ever been school?

S: Yes, only grade 5.

R: Why did you decide to stop?

S: I couldn’t catch up lesson.

R: Did you stop by yourself or family?

S: Myself.

R: Could you tell about the family you grew up?

S: Difficult, we earn just for a day, don’t have enough money, plus I didn’t understand lesson, then stopped from school.

R: What did you do after you stopped?

S: I worked in Phnom Penh.

R: What kind of job?

S: A maid.

I: Why did she stop being a maid?

S: I got married.

R: Is it arrange or love marriage?

S: We love each other, then our parents made a wedding for us.

R: How did you know each other?

S: He came to my house. He also lives in the village. When there were festivals, we met each other.

R: What does Khmer women mean to you?

S: I don’t know.

R: Do you think men are different from women?

S: Yes, they are different.

R: How are they different?

S: I don’t know how to answer.

R: How many brothers and sisters do you have?

S: 3 sisters and 3 brothers.

R: Did your parents raise sons and daughters differently?

S: The same.

R: Do they have different rules between sons and daughters?

S: No, all the same.

R: How about traveling?

S: The same, they didn’t forbid us, but we rarely hanged out. We worked and walked during any festivals.

R: Does your mother raise kids differently from you raise your kids?

S: The same. They raised us, when we were young, if they had any food, they kept for us. It’s the same me.

R: Do you think the role of Khmer women has change?

S: Yes. Before they worked hard, but now not so hare because they are old and sick.

R: Yes, it is true. But could you tell about their role.

S: Now they have more jobs than before.

R: She told that she borrowed a lot of money from people in the village. Have you heard about Chbab Srey?

S: Never.

Opinion

From her story, she received little education that I think it absolutely affects her decision making to buy the stove. She bought it after salesperson convinced her and she couldn’t measure the debt she’s gonna pay every month. I am curious why most people drop out school because of being poor. Don’t they think being poor because lack of education. They work hard every day but can’t balance their lives and career. The uncertainty still remain in her life and family. She can’t decide for herself to work outside when her husband forbad her. I can’t imagine her situation by staying home with unstable job like this. At least she can work in factory and get a stable salary and sent all her children to school.

