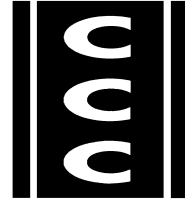


**Small-Scale  
Research  
Report**

គណៈកម្មាធិការ  
សហប្រតិបត្តិការ  
ជប៉ុន-កម្ពុជា  
Cooperation Committee  
for Cambodia  
Comité de Coopération  
pour le Cambodge



**Labour Migration to Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian Border**

Recent Trends in Four Villages of Battambang Province



**Analyzing Development Issues (ADI) Trainees (Round 12)  
and ADI Team**

**December 2003**

# **Labour Migration to Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian Border**

Recent Trends in Four Villages of Battambang Province

**Analyzing Development Issues (ADI) Trainees (Round 12)  
and ADI Team**

**December 2003**

## Table of Contents

<b>1- Abstract</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2- Problem Statement</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3- Objectives</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4- Key Questions</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5- Research Methods</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>6- Findings and Analysis</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>6-1- Trends</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>6-2- Local Context</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>6-3- Problems Encountered</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>6-4- Livelihoods</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>7- Conclusion</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>8- Implications</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>9- Appendices</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>9-1- Map of Study Area</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>9-2- Return Migrant Worker Interview Questionnaire</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>9-3- Migrant Household Member Interview Questionnaire</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>9-4- Focus Group Interview for Village Leader</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>9-5- List of ADI Participants – Round 12</b>	<b>40</b>

## **Abstract**

This ADI study assesses recent trends in labor migration to Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian border from four villages of Battambang province. In examining these trends, the study explores the local context that has given rise to migration, identifies problems arising from migration for both the migrants and their households and considers how the livelihoods of migrant households have been affected by migrant work.

The research reveals that large percentages of village households have participated in migrant work and that the large bulk of the trips have occurred in the past three years (2001-2003). While higher wages available in Thailand and along the border constituted significant "pull" factors, "push" factors from Cambodia played a more determining role. Successive floods in the past three years in the study area resulted in the demise of rice farming and led villagers to seek employment elsewhere. Most migrant workers encountered problems at their work sites and upon their return home.

By and large, the migrant workers were not able to invest their earnings into productive assets or activities to improve their livelihoods. Still, in the context of the conditions they faced and the opportunities available to them, migrant work remained a viable, if not attractive, livelihood strategy to many households. Given the exigencies of the market economy, the mobility of the Cambodian labor force, and the relatively open borders between Cambodia and Thailand, the volume of migrant labor into Thailand along the border was likely to persist.

## **Labor Migration to Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian Border: Recent Trends from Four Villages in Battambang Province**

### **Problem Statement**

Since the early 1990s labor migration of Cambodians to Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian border has become a significant source of employment for households in the northwest provinces. In conducting various field research studies over the past four years the Analyzing Development Issues (ADI) project has become increasingly aware of the magnitude of this trend in the lives of ordinary villagers. In order to gain a better understanding of labor migration to Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian border, its various causes and consequences, the ADI project conducted a field study in four villages of Battambang province in October 2003 with 20 training participants. This report presents the findings of that study.

In 1997 the National Institute of Statistics estimated that migrant workers to Thailand comprised 12 per cent of the total labor force in Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, and Siem Reap provinces.<sup>1</sup> In 1999 the Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI) conducted a study of labor migration from 14 villages of Battambang province.<sup>2</sup> This study noted that the reasons for the high levels of labor migration to Thailand included both the availability of relatively higher-paying jobs in Thailand as well as the lack of earning opportunities in Cambodia. The study likewise recorded a decrease in Cambodian labor migrants in 1998 due to the downturn in the Thai economy. The cutbacks at this time resulted in severe difficulties including the non-payment of wages, and the harassment and arrest of workers by the Thai police. Now four years later, despite numerous problems encountered by migrants abroad and their families at home, labor migration to Thailand persists and constitutes an important livelihood strategy for many households in northwest Cambodia.

The present ADI research seeks to assess more recent trends in labor migration to Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian border from four villages of Battambang province. This includes consequences, if any, from the January 2003 anti-Thai demonstrations in Phnom Penh. The study also intends to explore the local context that has given rise to migration, identify problems arising from migration for both the migrants and their households, and examine how the livelihoods of migrant households have been affected by migrant work.

---

<sup>1</sup> *Socio-Economic Survey of Cambodia 1996* (Phnom Penh: National Institute of Statistics, 1997), Vol. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Chan Sophal & So Sovannarith, *Cambodian Labour Migration to Thailand: A Preliminary Assessment*, Working Paper 11, (Phnom Penh: Cambodia Development Resource Institute, June 1999).

## **Research Objectives**

- To assess current trends in labor migration to Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian border in four villages of one commune of Battambang province.
- To explore the local context that has given rise to migration.
- To identify problems arising from migration for both the migrants and their households.
- To examine how the livelihoods of migrant households have been affected by migrant work.

## **Key Questions**

### *Trends*

1. In recent years (January 1999-September 2003) has labor migration to Thailand increased, decreased, or remained the same? In these years what were the broader social, economic, and political events that accounted for this?

2. Is the destination of migrants to Thailand mostly long-range (Bangkok and other interior locations) or short-range (along the Thai-Cambodian border)? Is the duration of their work mostly long-term or short-term?

3. Are the migrants mostly men or women? Married or single? Younger or older? Better-off or poorer?

### *Local Context*

1. What are the reasons why household members leave the village to work in Thailand and along the Thai-Cambodian border?

2. Are these reasons related to personal circumstances (e.g. sickness or landlessness), natural disasters (e.g. floods), or limited labor opportunities in Cambodia?

3. Are the local situations that lead to labor migration likely to change in the near future?

### *Problems*

1. What are the problems encountered by migrants in working in Thailand and along the Thai-Cambodian border? How do they respond to these problems?

2. What are the problems encountered by migrants once they return home to their villages? How do they respond to these problems?

3. What are the problems encountered by households in the village left behind by migrant members? How do they respond to these problems?

### *Livelihoods*

1. Have the livelihoods of the migrant households improved, worsened, or remained the same as a result of migrant work?

2. Have the migrants been able to invest their earnings into productive assets or activities? e.g. Buy land? Start a small business?

3. Has migrant work become a permanent livelihood strategy of the migrant households?

## **Research Methods**

The research was conducted by 20 ADI Round 12 trainees with assistance from 5 ADI facilitation team members. In all, 10 women and 13 men were involved in the study. The field research was conducted in four villages of Tapong commune, Thmar Korl district, Battambang province from October, 2-3, 2003. The four villages studied were Ang, Kok Douch, Poi Yung, and Tumpung (see Map, Appendix 1). The researchers were divided into four teams with each team responsible for gathering information in one of the four villages.

Two primary research methods were used: focus group interviews with key village leaders, and survey questionnaires with returned migrants and with household members of migrants still away from home. The focus group interviews, conducted in all four villages, included village chiefs, village development committee members, women leaders, returned migrant workers, and local policemen. The survey questionnaires, likewise conducted in the four villages, were conducted through purposive sampling with returned migrants and with household members of migrants still away from home. In no instance were the two types of survey questionnaires administered to the same household.

In Ang, Kok Douch, and Poi Yung villages, 15 returned migrants and 15 members of households of current migrants were interviewed in each village. In Tumpung village 16 migrants and 13 members of households of current migrants were interviewed. Thus, in all four villages 61 returned migrants and 58 members of households of current migrants were interviewed. The similarity of the survey questionnaires has, in some cases, allowed the research team to combine the responses of all 119 respondents.

## **Findings and Analysis**

### ***Trends***

The focus group discussions with village leaders underscored that large numbers of village households had members who had migrated to Thailand or the Thai-Cambodian border to find work. In some cases the work was at the border and at times lasted for only one or two months. Nonetheless, the pervasiveness of labor migration as a livelihood strategy was astonishing. Village leaders estimated that about 68% of the 295 households in Ang village had members who had migrated to work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border. Similarly, village leaders estimated that 78% of the 516 households in Kok Douch had members with migrant experience. In like manner, village leaders estimated that 50% of the 515 households in Poi Young had members with migrant experience. At the same time, village leaders estimated that all 388 households in Tumpung village had members with migrant histories. Leaders in all four villages reported that migrant workers included women as well as men, and that there had been a dramatic increase in migrant work in recent years.

The purposive sample of the study included 119 respondents. Sixty-one (61) of the respondents were returned migrants. In this group of returned migrants 48% were men and 52% were women. Most of these migrants were in the age groups from 18 to 30 years old (44%) and from 31 to 45 years old (41%). Others were in the age groups from 46 to 60 years old (11%), over 60 years old (2%), and under 18 years old (2%). More than half of the migrants were married (57%) and equal numbers were single (21%), and widows or widowers (21%).<sup>3</sup> A large percentage of the migrants had no schooling (34%), most had from 1 to 6 grades (54%), while others had from 7 to 9 grades (8%), and from 10 to 12 grades (5%). The average household size of these workers was 5.9 members, while the average number of household income earners was 2.7.

In addition to the 61 returned migrant workers interviewed, 58 members of households with migrants still away from home were also interviewed. The household members were asked questions of the experience of the most important migrant member still at the work site. Correlating the trips of the entire 119 migrant worker sample with the years they left the village reveals several notable trends (Table 1). First it becomes immediately clear that the large majority of migrant workers (76%) in the sample had made more than one trip. Indeed, the average number of trips per migrant worker was 2.8 trips. At the same time the number of trips had more than doubled from one time period to another. Most startling, the number of trips made in the last three years, from 2001 to 2003, accounted for 66% of the total trips that were ever made by the sample group. Despite the fluctuations in volume that may have occurred from month to month, and from year to year, the incidence of labor migration was clearly on the rise.

The duration of more than half of the total trips (54%) of the entire 119 migrant worker sample was from one to six months. Another 12% of the total trips lasted from six months to one year. Still another 15% of the total trips lasted from one to three years. Only 2% of the total trips went beyond three years. At the other end of the spectrum, 16% of the total trips lasted for less than one month. In one-third of the total trips taken, migrant workers were accompanied by other household members. These were mostly children or grandchildren.

<b>Year Left</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Trip</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Trip</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Trip</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Trip</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Trip</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Trip</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Trip</b>	<b>Total</b>
Before '90	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>3</b>
'90-'94	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	<b>7</b>
'95-'97	18	5	3	1	1	1	1	<b>30</b>
'98-'00	31	20	10	8	2	1	-	<b>72</b>
'01-'03	61	63	40	19	16	11	4	<b>214</b>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>326</b>
n=119								

\*Note: One respondent did not remember the years of the trips.

<sup>3</sup> Percentages do not always add up to 100 due to rounding.

Labor migration from the study villages was both long-range and short-range. Long-range migrants traveled deep inside Thailand to Bangkok and other large towns. Short-range migrants worked in farming areas along the Thai-Cambodian border.<sup>4</sup> Of the total destinations traveled to by the 119 migrant workers in the sample, 52% were long-range and 48% were short-range (Table 2). At the same time 40% of the short-range trips were to the Thai side of the border while 60% of the short-range trips were to the Cambodian side of the border. Perhaps not unexpectedly, the long-range migrants averaged fewer trips (2.4 trips) than the short-range migrants (3.2 trips).

<b>Place of Destination</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Trip	2 <sup>nd</sup> Trip	3 <sup>rd</sup> Trip	4 <sup>th</sup> Trip	5 <sup>th</sup> Trip	6 <sup>th</sup> Trip	7 <sup>th</sup> Trip	<b>Total</b>
Long-Range	73	46	26	15	6	4	3	<b>173</b>
Short-range (Thai side of border)	24	18	8	7	4	2	1	<b>64</b>
Short-range (Cambodian side of border)	26	24	20	9	7	6	4	<b>96</b>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>333</b>
n=119								

\*Note: A few respondents went to more than one destination during their trips.

In 45% of the total trips made by the 119 migrant workers in the sample, guides were used to facilitate entry and work in Thailand or along the border. Workers relied upon guides particularly in their first trips. The usual fees were from 2000 to 3000 Thai Baht (about US\$ 50 to US\$ 75). Of note, 82% of the migrant workers in the sample had borrowed money to finance their trips. The large majority had borrowed more than 2000 Thai Baht, primarily from moneylenders with high interest rates. At the time of the interview, 24% of the migrant borrowers had yet to repay their loans.

Work available to migrants in the interior of Thailand was different than the work available along the Thai-Cambodian border (Table 3). Long-range migrants were engaged primarily in construction work, transport work, household work, restaurant work, and petty trade. By comparison, short-range migrants were mainly involved in agricultural labor such as clearing fields, harvesting corn, harvesting beans and fruit, harvesting rice, and planting sugar cane.

<sup>4</sup> See Chan & So, *Cambodian Labour Migration to Thailand*, 5.

<b>Table 3. Type of Work, Long-Range and Short-Range, by Migrant Worker, October 2003</b>			
<b>Type of Work</b>	<b>Long-Range</b>	<b>Short-Range</b>	<b>Total</b>
Construction worker	34	2	36
Transport worker	16	3	19
Household worker	12	2	14
Waiter	9	2	11
Petty trade (pork, fish, & fruit)	9	1	10
Planting sugar cane	4	9	13
Transplanting rice	4	8	12
Clearing fields	3	28	31
Harvesting rice	3	9	12
Factory worker	3	0	3
Fishing worker	3	0	3
Harvesting cassava	2	5	7
Carpentry	2	2	4
Company cleaner	2	0	2
Harvesting bean/fruit	1	10	11
Setting up electric posts	1	0	1
Cultivating soybean	1	0	1
Begging	1	0	1
Raising chicken/fish	1	0	1
Harvesting corn	0	24	24
n=119*			
*Note: Some migrants did more than one type of work during the same or different trips.			

During a majority of the total trips made (58%), the 119 migrant workers in the sample received free accommodation. By comparison, these workers received free food in only 15% of the total trips made. Wages of migrant workers varied. During one-third of the trips undertaken workers received more than 3000 Thai Baht per month. During another one-third of the trips made workers earned from 2001 to 3000 Thai Baht per month. And during the other one-third of the trips made workers received 2000 Thai Baht or less per month. As mentioned above, many workers borrowed money with interest to finance their trips and some paid fees to guides to facilitate their illegal entry and work in Thailand. Moreover, much of the migrant work was irregular. In particular, agricultural labor along the Thai-Cambodian was seasonal.

### ***Local Context***

Reasons given for undertaking work in Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian border reveal a combination of "push" and "pull" factors, although clearly "push" factors were mentioned more frequently (Table 4). While 60% of the sample respondents mentioned that there was work available in Thailand, 76% stated that there was insufficient work in Cambodia, 60% said they had no rice land, and 51% declared that they had no capital to start a business. Respondents also cited debts from health costs (27%), debts from rice cultivation (21%), and food shortages (16%).

<b>Reasons for Migrating</b>	
Insufficient work in Cambodia	90
Work available in Thailand	72
No rice land	72
No capital to start businesses	61
Debts from health costs	32
Debts from rice cultivation	25
Food shortages	19
Low rice yields	6
Lack of draft animals	1
n=119	

The focus group discussions with village leaders further elaborated these issues. In Ang village the focus group participants said that three years of recent flooding had resulted in low rice yields and debts from investments in rice cultivation. This led some households to sell their rice land and to look for work elsewhere. Lack of employment opportunities near the village and increases in household size gave rise to labor migration. In Kok Douch village the focus group discussants described similar circumstances. Low rice yields, landlessness, unemployment, and lack of capital to start businesses led villagers to migrate to Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian border. In Tumpung village focus group members cited the flooding from 2000 to 2002 and the lack of employment opportunities nearby as the main reasons for labor migration. In Poi Young village focus group respondents similarly mentioned the recurrent floods as a critical factor, which led to low rice yields, increasing debts, and land sales. Unable to find alternative sources of income close to home villagers migrated elsewhere.

Of note, lack of returns from rice farming was clearly evident in the sample of 119 migrant worker households. Nearly 60% of the migrant worker households had no rice land. At the same time, almost 40% of the migrant households had sold rice land. The main reasons given for the sale of rice land were sickness, death, debt, and the lack of food and money. Rather interestingly, 23% of the migrant households with rice farms were not cultivating rice in the current crop season. Landlessness and lack of profitability in rice farming were precipitating household members to migrate.

### ***Problems Encountered***

In the survey, questions were asked of the returned migrants about problems they had encountered in Thailand and along the Thai-Cambodian border (Table 5). Amazingly, 38% of the migrants reported that they had been arrested by the police. Anecdotal evidence suggests that many of these arrests were of short duration and resolved after some payment in cash or in labor was made to the police. Nonetheless, 11% of the sample mentioned that they had been physically beaten. Respondents also mentioned that they did not receive full pay (18%) and were sick due to work overloads (7%). To a large

extent the problems encountered by migrants in Thailand resulted from their illegal status, which made them vulnerable. Of note, 36% of the sample respondents said that they had not encountered any problems at their work sites.

<b>Problems Encountered as Migrant Workers</b>	
Arrested by police	23
Did not receive full pay for work	11
Physically beaten	7
Work overload led to sickness	4
Berated or looked down upon	3
Contracted malaria	2
No problems	22
n=61	

The main solution to being arrested was to pay money to the police. Solutions to other problems included leaving the job, returning home, and borrowing money for the treatment of illness. Some respondents simply endured the problems for fear of losing their jobs. Without assistance from outside agencies, the migrant dealt with most problems on their own.

In the survey, questions were also asked of the returned migrants about problems they had encountered once they were back home (Table 6). Tellingly, 41% of the sample respondents reported that they could not find jobs after they had returned. Of similar concern, 30% said that they had incurred high expenses for health treatment and 15% said that they were physically weak and could not work hard. Of note, 30% said that they had not encountered problems once they had returned home.

<b>Problems Encountered at Home</b>	
Could not find job	25
Incurred high costs for health treatment	18
Physically weak could not work hard	9
Living condition went down	5
Thai and Cambodian police asked for money	3
Had to repay debts	2
No problems	18
n=61	

In large measure the returning migrants were unable to solve the problems they encountered at home in the village. For the most part, they undertook short-term wage labor, gathered food, relied on relatives, borrowed money, relied on savings, and planned to migrate once again.

Similarly, questions were asked of members of households with migrants still away about problems they had encountered in the migrant worker's absence (Table 7). Many respondents declared that they lacked money to buy food (meat, fish, vegetables) (59%), to buy rice (46%), to send children to school (27%), and to buy clothes (19%). Respondents likewise complained that they lacked labor for rice farming (24%), for taking care of children (17%), and to do household chores (3%). Of note, 21% said that they had not encountered problems during the migrant's absence.

<b>Problems Encountered During Migrant's Absence</b>	
Lack of money to but food (other than rice)	34
Lack of money to buy rice	27
Lack of money to send children to school	16
Lack of labor for rice farming	14
Lack of money to buy clothes	11
Lack of caretakers for children	10
Worry about children all the time	3
Lack of labor to do household chores	2
Sick because of overwork	2
Lack of labor to watch over cows	1
No problems	12
n=58	

Among ways to solve these problems, the sample respondents borrowed money and rice, gathered vegetables and fished, engaged in petty trade, asked relatives for food, asked relatives to help take care of small children, and gave older children additional chores. They, too, received no special assistance from outside agencies.

### ***Livelihoods***

Village households who had undertaken labor migration had experienced some changes in the structure of their livelihood strategies. Previously the migrant households were primarily engaged in rice farming, rice wage labor, petty trade and fishing. After migration, the number of households primarily involved in rice farming and rice wage labor declined, while the number involved mainly in petty trade and fishing increased. At the same time, labor migration itself had become a primary livelihood strategy for some households.

In general, earnings from migrant labor had not been invested into productive assets or activities that had improved livelihood situations. Rather earnings from migrant labor were used mainly to support household subsistence and to repay debts.

Considering the overall consequences of migrant work, its benefits and limitations, the 119 migrant households in the sample had mixed views (Table 8). Some respondents were fairly positive, reporting that the situation was a little better than before (22%), that the household was able to buy rice (13%), support itself for awhile (6%), and able to

repay debts (2%). However, other respondents were less enthusiastic. Many said that the situation was still the same (40%). Still others said that the situation had worsened (16%). Despite this, when asked if they planned to migrate again, 64% of the 61 returned migrant workers said, "Yes."

<b>Consequences</b>	
Situation still the same	48
Situation a little better than before	26
Situation worsened (more debts, getting poorer)	19
Household able to buy rice	16
Household able to support itself for awhile	7
Household able to repay debts	2
Don't know (not yet returned)	1
n=119	

## **Conclusion**

While labor migration to Thailand and the Thai-Cambodian border has been recognized as a significant trend for the past several years, the sheer pervasiveness of the phenomenon in the four villages studied was truly astounding. For one, large percentages of village households had participated in migrant work. For another, the large bulk of the trips had occurred in the past three years. Even periodic disruptions such as the anti-Thai demonstrations in Phnom Penh in early 2003 had not curtailed the movement of Cambodian workers into Thailand and along the Thai-Cambodian border.

Findings from the study's limited sample suggested that trips to long-range and short-range destinations were relatively equal, and that the duration of most trips was from one to six months. Findings likewise indicated that migrant workers were rather equally men and women, largely between the ages of 18 to 45, the majority of whom were married, and most of whom had completed from one to six grades. More than half of the migrant households were landless.

Clearly, higher wages available in Thailand and along the border constituted significant "pull" factors. But unfortunately "push" factors from Cambodia had played a more determining role. Successive floods in the past three years in the study area had resulted in low rice yields, debts from rice farming, and, in some instances, landlessness. Coupled with lack of job opportunities nearby, the demise of rice farming had led villagers to seek employment elsewhere. For those who had sold their rice farms the shift in livelihood strategies was largely irreversible. Given the exigencies of the market economy, the mobility of the Cambodian labor force, and the relatively open borders between Cambodia and Thailand, the volume of migrant labor into Thailand and along the border was likely to persist.

For village households, migrant work brought hazards as well as benefits. While most migrant experiences were not as severe as those publicized in the press, large numbers of migrants encountered problems, including arrest and physical beatings, while away from home. Perhaps more disturbingly migrants also encountered huge problems upon their return to the village, which often led them to migrate again. Migrant households also suffered additional burdens when migrant members were absent. Still in the context of the conditions they faced, and the opportunities available to them, migrant work remained a viable, if not attractive, livelihood strategy to many households.

While many households acknowledged the benefits, albeit temporary, resulting from migrant work, large numbers also felt that their situations had remained the same. Several households indicated that their situations had worsened. By and large, migrant workers were not able to invest their earnings into productive assets or activities to improve their livelihoods. Rather they used their earnings to support the subsistence of their households and to repay debts.

### **Implications**

In 1999 the CDRI study helped to open the eyes of the development community and the government to the issue of labor migration to Thailand. However, in large measure NGOs and government agencies have still to address this issue adequately. By and large, NGOs have been content to implement their existing programs without proper regard for the extraordinary shifts in livelihood strategies that have taken place within their midst. This is unfortunate for opportunities abound for development, legal, and human rights NGOs to become proactively involved in this issue. Opportunities also exist for the Royal Government of Cambodia to take action on its own and bilaterally with the Royal Government of Thailand to strengthen the plight of Cambodian migrant workers.

For NGOs, several actions present themselves.

- NGOs need to rethink the relevance of their conventional development approaches in villages where labor migration is pervasive.
- NGOs need to examine what they can do to reduce the adverse conditions that lead villagers to migrate. This includes strengthening awareness of natural resource management issues especially those related to flooding. It also includes steps to deal more decisively with the issue of landlessness.
- NGOs need to reflect on ways that they can provide assistance more directly to migrants and migrant households. This includes education on the legal and human rights of migrant workers. It likewise embodies health care services to returning migrants. It may further involve the creation of support groups within the village.
- NGOs based in Cambodia need to establish links with NGOs based in Thailand to facilitate the process of assistance at work sites within Thailand.

- NGOs need to do advocacy work with the Royal Government of Cambodia to ensure that the human and legal rights of migrant workers are upheld and expanded.

For the national government and government agencies, actions likewise present themselves.

- The Royal Government of Cambodia needs to enter into talks with the Royal Government of Thailand to secure the legal status of Cambodian migrant workers in Thailand. This includes detailed provisions for their human and legal rights and the establishment of Cambodian government assistance centers in Thailand. This likewise includes the strict regulation of guides and contract agencies. It also involves strengthening relationships between Cambodian provincial officials and police and Thai provincial officials and police in provinces along the border.
- Government agencies need to delineate more carefully their specific areas of responsibility under the broad issue of labor migration.
- Government agencies need to strengthen agricultural, rural development, and natural resource management programs to reduce the conditions that lead people to migrate.
- Government agencies need to provide vocational training to rural youth for off-farms jobs in Cambodia and Thailand.



**Appendix 2. Returned Migrant Worker  
Interview Questionnaire**

Name of Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Interviewee: \_\_\_\_\_ Checked by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Returned Migrant Worker Interview Questionnaire**

**Background of Returned Migrant Worker Interviewed**

1. Name of village  Kokdouch  
 Ang  
 Tumpoong  
 Poi Yung
2. Sex  Male  
 Female
3. Age  Under 18 years  
write age \_\_\_\_\_  18 - 30 years  
 31 - 45 years  
 46 - 60 years  
 over 60 years
4. Civil status  Single  
 Married  
 Widow
5. Number of children # \_\_\_\_\_
6. Number of household members (including migrant worker)  
# \_\_\_\_\_
7. How many of the household members work to support the livelihood of the household in cash or in kind?  
# \_\_\_\_\_
8. Educational attainment  No formal schooling  
write grade \_\_\_\_\_  1-6 grades  
 7-9 grades  
 10-12 grades  
 University

### Rice Land Ownership and Cultivation

9. Does your household own rice land?

- Yes
- No

10. How many hectares of rice land does your household own?

write ha \_\_\_\_\_

- 0.5 ha or less
- 0.51 ha-1 ha
- 1.1 ha - 2 ha
- 2.1 ha- 3 ha
- more than 3 ha
- N/A

11. Does your household rent rice land?

- Yes
- No

12. How many hectares of rice land does your household rent?

write ha \_\_\_\_\_

- 0.5 ha or less
- 0.51 ha-1 ha
- 1.1 ha - 2 ha
- 2.1 ha- 3 ha
- more than 3 ha
- N/A

13. Is your rice harvest normally sufficient to feed your household?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

14. If not, how many months normally is your rice shortage?

write month

- 1 month
- 2 months
- 3 months
- 4 months
- 5 months
- More than 5 months
- N/A

15. Is your household cultivating rice land this year?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

16. If no, why not?

write reason \_\_\_\_\_

N/A

17. Has your household ever sold rice land?

Yes

No

18. How many hectares of rice land did your household sell?

write ha \_\_\_\_\_

0.5 ha or less

0.51 ha-1 ha

1.1 ha - 2 ha

2.1 ha -3 ha

more than 3 ha

N/A

19. If yes, why did your household sell this rice land?

write reason \_\_\_\_\_

N/A

### **Migration Experience**

*Note: write answers in the table below.*

20. How many times have you migrated to work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? What was the year(s)?

21. Were these long- or short-range trips? If short-range did you work on the Thai side of the border or the Cambodian side of the border?

22. What was the duration of each trip?

23. Were you accompanied by any other household member(s)? If yes, was this (these) household member(s) also a migrant worker(s)?

Trips	Year	Long-range (1), Short-range (border Thai side) (2), Short-range (border Cambodia side) (3)	Duration (months)	Accompanied by other household member(s): No, Yes – relation to you.	If yes, migrant worker or not? Yes or No
1 <sup>st</sup> trip		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3			
2 <sup>nd</sup> trip		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
3 <sup>rd</sup> trip		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
4 <sup>th</sup> trip		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
5 <sup>th</sup> trip		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA			

24. What were the reasons why you went to work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? (Check all that apply.)

- Work available in Thailand
- Insufficient work in Cambodia
- No rice land
- No capital to start business
- Debt from health cost
- Debt from rice cultivation
- Debt from gambling
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: write answers in the table below.*

25. Did you have a guide to bring you to your work in Thailand or Thai-Cambodian border?

26. Did your household have to pay money to get your work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border?

27. If yes, how much did your household have to pay?

Trips	Have guide	Paid fee	Amount and to whom (specify one time initial fee or daily fee to cross border)
1 <sup>st</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
2 <sup>nd</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
3 <sup>rd</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4 <sup>th</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
5 <sup>th</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	

28. Did your household ever have to borrow money to pay for the migration fee?

- Yes
- No

29. If yes, how much did your household borrow?

write amount \_\_\_\_\_

- N/A

30. From whom did your household borrow the money?

write source of loan \_\_\_\_\_

- N/A

31. What was the interest of on the loan?

write interest of loan \_\_\_\_\_

- N/A

32. Was your household able to repay the loan?

- Yes
- No
- NA

33. Did your household ever have to sell any assets to pay for the migration fee?

- Yes
- No

34. If yes, what assets did your household sell?

- Land
- Cow or buffalo
- Pig
- Jewelry
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- N/A

35. Was your stay in Thailand or along the Thai –Cambodian border considered legal or illegal?

- Legal
- Illegal

Note: write answers in the table below.

36. What was your work in Thailand or along the Thai – Cambodian border? For example: construction worker, ferry porters, worker in manufacturing or food processing firm, garment factory worker, shrimp farm worker, fishing boat worker, agricultural laborer, etc.

37. How many hours did you work per day?

38. How much pay did you receive for your work?

39. Did you receive free accommodation during your work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border?

40. Did you receive free food during your work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border?

Trips	Type of work	Hours/day	Wage (specify monthly or daily)	Received free accommodation	Received free food
1 <sup>st</sup> trip				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2 <sup>nd</sup> trip				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
3 <sup>rd</sup> trip				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
4 <sup>th</sup> trip				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
5 <sup>th</sup> trip				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Note: write answers in the table below.

41. During your work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border were you able to send any money back home to your household?

42. How much were you able to send back?

43. What way did you send money to your household?

44. What were your net earnings (or losses) from your work in Thailand or along the Thai – Cambodian border?

Trips	Able to send money back to household?	Way money was sent back	Amount sent back and frequency - e.g. monthly, one time only etc.)	Net earnings (net losses) from migrant work. Total earnings minus fees and living costs.
1 <sup>st</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
2 <sup>nd</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
3 <sup>rd</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
4 <sup>th</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
5 <sup>th</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA			

**Problems Encountered**

45. Did you encounter any problems during your work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? (Check all that apply.)

- Did not receive full pay
- Physical beating
- Forced to take drugs
- Arrested by Thai police
- Sick because of over work
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- No problem

46. What did you do to solve these problems? Did anyone help you? Please explain?

47. Did you encounter any problems when you returned home after your work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? (Check all that apply.)

- Not able to find work
- Too weak to do heavy work
- Spend for health care of migrant
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

48. What did you do to solve these problems? Did anyone help you? Please explain?

- NA

**Affects on Household Livelihood**

49. What was the most important livelihood strategy (or source) of your household before you first migrated to Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? (Check only one.)

- Rice farming
- Chamcar* farming
- Agricultural labor
- Buy and sell trade
- Small business
- Motor taxi driver
- Digging and carrying soil
- Construction
- \_\_\_\_\_

50. What was the second most important livelihood strategy of your household before you first migrated to Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? (Check only one.)

- Rice farming
- Chamcar* farming
- Agricultural labor
- Buy and sell trade
- Small business
- Motor taxi driver
- Digging and carrying soil
- Construction
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

51. What is the most important livelihood strategy of your household now that you have returned to the village? (Check only one.)

- Rice farming
- Chamcar* farming
- Agricultural labor
- Buy and sell trade
- Small business
- Motor taxi driver
- Digging and carrying soil
- Construction
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

52. What is the second most important livelihood strategy of your household now that you have returned to the village? (Check only one.)

- Rice farming
- Chamcar* farming
- Agricultural labor
- Buy and sell trade
- Small business
- Motor taxi driver
- Digging and carrying soil
- Construction
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

53. How did you use your earnings from migrant work? (Check all that apply.)

- Built or repaired house
- Bought land
- Invested in small business
- Bought agricultural machinery
- Used for household subsistence
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

54. Has your standard of living changed as a result of your work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? Please explain

55. Do you plan to migrate again?

- Yes - Plan to migrate again
- No - Do not plan to migrate again

56. Would you recommend other villagers to do migrant work to Thailand or the Thai-Cambodia border? Please explain.



**Appendix 3. Migrant Household Member  
Interview Questionnaire**

Name of Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Interviewee: \_\_\_\_\_ Checked by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Migrant Household Member Interview Questionnaire**

**Background of Household Member Interviewed**

1. Name of village  Kokdouch  
 Ang  
 Tumpoong  
 Poi Yung
2. Sex  Male  
 Female
3. Age  Under 18 years  
 18 - 30 years  
write age \_\_\_\_\_  31 - 45 years  
 46 - 60 years  
 over 60 years
4. Civil status  Single  
 Married  
 Widow
5. Number of children # \_\_\_\_\_
6. Number of household members (including migrant worker)  
# \_\_\_\_\_
7. How many of the household members work to support the livelihood of the household in cash or in kind?  
# \_\_\_\_\_
8. Educational attainment  No formal schooling  
 1-6 grades  
write grade \_\_\_\_\_  7-9 grades  
 10-12 grades  
 University

### Rice Land Ownership and Cultivation

9. Does your household own rice land?

- Yes
- No

10. How many hectares of rice land does your household own?

write ha \_\_\_\_\_

- 0.5 ha or less
- 0.51 ha-1 ha
- 1.1 ha - 2 ha
- 2.1 ha- 3 ha
- more than 3 ha
- N/A

11. Does your household rent rice land?

- Yes
- No

12. How many hectares of rice land does your household rent?

write ha \_\_\_\_\_

- 0.5 ha or less
- 0.51 ha-1 ha
- 1.1 ha - 2 ha
- 2.1 ha- 3 ha
- more than 3 ha
- N/A

13. Is your rice harvest normally sufficient to feed your household?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

14. If not, how many months normally is your rice shortage?

write month \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 month
- 2 months
- 3 months
- 4 months
- 5 months
- More than 5 months
- N/A

15. Is your household cultivating rice land this year?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

16. If no, why not?

write reason \_\_\_\_\_

N/A

17. Has your household ever sold rice land?

Yes

No

18. How many hectares of rice land did your household sell?

write ha \_\_\_\_\_

0.5 ha or less

0.51 ha-1 ha

1.1 ha - 2 ha

2.1 ha -3 ha

more than 3 ha

N/A

19. If yes, why did your household sell this rice land?

write reason \_\_\_\_\_

N/A

### **Experience of Most Important Migrant Worker in Household**

20. Who is the most important migrant worker in your household?

Husband

Wife

Son

Daughter

Father

Mother

Other (specify)\_\_\_\_\_

*Note: write answers in the table below.*

How many times has this person migrated to work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? What was the year(s)?

21. Were these long- or short-range trips? If short-range did this person work on the Thai side of the border or the Cambodian side of the border?

22. What was the duration of each trip?

23. Was this person accompanied by any other household member(s)? If yes, was this (these) household member(s) also a migrant worker(s)?

Trips of most important HH worker	Year	Long-range (1), Short-range (border Thai side) (2), Short-range (border Cambodia side) (3)	Duration (months)	Accompanied by other household member(s)? No, Yes – relation to you.	If yes, migrant worker or not? Yes or No
1 <sup>st</sup> trip		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3			
2 <sup>nd</sup> trip		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
3 <sup>rd</sup> trip		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
4 <sup>th</sup> trip		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
5 <sup>th</sup> trip		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA			

24. What were the reasons why the most important migrant worker went to work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? (Check all that apply.)

- Work available in Thailand
- Insufficient work in Cambodia
- No rice land
- No capital to start business
- Debt from health cost
- Debt from rice cultivation
- Debt from gambling
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: write answers in the table below.*

25. Did this person have a guide to bring them to their work in Thailand or Thai-Cambodian border?

26. Did your household have to pay money to get this person work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border?

27. If yes, how much did your household have to pay?

Trips of the most important HH migrant worker	Have guide	Paid fee	Amount and to whom (specify one time initial fee or daily fee to cross border)
1 <sup>st</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
2 <sup>nd</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
3 <sup>rd</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4 <sup>th</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
5 <sup>th</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	

28. Did your household ever have to borrow money to pay for the migration fee?

- Yes
- No

29. If yes, how much did your household borrow?

write amount \_\_\_\_\_

- N/A

30. From whom did your household borrow the money?

write source of loan \_\_\_\_\_

- N/A

31. What was the interest of on the loan?

write interest of loan \_\_\_\_\_

- N/A

32. Was your household able to repay the loan?

- Yes
- No
- NA

33. Did your household ever have to sell any assets to pay for the migration fee?

- Yes
- No

34. If yes, what assets did your household sell?

- Land
- Cow or buffalo
- Pig
- Jewelry
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- N/A

35. Was the most important migrant worker's stay in Thailand or along the Thai –Cambodian border considered legal or illegal?

- Legal
- Illegal

Note: write answers in the table below.

36. What was the most important migrant worker's work in Thailand or along the Thai – Cambodian border? For example: construction worker, ferry porters, worker in manufacturing or food processing firm, garment factory worker, shrimp farm worker, fishing boat worker, agricultural laborer, etc.

37. How many hours did the most important migrant worker's work per day?

38. How much pay did the most important migrant worker receive for their work?

39. Did this person receive free accommodation during your work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border?

40. Did this person receive free food during your work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border?

Trips of the most important HH worker	Type of work	Hours/day	Wage (specify monthly or daily)	Received free accommodation	Received free food
1 <sup>st</sup> trip				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2 <sup>nd</sup> trip				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
3 <sup>rd</sup> trip				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
4 <sup>th</sup> trip				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
5 <sup>th</sup> trip				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Note: write answers in the table below.

41. During their work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border was the most important migrant worker able to send any money home to your household?

42. How much was this person able to send back?

43. What way did this person send money to your household?

44. What was this person's net earnings (or losses) from your work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border?

Trips of the most important migrant HH worker	Able to send money back to household?	Way money was sent back	Amount sent back and frequency - e.g. monthly, one time only etc.)	Net earnings (net losses) from migrant work. Total earnings minus fees and living costs.
1 <sup>st</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
2 <sup>nd</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
3 <sup>rd</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
4 <sup>th</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
5 <sup>th</sup> trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA			

**Problems Encountered**

45. Did your household encounter any problems in the village during the time the most important worker was working in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? (Check all that apply.)

- Lack of rice or money to buy rice
- Lack of money to buy other food (meat, fish, vegetables)
- Lack of money to buy clothes
- Lack of money to send children to school
- Lack of labor to cultivate rice land
- Lack of household members to take care of children
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
  
- No problem

46. What did your household do to solve these problems? Did anyone help your household? Please explain?

47. Did your household encounter any problems when the most important worker returned home after their work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? (Check all that apply.)

- Migrant worker not able to find work
- Migrant worker too weak to do heavy work
- Spend money for health of migrant worker
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
  
- No problem

48. What did your household do to solve these problems? Did anyone help your household? Please explain?

**Affects on Household Livelihood**

49. What was the most important livelihood strategy (or source) of your household before the most important migrant worker first migrated to Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? (Check only one.)

- Rice farming
- Chamcar* farming
- Agricultural labor
- Buy and sell trade
- Small business
- Motor taxi driver
- Digging and carrying soil
- Construction
- \_\_\_\_\_

50. What was the second most important livelihood strategy of your household before the most important migrant worker first migrated to Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? (Check only one.)

- Rice farming
- Chamcar* farming
- Agricultural labor
- Buy and sell trade
- Small business
- Motor taxi driver
- Digging and carrying soil
- Construction
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

51. What is the most important livelihood strategy of your household now? (Check only one.)

- Rice farming
- Chamcar* farming
- Agricultural labor
- Buy and sell trade
- Small business
- Motor taxi driver
- Digging and carrying soil
- Construction
- Labor migration
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

52. What is the second most important livelihood strategy of your household now? (Check only one.)

- Rice farming
- Chamcar* farming
- Agricultural labor
- Buy and sell trade
- Small business
- Motor taxi driver
- Digging and carrying soil
- Construction
- Labor migration
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

53. How did your household use the earnings from migrant work? (Check all that apply.)

- Built or repaired house
- Bought land
- Invested in small business
- Bought agricultural machinery
- Used for household subsistence
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

54. Has the standard of living of your household changed as a result of the most important migrant worker's work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? Please explain

55. Does the most important migrant worker plan to migrate again?

- Yes - Plan to migrate again
- No - Do not plan to migrate again

56. Aside from this person, does any other member of your household plan to migrate to Thailand or along the Cambodia border?

- Yes – Another household member plans to migrate again
- No – No other household member plan to migrate again

57. Would you recommend other villagers to do migrant work to Thailand or the Thai-Cambodia border? Please explain.

#### Appendix 4. Focus Group Interview for Village Leaders

Name of Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Recorder: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_  
Checked by: \_\_\_\_\_

Names and positions of the interviewees: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Focus Group Interview Questionnaire for Village Leaders (Village Chief, Village Development Committee, Active Members of Development Projects)

##### Village Background

1. Name of village? When was this village established? Where did the people come from? Were returnees from the Thai border relocated to the village? How many households were relocated? Were they given any rice land to cultivate?
2. How many households live in the village? What is the total population? How many households now living in the village are returnees from the Thai border?

##### Ownership of Rice Land

3. How many of the households in the village own rice land? What is the average area of rice land that households own?
4. How many of the households in the village own *chamcar* land? What is the average area of *chamcar* land that households own?
5. What is the average production (tons per hectare) on rice land? How many rice crops do households cultivate each crop season? Are rice harvests in the village normally sufficient to feed village households?
6. What are the input costs per hectare for rice cultivation? e.g. What are the costs of fertilizer that households use per hectare of rice land? How much do they spend for agricultural labor? For hiring agricultural machinery?
7. How many of the owners of rice land in the village are cultivating rice this year? How many are not cultivating? What is the reason for this?
8. How many households in the village are landless? i.e. Do not own rice land? Do not own *chamcar* land? How many of the landless are returnees?
9. Is the number of landless households increasing, decreasing, or remaining the same? What is the reason for this?
10. How many of the households in the village have sold rice land? What are the reasons for this?
11. How many of the households in the village have bought rice land? What are the reasons for this?

### **Livelihood Strategies**

12. What are the most important livelihood strategies (or sources) of the households in the village? List the five most important. (Note: Include labor migration if it is an important livelihood source.) Among the five most important livelihood sources what are the two most important for the households who are better off? What are the two most important for those who are medium? What are the two most important for those who are poor? What are the two most important for those who are very poor? Please explain?

### **Migrant Workers**

13. When did people from this village first begin to migrate into Thailand and along the Thai-Cambodian border to find work?

14. What have been the trends in migration (increases and decreases) since this time? (Please establish the timeline.) What have been the reasons for this? (Note: e.g. Were there decreases in labor migration after the January 2003 anti-Thai demonstrations in Phnom Penh?)

15. How many households in the village currently have members working in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? Are most of these migrants working in Bangkok and interior locations of Thailand or are most of these migrants working along the Thai-Cambodian border? Please explain? How long do they usually stay?

16. What are the reasons that lead villagers to migrate to Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? Please explain in detail?

17. How do villagers get jobs in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? Do they use guides? Do they pay fees? Do they go together in groups or by themselves? Do they have contacts in the areas where they will work? Is the work considered legal or illegal? Do they have passports and visas? How much do they have to pay for passports and visas?

18. Do the migrant workers from the village have to borrow money to pay for the migration fees? Please explain? Do the migrant workers from the village have to sell assets to pay for the migration fees? Please explain?

19. Are most of the migrants from the village men or women? Married or single? Younger or older? What are the reasons for this?

20. Are the migrants mostly from village households that are better-off? Medium? Poor? or Very poor? What are the reasons for this?

21. Are the migrants mostly from village households that own rice land or not? What are the reasons for this?

22. What types of work do migrants do in Thailand and along the Thai-Cambodian border? What types of work are the most common in each place? Do some migrants work overtime? Do some migrants have more than one job?

### **Problems Encountered by Migrant Workers**

23. What are the major problems faced by migrants from the village working in Thailand (Bangkok and interior areas) and along the Thai-Cambodian border? Are there any differences in the problems encountered by migrants working in Thailand and those working along the Thai-Cambodian border? Describe separately for each place? e.g. Have they suffered any physical beatings? Have they been cheated by their bosses? Have they been forced to take drugs to endure long hours of work? Have they been arrested by the Thai police? How do the migrants solve these problems?

24. What are the major problems faced by migrant workers when they return to the village? e.g. not able to find work and too weak to do heavy work.

[Note to interviewers: After the focus group interview it might be good to follow up informally and individually with the village leaders about problems of labor migration related to sex trafficking, contracting HIV/AIDS, and getting pregnant without husbands.]

25. Do migrant workers bring their small children with them when they go to Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? Who looks after the children? Are the children properly cared for?

26. Are there any NGOs or government agencies (in Thailand or Cambodia) who assist the migrant workers to solve their problems? Please explain?

### **Problems Encountered by Households of Migrant Workers**

27. What are the major problems faced by households of migrant workers left behind in the village? Please explain in detail? How do the households solve these problems?

28. How do households of migrant workers take care of the children? Who looks after the children? Are the children properly cared for?

29. Are the households of the migrant workers able to support themselves when the migrant workers are away? Please explain? Do they receive money from the migrant workers? If so, how often does the money come? Is the money enough to support the household's needs? Do they have to borrow rice or cash to sustain themselves? If so, what is the interest on these loans?

30. Are there any NGOs or government agencies who assist the households of migrant workers to solve their problems? Please explain?

### **Livelihoods of Migrant Workers**

31. What are the benefits that the migrant workers gain from their work in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border? Please explain in detail?

32. Are the earnings from migrant work used primarily for maintaining household subsistence? For investing in non-productive assets, e.g. building or improving their house? For investing in productive assets, e.g. buying land, buying agricultural machinery, starting a small business? Please explain?

33. Are there migrant workers from the village who lost more than they gained from migrant work? Please explain? What have been the consequences for their households?

34. Have most of the migrant workers from the village experienced a net gain or a net loss from their migrant work? Please explain? Have these gains or losses changed their livelihoods in any permanent way?

35. Do you think that villagers will continue to migrate to Thailand and along the Thai-Cambodian border in the foreseeable future? Please explain?

**Affects of Labor Migration on Village Development Programs**

36. Are there any development programs in the village? What are the activities? Has labor migration had any affect on village development programs? Please explain? What has been the response to this?

37. In general, what do you think about labor migration? Has it made a positive or negative contribution to village households?

**Appendix 5- List of ADI Participants– Round 12**

**ANALYZING DEVELOPMENT ISSUES (ADI)  
Round 12 Training Course  
September 29–October 10 and December 1-12, 2003**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Phone #</b>
1	Yong Kim Eng	M	KYA	016-828211
2	Yoib Meta	M	Star Kampuchea	012-875701
3	Norng Bamnang	M	CORD	016-827348
4	Khoun Son Muchhim	M	CLEC	011-921581
5	Ann Vireak	F	CLEC	012-471476
6	Lon Chan Serey	F	WFP	012-951949
7	Ung Yok Khoan	F	AMARA	011-828887
8	Ly Sangky	M	WVI	012-661165
9	Khem How	M	WVI	012-709924
10	Chum Sa Em	M	WVI	023-995035 012 980 653
11	Tri Kong	M	WVI	012-711198
12	Houy Chandy	F	CWS	012-962934
13	Khun Bunna	M	CONCERN	012-980795
14	Khiev Phalla	M	CONCERN	012-305668
15	Oung Sophat	M	COMFREL	012-920470
16	Tek Vannara	M	CEPA	012-793489
17	Ek Praneith	F	VAWCC	016-713301
18	Luch Sorany	F	NICFEC	092-801474
19	Uch Kim Nary	F	SSP	012-670188
20	Tan Sokhom	F	NGO FORUM	023-986269
21	Il Oeur	M	CCC-ADI	016-894628
22	Ang Sopha	F	CCC-ADI	012-940973 012-480068
23	Hor Sakphea	F	CCC-ADI	012-511230
24	Seng Savuth	M	CCC-ADI	011-864997
25	Tha Sophal	M	CCC-ADI	012-754719
26	John McAndrew	M	CCC-ADI	012-480068