You have the right and the responsibility to participate in disaster risk management in your community and to care for your environment in solidarity with your community!

You have a responsibility to report any risk that would cause a disaster, or when a disaster occurs!

Article 36 and 37 articulates both the right and the responsibility for individuals who are able to engage in disaster management, following the directive of the competent authorities, such as the NCDM. It recognizes the importance of the natural environment in which your community lives, that everyone has a role to play in ensuring their communities are disaster resilient. If you identify a risk, for instance a natural hazard that may impact the communities negatively, you have to report it to the relevant authorities. In fact if you do not report a risk that may cause a disaster, you may be subject to legal penalties.

To find out more about how you can become involved in disaster management in your community, contact your Village Chief or members of the Village Disaster Management Group.

Know your rights, roles and responsibilities in disaster management
2015 Law on Disaster Management

In 2015, a major milestone took place with the signing of the Law on Disaster Management. Its goal for a resilient Cambodia includes a strong focus on response, as well as integration of disaster risk reduction measures into development planning. The Law mandates Cambodia’s National Committee for Disaster Management to lead, administer and coordinate all disaster management activities and to issue guidelines on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

The Law on Disaster Management focuses on the whole disaster management cycle, including: prevention and mitigation; preparedness; emergency response; and recovery (Article 10-13).

Chapter 6: Rights and Obligations
Recognizing that communities are not only those most affected by disasters, but also the first responders and the people best placed to undertake measures to ensure resilience, the Law contains provisions on the rights and obligations of the people of Cambodia in disaster management. These rights reflect those enshrined in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia, including: respect for human rights (Article 31); right to life, freedom and personal security (Article 32); and freedom of expression and information (Article 41).

Article 2
This law has the following goals:
- Prevention, adaptation and mitigation in the pre-disaster period, due to natural or human-made causes
- Emergency response during the disaster.
- Recovery in the post-disaster period.

You have a right to have you life, dignity and property protected!

You have a right to relief aid!

You have the right to access information and gain knowledge!

Article 35 bestows upon each individual the right to protection of life, dignity, property and provision of relief aid during disasters. It further provides the right to obtain resources for disaster risk reduction and prevention measures as well as resources to restore livelihoods following a disaster. Every person has a right to access information regarding hazards, vulnerabilities and risks and gain the knowledge needed to reduce the risk, prevent, respond to and recovery from disasters in their communities.

It is the responsibility of the State of Cambodia to ensure there is budget and resources for the disaster management, down to the sub-national and local level.