

Community Statement over Hydropower Dam Construction on the Srepok River in Vietnam

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Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh

We, the 11,000 villagers living along the Srepok River have been facing negative impacts and are seriously concerned about the hydropower development for the Srepok River basin in Vietnam.

We, the representatives of the Srepok communities, are happy to have the opportunity to participate in this stakeholder meeting on the EIA report on the Cambodian part of the Srepok River due to hydropower development in Vietnam.

Taking this opportunity, we would like to raise the following issues affecting our environment and livelihoods:

- Irregular water fluctuation, deep water pools are becoming shallower, and there is increased riverbank erosion
- Human and animal health have been affected by bad water quality
- Unnatural floods have destroyed riverside rice and farm fields, as well as people's property
- Unreliable water flows have caused people to abandon their riverside rice fields and some people have left their homes in search of employment and food
- Fishery resources have declined which has caused villagers to lose their fishing occupation
- These changes in the river have impacted our culture

According to the problems mentioned above, we would like to make the following requests:

- We request that all stakeholders solve the issues mentioned above
- We request that hydropower dam construction no longer continues on the Srepok River
- We request that the dam builder guarantee our lives and compensate us for the past, present and future destruction
- We request donors to stop financing dam development projects if there is no people's participation, good governance, and clear social and environmental assessment processes
- We request that a notification system is set up for our communities and that the benefits of dam development is shared

Together, we hope that all our problems and requests mentioned above will be seriously considered and accepted by all stakeholders.

Representatives of the Srepok Community