Youth Connect

Youth Community Resilience to Climate Change in the Mekong Delta (Y-CoRe)

Assessing the impact of saltwater intrusion on women's health in Vinh Hai, Vinh Chau, Soc Trang Province

Project background

Soc Trang is a province bordering the sea in the Mekong Delta, and many of its coastal areas are affected by salinity. Specifically, Vinh Hai and Vinh Chau communes in Soc Trang Province are directly affected by saltwater intrusion.

Women in this area suffer more disadvantages and health risks caused by saltwater than man, because their daily activities expose them to this water more often. Saltwater causes high blood pressure, stroke, dysentery, diarrhoea, and skin diseases. Assessing the impact of this water on their health is essential to developing proper protective measures.

The project results:

- enhanced understanding of the impact of saltwater intrusion on women's health
- proposed responsive solutions
- promoted awareness
- supported women's health in the face of saltwater intrusion.

Project objectives

The research evaluated the impact of saltwater intrusion on women's health, assessed their awareness of the issue, and proposed strategies to strengthen their capacity building and promote gender equality in responding to saltwater intrusion.

Project overview

The study assessed the impact of saltwater intrusion on women's health and their awareness through interviews with farming households in affected areas. The study provided recommendations based on analysis of the field data collected.

Outstanding outcomes

The findings showed that saltwater intrusion affects many aspects of women's daily lives, including access to freshwater for personal hygiene, maintaining livelihoods, and health. This phenomenon has created instability in clean water and food supplies, making it more difficult for women to protect their health and that of their families.

Typical impacts include increased risk of digestive diseases and infections, particularly during the saltwater intrusion season, largely due to the use of saltwater and polluted water, which complicates personal hygiene.

Team member's information

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