Access to safe, clean drinking water and sanitation is a basic human right. Yet 70% of the rural population in Cambodia does not have access to proper sanitation, and only about half have access to reliable sources of safe drinking water. Improved, smart practices in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene - WASH - reduce the risk of disease, improving the productivity and income of millions of families.

In Cambodia, SNV works with the government, private sector and communities to promote access to improved sanitation and hygiene practices, market-driven sanitation supply chains, and functional and affordable water services to ensure access for all. We seek to institutionalize sanitation and hygiene programmes and contribute towards the development of the WASH sector through the following programmes:

**Functionality of Rural Water Supply Services (FRWS)**

FRWS intends to improve quality of life for rural people through sustained use of sufficient drinking water from reliable safe sources. Service levels for access to water supply are characterized using four indicators: water quality; water quantity; accessibility; and reliability.

**Sustainable Sanitation and Hygiene for All (SSH4A)**

SSH4A aims to improve health and quality of life in 88 rural villages in Banteay Meas district, Kampot province, through enhanced access to improved sanitation and hygiene practices. Since January 2012 the programme has covered the whole district (including 15 communes). SNV has integrated insights into community-led sanitation promotion, private sector development for sanitation, hygiene behaviour change communication and WASH governance, strengthening local capacities for rural sanitation service delivery.

**Integrated Nutrition, Hygiene and Sanitation (NOURISH)**

Building on its SSH4A approach, SNV is giving technical support to the major Cambodia NOURISH project. NOURISH takes a unique, multi-sectorial approach to reducing malnutrition in targeted rural areas in the poorest districts of Battambang, Siem Reap and Pursat provinces. Innovative approaches to improve water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are integrated with strengthening nutrition services within the health sector. SNV will lead on WASH product development and marketing through private sector promotion. We will also help boost the capacity of local partners to implement WASH activities, specifically by creating demand through Community-Led Total Sanitation approaches. NOURISH is led by Save the Children with USAID funding. Other partners include the Manoff Group and local NGOs.
By December 2014, SNV’s WASH programmes had significantly contributed to improving health and living conditions in rural communities, triggering remarkable reductions in open defecation practices and improving access to sustainable sanitation and hygiene.

At the end of 2014, more than 220,000 additional people had access to and were using toilets in SNV’s programme target areas in six rural provinces. The first full commune in Cambodia was declared open defecation free (ODF) in SNV’s SSH4A programme target area in Kampot province in October 2013. Five additional communes were declared ODF in 2014.