Imagining Feminist Futures After COVID-19 Workshop

Banteay Srei, Gender and Development for Cambodia (GADC), Rainbow Community of Kampuchea (ROCK)

February 2021

15 minutes	Welcome, Introductions and Centering Exercise	Zoom
20 min	Housekeeping, Ice Breaker	Miro
30 min	Sense-making with Global Trends + Privileging Forces	Miro + Breakout Rooms
05 min	Futures Wheel Explainer with worked example	Miro
15 min	Break	
30 min	Futures Wheels Exercise	Miro + Breakout Rooms
15 min	Futures Wheel Discoveries	Miro + Breakout Rooms
15 min	Futures Wheel Report Back	Miro
15 min	Imagining Feminist Futures Scenario Writing	Miro + Breakout Rooms
15 min	Imagining Feminist Futures Report Back	Miro
05 min	Close	Zoom

Blue Team

Take about 20 minutes to discuss the trends allocated to your group:

1. How do you see these trends playing out in your context?
2. What would our post-COVID future of 2030 would look like if each trend grows, or shrinks, in importance?

After about 20 minutes, scroll further left to see the list of Privileging Forces and for the final 10 minutes discuss:

1. How are these forces influencing or impacting the group of trends?

Construction workers in SR, during Covid-19, as daily spending is more and work is less.

online education access is not equally distributed especially to the remote and provincial area.

So MoE had tried to have teachers accessed directly to the community, however, there is less support from parents.

TREND | ECONOMIC
Economic Stress for Working Women

Despite some countries providing furlough payments and government salary support, many women have found that working from home is especially detrimental for their careers. Even those without school-age children are finding that the ability to focus on work/research/studies is diminished, and that in heterosexual couples, the household workload defaults primarily to women. Those deemed essential workers must go to work or they will be fired, despite the real fears of contracting the virus and bringing it into their homes. In repeating cycles of COVID lockdowns, this will cause long-lasting damage for women, both economically and personally.

TREND | TECHNOLOGICAL
Decentralised Networks

The internet provided a paradigm for several generations of distributed communication, computing and even organisational structures. From mesh networking, to blockchain, to cellular organisational patterns using open source tools, decentralised models have become more resilient options for organising and connecting. The opportunities to engage with civic actors virtually through online platforms provides access to a far greater reach of intellectual capital and resources than civil society organisations have traditionally had access to.

Fund at commune level is shrinking because they allocated for Covid-19 response, therefore working on Women rights is shrinking.

Decentralization of decision making power at the commune level is minimized as decision is more from the top since Covid-19.

TREND | SOCIAL
COVID as Cover for Human Rights Violation

Hundreds of people have been detained without proper health and safety measures due to fears that they are spreading coronavirus. The risk is that it becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy that justifies taking rights away from refugees and migrants through federal or military means by using COVID as cover for human rights violations.

TREND | STEEP CATEGORY:
[add a trend]

Description of trend.

violence against women is ignored as Covid-19 related issues and response had been used as an urgent cases.

Green Team

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TREND | ECONOMIC

Post-COVID Economics

The long tail of post-recession austerity has meant not only a restructuring of public services, but has spurred a generational rethink around economic models and social contracts. Reconsideration of large scale public investment now sits alongside consideration of new relationships between public and private, the re-emergence of social models like cooperatives, universal basic income, and post-capitalist economics of sustainability and balance, such as with doughnut economics theory.

TREND | VALUES

Falling Trust in Institutions

Trust in public institutions, government, business and media have been falling for most of the last decade, a shift that has accelerated in recent years, weakening the value of authority and information. This has extended to the third sector as well, as a result of scandals at several major international aid, and faith-based organisations, which have dented trust and undercut funding from public and private sources. This damaged trust has triggered new efforts around transparency and governance, and also opened the door to new entrants, and more localised efforts to rebuild community trust.

TREND | SOCIAL

Rising Partner Violence

Lockdowns have raised concerns about escalations of violence against women inside their homes, but there are other, possibly darker ways in which patterns of violence are shifting. An uptick in revenge porn has been noted in some countries, possibly due to the fact that the options for control by perpetrators who are not in the same place decrease. Addressing this issue will require thinking beyond shelters for women and the physical dangers for women in their own homes and considering how to shift the underlying gender norms that exacerbate these situations.

TREND | STEEP CATEGORY:

[Add a trend]

Description of trend.

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1. Each countries live by their own, no connecting and cooperating.

- The case of DW keeps on increasing during the pandemic, but it does not the prioritize issue

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Falling Trust in Institution
- Discrimination in public service
- Some still cannot access to public service
- Fake news

Blue Team

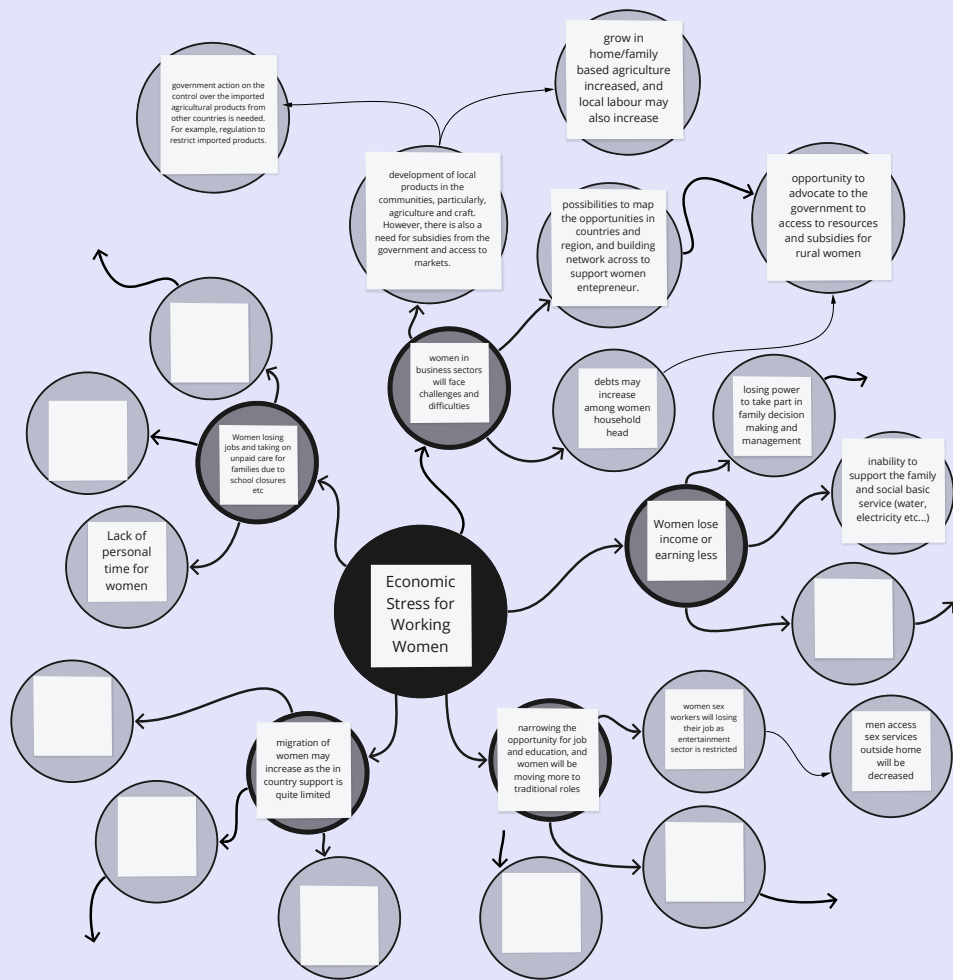Choose a trend from your section and move that sticky note to the middle of the Wheel.

Consider the possible post-COVID impacts of that trend from now to 2030.

What might happen next year?
What happens after that, in 3-5 years?
What might it look like by 2030?

Remember, some impacts are positive, some negative. There can be multiple impacts from each level, and they do not have to exist in the same possible future.

Think about each thread of connected impacts as possibilities. What happens if the initial impact has an opposite effect? What if someone good comes out of something terrible, or the other way around?

Start with first level impacts and work your way out from the center. You can add more sticky notes if needed.

Economic Stress for Working Women

- government action on the control over the imported agricultural products from other countries is needed. For example, regulation to restrict imported products.
- grow in home/family based agriculture increased, and local labour may also increase
- development of local products in the communities, particularly, agriculture and craft. However, there is also a need for subsidies from the government and access to markets.
- possibilities to map the opportunities in countries and region, and building network across to support women entepreneur.
- opportunity to advocate to the government to access to resources and subsidies for rural women
- women in business sectors will face challenges and difficulties
- debts may increase among women household head
- losing power to take part in family decision making and management
- inability to support the family and social basic service (water, electricity etc...)
- Women losing jobs and taking on unpaid care for families due to school closures etc
- Lack of personal time for women
- Women lose income or earning less
- migration of women may increase as the in country support is quite limited
- narrowing the opportunity for job and education, and women will be moving more to traditional roles
- women sex workers will losing their job as entertainment sector is restricted
- men access sex services outside home will be decreased

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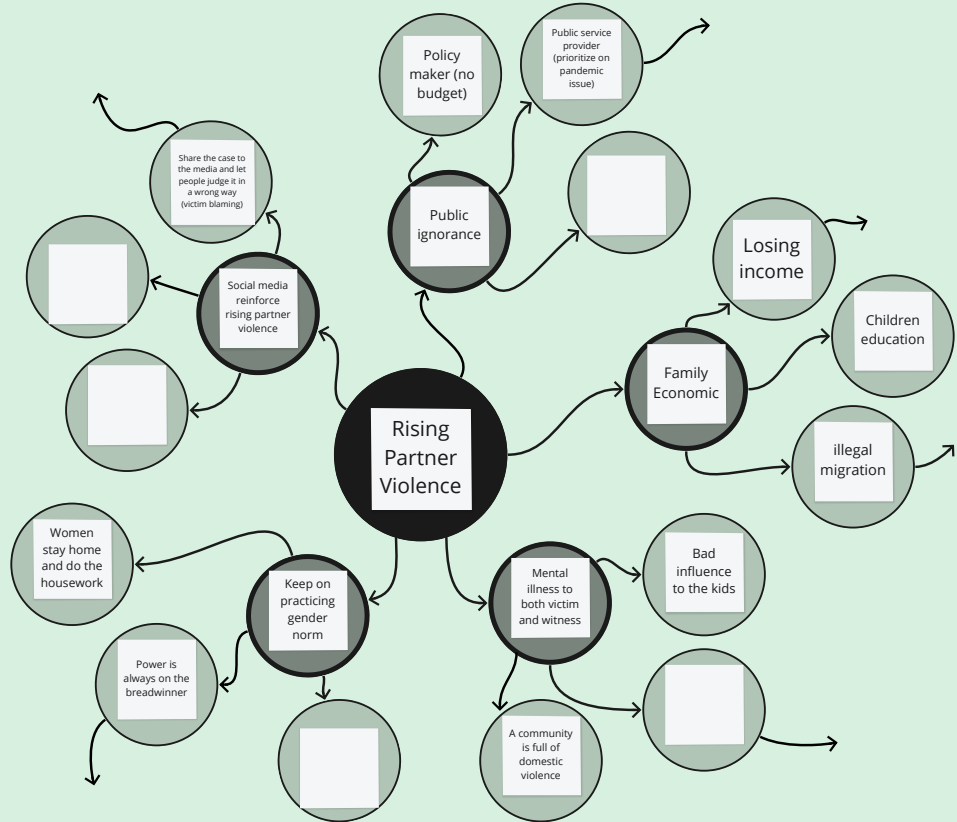
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Policy maker (no budget)

Public service provider (prioritize on pandemic issue)

Share the case to the media and let people judge it in a wrong way (victim blaming)

Public ignorance

Losing income

Children education

Social media reinforce rising partner violence

Family Economic

illegal migration

Rising Partner Violence

Women stay home and do the housework

Keep on practicing gender norm

Mental illness to both victim and witness

Bad influence to the kids

Power is always on the breadwinner

A community is full of domestic violence

Were there any surprising outcomes that surfaced in your Futures Wheel?

Yes, as income of women significantly drop due to lockdown, and violence (GBV) against women are increased. Women had impacted significantly on economic and well-being.
There is less discussion on women well being!

Family economic and mental health. Because losing family income can make a hug impact into the community, society, nation and into international. Regrading to the mental health, people are getting cruel and even kill their beloved one specially in some cases they even kill the whole family.

Did any threads on your Futures Wheel surface a path to a more feminist future?

Global fund opportunity is lacking, and government funds are hugely used in health crisis. There would be an increased of inequality.

it's unlikely to happen due to the political pressure, financial demanding, time consuming, power control...

In that thread, what was the main difference in 2030?

There is unlikely to have equality between man and women, however, there is more awaress on the issue of women and inequality among the government institutions.

There is not much different if the situation/pandemic keeps on growing. It is difficult to achieve it.

What change was necessary to lead to a more feminist future?

Advocacy related to budget from the government for women issues. Women and girls issues are heard and addressed to improve quality and equality.
Monitoring and enforcement need to be in place.
Strengthening network and allies for women movement.
The need to increase women representative in government institutions at all levels.
Mechanism to mainstream women and feminist concept and issues among men and within the government.

Everything is starting from us not only private sector, we need the cooperation from all of stakeholders.
Need to encourage awareness at the ground level, and with young people, children who have experienced violence.