



Kidshelp Kambodscha e. V.

Quarterly Report

Reporting Period:

1st Quarter: January - March 2020



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I. Sponsorship Programme for School Children in Prek Dambang and Prek Tamak

Project location: Prek Dambang and Prek Tamak, Kandal Province

Participating Staff: One expatriate, three Cambodians

Project cost in the reported term: \$ 14039,02

Number of supported children: 275

Number of sponsors: 236



Appendix A

Scholarship Programme for School Children in Prek Dambang and Prek Tamak

Goals of the project:

The main objective of this project is to make quality education accessible to all children in the area, regardless of their financial background. We want to protect the children from child labour by enabling poor families to fulfil their basic needs. We do this by providing financial support and counselling.

Project activities:

The funding for this comes from sponsors who agree to support one or multiple children through monthly donations.

We employ local staff members in both target areas who know the situation of the families very well and assist in deciding where help is needed the most. Payments to support the families of children in need are done once a month at our English School in Prek Dambang and at the house of our employee Yung Chanrin in Prek Tamak. In return for receiving financial support, we expect the families to send their children to public school.

We write regular status updates on all children and make sure that their sponsors know how they are progressing with their studies.

Whenever a sponsor wants to provide additional support (e.g. for buying new clothes), we do special shopping tours with the children at the local market. Each of these tours is adjusted to the needs of the child in question.

If there are irregularities with one of the supported children (e.g. when we find out that a child has not attended public school), we ask the parents/guardians about the reason for this. If they fail to produce evidence that the child is attending school for 3 months or more and we cannot convince them to send their child back to school, we cancel the sponsorship. The 210 USD of income during the reported term are from cancelled sponsorships in the third and fourth quarter of 2019.



COVID 19:

Due to the occurrence of the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), we had to temporarily stop all project activities that required us to visit the beneficiaries effective 14th of March 2020.



Appendix B

Financial Summaries

Period: 01st of January to 31st of March

Purpose	January	February	March	Amount
Payment of the sponsorships	\$ 3,458.00	\$3,458.00	\$ 3,416.00	\$ 10,332.00
Repayment of sponsorships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -210.00	\$ -210.00
Salary Thim Tho	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 300.00
Salary for Yung Chanrin	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 150.00
Transportation costs	\$ 62.64	\$ 11.30	\$ 5.45	\$ 79.39
Running cost company vehicles (Se	\$ 5.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5.00
Extra for Kath Khemara	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 450.00
Cost for driving license	\$ -	\$ 38.00	\$ -	\$ 38.00
Cost for visa extensions	\$ -	\$ 163.00	\$ -	\$ 163.00
Cost for extensions of MoUs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Extra support for children	\$ -	\$ 595.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 643.00
Office supplies, copies, printing	\$ 7.90	\$ -	\$ 288.60	\$ 296.50
Office phone (Skype)	\$ 10.00	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
Cost for cooperation with Khmer S	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Medical expenses staff	\$ 147.48	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 147.48
Medical support sponsored childre	\$ 1,214.65	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,214.65
Fees postal service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cost for staff training	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Tax on salaries	\$ 144.00	\$ 143.00	\$ 144.00	\$ 431.00
Business meals	\$ -	\$ 33.00	\$ -	\$ 33.00
TOTAL:				\$ 14,093.02



Appendix C

Evaluation

Our experience shows that school attendance has improved since we started this project. We learned that helping families to deal with problems they face at home, leads to them sending their children to visit school instead of working in the field more often. Building and maintaining a good relationship between the child and the sponsor can in many cases result in the provision of additional help, for example for rebuilding or renovating the houses of the children's families, the provision of important school supplies like uniforms or satchels or even the regular supply with food donations in cases of extreme poverty.

One challenge we keep on facing is the lack of incentives to finish grade 9 or 12 if the students do not plan to study. There are no vocational schools in the countryside and no employers who require students to finish grade 9 or 12 before they can start to work. Most of the jobs either require no degree or a University degree. This leads to many children dropping out of school between grade 7 and 9.

The biggest challenge facing COVID 19 is, that children might drop out of school depending how long public schools remain closed. We will closely monitor who is going back to public school as soon as the schools are allowed to reopen and we will focus on preventing school dropouts by talking to the families of our beneficiaries.



II. Khemara Kidshelp School in Loer Oet Village, Prek Dambang

Project location: Loer Oet Village, Commune of Prek Dambang, Mukkampung District, Kandal Province, Kingdom of Cambodia

Participating Staff: One expatriate, two Cambodians

Project cost in the reported term: \$ 10340,33

Number of students in the school: 425

Supported students: 425

Number of Sponsors: 34



Appendix A

“Khemara Kidshelp School” in Prek Dambang Commune

Goals of the project:

During our work with poor children in the countryside we discovered, that oftentimes going to public school alone is not enough to enable children to pass the high school exams and to get accepted to study at university. In order to pass high school, most children need to take extra classes that are offered by public school teachers after the regular classes have ended. Children from poor households are not able to pay for these classes.

If someone wants to study at university, they need to successfully finish high school and possess good knowledge of English or another major foreign language. Kidshelp Kambodscha e.V. therefore built a school with the goal to teach English and other important life skills to children in Prek Dambang Commune. This school opened in 2010 and has been running ever since

Project activities:

The administration of the school is done by our employee Kath Khemara. She is the school director and responsible for the school’s finances, procurement and human resources. She also takes the lead in developing the school’s curriculum.

Kidshelp Kambodscha e.V. is continuously trying to improve the quality of the school and to make it accessible for more poor children in the area.

In our efforts to improve the school, we hired Hun Tharith as deputy school director. He teaches students of all different levels, participates in creating the curriculum for the school and is responsible for conducting special trainings for our teachers. His main focus is building the capacity of the staff at our school. He is responsible for providing new teachers with vocational training and organizes regular workshops for the teachers.

To further improve the quality of classes and in order to create a collective learning experience, we have introduced regular teacher meetings with the Country Director, where we discuss and implement all kinds of measures to improve the organization of the school.



Work with volunteers

Whenever we find qualified and motivated volunteers, we place them directly at our school to help with improving the quality of the classes by introducing new methods or by applying other skills they bring.

Positive effects of our work with these volunteers are that more children are confident to speak English with foreigners and that our teachers are applying more modern teaching techniques. Apart from this, the many ideas they bring with them have led to improvements in the curriculum and the way the school is administered and run. The intercultural learning experience that comes from the exchange between volunteers, teachers and the children, is a positive side-effect that is beneficial to all persons involved.

During the reported term, there have been 2 volunteers at the school teaching English and offering extracurricular activities.

WASH

In our continuous efforts to improve water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) at the school and to reduce the waste it produces, we decided to make it a plastic free school from 2017 onwards. The kiosk on the school premises is not allowed to sell anything wrapped in plastic anymore and reusable plates and cups are being used instead. We are encouraging children to not bring any food or drinks in non-reusable plastic wrapping.

The construction of new washbasins and the installation of new water filters to provide free drinking water has been successfully completed in 2018. The toilets have been renovated successfully and equipped with running water in 2019.

Change to school fees

The local authorities recently informed us that all private language schools in the area will be “free of charge” for all children and that each family living in the area was told about that. We were told that we have to administer all students who come and express the wish to study at our school and that the authorities would pay us fees of 10000 Riel (2.5 USD) per child. We were also told that we are not allowed to collect additional school fees. We need 4 dollar per child to pay for the salaries of the teachers and the



expenses of the school. This means we lack 1.5 USD for each child that visits our school. Before this new payment model was established, a total of 106 students from poor families had received full school scholarships from our sponsors. We successfully convinced these sponsors to continue to pay their scholarship fees so we can use this money to make up for the missing school fees of 1.5 USD per child.

Second branch

During the third quarter of 2019, our management board brought forward the idea to open a second school that makes use of what we learned while running our first school. This school is to be built in an area that lacks similar educational opportunities. Its main goal will be to teach English and other important life skills to children from underprivileged families. In order to make the most of the limited funding available, one of the criteria for the location of the school is that it is within 30-minute driving distance from our current school.

Since we are currently in the process of extending our MoU with the Cambodian Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, we will ask for guidance from the ministry on how to best incorporate these plans in the MoU extension.

COVID 19:

Due to the occurrence of the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), we had to temporarily close the school starting from 14th of March 2020. Our teachers and the cleaning lady receive monthly cash support so they can get through the crisis. In return, the teachers prepare work sheets that allow the students to practice English at home. The local authorities have announced that they will stop paying 2.50 USD per student school fees (see change to school fees) after schools are allowed to reopen. This will pose a big financial challenge to the school because we will have to reintroduce the payment model and we do not know how many children will be able and willing to afford to pay the fees. We will resume our scholarship programme for the poorest of our students, but our school director might struggle to pay salaries for all teachers if less children will pay their fees.



Appendix B

Financial Summaries

01st of January to 31st of March

Purpose	January	February	March	Amount
Scholarship programme / Teacher	\$ 408.00	\$ 404.00	\$ 404.00	\$ 1,216.00
Cleaning and Cooking at KKS	\$ 150.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 300.00
Costs for teacher Hun Tharith	\$ 220.00	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 620.00
Expenses volunteers (Copies, working materials, workshops, school trips, farewells)	\$ 3.75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3.75
Cost for renovations at the school	\$ 11.20	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11.20
School materials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Costs for volunteers (food, electricity)	\$ 160.00	\$ 181.50	\$ -	\$ 341.50
Cost for WASH initiative	\$ 1,772.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,772.50
Teacher Training	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Expenses graduation day	\$ 814.38	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 814.38
Expenses new school project	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,261.00	\$ 5,261.00
Legal counselling	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total:				\$ 10,340.33



Appendix C

Evaluation

Our efforts to improve the quality of the school are ongoing. So far, four teachers have successfully finished additional bachelor and master degrees in English language. This clearly shows in the improved quality of the classes they teach.

High mobility of teachers and the recruitment of new teachers remains a problem though. We are suffering from a lack of qualified teachers and it is not easy to find qualified teachers who are willing to work for the salaries we are able to offer. We will continue to develop ideas to incentivise qualified personnel to stay with the school.

The volunteers are well accepted at the school. On top of their contribution to the courses, children and teachers alike very much appreciate the opportunity to practice speaking English and cross-checking their pronunciation with them.

Hun Tharith has proven to be a highly qualified teacher and deputy principal who contributes to the positive development of the school.

Keeping the school plastic free remains a challenge. Children continue to bring plastic wrapped food and drinks into the school from outside. We aim to address this challenge by making sure the new water filters are well maintained and accepted by the children. We also created classroom rules that address the plastic issue.

As explained above, we lack 1.5 USD per child since the local authorities announced that no children will have to pay for their school fees anymore. 101 children had full scholarships before the authorities started paying the school fees. The sponsors of these 101 children kindly allow us to use this money ($101 \times 4 \text{ USD} = 404 \text{ USD}$) to make up for the 1.5 USD of fees we are missing per child that visits the school. This means that we currently have around 3.50 USD per child. Meaning we still lack about 0.50 USD per child to run the school efficiently. We are not allowed to decline any children who want to study at our school. This means that the number of children could further increase in the future. Since the money we get from our sponsors remains the same, we will have less money per child in case the total amount of students increases further. We also do not have sufficient space in our classrooms. The current number of students is barely manageable. If the number of students increases more substantially, we will have to talk to the local authorities and find a solution. Due to



COVID 19 and our school being closed since the middle of March 2020, the scholarship fees are temporarily being used to pay emergency aid to our teachers and the cleaning lady. This has been discussed with and sanctioned by the sponsors. We will resume the scholarship programme as soon as our school is allowed to reopen.



III. Scholarships for University students in Phnom Penh

Project location: Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia

Participating Staff: One Expatriate and one Cambodian

Project costs in the reported term: \$ 11126.70

Number of supported students: 52

Number of sponsors: 87



Appendix A

Scholarships for university students

Goals of the project:

At Kidshelp Kambodscha e.V. we see education as our main priority and the best way to escape poverty. With our scholarships for university students we enable talented students from poor families to avail quality education at one of the universities in Phnom Penh.

Our idea is that these gifted children not only find a way out of poverty for themselves, but also get the necessary skills to have a positive impact on the development of the country as a whole.

The goal of this project is to enable talented individuals, who could otherwise not afford it, with an opportunity to study at a university in Phnom Penh.

Project activities:

The underlying principle for our scholarship programme is “support and demand.” This means that we give our students all the assistance they need to successfully study in Phnom Penh, while also expecting them to become more and more independent and to use their own abilities rather than relying entirely on other people. This means that we expect them to do well in their studies and to keep us updated on their performance and the challenges they are facing.

Most of our students get their scholarships from private sponsors in Germany. This means that the support is very individual and that many sponsors are willing to accommodate for their personal needs (e.g. the need to study on weekends while working on weekdays).

The minimum we provide for are the university fees, but our support does not end there. Our employees in Phnom Penh keep permanent contact to all of our students and react if additional help is needed. One problem we are facing quite often is language problems. Many of the classes and materials at university are in English. This can cause a lot of problems as the English classes in the countryside are sometimes not sufficient to study in English or to acquire the IELTS certificate that is



needed for many follow-up scholarships abroad. To improve this, we also offer to pay for part time English classes in cooperation with our sponsors. Since these classes are quite expensive, we usually only award these extra classes to students who perform very well in their main fields of study or who provide regular support for the work of the NGO.

We are running three student dormitories; one for male and two for female students. Opening a second house for female students was necessary as more and more girls are expressing their wish to study. Since the number of boys has decreased a lot during the last year, we changed their dormitory from a full house to a one-storey apartment. The dorms for the girls are run in cooperation with the NGO Chibodia e.V. Volunteers from our school as well as the volunteers working with Chibodia visit the dorms on a semi-regular basis and help the students with their studies and their daily life. They offer courses in English and other life-skills relevant to the career and personal growth of our students.

One student per dorm is elected by the other students to become the house manager for one year. The managers receive a small salary from us in return for helping the students with their studies and assisting us to ensure the smooth administration of the dormitories.

In order to qualify for a scholarship, the applicants have to pass their high-school exams and take part in an English exam at Khemara Kidshelp School. Scholarships are awarded to children that score the highest scores in both exams and that come from poor households. There is no guarantee to receive a scholarship, as this depends on how many sponsors agree to support a student.

To assist potential students with their choice of studies, we invite current recipients of scholarships to visit the Kidshelp School and to present about what they are studying. In order to provide leaning and employment opportunities to our scholarship holders, we reach out to private companies to establish internship programmes. After having successfully initiated such a programme with DHL Express Cambodia in 2017, we are now looking to start similar initiatives with other companies.

During the third quarter of 2019, we successfully identified 9 new scholarship recipients from Loer Oet and the surrounding villages. They started to study at various Universities in Phnom Penh during the 4th quarter of 2019.

**COVID 19:**

Due to the occurrence of the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), all of Universities are closed since 14th of March 2020 and our students take part in remote learning. Our dormitories remain open and the inhabitants received extensive guidance on social distancing and hygiene protocols.



Appendix B

Financial Summaries

01st of January to 31st of March

Purpose	January	February	March	Amount
Costs for the student dormitories	\$ 1,172.33	\$ 156.00	\$ 1,630.37	\$ 2,958.70
University fees and other courses	\$ 1,235.00	\$ 743.00	\$ 1,090.00	\$ 3,068.00
Business meals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Extra support for students	\$ 360.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -	
New books for the library	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Salary Country Director	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 5,100.00
TOTAL:				\$ 11,126.70

*Zero cost on one or more months are possible, because the rent for the dorm is sometimes collected on a bi- or tri-monthly basis.



Appendix C

Evaluation:

The dormitories have proven to be the best way to provide the students with a healthy learning environment. Students who live in the dormitories are easier to communicate with, show interest in group activities and offer to help with other projects of our organisation. This is why we only allow students who can provide us with a proper justification (e.g. if they have family living in Phnom Penh) to live outside the student homes.

Volunteers and staff members continue to hold occasional trainings on life-skills and engage the students in discussions about various topics. The students have repeatedly expressed that they value these exchanges very much. Not only because of the knowledge that is provided, but also because it gives them an opportunity to work on their conversational English. We will therefore continue to organise similar exchanges. Living in a house together and sharing the cost for food and electricity also enables the students to become more independent and better at managing their lives. The managers of each house are showing tremendous growth, but also face challenges when dealing with the many problems that are brought forward by the other students. Our staff therefore provides them with regular advice.

Former students and residents of the dormitories have found good jobs and started promising businesses.

Michael Dohr
Country Director of
Kidshelp Kambodscha e.V
Phnom Penh, 31.03.2020