



SUMMARY REPORT On Scholarship Material Providing to poor students and teacher

Rational

Battambang is one of the 4 provinces covered by EXCEL project (Eliminating Exploitative Child labor through Education and Livelihood) which also includes Pursat and Siem Reap. As the title itself indicates, the project is focused on the elimination of child labor, targeting the poorest households. Farmer Livelihood Development (FLD) is working in partnership with several other organizations that are constantly working in offspring of this purpose. FLD's aims are not only to provide emotional, educational and physical support, but also to give those families the skills they need to improve their product and generate income. In order to fulfill this goal, the financial support received through funds and donations is of utmost importance and a great contribution to eradicate poverty.

Part of FLD's revenue has been serving to support scholarships for 129 primary school students and 3 other children from poor backgrounds from other villages, as well as for the purchase of school supplies for all of them. The scholarship package includes:

- 1) For 108 students:
 - a) 216 writing books
 - b) 216 pens
 - c) 108 pencils
 - d) 108 pencil sharpeners
 - e) 108 rulers
 - f) 108 hand board writing
 - g) 108 shampoos
 - h) 108 toothpastes
 - i) 108 toothbrushes
- 2) For 3 poor kids
 - a) 3 writing books
 - b) 3 pens
 - c) 3pencils
 - d) 3 pencil sharpeners
 - e) 3 rulers (30 cm)
 - f) 3 shampoos
 - g) 3 toothbrushes
 - h) 3 toothpastes

- i) 3 school bags
 - (1) 3 sets of student uniform.
 - (2) 3 bicycles
- 3) For teaching material
 - a) 3 Multi math banner
 - b) 3 Vowels Khmer banner
 - c) 3 Consonant banner
 - d) 3 boxes of 10 crayons
 - e) 2 cover tables
 - f) 100 story books
 - g) 3 flower bottles

Mr. Seak Sery, is the Director of Pheas Primary School, a school located in Kok Doung village, Peam Ek commune, Ek Phnom district, above 30 km from Battambang province. From 1997-2010 there was no primary school in this area, so the community people suggested that teachers from education office of Ek Phnom district could teach their students there, due to several things: the big distance that separated their villages and the nearest primary school (about 15km); the difficulty of travelling during the rainy season as well as the majority of students leaving school at that time. Thanks to a donation made by Handicap Center of Battambang in 2011, it was finally possible to build a school with roof made by zinc and wood. The director added that in this school lacks a large number of teaching materials and an insufficient educational support for the students, as most of them just have one book a year. Every year the teachers request material such as books, pens, and pencils from outside to put at the disposal of students.

Thanks to FLD Organization a donor could contribute with its own resources to support teaching material to the teacher and 108 student material kits, which, to Mr. Seak Sery is the most effective way to meet student, teacher and Pheas Primary School's needs.



School material donation for the teachers in Pheas Primary school.



School material donation for the students in Pheas Primary school.



Provision of study material to 108 students in Pheas Primary school.

ACTUAL STORY TELLING

1. **Hor Sreyem**, 13 years old, is a young girl who lives in Takom village, Peam Ek Commune, Ek Phnom District, Battambang Province. She is currently in the 3rd grade in Kor Rohal Primary School, Kor Rohal village, Peam Ek Commune, Ek phnom District, Battambang Province. The distance from her home to school is over 3 km. Hor lives with her grandmother at Takoum village due to the impossibility of her parents give her support in her education. In her free time she goes to her hometown to work in fishing and farming and then sell the products in the market.

Mrs. Kong Vet, 45 years old, is Hor Sreyem's mother, and she stated that the main reason for not

being able to give support to her daughter's education is due to the fact of the really poor living conditions of the family, and the 7 children they have to feed, which makes the school needs a non-priority. One of Hor elder brothers moved to the Thai-Cambodia border to offer his services and get a job, so that he can contribute financially to his family.

On the other hand **Hor Sreyem** wants to study in order to become a teacher someday. In these terms, Hor's mother is extremely grateful for the amazing study materials support and the bicycle, because those materials represent a major help in her daughter's life.



Hor Sreyem and her parent received study material and bicycle in Phease village, Ek phnom district, Battambang province.

2. **Chhom Ang** is another 13 year old girl who is currently in the 5th grade at Pheas primary school. She has six brothers and sisters and she lives with her parents at Kouk Doung Village, Peam Ek Commune, Ek Phnom district, Battambang Province. She said that every day when she returns from school after lunch she usually travel by boat with her father and go to the field to collect some vegetables as Water Convolvulus, Water Morning Lyly and "farmed fish" raised in a natural lake to sell in the market. She also stated that sometimes the trip can take so long that she only returns home in the evening.

Mrs. Youm Yoeb, 42 years is Chom's mother. She stated that her only income is about 6000-14000riels per day (about 1.5-3.5\$US/day) from fishing and vegetable collecting activities. This wage is not enough to support her family especially with children that must study and need a healthy. She also referred when a member of the family becomes sick or

ill, usually she has to borrow money to purchase food and support her family during that time.

One time, her daughter asked her if she could buy a bicycle so she could go to school, but she answered that she absolutely couldn't afford it.

Consequently Chom Ang has to walk to school every day. Next year she will need to change to another primary school which is about 12 km far from home. Mrs. Kong Vet, Chom Ang's mother is very concerned with the conditions her young daughter will have to face daily, because of the rainy season that turns some roads flooded of water. She thanks Ms. Janet Taylor and her friends who fortunately were able to sponsor her daughter through FLD organization with a bicycle, school material and an uniform. This will improve a lot her daughter's life, and her mother rest assured.



Chom Ang and her mother received study material, bicycle and student uniform Phease village, Ek phnom district, Battambang province.

3. **Men Samen** is our last (but not the least) young girl, she is just 10 years old, currently attending the 4th grade in Kouk Doung primary school, and she lives with her parents in Kouk Doung village, Peam Ek Commune, Ek Phnom District, Battambang Province. One of 6 brothers and sisters, she helps her parents in the housing activities after school, as well as some of her brothers.

She said that when she returns from school sometimes she helps her parents in vegetable collecting to sell in a market far away from home, so she can be able to purchase school material and food to support her family.

She also stated that, she is committed to study so she will hopefully someday become a teacher and support her family. She was very happy when she received school material and a bicycle from the donation.

Mrs. Thorn Vin, 52 years old, Men Samen's mother reported that something like 4 to 5 months a year the food is scarce, due to the fact that she only has a small field of rice cultivation. The fact that they don't have any other job is another major obstacle to her family's subsistence. The lack of food from 4-5 months per year is due the small surface of rice cultivation. Besides this she has no job to support her family. Therefore, in order to alleviate this difficult situation, Mrs. Thorn Vin, her husband and children often go to some farm fields to collect some of vegetables and fishing in the river. In free time she offers labor for extra income to purchase rice and meat for consumption in family. Samen always contributes after school.

Mrs. Thorn Vin finally assumed that she wants to help her daughter to study. Access to education is essential to shift the conditions of poverty and marginalization.

Education remains almost inaccessible due to the fact that her family is living in extreme poverty. Therefore it is necessary to improve their living conditions, and so she needs to work and get an employment.



Men Samen, 10 years old and her parent received study material, bicycle and student uniform in Kouk Dong village, Ek phnom district, Battambang

Battambang, 02th February 2015

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