



ANNUAL REPORT

2020 – 2021

ChildFund Cambodia is the representative office of ChildFund Australia – an independent international development organisation that works to reduce poverty for children in developing communities.

ChildFund Australia is a member of the ChildFund Alliance – a global network of 12 organisations which assists almost 23 million children and their families in 70 countries. ChildFund Australia is a registered charity, a member of the Australian Council for International Development, and fully accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, which manages the Australian Government’s overseas aid program.

ChildFund began working in Cambodia in 2007 and works in partnership to create community and systems change which enables vulnerable children and young people, in all their diversity, to assert and realise their rights. Projects are implemented in the rural districts of Svay Rieng, Kratie, Prey Veng and Battambang provinces, and are focused on improving living standards for excluded or marginalised communities.

With a focus on child protection and resilience, quality education, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, improved local governance, water and sanitation, and youth empowerment, ChildFund Cambodia is also working to strengthen the government’s policy frameworks to improve early grade reading performance through technology interventions, and build community-based child protection mechanisms.

ChildFund Cambodia implements its programs in collaboration with local civil society organisations, and in partnership with the relevant ministries and government departments.

ChildFund Cambodia

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The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented and catastrophic impact on children and young people across Cambodia, particularly those in rural areas already living below the poverty line.

The adverse effects of the pandemic have led to prolonged school closures in Cambodia. This has not only made children's education more difficult, but it has also caused concern about the psychological impacts on children whose daily lives have dramatically changed.

ChildFund Cambodia has continued to live its values and demonstrate its commitment to the wellbeing of children during this time. Through strong partnerships with local NGOs, and strategic collaboration with key government line-ministries, ChildFund initially focussed on protecting children, their families, local partners and staff by providing health information and resources to slow the spread of the virus.

We made it our priority to support children and develop the mechanisms for young people to access a quality education through distance learning while schools have been closed. All projects were updated, and resources were diverted to our education and protection programs. We also ran two back-to-back emergency response operations with support from the ChildFund Alliance.

As a member of the Joining Forces Alliance, a group of six leading child-focussed international NGOs, we took the lead on joint national advocacy activities to encourage the government to ensure children had equitable access to education.

ChildFund has increased its investment in community-based child protection, village level education and e-learning initiatives. Due to the number of children learning online, ChildFund included online safety as a key feature in existing projects.

On behalf of ChildFund Cambodia, I would like to thank our many partners and collaborators, including Cambodian Government Ministries and Departments, donors and other stakeholders for their unconditional support. We are also grateful for the support from the children, youth and communities with whom we work.

I would also like to acknowledge the efforts from the entire ChildFund Cambodia team this year. While most people in Cambodia were working from home and taking care of themselves, our staff continued to work – many in the field – to ensure the most vulnerable children and families were safe and were able to access food, healthcare, and education.

The commitment and passion from our staff has been outstanding, and we are proud of every individual team member.

Together, we will continue to strive to make a positive difference in the lives of children across Cambodia and support them in achieving their full potential.

Prashant Verma
Country Director
ChildFund Cambodia

We want every child with whom we work to be able to say:

I AM SAFE

Emergency support for families affected by widespread flooding



Families affected by the floods were provided with tents, hygiene supplies and food.

Heavy rainfall over the past year led to widespread flooding in Cambodia, impacting around 200,000 people across the country. Thousands of families lost their homes, schools were closed, and lives were lost.

ChildFund Cambodia worked closely with civil society organisations, local partners and other international organisations such as the Red Cross to provide emergency assistance to children and families impacted by floods in Battambang Province. This included providing evacuated families with tents, hygiene supplies and emergency food rations.

At the time of the floods, many families had already been heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting nationwide lockdowns. ChildFund provided relief to children and families by distributing food and COVID-19 hygiene kits to 2,658 vulnerable households in 452 villages across the provinces of Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Battambang, and Kratie.

Earlier in the year, 275,000 children and their families were also provided with COVID-19 hygiene kits. ChildFund also supported primary schools to share vital health and prevention messages to keep children safe and prevent the virus from spreading.

I AM EDUCATED

Helping girls return to school during the COVID-19 pandemic

Schools across Cambodia have been closed for the majority of the year due to nationwide lockdowns to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This was devastating for girls living in poverty like 11-year-old Rosany (pictured right, below).

Rosany is of the Cham ethnic minority group in Cambodia and lives in a remote village. She does not have access to the internet or television, meaning she was not able to access remote learning lessons while her school was closed.

Rosany is a promising student. She wants to be a teacher and, before the pandemic, she was doing well in school. Now, she is at risk of leaving school early and not finishing her education.

Girls like Rosany, who are from low-income families, who live in remote or rural locations, or who are of an ethnic minority group, were already vulnerable to leaving school early. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on families has increased this risk.

Rosany has been helping to take care of her one-year-old sibling while her parents, whose jobs were impacted by the pandemic, look for work.

To encourage girls like Rosany to return to school, it is important they know they are returning to a safe and inspiring learning environment.

ChildFund Cambodia has been working with provincial and national governments, local partners, and community leaders to improve the quality of education at remote and rural schools. This has included improving teaching standards, and upgrading bathroom facilities so they are safe and clean spaces for students, especially for girls. Libraries have also been upgraded and have been equipped with books and tablets with learning apps installed. Students have been able to borrow those resources to learn at home during the pandemic.

ChildFund has also been working with communities to run Back to School campaigns to help children, including vulnerable girls like Rosany, return to the classroom.



Rosany, age 11.

I CONTRIBUTE

Student councils helping to develop young leaders in schools

Student councils have been a significant part of ChildFund's education programs in Cambodia in the past year, helping to develop young leadership teams that assist teachers and principals to improve schools.

The councils are made up of students who help manage daily activities such as tutoring services to younger students, bicycle parking, caring for the school garden, and maintaining school facilities. Over the past year, the councils have also played an important role in sharing information with students about the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thirteen-year-old Sopheaney (pictured right in red) is the president of the student council at her primary school.

When Sopheaney's teacher is busy with meetings or other duties, Sopheaney steps in to help other students. In addition to being a student council member, she is one of the 27 peer tutors who is helping younger students with their studies and keep up with the curriculum.

"I am delighted to share knowledge with younger students," Sopheaney said. "I am honoured that I can assist younger children. The more I share my knowledge, the more knowledgeable I become."

Sopheaney, age-13 (middle), tutoring younger students.



I HAVE A FUTURE

New Generation Schools improving education in remote villages

ChildFund Cambodia has been working in a remote community in Svay Rieng Province to build a 'New Generation School', which adopts a first-of-its-kind, quality-oriented school management approach.

The new primary school in the community is helping to ensure students can learn and play in a safe and welcoming environment. The school includes a new laboratory and garden, as well as glass windows, fans, and child-friendly decorations. Classrooms are also equipped with projectors and laptops.

ChildFund and its local partners also worked with school leaders to ensure students could access the internet for research projects. A new curriculum, which includes a variety of laboratory work, group work, sports, and student-centered teaching methods, was also developed.

The new school collects an annual fee from those families able to afford it. This helps to cover the costs of state teacher salaries and school operations. The school fee also means all children in the community can attend the school, including those from low-income families.

Fourteen-year-old Chek, who is in Grade 6, has been attending a 'New Generation School' in Cambodia for three years. She and her mother Khom have been impressed with the school.

"I am not wealthy, but I will set aside funds for my daughter's school fees," Khom says. "I do not want Chek to transfer to another school because this school is exceptional."

"I am confident that the school will provide a bright future for my daughter and my entire family."

A laboratory in a 'New Generation School'.





Children use technology in their schools.

I AM EDUCATED

Making literacy and numeracy easy to learn

The Easy 2 Learn project, developed and implemented in partnership with the Khmer Association for Development of Countryside, has transformed 17 schools across Kratie Province to help improve students' literacy and numeracy skills and keep them engaged in classes.

Across Kratie, primary school-aged children are at risk of falling behind in their classes and leaving school early because of inadequate teaching and limited educational resources and facilities.

Children who leave school early often stay home to take care of their younger siblings or enter the workforce to contribute to the family income.

ChildFund's Easy 2 Learn project helped improve the quality of education in these communities by training teachers, renovating schools, and providing resources and new technology to classrooms.

Over the past three years, 17 schools have received more than 23,000 books, 17 laptops, 294 tablets and 119 reading and math toolkits. The project built two new schools, seven libraries, and three computer labs, and renovated playgrounds and classroom libraries.

Eleven-year-old Chhaly says the new library at his school has helped him to improve his reading. "I could not read well before," he says. "Now I can. I am happy to be able to read."

Teachers have been trained on how to develop child-friendly lessons and track students' progress using literacy and numeracy standards. They have also been provided with tablets with an app that stores test results and provides information on how to help students improve their grades.

Parents and caregivers have learned how to use different literacy tools to read with their children at home.

The Vice Chief of Chhlong District of Education in Kratie Province, Monorom, says the pass rate of students in these schools has increased from 70% to 82% over the past three years. The student dropout rate has decreased from 7% to 5%.



COLLABORATING TO ACHIEVE CHANGE

Thank you to the following organisations and individuals whose generous support and assistance is vital to the work of ChildFund Cambodia:



Bornefonden • CAD • CDPO • Dr. Aun Pormoniroth, Minister of Finance and Economic • Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport • H.E. Chheang Yanara, Secretary General of CDC/CRDB • H.E. Chou Bun Eng, Permanence Vice Chair, National Committee for Counter Trafficking • H.E. Kong Vibol, Director General of the General Department of Taxation • H.E. Kun Kim, Senior Minister & Vice President, National Committee for Disaster Management • H.E. Madam Nhep Sopheap, Secretary General, Cambodia National Council for Children • H.E. Men Vibol, Provincial Governor of Svay Rieng province • H.E. Nguon Ratanak, Provincial Governor of Battambang province • H.E. Ouk Rabun, Minister of Rural Development • H.E. Prak Sokhon, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation • H.E. Va Thorn, Provincial Governor of Kratie province • H.E. Vorng Saut, Minister of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation • KAFDOC • KAPE • KHEN • KMR • Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) • LWD • NRD • OEC • Radiohjalpen • SSO • Taiwan Fund for Children and Families • WOMEN • WP

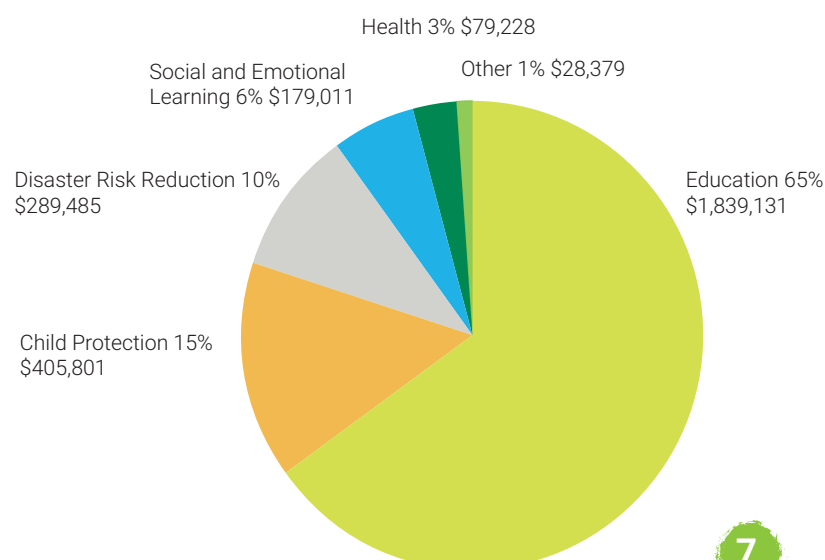
FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial report for year ended 30 June 2021

REVENUE	FY20 (US\$)	FY21 (US\$)
Donations	3,477,105	3,701,574
Grants	1,718,235	1,497,287
Other income	1,117	84,960
Total revenue	5,196,457	5,283,821

EXPENDITURE	FY20 (US\$)	FY21 (US\$)
Program and projects	2,723,343	2,821,035
Program support	808,533	649,998
Accountability and administration	608,568	692,280
Total expenditure	4,140,444	4,163,313

PROGRAM EXPENDITURE FY2021 (US\$)



**BECAUSE
EVERY CHILD
NEEDS A
CHILDHOOD**

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