



ANNUAL REPORT

2018 - 2019

ChildFund Cambodia is the representative office of ChildFund Australia – an independent and non-religious 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 11 organisations which assists more than 13 million children and their families in over 60 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 with children, their communities and local institutions to create lasting change, respond to humanitarian emergencies and promote children’s rights. Projects are implemented in the rural provinces of Svay Rieng, Kratie, Battambang, as well as urban Phnom Penh, focused on improving living standards for excluded or marginalised communities.

With a focus on child protection and resilience, quality education, sustainable livelihoods, improved local governance, child nutrition, water and sanitation, and youth empowerment, ChildFund Cambodia is also working to improve early grade reading performance through technology interventions, and strengthen national 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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Front cover: Vichara, age 13, Cambodia



ChildFund Cambodia celebrated excellent progress over the past year in helping improve the lives of children in developing communities.

One of our greatest achievements has been improving the learning environments of children in need. Our work in

education has been recognised by government officials in Cambodia, including the Minister of Education.

With support from the Korea International Cooperation Agency, we were able to begin advancing the quality of primary education in Chhloung district in Kratie Province through our flagship Easy 2 Learn project. We are excited to be expanding this project to Prey Veng Province, and throughout Battambang Province.

In urban Phnom Penh, our focus has been on ensuring children with disability have access to high quality learning environments in which they can reach their full potential.

While education is a key focus of our work, we are also committed to keeping children safe from exploitation and other forms of harm, such as trafficking and child labour. Many young people and families in Cambodia are migrating in search of better opportunities, so we have helped build resource centres to ensure they can access the support and information they need to migrate safely.

Our strong and long-term partnership with key government ministries and councils has helped develop child protection frameworks and mechanisms at national and community levels.

We are proud to be able to support more than

156,400 children and their families in 54 communes in the provinces of Svay Rieng, Kratie, Battambang and urban Phnom Penh. The passion and commitment of our staff to ensure more children in Cambodia can say “I am safe, I am educated, I am heard, and I have future” has been unwavering.

It is also because of our amazing supporters that we are able to ensure more children and their families in Cambodia can live brighter and safer lives.

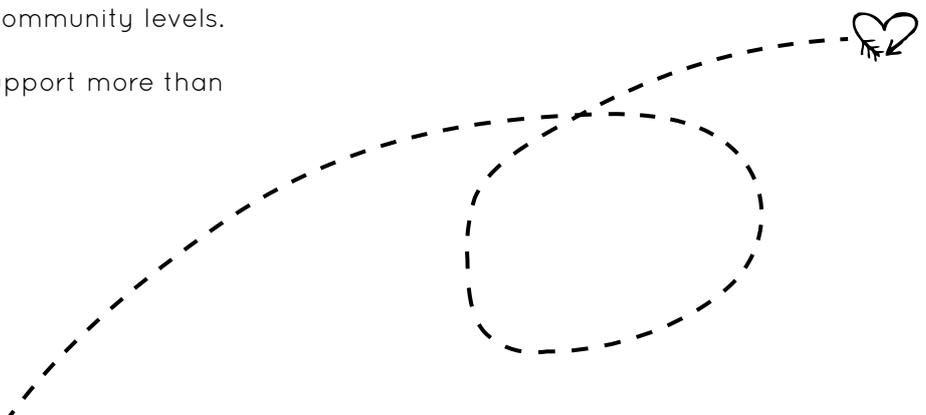
On behalf of ChildFund Cambodia, I wish to thank our many development partners and collaborators, including the Cambodian Government, our donors and our stakeholders.

Most importantly, thank you to the many children, youth and families with whom we work.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Prashant Verma". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Prashant Verma
Country Director
ChildFund Cambodia





**I AM
SAFE**



After a decade of working in terrible conditions and being isolated from his family, Pisey finally was able to return to Cambodia.

Norng Samen had believed she would never see her son again. "I was told that he was dead and we had a funeral for him," she says.

"But now he is back; I am so happy."

ChildFund Cambodia is helping to raise awareness of the risks of migration and ensuring children, youth and their families do not have to experience the trauma and challenges that Pisey and his family endured. Through a local partner, ChildFund Cambodia is providing vulnerable individuals and family with information on how to prepare for migration and how to stay safe during and after the process.

People like Pisey who have returned to Cambodia are being provided with medical assistance, counselling and support to resettle back into their communities.

Today, Pisey is sharing his experience with younger generations.

HELPING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MIGRATE SAFELY

Many disadvantaged young people and their families in Cambodia migrate to neighbouring countries to find higher paid jobs but are unaware or unprepared for the risks. A major risk for children and young people is being abused or exploited in the process, or in their new jobs or countries.

Pisey, age 29 (pictured above with his mother, Norng Samen), dropped out of school at the age

of 11 to work to help his family earn a living.

He was 18 years old when he decided to migrate to Thailand to earn a higher income. His new role in construction was physically demanding and poorly paid. For years he did not receive a regular income. At times he was paid only US\$10 a day. Today, he is unable to walk properly because of injuries resulting from his job.

WELL AND GOOD: NEW WATER SOURCES KEEPING COMMUNITIES HEALTHY

In remote areas of Cambodia, many children do not have access to safe water for drinking and washing, and collect water from sources such as creeks and rivers, which are often far from their homes. Many of these communities also do not have access to healthcare facilities, so if a child becomes sick from prolonged exposure to dirty water, they may not survive.

ChildFund Cambodia is helping children to stay safe and healthy by installing hand-pump wells (pictured) in disadvantaged communities, and teaching families the importance of washing hands and boiling water before drinking it.

Having a well in the village means children do not have to spend hours fetching water, giving them more time to study and play with their friends.

Sok Ren and his family from Kratie Province used to collect water from a creek for washing and drinking.

"It was a parasite in the water that caused one of my sons to get diarrhoea," he says. "I had no money and the health centre was a long way away from us so my son passed away."

Since ChildFund Cambodia installed a well in his community he has learnt about the importance of boiling water before drinking it. "I always boil water for my kids now, even if it was taken from the wells as I don't want to lose any more children," Sok Ren says. "I thank ChildFund Cambodia for constructing wells and bringing us knowledge to stay healthy."



**I AM
SAFE**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In Cambodia, children, young people and marginalised groups have limited opportunities to participate in decision-making processes that impact them in their communities.

ChildFund Cambodia is helping to ensure they have their voices heard by local leaders, they know their rights, and can take part in community development projects.

Through the establishment of child and youth groups and training sessions, children and young people are learning the skills to confidently advocate for change and speak up about issues in their villages, such as access to clean water and child protection.

Srey Sros, age 19 (pictured above, right), says her confidence has grown since being a part of a youth group and having the opportunity to help develop projects in her community.

“As a project implementation team member, I have a lot of opportunity to build my capacity in leadership, project management, facilitation and planning,” she says.

“Because I am a young woman, sometimes I feel afraid and ashamed. But my confidence is growing.”



Srey Sros, age 19 (left) says her confidence has grown since being a part of a youth group supported by ChildFund, and (below) children help evaluate a project in their community.




**I AM
HEARD**



BEFORE



AFTER

BIGGER AND BETTER SCHOOLS

For many children living in remote and rural communities in Battambang Province, in northwest Cambodia, school is a long way from home. The dangers of, and time spent, having to walk the long distance means families often do not send their children to school.

ChildFund Cambodia is rebuilding and renovating schools closer to homes so children do not miss out on an education. One school in Battambang (pictured left) was recently renovated to include more classrooms, teaching and learning resources, new toilets and water filters.

Since the renovation, the number of students attending the school has more than doubled, from 20 to 47 children.

Eleven-year-old Borey says his new school has made learning easier.

“I remembered when I was in Grade 1 we shared a room with Grade 2,” Borey says. “It was hard to listen to the teacher as the other class was noisy.”


**I AM
EDUCATED**



I HAVE A FUTURE



TRAINING TEACHERS TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF EDUCATION

ChildFund Cambodia is helping to boost the number of qualified teachers in rural areas by providing scholarships in remote villages. The project has already helped to train 45 young teachers in areas where there are shortages of quality teachers and schools are often under-resourced.

Low pay and a lack of opportunities to learn basic teaching skills are among the factors deterring people from becoming teachers in Cambodia. In addition, the quality of teaching, especially in disadvantaged communities, is poor because many graduates cannot afford proper training and there are a few opportunities to develop their skills.

A key component of the Cambodian Government's education policy is to improve the capacity of teachers. Becoming a government-approved teacher is a rigorous process. Candidates are required to complete a national teacher's exam. Successful candidates must then complete a two-year teacher training course.

ChildFund Cambodia has for a long time been working with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to achieve national education goals. The success of ChildFund's New Generation Schools and Easy 2 Learn projects has demonstrated the strength of this partnership,

said Minister of Education, Youth and Sport Hang Chuon Naron.

"I am highly appreciative of the support from ChildFund, which helps the government to implement our educational reform policies, especially the expanding of the Easy 2 Learn project, a project that engages the community to ensure effective learning and teaching," he said.

In communities where the Easy 2 Learn project has been implemented and there is a critical need for qualified teachers, ChildFund Cambodia is helping to identify and train the best and brightest young adults to be qualified teachers.

After dedicated mentoring, these teachers are encouraged to take the entrance exam for the teacher training course that will allow them to become a state-qualified teacher. ChildFund Cambodia is helping to significantly alleviate the initial financial obstacles that might have deterred them from starting and completing the course.

Meng, age 22 (pictured above), is among the dozens of young teachers who have completed the teacher training course. "I am happy to be able to help my community and feel proud that I grew up to become a teacher of the school," Meng says.

THANK YOU

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:



• PlanBørnefonden • Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport • H.E. Chou Bun Eng, Permanence Vice Chair, National Committee for Counter Trafficking • 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. Pov Sopheap, Vice Provincial Governor of Svay Rieng province • 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 • Industrial Bank of Korea • Ingenuity • Jeju Jinsan Engineering Co., Ltd. • KAFDOC • KAPE • KHEN • Kookmin Bank • Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) • Krousar Thmey • Life with Dignity • Local authorities and relevant departments of Svay Rieng and Kratie province • Radiohjælpen • Seongnam Foreign Language High School • Taiwan Fund for Children and Families • Wathnakpheap • Woori Bank

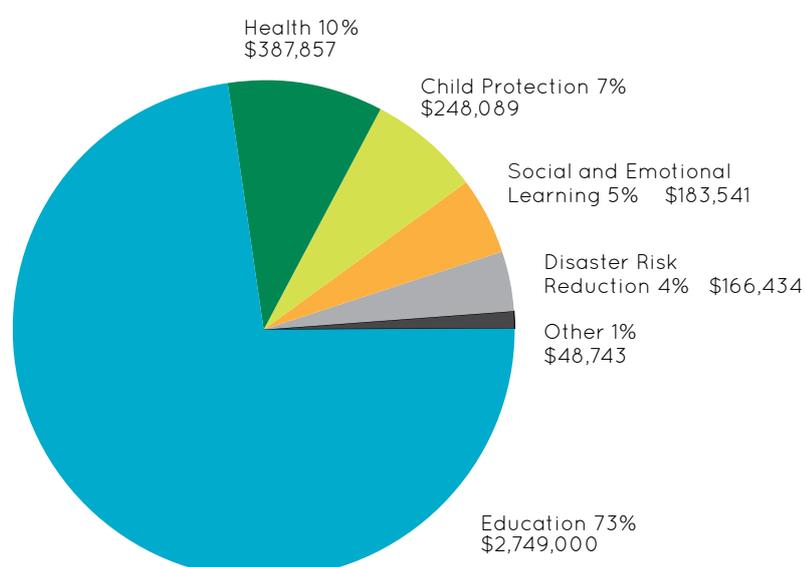
FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial report for year ended 30 June 2019

REVENUE	FY1819 (US\$)	FY1718 (US\$)
Donation	3,608,184	3,419,826
Grants	1,323,910	725,127
Other income	550	640
Total revenue	4,932,644	4,145,593

EXPENDITURE	FY1819 (US\$)	FY1718 (US\$)
Program and project	3,783,664	3,464,857
Program support	634,257	537,604
Accountability and administration	624,740	670,006
Total expenditure	5,042,661	4,672,467

PROGRAM AND PROJECT EXPENDITURE FY1819 (US\$)



**BECAUSE
EVERY CHILD
NEEDS A
CHILDHOOD**

www.childfund.org.au