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# Salvation Centre Cambodia (SCC)

## Children's Basic Education (CBE) Project Annual Report



Period Covered: 1st August 2019 to 31st July 2020

Location: Boengkak, slum area Phnom Penh, Cambodia

SCC Team August 2020

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#### 1. Introduction to SCC-CBE Community School

SCC-CBE Community School is located at Boengkak community has established since 2007 as a project in a slum area funded by Mr. Greg Smith who was a private sponsor of SCC from Australia, RD Foundation, Face to Face AIDS Project and various generous sponsors. The aim is to reduce the dropout rate of students and change behavior regarding school attendance and increase awareness of HIV/AIDS prevention.

SCC-CBE's students get the opportunity to learn English language with a special focus on learning Speaking and Listening skills, Khmer mathematic and life skills. The study curriculum is well organized and the lessons are properly planned, so the teachers have the right conditions to teach in an effective way. We have volunteer teachers from the agency 'Projects Abroad', volunteer teachers from Bread for the World (BfDW) in Germany and other relevance abroad teachers to teach English and share various experiences.

The orphaned, poorest and vulnerable children in the slum area in Boengkak, Phnom Penh city can learn and profit a lot from the SCC-CBE Community School here.

Besides, there are special music-training courses were teaching by a professional teacher and his music teacher assistants.

**CBE Goal:** Improved the quality access to education of orphans and vulnerable children including children who are living with HIV/AIDS and they are protected from all types of abuse.

**CBE Objective:** To encourage the orphans and vulnerable children, aged 4 to 15 years old living in the land area crabbing in slums to access to education through providing SCC community school services.

#### 2. Evaluation report

#### 2.1. Achievement of the project goal

However, we did not reach as planned with total direct 110 orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) have studied with SCC-CBE School. As a good result, we have reached 88% of 110 or 97 OVC of which 45 were girls have studied with SCC-CBE School during the project period. Unfortunately, among these disadvantaged children 10 OVC had dropped out of school during academic year 2019-2020. The reasons like they changed their residents, laziness because of the parents' carelessness, parents are very busy with their core work, and it may be our study curriculum not interested or meet their needs yet, or they wanted to change schools by themselves.

The objective of SCC-CBE community school is to encourage the orphans and vulnerable children (OVC), aged 4 to 15 years old living in the land area crabbing in slums to access to education through providing SCC community school services. As a good result, SCC-CBE community school has encouraged 86% or 83 of 97 children have registered both with SCC-CBE School and the state school. However, SCC-CBE community school teachers have committed to coordinate and collaborate with parent or caregivers of 14 children have not registered at the state school yet to register at the state school in academic year 2020-2021.

All three groups of children from levels 1 to 3 in SCC-CBE community school received lessons on Khmer Literature, Life Skills, and English. They all have confidence and brave to go to study at the state schools. Moreover, our children have learnt and practiced more social learning, for example teamwork, morality, decency, virtue, hygiene and sanitation. Regarding

their physical cleanliness, their dirty hands were cleaned, clean clothes, and nails and hair were checked by their teachers almost every day. Fortunately, they gained knowledge on child rights, children protection and education as well. For their brilliant future, SCC CBE community school teachers have taught their students how to set goals of life, too. In particular, they got knowledge on how to keep the environment clean and green. For instance, they have got knowledge on 'environment'. They have practiced some energizer activities related to waste, water, wildlife and forest.

According to the SCC-CBE community teachers who have followed up their students reported that parents/caregivers have followed up their children's studies. It was because they were worried that the children went to school, but they did directly go to school or stopped and played somewhere else along the way to school. They checked their children's notebooks even they could not read it. They did this to make their children thought that their parents really cared of their studies. They arranged time and led their children to read and write in daily. They expressed that if they did not do this; their children always play a lot.

The SCC-CBE community school teachers have good collaboration with the SCC Senior Management Team. Furthermore, they worked closely with parents/caregivers and local authority like Village Head, Vice-village Head, Communes/Sangkats, village guards and state school teachers.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, SCC-CBE children were kept out of school because all schools have been suspended. This is following the guideline of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport instructed on March 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 with the goal of preventing the spread of the virus. From then till now, no classes were taught by any teachers in our school. However during all this time, our teachers and volunteers have been working on some school's work such as reviewing the course outlines for the course books for all levels, revising lesson plans and examining students name lists for taking any intervention for helping them immediately. They also conducted follow-ups through phone calls or direct visits to their homes in order to guide them in preparing a schedule for self-learning at home. The teachers and volunteers have arranged other school management work, too. Moreover, our teachers helped with arranging and putting SCC's financial documents in order at the SCC Head Office. This is a new work for them as well next to their usual tasks of teaching and learning at SCC-CBE School. At school, our teachers come to work and conduct peer learning, selflearning, and learning by doing for five days per week in order to improve their teaching capacity and learning skills. They have reflected and learnt from this experience. By doing this they are getting ready before the school reopening; as a result, they have been strong in their jobs.

#### What went well:

- The SCC-CBE School has been supported by volunteering teachers sponsored by Projects Abroad in Cambodia and well collaborating with each other.
- The school fully supported by local authority.
- The school has met the children's and parents' needs and the project was very important for parent, caregivers and children.
- The project has got the committed teachers and staff.
- SCC senior management team has taken great care of this project and they have committed to maintaining the quality of the children's education there.

#### What did go well:

- The SCC-CBE School funding started to be insecure.
- The school management system is not strong enough yet.

- The SCC-CBE community school has the limited capacity in teaching and learning and student management.
- The community people still lack of the ability and capacity to help educating their children and send their children to school regularly.
- SCC-CBE children were kept out of school and no classes since 15th March 2020.

#### 2.2. Significant Changes

During SCC-CBE community school opening, children enrollment has increased if we compared to the past situations. This was because SCC-CBE School teachers have conducted home visits more often and disseminated information about SCC-CBE School in the communities. SCC's management and teachers have good collaboration with community leaders, village heads, vice-village heads, and sangkats/communes located in the SCC-CBE School coverage areas. It also because the disadvantaged children and their family were aware of much benefit from SCC-CBE School through parent meeting activity and community outreach sessions which have focused on children's advantages in their communities. Through these great experiences, SCC-CBE School teachers have committed to continue the disseminated activities in the communities, to work directly with parents/caregivers, to keep closely in touch with local authority and search for new methodologies and techniques for teaching and learning.

When the world was hit by COVID-19 pandemic, Cambodia was also affected and most workers in the informal economy sector, many of whom were poor before, are losing their incomes because there are no customers. Mrs. Long Sopheap, SCC beneficiary said that the outbreak of the coronavirus disease has seriously affected the family economy. In general, it was noted that the people have experienced depression, such as despair because of losing jobs, loss of income, or anxiety, such as worrying about an invisible infection and not knowing the time when it was ended.

As results of conducting home visits to our children's houses, SCC-CBE teachers have met many children who stayed at home and played nearby their houses with their friends. However, some children could access their studies through an E-learning program provided by the national government through a specific broadcast on television (TV). Others were able to access their learning via online teaching classes for the medium-rich and rich households. However, most our children live under poor living conditions, and missed their classes whether online teaching or television. Some families are very poor and more children have to support their families with their own income. What has happened to these families? During the COVID-19 pandemic, most parents continued working to earn an income for their family, but in most cases their incomes were less than before. The parents have no time to stay home and take care of their children or fully support their studies through the E-learning program provided by the national government. We might think that children want to learn alone, we really, they don't. What has happened to those children whose parents left home to go outside and earn incomes? In these cases, we try to help our parents/caregivers as much as possible to arrange a schedule for their children to continue their lessons at home. The goal is that when the parent/caregivers came back from work they just have to spend a little time checking homework or their children's tasks. Significantly, some parent/caregivers have taught their children at home as well.

#### 2.3. Satisfaction of the SCC beneficiary and stakeholder

The project was satisfied by parent/caregivers and the children who live with the poor family and have no money to pay for school fee, children who live with a widow or widower or disabled families that has no regular income, and children live with HIV families or severe/chronic illness families. These targeted children have freely and happily with SCC-

CBE Community School. All families of children involved with SCC-CBE School are happy with the performance of teachers of SCC.

Community leaders, village heads, vice-village heads, sangkats/communes and general population located in the SCC-CBE School coverage areas were satisfied with services of SCC-CBE Community School.

Almost all the community people live in SCC targeted areas were satisfied with the educational services like teaching and learning English, Life Skills, teaching and learning morality and decency, and ways of educating through Teaching of Buddha from SCC-CBE Community School and SCC Monk Core Trainers.

We have known that through conducting 1-on-1 interview, Group Interview, discussion meeting with stakeholder, home visits, and direct observation in the communities, Quarterly reports, Annual report, and survey report which conducted by SCC team.

#### 2.4. Project Sustainability

This project has been supported and congratulated by the people living in the project target area because it is a real need of our target group. Today, most people understand and value education. However, some people still lack of the ability and capacity to help educating their children and send their children to school regularly because of their standards of living are very poor. The World Bank on May 29, 2020 just released a new report on the latest economic updates for Cambodia. In a report entitled "Cambodia in the Time of COVID-19", the World Bank reported that Cambodia's development in the last 30 years is under greatest threat. From the epidemic of COVID-19, and in this situation, poverty by 2020 could increase by 3 to 11 percent, which is higher than the baseline level, or in other words, the level when there is no COVID-19. In the village 22 is one of the target villages located in Sras Chak commune, Daun Penh sangkat, Phnom Penh, Cambodia the local authority recognized as the village with a lot of poor people with disabilities. Therefore, the teachers and senior management team of SCC have taken great care and are very committed to maintaining the quality of the children's education there.

#### 2.5. Vocational Skills

SCC-CBE Community School has been providing Music Course for 14 students of which 9 girls. They have been taught by the skilled music teacher, Mr. Soeurng Sideth. The interested students have learnt to play Piano, Guitar, Twin drum, and Conga drum. They have learnt the music lessons every half day on Sundays from 8:00 am to 11:00 am since March 1, 2019 to 15th March 2020. Now they are better at playing all these music instruments. Moreover, they still need more time to improve their skills. On the other hand, 7 out of 14 students have received a scholarship at Westline private school. These 7 students have become teachers in music and they were able to earn income for their family through playing music skills at various places.

#### 2.6. Case Study of the Children

**Yuth Dara**, 11 years old, studies in grade 4 at Kolab I, primary school. He also studies English with SCC-CBE School in level 2. Dara was living with his aunt and uncle at Phum 22 village, Sangkat Sras Chak, Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh city, slum area when the virus broke out. They supported him going to schools every day like the other children in the community. Dara is an orphaned child who has no mother. His father has married another woman. So, he is forced to live with his uncle and aunt. Now Dara was sent to his homeland at the province for preventing COVID-19 pandemic. He will come back to his community when the pandemic has passed. His caregivers reported that since the Coronavirus outbreak, it has become increasingly difficult to earn an income for supporting their daily lives.



Teachers visited Dara's family May 2020



Teachers visited Phany's family May 2020

**Bun Phany**, 9 years old, studies in grade 2 at Kolab I, primary school. He also studies English with SCC-CBE School in level 1. Phany is also an orphaned child who was abandoned by his parents when he was a baby. At the moment, he lives with his grandmother, who works as a laundry worker for someone from house to house for fee at PhumToul Sangkae SangkatSras Chak, Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh City. His grandma has been working very hard to earn an income for supporting her grandchild's studies and herself. Indeed, she tries very hard for support her grandchild even though she has a chronic disease (high blood pressures). She still gives her hope to her expressed grandchild. She that since coronavirus outbreak, this bad situation has caused a deterioration of her living standard. She faces a very hard situation in earning income to support her living.

#### 2.7. Financial report

The project has been carried out according to proposed budget. Both program implementation and the budget expenses have been on track.



#### **HAELLA Financial report CBE Beoung Kok School**

01 Aug. 2019 to 31 Jul. 2020

A.	FUND RECEIVED	
	19 August 2019	\$ 2,747.50
	TOTAL	\$ 2,747.50
B.	EXPENSES	
Edu	ucation Program	
	Center supervisor (Salary \$230.0* 3 months)	\$ 690.00
	Two Full time teachers (Salary \$440.0* 3 months)	\$ 1,320.00
Op	erational	
	CBE Building Rental (\$350.0* 2 months)	\$ 700.00
	Utilities (water, Electricity) Shared cost	\$ 27.50
	Miscellaneous (Bank charge Fund Transferred from HAELLA)	\$ 10.00
	TOTAL	2,747.50
C.	FUND BALANCE	\$ -

Name Chingang Sovanpheap

Position: Acting Executive Director

Prepared By:

Name: Chhorn SreyMuch 

Annex 2: Photos of SCC-CBE School Activities.



Christmas Celebration of SCC-CBE Schools Dec 2019



Level one English study inside the class room in SCC-CBE school on Dec 2019





SCC-CBE's children practice drawing with a foreigner teacher on Jan 2020

#### Children's family situation during COVID 19

The situation in Cambodia due to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be difficult. Although there are only few new cases being reported (currently 2 new infections, 124 in total according to Cambodian Ministry of health) the economic situation is still challenging. The pandemic hit the poorest of families and their children. The schools will be closed until the 1<sup>st</sup> of November and more than 200 garment factories have also closed. The orders by developed countries are being paid slowly or not at all and there are no new orders being made. According to official statements there are more than 110.00 seamstresses affected by this.



The teachers in Phnom Penh are visiting some of their students' families during the pandemic

#### SCC-CBE School provided supplementary food during COVID 19

On 8th June 2020, SCC-CBE School offered the supplementary foods such as rice 30 kilogram, soy sauce 6 bottles, fish can 10 cans, olive oil 1 bottle to the 31 poor SCC-CBE children and their families in Boengkak slum area, Phnom Penh city. On behalf of poor needed children and their families, we would like very much to express our gratitude and profound thanks to Protectkids Kambodscha for your great generosities sponsorship who do kindly donate funding for our poor needed children's family during Covid 19 pandemic.



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Another 1000 Dollars are meant for **Corona emergency aid for the poorest families** of our school children. For those families who are very hungry but don't have money and no opportunity to earn some. Even the last possible mean, to go to the street to beg or send the children to beg, is impossible at the moment. Without tourists, one has to rely on the kindness and the good heart of Cambodians to help each other. Whoever has something, gives it to those who don't have anything. We are doing what we can and that is why 1000 Dollars are meant to buy rice and other vital goods for this extremely poor families.



SCC-CBE School offered supplementary food to the poor needed children that supported by Protectkids Kamboscha

This includes **1000 Euro** of emergency aid in Corona times in order to support the poorest of families of the school children with rice and other food. The more hungry people in Cambodia we can help, the better. We cannot help everyone that much is clear. And often time the decisions of who to help is impossible difficult. But we are sure of the fact, that together we can do it!