



Career Planning Programme Cambodia

PREPARING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR THEIR FUTURE CAREERS

OVERVIEW – THE SITUATION

Cambodia remains one of Asia's poorest countries and has been lagging behind its neighbors, performing poorly on all three indicators on the Human Development Index (health, education, and income), ranked 146th out of 191 countries assessed by UNDP (2021).

At the completion of secondary-level education, students usually experience the point where they are ill-informed of which direction to take at the crossroads of choosing academic major at higher education or seeking employment through vocational training, etc. Especially those from the rural areas, the most common career traits the majority could think of during one of our surveys were teaching, nursing and police officer as these are the jobs they know of or are more visible in their daily lives.

This setback is mainly due to the fact that there is no preparatory programme or career sessions in the learning curriculum; the students have no access to information about the job market or counselling for their career path nor do they receive any support from the government due to lack of financial resources. As a result, they usually make the wrong decisions and end up becoming under-skilled or obsolete resource for the labour market.

OVERVIEW – CAREER PLANNING PROGRAMME CAMBODIA

Having closely engaged with the local youth through our High School Scholarship Programme, insight into persistent issue has encouraged us to work towards a solution that could further support the young students by providing occupational knowledge, training and emotional support as they step into the more complex adulthood and employment.

Our intervention is, therefore, the Career Planning Programme initiative, in which our local team collaborates with educational staff of our targeted schools to deliver the main goal of preparing high school students for future career which align with their capacity and ambition.

In 2016, we piloted the Career Planning Programme in Pouk High School, Siem Reap Province. Positive results from the pilot encouraged us to expand the initiative to Pich Chenda High School, Battambang Province in 2017. In 2019, we added two new schools to the programme; Bour High School in Battambang Province and Trapeang Tav in Oddar Meanchey Province. These four schools are now all participating in the programme.

OVER
7,000

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE
CAREER PLANNING PROGRAMME
SINCE ITS INCEPTION



WE DIRECTLY SUPPORT
APPROXIMATELY 1,500 STUDENT
BENEFICIARIES EVERY YEAR AT
ALL FOUR HIGH SCHOOLS



HOW IT WORKS

MAIN ACTIVITIES

With the programme operating annually from early September to August the following year, we aim to provide students of Grade 10 - 12 a more holistic education to help students find their identity, meaning and purpose in life as well as broadening their limited career prospects.

Life-skill development

Sessions with a focus on soft skills, such as: problem-solving skills, critical thinking, and decision making; understanding cultural diversity; time management; self-understanding, values and reflection; communication skills; people management and leadership

Preparation trainings

Practical training sessions on resume writing; job application letter writing; preparing for interviews; job market information to help students build vital skills for jobs

Interactive
seminars and
workshops

Invite volunteer speakers to inspire students with ups and downs of their life story and professional experiences

Teacher
trainings

Professional development sessions for teachers; reflection and further development meetings

Career fairs

Organising field trips and expositions with participation of private enterprises, government sectors, NGOs for, particularly, Grade 12 students. These serve an opportunity for students to gain insight and engage with different companies that pertain to their choice of industry

OBJECTIVES

- > Enable students to make effective choices for their major at university or further studies such as vocational training that align with their passion and capacity
- > Strengthen students' employability with skills and attributes needed in the job market
- > Support students in their awareness of higher education and job opportunities
- > Encourage students to contribute to social development through understanding themselves and others
- > Promote social mobility through decent employment and economic opportunities.

BENEFICIARIES

- > The programme is inclusive to any student within the targeted level who are interested in registering with the number capped at 150 participants for each grade

BUDGET

The annual budget from January to December 2022 to operate this programme is USD 29,381. The infrastructure cost of initial start-up equipment was covered by the programme budget of the commencing year. Transfers from Child's Dream are made in four quarterly instalments during the financial year. We are seeking a multi-year donor in the amount of approx. USD 30,000 annually.



MONITORING AND REPORTING



We receive quarterly narrative and photo reports, as well as monthly financial and activity reports.



Feedback through student surveys is also obtained directly by our local team for improvement.



Visits can be arranged during the academic year.



We report to donors on a semester basic.



238/3 Wualai Road, T. Haiya, A. Muang, Chiang Mai 50100, Thailand
info@childsdream.org | www.childsdream.org | +66 (0) 53 201 811

