University Scholarship Programme - Cambodia

Mekong Sub-Regional Leadership Development Programme
Aims and Objectives

We believe that a country can only develop in a sustainable and peaceful way if all members of society

- can access quality education
- can fulfill their potential and aspirations
- can apply their knowledge and contribute towards inclusive development of their communities.

Our University Scholarship Programme (USP) has been operating in Cambodia since 2015 to respond to the urgency of providing full scholarships to the disadvantaged who lack financial support to pursue studies for Bachelor’s degree after passing Baccalaureate II. Through the programme, we aim to facilitate inclusive development by imparting to students knowledge of opportunities for further studies and prospects of more secured employment.
Aims and Objectives

Together with our USP in Myanmar and Laos, we aim to create lasting positive relationships and network among our scholars and alumni who will be future leaders, influencers and decision-makers within the countries of our targeted area- the Mekong Sub-region.

To ensure sustainability, academically strong students from Cambodia, who demonstrate perseverance to study further at university level and possess high motivation to contribute to society are eligible for the awards.

Our Vision: With the advantage of higher education, youth can improve their skills and knowledge, access to better employment and serve as strong future contributors, positive-change makers and leaders to the development of their own communities and Cambodia as a whole.
Guiding Principles of USP

- Supporting holistic development, particularly within the educational and social systems in the country of the beneficiaries.
- Prioritising students who aim to have a positive multiplier effect (i.e. teachers, social workers, public health workers, communicators, policy makers).
- Prioritising studies who will have a direct impact in their countries after graduation and when entering the labour market.
- Prioritising students who study in their country of origin, acknowledging that some students may be forced to study abroad due to factors such as lack of educational facilities or quality of education.
- Promoting social reconciliation; addressing unbalanced ethnic, gender, and/or class issues.
- Being as objective as possible in the selection of candidates according to a clear set of criteria to ensure a balance in gender.
Selection Criteria for Eligible Applicants

- Must be a Cambodian national and have/be able to get Cambodian National ID card or passport.
- Must be 30 years or younger of age at the time of scholarship application.
- Have successfully passed Baccalaureate II National Exam and possess a high school diploma that will enable them to gain entry onto a Bachelor’s programme in a Cambodian university.
- Have good academic achievements and solid track records.
- Meet requirements and admission criteria of universities and chosen major.
- Have high motivation and perseverance to diligently study the 4-year programme of the course agreed.
- Have a strong commitment to develop their communities and countries either by leadership ability or skill specialization.
- Ideally have some voluntary or full-time/part-time employment experience.
- Underprivileged and have a proven need for financial support.
Value of Scholarship

A full scholarship comprises:

- Payment of tuition fees (100%)
- Essential learning supplies (notebooks, stationery, uniforms, etc.)
- Living allowance (accommodation, utilities, food and transportation costs)
- Others (visa fees, cases of emergencies)

The average total yearly cost per student is approximately USD 3,500.

*(donors are expected to commit to funding for four years leading to an undergraduate degree, payments can be effected annually)*

Our country-based programme coordinators also provide ongoing mentoring related to administrative issues such as accommodation and individual counseling support to scholars.
Leaders Tracking and Networking Platforms

- Like our other USP in Myanmar and Laos, we will systematically track all our alumni, resulting in a comprehensive report to be shared with programme donors yearly.
- We will conduct alumni surveys to keep informed of their activities post graduation (assignment, job or further studies) that each individual is pursuing.
- We will establish Child’s Dream Alumni Association Cambodia and host an annual Alumni Conference to ensure a powerful networking platform amongst the scholars.
- We run a Facebook page as platform for scholars and alumni to interact with. It is also where we post several suitable job advertisements every week as well as share relevant information.

Reporting

As with all our programmes, comprehensive semester-basis reporting will be provided during the entire duration of each student’s four years of studies.

Each year, donors will receive an alumni report continuously, tracking each student’s path after graduation.