We initiated Child’s Dream High School and Vocational Scholarship Programme to provide middle school students from rural and marginalised communities with the opportunity to continue education at a higher level. Implemented in Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand, the programme aims to improve the continuation rate of students between lower and upper secondary levels, by providing financial support to help them in continuing and completing their upper secondary education. Accepted students receive full scholarship support which covers all education related costs, as well as funds for living and transportation in their three years of upper secondary study. The academic year and the implementation timeline differ across countries.
1,898
HIGH SCHOOL
AND VOCATIONAL
SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED

615
CAMBODIA

95
MYANMAR

669
LAOS

519
THAILAND

17 54 138 261 514 740 982 1,238 1,579 1,898
INTAKE YEAR

RUNNING TOTAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED BY COUNTRY

CAMBODIA
MYANMAR
LAOS
THAILAND
EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

In order to understand programme outcomes, a 2019 online survey was administered via Google Forms to 631 alumni and the findings presented reflect the self-reported survey responses of 420 alumni, which corresponds to a response rate of 67%. Alumni who graduated in 2019 were not invited to participate in the survey to ensure that the results only reflect the situation of those who graduated at least one year before. To reduce bias, duplicate respondents were removed from the dataset and all remaining answers were cross-checked for consistency as existing language barriers might decrease response accuracy.
Overall, the programme has recorded a completion rate of 85%. Completion rates have been positive for all three countries: Thailand and Cambodia registered 85% and Laos recorded 84%. Myanmar has not recorded any graduates yet.

Cambodia currently holds the highest number of active students (325) and Laos counts the highest number of graduates (386).

A GROWING PROGRAMME

The programme has expanded from 17 beneficiaries in 2010 to 1,898 in 2019. The programme is gender unbiased, but more female applicants successfully passed our strict selection criteria.

OF THE 1,898 STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A SCHOLARSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>831</th>
<th>831</th>
<th>119</th>
<th>117</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRADUATED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENTLY STUDYING</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISCONTINUED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DROPPED OUT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,898 BENEFICIARIES

2010-2019

66% FEMALE (1,248)

34% MALE (650)

POSITIVE COMPLETION RATES

60
Respondents to the 2019 alumni tracking survey were asked to rate Child’s Dream services and support. Across the three countries surveyed, none of the respondents gave a negative rating and the majority of the alumni provided very good reviews of the support received. Only very few respondents gave a moderate rating of “acceptable”.

For outcome analysis, a survey was sent to 631 beneficiaries who graduated between 2013 and 2018. We received 420 valid responses, which correspond to a response rate of 67%. 188 of these responses are from Laos, 124 from Thailand and 108 from Cambodia. The first Myanmar alumni will be surveyed in 2020.
DIFFERENT OUTCOMES ACROSS COUNTRIES

80% of the survey respondents are either employed or enrolled in higher education, 14% are looking for jobs or other opportunities and 6% are not searching for employment or other opportunities. Student outcome differs across the three countries surveyed. While in Thailand 77% of the alumni continued to higher education, in Cambodia 56% are employed.

CURRENT SITUATION OF RESPONDENTS
Total % | n=420

47% STUDYING
33% WORKING
14% JOB SEEKERS
6% NON JOB SEEKERS

77% OF THE THAI RESPONDENTS CONTINUED TO HIGHER EDUCATION
56% OF THE CAMBODIAN RESPONDENTS ARE EMPLOYED
OPPORTUNITIES AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

All the alumni surveyed further responded to more specific questions about their current situation. 68% of the employed alumni indicated to have either full-time or part time paid positions. 77% of the alumni studying are undertaking bachelor degrees.

ENROLMENT INTO FURTHER EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>202</th>
<th>77%</th>
<th>14%</th>
<th>9%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RESPONDENTS</td>
<td>BACHELOR DEGREE</td>
<td>VOCATIONAL COURSE</td>
<td>OTHER CERTIFICATIONS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"This scholarship is very important for me because it can help me to reach my goal and to complete me." - MS. DUL SREY VOLEAK
HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT
GRADE 12 AT POUK HIGH SCHOOL
BANTEAY MEANCHEY PROVINCE, CAMBODIA