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LUTHERAN HOPE CAMBODIA ORGANIZATION

យើងរួមគ្នាបម្រើចក្ខុវិស័យសម្រាប់ថ្ងៃស្អែក

Together We Serve Tomorrow's Vision

Annual Report 2024





CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.....	1
WHO WE ARE.....	2
PROGRAM THEME AND APPROACH.....	3
LHCO'S AREA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.....	4
SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD AND AGRICULTURE.....	6
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION.....	12
WASH, NUTRITION AND HEALTH.....	16
PRE-SCHOOL AND PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION.....	20
SOCIAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.....	24
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS' CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES IN 2024	27
LHCO'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	31
SUMMARY OF EVENTS.....	32
ABBREVIATION.....	36

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At Lutheran Hope Cambodia Organization (LHCO), we are driven by a belief in the inherent dignity and potential of every individual and the transformative power of strong communities. Recognizing the interconnected challenges facing Cambodian society, we are dedicated to empowering individuals and fostering sustainable development through a multi-faceted approach.

Our work centers around five key pillars:

- **Sustainable Livelihoods and Agriculture:** We empower communities with the knowledge and resources to enhance food security and build self-reliance.
- **Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation:** We prioritize preparedness and resilience in the face of natural disasters and the evolving climate.
- **WASH, Nutrition, and Health:** We promote access to clean water, sanitation, and quality healthcare to improve overall well-being.
- **Education:** We invest in early childhood development and primary education to nurture future generations and break the cycle of poverty.
- **Social Community Engagement:** We foster inclusive and supportive communities by strengthening social bonds and promoting collective action.



In collaboration with our partners, stakeholders, and the resilient spirit of the Cambodian people, we strive to create lasting positive change. We invite you to join us on this journey of hope and transformation.

Mrs. Thay Bone
Executive Director, Lutheran Hope Cambodia Organization



WHO WE ARE



Lutheran Hope Cambodia Organization (LHCO), a new name of Life With Dignity (a localized NGO from the Lutheran World Federation), also known as Angkar “L”, a name given by rural communities, works to promote human dignity for vulnerable communities in Cambodia.

OUR VISION, MISSION AND CORE VALUES

Vision : People Living With Dignity

Mission : LHCO, a non-governmental organisation, works together with vulnerable people and communities to transform their personal and socio-economic situation towards self-reliance through holistic development approaches.

Core Values : Partnership, Respect, Compassion, Equality and Accountability.

OUR STRATEGIC OUTCOMES

OUTCOME 1 : Small holder and interested farmers have increased income and diversified livelihood activities through on-farm and off-farm activities.

OUTCOME 2 : Communities are empowered to cope with the adverse impact of disasters and climate change for long-term sustainability.

OUTCOME 3 : WASH, Nutrition and Health of poor community members and target households, especially women and children, improved.

OUTCOME 4 : Quality of education at pre-schools and primary schools in target areas improved, in line with the Child Friendly School Policy.

OUTCOME 5 : Accountability of duty bearers in delivering local social public services for right holders strengthened.

Organisational Outcome : LHCO’s governance, management and operational systems reflect best practices in organisational development to support program delivery.

PROGRAM THEME AND APPROACH

LHCO'S PROGRAM THEME

- 1/ Sustainable Livelihoods and Agriculture
- 2/ Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation
- 3/ WASH, Nutrition and Health
- 4/ Education (pre and primary education)
- 5/ Social Community Engagement

LHCO'S PROGRAM APPROACH

- 1/ Participatory rights-based approach
- 2/ Integrated holistic and inclusive approach
- 3/ Community-led development for sustainability
- 4/ Strengthened partnership approach for common goals
- 5/ Coordination and Networking for influencing change

OUR THEME OBJECTIVES



LHCO's Area Development

Program Areas

▶ **Battambang-ADO (BTB)**

BTB-ADO was established in 1996. It is located in Tumnob Tuek village, Buovil commune, Bavel district, Battambang province. BTB-ADO serves 57 villages, 7 communes, 3 districts of Bavel, Kamrieng and Phnum Proek.

▶ **Pursat-ADO (PUR)**

PUR-ADO was established in 2009. It is located in Krouch Chhmar village, Leach commune, Phnum Kravanh district, Pursat province. PUR-ADO serves 38 villages, 6 communes, 2 districts of Phnum Kravanh and Talou Sen Chey.

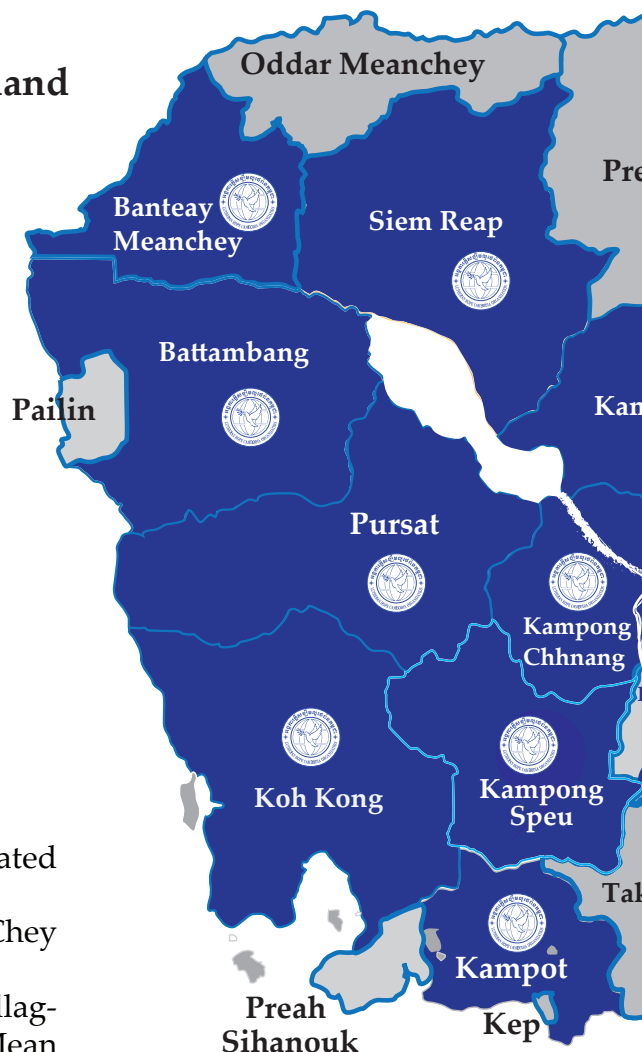
▶ **Kampong Chhnang-ADO (KCH)**

KCH-ADO was established in 1996. It is located in Meanok Kaeut village, Tbaeng Khpos commune, Sameakki Mean Chey district, Kampong Chhnang province. KCH-ADO serves 58 villages, 8 communes, 2 districts of Sameakki Mean Chey and Teuk Phos.

▶ **Kampong Speu-ADO (KPS)**

KPS-ADO was established in 1996. It is located in Anlong Chrey Village, Prambei Mum Commune, Thpong District, Kampong Speu Province. KPS-ADO serves 101 villages, 14 communes, 3 districts of Aoral, Thpong and Phnum Sruoch.

Thailand



Development Office

Area Mapping



Kampong Cham-ADO (Kg.Cham)

KPC-ADO was established in 2022. It is located in Preaek Barang village, Preaek Kak commune, Stung Treng district, Kampong Cham province. KPC-ADO serves, 15 villages, 2 communes, 1 district of Stung Treng.



Phnom Penh

The National Office was established in 1979. It is located on #1065, Street 56R, Tuol Thngnan Village, Sangkat Tuol SangKe2, Khan Russey Keo, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Svay Rieng-ADO (SVR)

SVR-PRV-ADO was established in 2016. It is located in Svay Kngao village, Svay Chrum commune, Svay Chrum district, Svay Rieng province. SVR-PRV-ADO serves 95 villages, 13 communes, 5 districts of Svay Chrum, Romeas Haek, Kampong Trabaek, Preah Sdach and Ba Phnum.











SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Smallholder and interested farmers have increased income through diversified on-farm and off-farm livelihood activities.



This year, 53 Product Market Agents (PMAs) were established. A total of 913 smallholder farmers (524 women), 74 Agricultural Cooperatives (ACs), and 289 AC committee members (164 women) received training on agricultural resilient techniques. 138 smallholder farmers and 29 ACs developed business plans in target provinces. Additionally, 37 farmers developed production plans and 7 farming contracts were established between the AC and buyer. Likewise, 1,230 community members increased their knowledge on how to prevent and protect themselves from human trafficking, unsafe migration, and exploitation in target areas. After becoming aware of these risks, 99 families and communities reported concerns on human trafficking, abuse, migration and exploitation.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS	CORE PROGRAM RESULTS
 53	Product Market Agents (PMA) established
 913/ <small>524F</small>	Farmers trained on agricultural resilient techniques.
 74	AC trained on agricultural resilient techniques.
 289/ <small>164F</small>	AC committee members trained on agricultural resilient techniques
 138	Farmers' business plan developed
 37	Farmers' production plans developed
 29	ACs business plan developed
 7	Farming contracts between AC and buyer developed
 99	Families and communities reported on human trafficking abuse, migration and exploitation
 1,230	People attended awareness & training on Trafficking in Person and Safer Migration

FROM STRUGGLE TO SUCCESS: HOW MR. CHHEL THON TRANSFORMED HIS FARM AND FUTURE

Mr. Chhel Thon successfully transformed his farm into a model for the community. By participating in the agricultural cooperative and adopting new technologies, he has significantly increased his yield, improved product quality, and boosted his family income. Mr. Chhel Thon lives in Kak Thom Village, Prey Vihear Commune, Kong Pisey District, Kampong Speu Province.



Before joining the agricultural cooperative, he relied heavily on chemical pesticides, which led to poor yields and low income. Reflecting on his journey, Mr. Chhel Thon said, “In 2024, I participated in several training programs on good agricultural practices and pest management through the Prey Vihear Agricultural Cooperative under technical support from LHCO. After gaining new knowledge and skills, I built a net house and adopted innovative techniques to increase productivity. Currently, I produce 450 kilos per month, earning an additional 900,000 Riels (225 USD) per month. This income helps improve my family’s livelihood, pay off loans, save for medical treatments and secure our future.

Mr. Chel Thorn’s story highlights the transformative power of investing in farming communities and adopting new agricultural technologies. Through training, knowledge transfer, and community support, he became a successful farmer and a role model for others. His experience demonstrates that good agricultural practices can significantly boost family income and improve overall well-being. Expressing his gratitude, Mr. Chhel Thon added, “I would like to thank the LHCO and the donors who have helped change my life. I wish you good health, good luck, and success in all your endeavors.”



Mrs. VATH Tha, 52, and her husband, Mr. KHUN Thouk, 53, live in Toul Snuol village, Khlaeng Meas commune, Bavel district, Battambang province. They have four daughters and were once migrant workers in Thailand. Due to poverty and a lack of awareness about safe migration and the risks of human trafficking, one of their daughters was recruited by brokers for work in Thailand and remained there for many years. Fortunately, Mrs. VATH Tha realized that this was a suspected case of human trafficking. Acting quickly, she reported the situation to local authorities, successfully bringing her daughter home safely.



Through the Cambodia Countering Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) program, implemented by LHCO, her household received technical training and an in-kind grant for home-based pig raising.

After receiving four piglets, and other necessary unrestricted supplies from the project in June 2023, she started a home-based pig raising business by applying knowledge and skills gained from training. She is now in her second round of her pig raising activity. In the first round, she sold out three adult pigs with 251 kg of live weight in total, and earned an income of 477 USD. She selected and kept one female pig as a sow for breeding/reproducing purposes. Recently, her sow delivered 14 piglets.

Reflecting on her progress, Mrs. Vath Tha shared, “I am very happy that I have a home-based business which enables me to earn extra income for my family without migration. This also helped me to have an occupation and increase my pig raising skills as well as my knowledge on Trafficking in Person, Safer Migration, and Financial Management. Last but not the least, I would like to thank LHCO and the donor for their support.”

NUTRIENT RICH POWDER PRODUCTION IS BEING OUTSOURCED TO THE COMMUNITY

The Satrek Kdey Sangkhoem Raksmeay Samaky Agriculture Cooperative (AC) is located in Reaksmeay commune, Aroal district. This AC comprises of 127 members, 82 of whom are female, representing eight villages in the area. The AC has 3,307 shares valued at 66,620,000 Riels (16,655 USD). It operates various businesses, including the buying and selling of rice, production of banana chips, sales of agricultural equipment and supplies, and food processing activities, such as green bean, pumpkin, and taro juice production.



Recognizing the issue of nutrient deficiency within the community, the LHCO implemented a project focused on nutrient-rich powder production. Since February 2024, this project has been implemented in the AC with the support of LHCO, providing technical training and necessary materials for nutrient-rich powder production.



Mrs. Hin Chanthou, the chairperson of the AC, expressed her gratitude for the opportunity provided to the and its committee members. They participated in a ten-day training program on nutrient-rich powder production, which covered topics such as hygiene standards and marketing strategies. She emphasized that the AC members gained valuable knowledge, skills, and experience in producing nutrient-rich powder while adhering to hygiene standards. Because of the training, material support, and dedicated efforts of the AC committee, they have successfully produced nutrient-rich food products for sale in the AC store and the community.

Since March 2024, our community has enthusiastically embraced these nutrient-rich products, resulting in the sale of over 2,971 packs to 201 HHs. This initiative has not only enhanced the health and well-being of community people, but also generated an impressive revenue of 12,234,500 Riels (approximately 3,559 USD). This success showcases the community's commitment to nutrition and sustainable living, further improving health outcomes for families. Mrs. Hin Chanthou extended her sincere appreciation to the LHCO, the Diaconia funded project, and the donors who supported the capacity building initiatives and provided the necessary materials for the community to engage in nutrient-rich powder production. She acknowledged the positive impact this project has had on improving the health of people in the community, as well as the overall value chain within the AC. The AC committee and the community remain grateful for the support received and express their heartfelt thanks to all those involved in making the nutrient-rich powder production project a success.

OFF-FARM SMALL BUSINESS THAT BOOSTS FAMILY INCOME

Since 2012, LHCO has implemented development projects in Prey Thom village in the Raksmeay Samaki commune of Kampong Speu province. The village consists of 424 families living on social land concessions designated for families without farming land. Mr. Chhuon Touch, 39, and his wife, Chhim Chanry, 31, reside in this village. They have two children. Their son, 16, dropped out of school due to financial constraints.

As subsistence farmers, Chhuon Touch and Chhim Chanry struggle to earn a stable income, making it difficult to cover living expenses and their children's education. They attempted to start a small business in the village, but limited funds hindered their ability to purchase necessary equipment.

Recognizing the challenging conditions faced by low-income families, the GRACE project provided essential business inputs, including hair cutting tools and supplies worth 760,000 Riels (approx. 190 USD). This support allowed the family to launch a successful business, resulting in increased income and improved living conditions. From

July to October 2024, their business flourished, generating 4,200,000 Riels (approximately. 1,050 USD) from services like haircuts and makeup. Mr. Chhuon Touch also trained a local young man, previously working in sugarcane plantations, to develop business skills, enabling him to support his family.

Expressing gratitude to LHCO, Mr. Chhuon Touch stated that the project's assistance helped him become self-employed and enhance his family's livelihood. He plans to expand training opportunities for interested young people in the community, fostering self-employment skills. He thanked LHCO and its donors for their support during the challenging times.





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Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation (DRR/CCA) contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals:

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

13 CLIMATE ACTION

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

15 LIFE ON LAND

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION (DRR/CCA)











Community people are empowered to cope with the adverse impact of disasters and climate change for long term sustainability.



This year, 431 schoolchildren (231 girls) and 141 youth (57 women) received capacity building on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation (DRR/CCA). A total of 699 people (455 women) increased their awareness of DRR/CCA. In addition, 431 youth (128 women) were trained on resource mobilization and 61 youth (27 women) were trained on waste management. 90 people (60 women) attended meetings raising awareness about waste management and the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling (3Rs). A total of 25 fundraising events were conducted and 30 DRR/CCA plans were developed for communities and schools.

These capacity-building efforts empowered community members and schoolchildren to take proactive steps to reduce disaster risks and adapt to climate change. Moreover, the development of DRR/CCA plans enabled communities and schools to implement targeted measures, resulting in measurable improvements in safety, response time, and resilience.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS	CORE PROGRAM RESULTS
 431/ _{128F}	Youth, SMC, VDMG, and CCDM trained on resource mobilization
 25	Fundraising events conducted
 141/ _{57F}	Youth, SMC, VDMG, and CCDM trained on DRR/CCA
 431/ _{231F}	School children trained on DRR/CCA
 699/ _{455F}	People attended awareness raising on DRR/CCA
 30	DRR/CCA plans developed for communities and schools
 61/ _{27F}	Youth, SMC, VDMG, and CCDM trained on waste management
 90/ _{60F}	People attended awareness raising on waste management and 3 Rs

BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF YOUTH TO BECOME AGENTS OF CHANGE IN THE COMMUNITY

Muth Sarith, 29, married Trieu Puthea in 2018. They have one child, a 3-year-old girl. The family resides in Choam village, Ta Sal commune, Oral district, Kampong Speu province. Due to poor living conditions and his parents' debts, Muth Sarith was unable to continue his studies. He dropped out of 6th grade in 2008 to help pay off the family's debts. From 2008 to 2011, Muth Sarith supported his family by selling cooked rice and noodles in front of a factory.

At the beginning of 2024, LHCO was looking for young people to work in the community. Therefore, the village chief recruited Muth Sarith as a community youth. LHCO supported Muth Sarith to become a capable and active youth by inviting him to attend various training courses.

Muth Sarith shared, "Before I became a community youth, I did not have the courage or confidence to participate in the community. I was very shy and lacked communication skills. I did not know how to speak up or mediate. I also did not understand much about disasters, the environment, hygiene, or health."

The training courses, provided by LHCO, have helped Muth Sarith develop important skills and knowledge. He is now able to actively contribute to the community and make a positive impact.

After Muth Sarith received extensive training from LHCO in 2024, he gained new skills and knowledge. The training covered topics such as disaster and climate change, facilitation, non-conflict tools, donor mapping, photography and digital marketing, using platforms like Facebook, Telegram, and YouTube.

Muth Sarith shared, "After receiving all these trainings supported by LHCO and practicing my skills, I have really changed, and gained a lot of new knowledge. I now understand the role of village/community youth much better and have greater ability to perform my duties. I know how to coordinate, communicate effectively, and gained valuable insights about climate change. The training also taught me non-conflict tools, donor mapping, and digital skills such as using Facebook, Telegram, YouTube, and photography. I use these skills to share important information with the community, such as risk mitigation, market information for farmers, and more."



EMPOWERING LIGHT: THE STORY OF MRS. CHEA KIN'S FAMILY

Mrs. Chea Kin, 41, lives with her husband, Mr. Khom Vuth, 35, and their six family members, including one daughter, in Chheuteal Chrum village, located 22 kilometers from the district headquarters in Aoral district, Kampong Speu province. As farmers, they face significant challenges due to their low income. Their primary source of income comes from working as sugarcane farmers and cutters for the Chan Keo Company in Phlouch Village.



Unfortunately, their village lacks electricity, making it difficult for their children to study at night.

In the past, they relied on kerosene lamps, which not only drained their finances but also posed environmental hazards, further complicating their children's education.

Recognizing these hardships, Mr. Khom Vuth approached the village chief for assistance in acquiring solar lanterns from Panasonic through LHCO. In 2024, the village chief facilitated the request for solar panels for eight families in Chheuteal Chrum, part of the 75 families still have no access to electricity.

Thanks to the Panasonic solar lanterns received through LHCO, Mrs. Chea Kin's family has experienced a positive transformation. She shared, "The solar lantern is portable and provides sufficient lighting, enabling my children to study from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. This new light source has improved my daily life: I can use it for cooking and eating together, ensuring safety during nighttime activities. Moreover, my family no longer incurs expenses on fuel or kerosene, allowing us to allocate those funds toward essential school supplies for my children. We diligently maintain the solar lantern, ensuring it is stored safely from rain and used correctly per the guidelines".

Mrs. Chea Kin expresses her heartfelt gratitude to LHCO and Panasonic for their support. She wishes them continued health and safety, urging them to extend their assistance to other communities still lacking electricity, so they too can benefit from this life-changing resource.



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LUTHERAN HOPE CAMBODIA ORGANIZATION

WASH, Nutrition and Health Program contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals:


3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

WASH, NUTRITION AND HEALTH



WASH, Nutrition and Health of poor community members and target households, especially women and children, improved.

 This year, 1,226 caregivers (784 women) with children under the age of five, received training to enhance their knowledge and skills in nutrition and parenting. Additionally, 896 individuals (853 women) increased their awareness on safe clean water, water management and maintenance, while 117 individuals (73 women), affiliated with WSUG, were trained on WASH.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



1,226/_{784F}



117/_{73F}



896/_{853F}

CORE PROGRAM RESULTS

Mothers/ caregivers trained on nutrition and parenting skills

Individuals trained on WASH

Individuals received awareness on WASH

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



TRANSFORMING SCHOOL HEALTH AND LEARNING THROUGH SANITATION SUPPORT

Mr. Sat Suy, a 58-year-old school principal and person with a disability, leads Ou Heng Primary School in Ou Heng Village, Samraong Commune, Phnom Kravanh District, Pursat Province. The school serves 141 students from Grade 1 to Grade 6, including 67 girls and 11 children with disabilities.



In early 2024, recognizing the urgent need for improved sanitation, Mr. Suy reached out to LHCO for support. At the time, the school lacked adequate toilet and handwashing facilities. Students often faced long queues to use the few available toilets, and many had to return home just to relieve themselves. The absence of handwashing stations led to frequent illnesses, such as diarrhea and stomachaches, which in turn caused high rates of absenteeism and made it difficult for students to concentrate and succeed academically.

In mid-2024, with the generous support of the Amity Foundation, LHCO implemented critical improvements. A new, clean toilet and handwashing station equipped with soap and clean water were constructed. To ensure inclusivity, the toilet was designed with a ramp to accommodate students with disabilities. Additionally, the school received a water filter for safe drinking water, hygiene supplies, a storage cabinet, and meeting tables.

Teachers underwent training on hygiene and food safety, while students learned how to maintain personal cleanliness and stay healthy.

These changes significantly improved school life. Students no longer needed to leave school to use the bathroom or endure long waits. With proper hygiene facilities, they remained healthier, attended school more regularly, and engaged better in their studies.



Two Grade 6 students, Ms. Sat Sina, 15 years old and Ms. Kan Sokty, 13 years old, shared their experiences: "We are happier and healthier," they said. One added, "I feel much more focused on my studies. My performance improved – I moved from 12th to 5th place in class."

Parents also noticed the difference. Ms. Li Samlay, 33-year-old mother, expressed her gratitude: "I am very happy. My children now stay at school all day and look much cleaner than before. They no longer ask to come home just to use the toilet."

This case clearly demonstrates the transformative impact of proper sanitation facilities in schools. Access to clean water and toilets not only improves students' health but also enhances their academic performance and overall well-being.



Mr. Sat Suy, the students, and their families have expressed deep gratitude to LHCO and Amity Foundation for their invaluable support in improving the lives of children in Ou Heng Primary School.

MODEL MOTHER GROWS NUTRITIOUS VEGETABLES FOR CHILDREN

Mrs. En Theavy, 35 years old, lives in Svaychek village Svaythum commune, Svaychrum district, Svay Rieng Province.

The Holistic Development for Fullness of Life Project, in collaboration with, the village chief and Village Health Support Groups (VHSGs), formed a group of mothers who have children under five years old in Svay chek village, Svay Thum commune. Mother groups have never built vegetable gardens to feed children and have not formed local community groups. Mother groups work together to grow nutritious, sustainable vegetables for children at home in Svay Chek village, Svay Thum commune.



Mother groups were trained in vegetable growing techniques, nutrition and chicken raising as a family. They have never received training on vegetable growing techniques, nutrition or chicken raising. In 2023, they received a two-day training through LHCO, supported by Mission Alliance. After receiving the training, they were able to share knowledge on vegetable growing techniques and nutrition with other mother groups through quarterly meetings in their community.

The project promoted understanding on growing nutritious vegetables for children in the community. All the members of the mother groups, as well as the people in Svay Thum commune are aware of the importance of growing nutritious vegetables to feed children and for the resources (ingredients, white rice, firewood and vegetable seeds, etc) distributed to them. The project also trained mothers on how to measure child growth and monitor the health of children to avoid a stunt in growth and malnutrition. Consequently, they have noticed significant changes in other members after they received training on growing nutritious vegetables from the project. My mother group continues to practice nutrition (porridge) for the children in the group twice per month and once a week at home. Moreover, the village health support groups and mother groups can monitor their children's growth and verify their children's health cards.

The Holistic Development for Fullness of Life Project mother groups understand the importance of growing nutritious vegetables. The community had changed in a positive way. Mother groups and village health volunteers receive many training courses from AC in Svay Thum. Mother groups are actively involved in implementing growing nutritious vegetables for children in their community.

The project contributes to the community through technical training on child nutrition and weight, while also providing knowledge about positive child education. Also, the mother group was given the materials and seeds for gardening, while VHSGs and project staff conducted regular monitoring and provided technical coaching to mother groups related to child growth. They encourage mother groups to monitor their children's growth and to look at their children's health cards.



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LUTHERAN HOPE CAMBODIA ORGANIZATION




Education Program contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals:



PRE-SCHOOL AND PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION









Quality of education at pre-schools and primary schools in target areas improved, in line with the Child-Friendly School Policy.

 This year, 20 teachers (7 women) received capacity building on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA), and Early Grade Mathematics Assessment (EGMA). In addition, 173 pre-school teachers (80 women) received capacity building on technical teaching and Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD), in collaboration with the District Office of Education, Youth and Sport (DoEYS). As a result, reading performance of 182 grade three students (82 girls) was increased.

Furthermore, 241 (100 women) from School Support Committees (SSCs), Commune Committees for Women and Children (CCWC), and Children's Councils received capacity building on school leadership, Khmer literacy, and the Child-Friendly School Policy. Meanwhile, ten school enrollment campaigns were conducted in the target areas and 13 School Operation Plans (SOPs) were developed, and then implemented at primary schools.

- 80% of trained teachers reported using innovative teaching methods and incorporating hands-on activities in their classrooms.
- Students who participated in EGRA and EGMA assessments showed an average improvement of 20% in their respective subjects.
- Reading performance among Grade 3 students improved by 15%, with 90% of them meeting or exceeding national reading standards.
- School Support Committees reported a 30% increase in community participation in school activities and decision-making processes.
- School enrollment campaigns led to a 10% increase in overall enrollment rates in the targeted areas.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS	CORE PROGRAM RESULTS
 182/82F	Students (girls and boys) in grade 3 demonstrated reading performance standard
 20/7F	Teachers received capacity building on STEM, EGRA, and EGMA
 241/100F	SSC, CCWC, and Children Councils received capacity building on school leadership management, Khmer literacy, and Child-Friendly School Policy.
 13	School Operation Plans (SOPs) developed and implemented at primary school
 10	School enrolment campaign conducted
 173/80F	Pre-school teachers received capacity building on technical teaching and ECCD

NEW PRE-SCHOOL BUILDING BRINGS NEW JOY TO CHILDREN



A new pre-school completely constructed in Doun Leaeb village of Kokpring commune, Svay Chrum district, Svay Rieng Province, Cambodia

Ms. Neang Bora, 54, began her journey as a preschool teacher in 2024. She lives and teaches in Doun Leaeb Village, Kokpring Commune, Svay Chrum District, Svay Rieng Province.

Previously, the preschool operated in an old, deteriorated building. The structure had become unsafe—its roof leaked during rainstorms and was nearly collapsing under strong winds. Concerned for their children's safety, many parents were reluctant to send them to school. As a result, enrollment was low, and those who did attend faced a poor learning environment.



In 2024, this situation changed dramatically with the construction of a new, safe, and child-friendly preschool building. Now, for the 2024–2025 academic year, the school serves 22 children, including 11 girls. The new facility was furnished with essential materials—furniture, storybooks, and educational posters—creating a vibrant and engaging space for early learning.

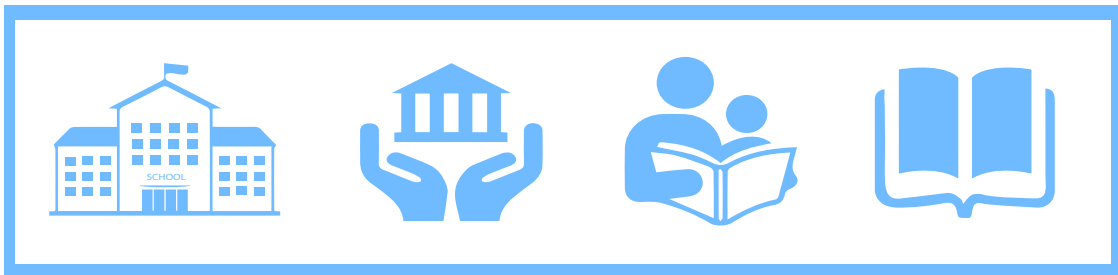
The transformation has had a significant impact. Attendance has increased, and children are noticeably more active and enthusiastic. The visually enriched classrooms help students focus better and grasp lessons more quickly. Beyond academics, children have also begun developing key life skills. They are more involved in household tasks, show better hygiene practices, and display respect and care for others.

Ms. Chrek Vuthy, 47, District Office of Education (DoE) officer in charge of Early Childhood Education in Svay Chrum, shared her involvement in the project:

"I am happy with the new preschool. I have been actively engaged since the design stage, serving as a member of the preschool construction committee. I helped mobilize financial support from commune councils and technical support from other officers. Thanks to these efforts, community members and parents contributed 6,292,000 Riels (1,573 USD), along with materials and labor for site preparation, soil filling, window installation, and general environment cleaning. I would like to express our gratitude to JELA Foundation for their support of the community preschool."

The new building has brought a wave of excitement and hope to teachers and parents alike. Parents now feel confident sending their children to school, no longer worrying about safety issues.

The community extends its heartfelt thanks to LHCO and the donor for their meaningful contribution. Their support has created not just a school, but a safer, happier, and more promising start to education for children in Doun Leab Village.





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LUTHERAN HOPE CAMBODIA ORGANIZATION



ពិចារណា! តើអ្នកមានឯកសារចាំបាច់គ្រប់គ្រាន់ហើយឬនៅ?

បើអ្នកមានឯកសារគ្រប់គ្រាន់ពេលចំណាកស្រុកអ្នកមិនប្រឈមនឹងការកេងប្រវ្រេករបំពានសិទ្ធិរបស់អ្នកនោះទេ។ ជាទូទៅកន្លែងការងារស្របច្បាប់មែងត្រូវការឯកសារត្រឹមត្រូវព្រោះគេត្រូវការបង្ហាញឲ្យអ្នកដឹងថាពួកគេគឺគោរពច្បាប់រដ្ឋនៃប្រទេសរបស់ពួកគេ។

Social Community Engagement (SCE) Program contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals:

5 GENDER EQUALITY

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

ឯកសារទាំងនោះទេ...
អាចបោកប្រាស់អ្នកបាន។

SOCIAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (SCE)



Accountability of duty bearers in delivering local social public services for right holders strengthened.



This year, 123 commune council members and clerks, including 37 women, enhanced their skills on social responsibility, decentralization and deconcentration. A total of 915 people (530 women) increased their awareness of Local Alternative Dispute Resolution (LADR) mechanisms. 24 (19 women) Village Development Committee (VDC) members, community people and youth received capacity building on Do No Harm (DNH), while 24 individuals (19 women) participated in peace education activities.

These training initiatives led to significant changes in social responsibility, decentralization, deconcentration, good governance, and social accountability:

1. Improved Government Efficiency: Commune council members and clerks who received training demonstrated increased effectiveness in their roles, resulting in a 20% improvement in the efficiency of local government processes.
2. Improved Community Governance: Community members trained in good governance reported a 30% increase in their understanding of transparency and accountability, leading to better decision-making and more effective resource allocation in their communities.
3. Enhanced Civic Engagement: Training on social accountability empowered community members to initiate and successfully advocate for three community-led projects addressing pressing issues such as access to clean water and improved sanitation.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



123/
37F



915/
530F



24/
19F



24/
19F

CORE PROGRAM RESULTS

Commune council members and clerks trained on LADR mechanism, land laws and marriage laws

People attended awareness of LADR mechanisms

VDC, community people, and youth received capacity building on DNH

Peace education activities conducted



Ms. Set Hach, 39, from Yeang Village, Reusey Lok Commune, Chikreng District, faced many challenges before joining the Civil Society Organizations for Good Governance and Green Growth in Cambodia (CSO4G) project, implemented by LHCO. With limited education and no stable job, she lacked the confidence to participate in local meetings or community development efforts.



That began to change when Ms. Set Hach engaged in various capacity-building trainings under the project. She gained knowledge in advocacy, communication, resource mobilization, proposal writing, negotiation, and leadership skills. These trainings not only built her capacity but also inspired her to take a leading role in her community.



Now serving as President of the Satreypokpal Meanchey Agricultural Cooperative (AC), Ms. Set Hach applies her skills to support the cooperative and her community. One major success was the integration of the AC's agricultural priorities into the Commune Investment Plan (CIP) of Russey Lok Commune—ensuring local development plans reflect community needs.

With improved leadership and teamwork, the AC developed and submitted three agriculture-related proposals, two of which were approved—receiving 7,319 USD in funding. The AC also conducted advocacy training for four Self-Help Group (SHG) members, helping to strengthen grassroots leadership and promote youth and women's participation in local initiatives.

Beyond her public achievements, Ms. Set Hach shared the personal impact of her journey that: *“Before, I had frequent family conflicts due to poor communication. Now, I share more openly with my husband and children, and we support each other better.”*

Through stronger relationships with local authorities and stakeholders, the cooperative has become more visible and effective in mobilizing resources and advocating for the community. Ms. Set Hach expressed her gratitude: *“We thank the European Union, Heifer, and LHCO for their support. It has changed my life and empowered our community. We hope to continue this journey together.”*

Thanks to her dedication and the project's support, Ms. Hach has become a confident leader, helping guide her cooperative toward a more sustainable and inclusive future.

EMPOWERING YOUTH TOWARDS A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Membership in Ray Sam Ki Youth Club has impacted Sana David in a positive way. He now has learned new skills, as well as developed personal goals that will improve his future. Sana David, 19, is in grade 12 and has three siblings. He currently lives with his mother. His home is located in Sam Ki 4 Village, Sangkat Trang Krasang, Khan Por Sen Chey, Phnom Penh.

Sana David has never been good at his parents' work, spends a lot of time on the phone and only spends time hanging out with friends. He is known to provoke conflict with the neighbors, especially the ones who dislike him. He does not go to school regularly. Before joining the youth club he was unsure how to work properly in a team.

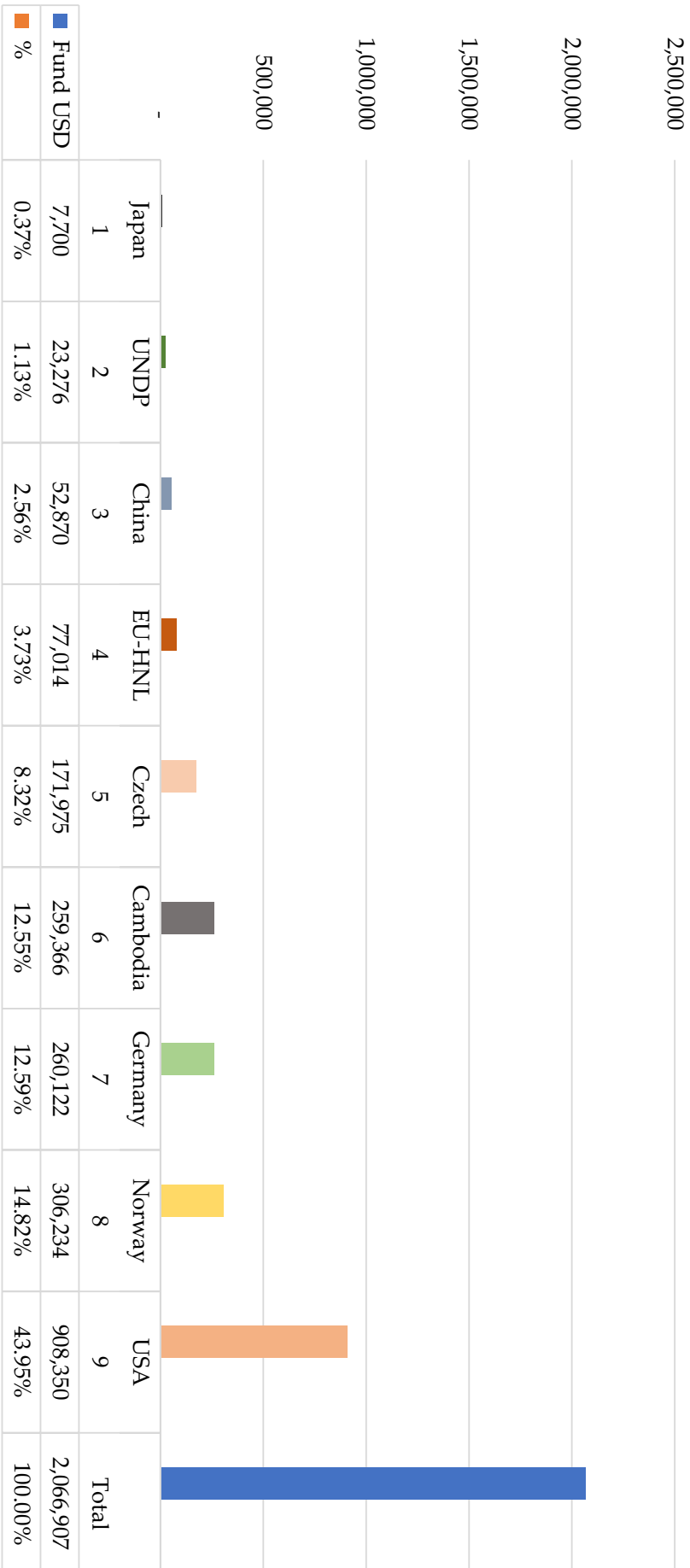


Sana David participated in the establishment of the club, learned the team rules, as well as the vision and mission of the club. He helped the club collaborate with the neighborhood and coordinated with various partners in the area to respond to the needs of the youth in the club. He attended weekly meetings and played football, which allowed him to get to know members from other villages. He reached out to other members who did not regularly participate, and this contributed to improving his health. Additionally, he participated in the Skills and Knowledge for Youth economic Empowerment (SKYE) Club training program and engaged in discussions about the negative consequences of gambling and drugs, which helped him start to understand himself and appreciate those around him.

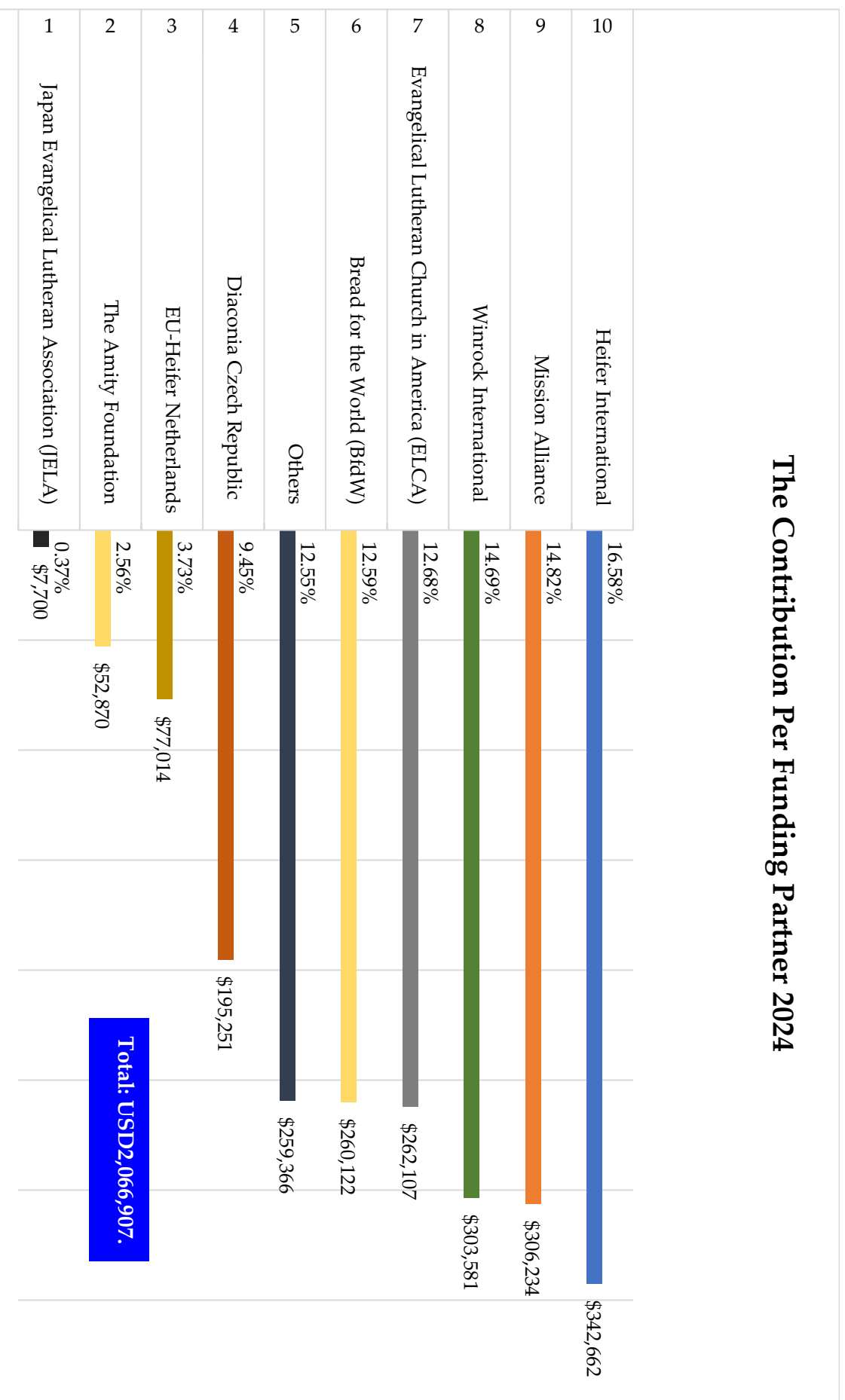
Through participating in club activities over the past year, Sana David has learned how to manage his time better, reduce the time he spends on his phone, cut down on unnecessary outings, stop causing trouble with neighbors, and has even begun work as a food delivery person. He has made many friends outside of his current neighborhood and participates in community meetings. Sana David hopes, and firmly believes, that one day he will become a skilled hairdresser, especially as he plans to have his own barbershop to support himself and his family.

Development Partners' Contributing Countries 2024

The Contribution Per Country 2024



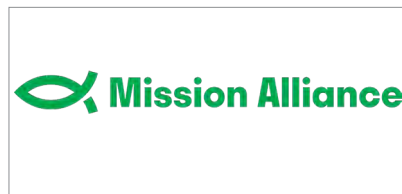
The Contribution Per Funding Partner 2024



The Project Expenditure 2024

19	Holistic Rural Development Program (HRDP)	26.43%				\$546,369
18	Cambodia Counter Trafficking in Persons Activity (CTTP)	15.75%				\$325,624
17	Holistic Development for Fullness of Life (HDFL)	10.62%		\$219,607		
16	Cambodia Vegetable Value Chain Development (CVCD)	9.08%		\$187,717		
15	Poultry Project of National Pride in Cambodia (PPNP)	7.50%		\$154,945		
14	Others	7.27%		\$150,194		
13	Building Practical Life Skills in Secondary Education Sector in Kampong Speu and Kampong Chhnang Province, Cambodia. (TIVET)	4.74%		\$98,073		
12	The fullness of Life for Urban Children and Youth (FLUCY)	4.19%		\$86,627		
11	Civil Society Organization for Governance and Green Growth in Cambodia (CSO4G)	3.77%		\$77,925		
10	Digitalization of Agriculture Cooperatives Administration in Cambodia (AC Digi)	3.03%		\$62,600		
9	Bour Samaki Meanchey Agriculture Cooperative Operational Business	2.79%		\$57,686		
8	Nutrient-Rich Powder Production in KampongSpeu Province, Cambodia	1.13%		\$23,276		
7	Living Water Project in Pursat Province, Cambodia	0.91%		\$18,744		
6	The Amity Living water in Battambang	0.86%		\$17,700		
5	Education Development Program in Boeung Thung Primary School, Cambodia	0.60%		\$12,300		
4	IWASH administration support	0.55%		\$11,302		
3	Improved Quality and Access to Community Preschool Service in Rural Area	0.37%		\$7,700		
2	M&E Online system	0.21%		\$4,392		
1	Solar Energy Project in Pursat Province, Cambodia	0.20%		\$4,126		
Total: USD2,066,907.						

Contributing Development Partners 2024



LHCO's BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mr. Norng Sivouthan
Chairperson



Ms. Van Arunrasmey
Vice-Chair



Mr. Ear Chong
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"LHCO is deeply thankful to all development partners for their generous support over the past years and requests continued support in improving the lives of the poor and oppressed through long-term and meaningful development work in Cambodia."

Mr. Norng Sivouthan,
Chairperson
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Ms. Heang Veasna
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LHCO STAFF 2024

Management Team

Program Staff

Support staff

3 

34 

16 

53

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

Exchange Exposure Training Visit: Strengthening Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Child Safeguarding

LHCO Cambodia organized Exchange Exposure Training Visit (EETV) on Protection from Sexual Exploitation Abuse (PSEA) and Child Safeguarding in July 2024. The event focused on online Child Sexual Exploitation (OCSE) which presented a unique set of challenges. In total, 15 (6 women) participants attended the EETV, including five members of AZEECON (one from Indonesia, two each from Myanmar and Nepal), two members of ACT forum (Church World Service, Cambodia) and eight LHCO staff members.



The event equipped participants with the knowledge and skills needed to promote PSEA and Child Safeguarding, a particular emphasis on OCSE and Counter-Trafficking strategies. Upon their return to their respective countries and workplaces, all participants are expected to apply the acquired knowledge and skills in their work to contribute to promoting the PSEA and Child Safeguarding, including the Online Child Sexual Exploitation (OCSE) and Counter Trafficking in Persons. The mission of AZEECON itself is to strengthen the capacity, initiative and effectiveness of individual members, their staff and partners, and to design and carry out relevant programming in their own operational contexts. Therefore, the EETV on PSEA and Child Safeguarding topic was relevant to the AZEECON members.



SIGNED PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

On August 6, 2024, LHCO and Heifer International Cambodia signed a partnership agreement for two projects: Poultry Project of National Pride in Cambodia (PPNP) and Cambodia Vegetables Value Chain Development project (CVCD).

The projects focus on 1) Improving good governance and institutional capacity of agriculture cooperatives; 2) Improving social cohesion and trust within the community 3) Access to impact capital to scale up the agribusiness of smallholder farmers; 4) Increasing production and profitability; 5) Facilitating the access to affordable, reliable, and environmentally sustainable power, water services, and digital business platforms; and 6) Enhancing market system and distribution.

Through this partnership, LHCO and Heifer International Cambodia are committed to improving the livelihoods of agricultural cooperatives and farmers.



CEREMONY OF THE COMMUNITY ENERGY PROJECT

On November 4, 2024, LHCO organized Ceremony of the Community Energy Project in Cambodia to provide green electricity to Sentrae Samaki, Mul Samaki, and Damnak Thlok Primary Schools in Sentrae Commune, Phnom Karvanh District, Pursat Province, Cambodia.

These schools, located in remote areas with limited access to electricity, will receive 6 solar panels, 6 batteries, 2 fans, and additional equipment. This donation will significantly improve the learning environment for students by powering lights, fans, and other essential electrical devices.

Representatives from Santrey Commune Authority and Phnom Kravanh District Office of Education, Youth, and Sports expressed their gratitude to the donors and LHCO for organizing this event. Mrs. So Youn, Managing Director of HTHIUM, and Mrs. Liu Li, Director of Cooperation Development Department of Amity Foundation, also attended the ceremony. She commended the local authorities, teachers, and parents for their dedication to improving education in the area.

Lastly, Mrs. Liu Li encouraged students to keep these things in mind: 1. to study hard, 2. do only good things for the benefit of themselves, family and society, 3. please stay away from drug use and alcohol drinks, 4. continue to behave as good child, good friend, and good student in a society and 5. take care of equipment to ensure its longevity.



FLUCY'S YOUTH POSITIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY

On Sunday, 10th November 2024, youth from three communes, Soumrong Krom, and Trapaingkrasang in Pur Senchey, gathered in their communities to implement plans with the intent to educate fellow community members and improve the communities in which they live. The youth are involved in Lutheran Hope of Cambodia's (LHCO) Fullness of Life for Urban Children and Youth (FLUCY) Project, which is graciously funded by Mission Alliance (MA). FLUCY is designed to address the needs of children, youth, and families in the urban areas of Pur SenChey and Khan Praek Pnov. The youth from both the Soumrong Krom commune and Trapaingkrasang walked through their community picking up trash. Trash pick-up helps the environment, improves overall health, and allows the youth to positively contribute to their community. The youth from the Pur Senchey commune created posters with illustrations and writing that explained why it is not suitable to gamble. Gambling can affect a family's economics. If a caregiver is gambling, they do not have time to care for their children. Stop gambling and go outside to earn money! The youth walked around the community holding up these posters to further educate those around them.



TRANSITION WORKSHOP AND HANDOVER CEREMONY

On November 21, 2024, LHCO hosted a transition workshop and handover ceremony which marked the end of the 5-year "Holistic Development for the Fulfillment of Life Project". The event, attended by 185 participants, celebrated the transfer of project assets and responsibilities to local stakeholders and district administrations in Svay Chrum and Romeas Haek. The project was implemented by LHCO and funded by Mission Alliance Cambodia.



The project focused on three objectives:

- 1- Improving food production and income generation through agriculture.
- 2- Enhancing access to quality education and life skills.
- 3- Improving basic healthcare, including nutrition and WASH services.



SCHOOL TRADE FAIR ON FOOD PROCESSING

On December 18, 2024, LHCO with funding support from CZECH AID and Diaconia organized the “School Trade Fair on Food Processing” at Cambodia-Japan Cooperation Center (CJCC), Phnom Penh. The event was honored by the attendance of Mr. Kamil Pikal, Head of Development Section of Embassy of the Czech Republic to Cambodia; Mr. Bohumil Krejci, Project Coordinator at Diaconia ECCB-CRD; Ms. Thay Bone, Executive Director of LHCO; and Dr. Chem Mouylin, Professor from the Royal University of Agriculture. Additionally, the fair welcomed media journalists, students, and teachers from five schools: Metapheap Khmer-Japan Sameakki Meanchey High School, Hun Sen Krang Samor High School, Hun Sen Tuek Phos High School, Hun Sen Samrong High School, and Hun Sen Onlong Chrey High School. Approximately 250 participants attended the event.

All students had the opportunity to learn from experts who shared valuable experience and knowledge on food processing, agriculture, and technology. Furthermore, the schools participated in a competition on food processing of meat and fruit.

Lastly, we would like extend great appreciation to all students and teachers who participated in this trade fair for their hard work and creative ideas on food processing.



LAUNCHED THE AC DIGIT APPLICATION

On December 26, 2024, LHCO launched the AC Digit Application at the Sunway Hotel in Phnom Penh. This innovative app is designed to support agricultural communities in managing their member data efficiently. The event aims to foster collaboration in promoting digital innovation, encourage reflections on the app's current functionality, and discuss potential improvements for future updates.

The launching event was attended by 41 participants (22 women), representing various sectors. Attendees included representatives from the Ministry of Rural Development, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and the Ministry of Women’s Affairs. Civil society organizations such as the NGO Forum on Cambodia, The Cambodia Institute for Research and Rural Development (CIRD), LHCO, and Diaconia were also present, alongside private sector representatives from Kokopon and BRAINCHAIN. Additionally, commune councils and community members from five provinces participated in the event.



ABBREVIATION

Agriculture Cooperative	(AC)
Area Development Office	(ADO)
Bread for the World	(BfdW)
Climate Change Adaptation	(CCA)
Commune Committee Disaster Management	(CCDM)
Cooperative for Women's Economic Development	(CWED)
Cambodia Vegetable Value Chain Development	(CVCD)
Commune Committee for Women and Children	(CCWC)
Civil Society Organizations for Good Governance and Green Growth in Cambodia	(CSO4G)
Disaster Risk Reduction	(DRR)
District Committee Disaster Management	(DCDM)
Department of Education	(DoE)
Do No Harm	(DNH)
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	(ELCA)
Early Childhood Care and Development	(ECCD)
Early Grade Reading Assessment	(EGRA)
Exchange Exposure Training Visit	(EETV)
Fullness of Life for Urban Children and Youth	(FLUCY)
Japan Evangelical Lutheran Association	(JELA)
Lutheran World Federation	(LWF)
Local Alternative Dispute Resolution	(LADR)
Holistic Development for Fullness of Life	(HDFL)
Village Health Support Group	(VHSG)
Mission Alliance	(MA)
Online Child Sexual Exploitation	(OCSE)
Provincial Committee Disaster Management	(PCDM)
Product Market Agents	(PMA)
Poultry Project of National Pride	(PPNP)
Protection from Sexual Exploitation Abuse	(PSEA)
Skills and Knowledge for Youth economic Empowerment	(SKYE)
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics	(STEM)
School Support Committee	(SSC)
School Operation Plan	(SOP)
Social Community Engagement	(SCE)
Village Development Committee	(VDC)
Water and Sanitation User Group	(WSUG)
Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle	(3Rs)

NAME OF EACH PROVINCE

Battambang	(BTB)
Kampong Cham	(KPC)
Kampong Chhnang	(KCH)
Kampong Speu	(KPS)
Pursat	(PUR)
Prey Veng	(PRV)
Svay Rieng	(SVR)
Siem Reap	(SR)



អង្គការភ្នំសង្ឃឹមលូថេរ៉ាណកម្ពុជា

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