

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

Thanks to your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Siem Reap. Learn more about the valuable ways your support has benefitted them.

This past year, girls and boys improved their knowledge on gender equality and have gained the confidence they need to speak out for their rights.

Girls and young women have also gained technical skills, helping them to start their own business and earn an income.

Thousands of parents are able to ensure their young children grow up healthy and strong with increased knowledge of childhood nutrition. And 1,942 students now have safe drinking water and clean hand-washing stations at six primary schools.



2,611

Students received school bags



2,057

Parents improved knowledge on childhood nutrition



297

Girls trained on gender equality and leadership



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN CAMBODIA

Hear from Sayoeurn about how COVID-19 has impacted her community.

"My aunt and grandmother got sick from COVID-19 and had to be treated at the hospital. I had to take care of my niece and there was no food at home. But I was happy when Plan International supported me with food and hygiene items. This helped me so much during a difficult time."

CASE STORY: BREAKING BARRIERS AND DREAMING BIG



NAME: KARRY

AGE: 18 YEARS OLD

HOBBY: READING & WRITING

"I am thankful for the Girls Lead project and the activities that have motivated girls and young people, especially in rural areas. I will try to realise my dreams and contribute to changing negative gender norms in my community."

Meet Karry

Like your sponsored child, Karry has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. Karry is completing grade 11 at a high school away from home – breaking barriers and forging a path for other girls every day. With skills she built from attending Girls Lead workshops, Karry now has the confidence to speak up for her rights, advocate for equality and she has big future dreams.

Challenging Gender Roles

In Karry's rural community, girls are often prevented from playing active roles in public spaces.

Joining social clubs is not encouraged, and parents often keep their daughters at home to help with household chores. Early marriage is still common, and education for girls is not highly valued.

Karry used to follow these gender roles, until she joined Plan International's project on girls' rights. Along with other girls, she learned about gender equality and the importance of finishing her education before getting married.

Dreaming of a Bright Future

The Girls Lead programme helped Karry gain confidence in public speaking and she is embracing leadership roles in her community.

In March, she took over the role of foreign ambassador for a day. Her dream for the future is to become president so she can continue to challenge gender roles and advocate for the rights of girls.

Karry has the support of her parents to reach her full potential. Many parents took part in the Girls Lead programme, and they are now committed to girls' education and gender equality, which will help more girls like Karry.



Karry at the Indian Embassy in Cambodia

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 9,700 CHILDREN IN SIEM REAP

OUR PROJECTS IN SIEM REAP NAME ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



SKILLS FOR SUCCESS



Less than half of youth in Cambodia have completed secondary school. Without the opportunity to gain technical and professional skills, young people, particularly girls, struggle to earn a good income.

In Siem Reap, 51 young women and 54 young men enrolled in Plan International's Skills For Success programme. These youth gained skills on various topics such as tailoring, motorbike repair, and beauty salon care. Now 20 young people have started their own businesses and are earning a good income.

Youth also received accommodation support, daily meals, and health care treatments while taking part in the programme, so they could focus on learning new skills.

And more than 300 parents also took part in training sessions on gender equality, helping them to encourage their daughters and sons on building skills for their futures.

8 young women are now employed and earning an income to support themselves and their families

GIRLS LEAD



Negative gender stereotypes about girls' leadership abilities undermines their self-esteem and confidence. Girls in Siem Reap are taught at an early age not to speak out and express their opinions.

To empower girls to stand up for their rights, Plan has helped facilitate Champions of Change training sessions. More than 380 children and youth have taken part and expanded their knowledge on gender equality. By sharing personal stories on how gender roles affect them, girls and boys have the confidence to challenge cultural norms and advocate for change at home, in school, and in society.

Seven youth-led groups also received funding to continue activities promoting girls' leadership and the harms of early marriage.



"After joining the training with Plan, I have become more self-confident. I was excited to be a guest speaker to celebrate International Girls Day, and to act as a role model to inspire other girls to promote gender equality in their communities."

- Sreyno (18) from Siem Reap

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



47%

Of children do not have access to early childhood education



35%

Of households do not have access to sanitary toilets



20%

Of children are underweight



Your support helps girls and boys to stand up for their futures.

- We will continue to advocate for girls' rights and empower girls and boys to stand up for gender equality in their communities.
- We will work with communities to improve access to education so children who stopped attending during the pandemic can return and reach for a brighter future.
- We will also expand opportunities for youth, particularly young women, to gain vocational skills so they can earn an income and support themselves.
- We will support parents with increased awareness of early childhood nutrition, so all children get a healthy start in life.

We know the best is yet to come, and together we will continue to work for a brighter, happier future for the children in Siem Reap.



"Through COVID-19, our goals have remained focused on children's rights and equality for girls. Your support has contributed to children having access to education, clean water, employment opportunities, and gender equality."

Hang Bona
Programme Area Manager, Siem Reap

YOUR GENEROSITY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN STANDING UP FOR THEIR FUTURE AND RIGHTS