

## Stung Treng Cambodia

**Positive changes are happening in Stung Treng. Learn more about how we're supporting children and girls' rights through our collaborative, equality-driven work.**

The New Generation programme is empowering youth to become active agents of change—promoting child protection, equality and better access to rights. In a country where 60% of children have experienced violence, these young people are working toward a safer future.

Progress has also been made to improve immunisation rates for young children in remote areas. Sav, a Commune Councillor, is working with Plan to educate her village on the importance of vaccines. She says, "I will continue to work to provide health education and support my community."

With strong leadership and information on health and rights, the Stung Treng community is working toward a healthier future.

"Most children go to school with empty stomachs and could not concentrate. Now, we have breakfast at school." —Rachna (8)



25 community preschools were built or renovated.

### Impact in Numbers

999

families benefitted from improved water access

34,000

health information posters distributed

8,405

children under two are registered for vaccination

# Community Experiences Enrich Lives



**NAME:**

**Sopheak**

**AGE:**

**16 years old**

**DREAMS TO BE:**

**A football player**



**“I get to participate in national meetings and events where I gain valuable knowledge and share back in my village through peer-to-peer education.”**

## **Meet Sopheak**

**Like many children in Cambodia, Sopheak is making steps to achieving her goals and building a stronger future for herself.**

Sopheak is a member of the Tompoun indigenous community, and lives in a remote area in northeast Cambodia. Her parents are farmers who earn a living from planting rice and cashew nuts. They struggle financially, especially when the farm income is low.

Though her brothers have left school early, Sopheak's older sister is studying at university, and has been a mentor and inspiration to her.

## **The Benefit of a Community**

Sopheak has been involved in the Child Club since she was 12 years old, when she was introduced by her older sister.

At first, she was shy and afraid to speak with other people. Now, she has gained confidence in organising, educating others and advocating for herself and her community. She has participated in many activities, including peer-to-peer education, and community and national meetings.

## **Inspiring Others**

Sopheak's parents want her to finish school like her sister—Sopheak does too. She sees the health and economic consequences of dropping out. Seeing classmates marry early solidified her determination to stay in school.

And she wants to encourage other girls to stay in school, too. She's involved in peer-to-peer dialogue, where she educates others about the negative impacts of leaving school. "I get to share information with youth on challenges they face," she says, adding: "I also get to make new friends."



Sopheak has seen a decrease in school dropouts and child marriages compared to the past.

**We Work With 9,830 Sponsored Children in Stung Treng**



# Projects That Support Lasting Change

## A Healthy Start

**Children in rural areas are better protected with routine immunisation.**

In remote parts of Stung Treng, many children miss out on routine vaccinations. Some villages can be difficult to reach, making it difficult to deliver immunisation services.

The government, in collaboration with Plan, has improved vaccination access—keeping children and their families safe from disease. The immunisation project is strengthening community engagement and demand for Covid-19 and routine immunisation. Significant progress has been made, with target areas achieving high coverage rates for many essential vaccines.

As a result, five out of the five health centres have plans for integrated outreach service delivery and 97% of community members have been reached with information on health services.



Healthcare screening helps families in remote areas.

# 5,814

**Parents engaged with key healthcare messages.**



Young people participating in awareness sessions

## Empowering Youth

**The New Generation—or NewGen—programme empowers youth to advocate for healthy change.**

This leadership project supports children and young people to be active agents of change—promoting child protection, gender equality and access to sexual and reproductive health and rights in their communities.

Through NewGen, young people build leadership skills and learn how to advocate for their rights. In response, government and civil society groups are better able to provide quality services for youth.

This year, over 30,000 youth engaged in 70 activities on children's rights, protection and health. The project staff are working with 153 girls and women in leadership roles to address the child protection and sexual and reproductive health needs of youth in the community.



Linda participates in leadership activities to raise awareness of child protection.

**“My club is well known by the community members. We get encouragement and our club's efforts and achievement have been acknowledged by authorities and parents.”— Linda (17)**

# You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Children in Stung Treng are engaging in healthy play.

## Together, we're working to create a more just world.

Only 26% of girls in Stung Treng are enrolled in upper secondary school. We will continue to advocate for high-quality education, and help youth to transition through school to completion.

Rates of child marriage and early pregnancy are high. Improved knowledge on sexual and reproductive health and rights, especially for girls living in remote areas, will be key this year.

Malnutrition is a concern for children, and 33% of children under five years of age are stunted. Through parenting groups, we will raise awareness on child nutrition, and help link parents to health centre services for regular health checks.

## Message from Plan Staff

"Your assistance enabled us to implement intervention projects to support children to get better quality of education and health service in Stung Treng. Next year, we will extend our effort and focus on health, protection and education project. Thank you!"



Bunthoeun Phen,  
Programme Unit  
Manager, Stung  
Treng

## The Plan Effect

Sponsored children are at the centre of everything we do, and they help plan our programmes based on what's important to them. Sponsors' donations are a gateway into a community. This helps build trust and credibility to attract even more funds from new sources. This makes more sustainable programmes possible in sponsorship communities. This powerful synergy is something we call The Plan Effect.

## Progress in Numbers

578

students  
benefitted from  
new school

11,679

people joined  
hygiene  
awareness

6,111

households  
benefitted from  
hygiene facilities

30,308

people attended  
health events