



Country Director's Message

Dear Friends,

We are thankful for the many opportunities we were given to help families in need in Cambodia during 2013.

We are grateful for all of the donors and volunteers participating in the Mekong Big Build, our regular Global Village builds, and for sharing their resources to build homes and hope in Cambodia.

Over the past year we extended our reach through a variety of new initiatives;

- The launch of our housing finance program – Through the Swiss Capacity Development Fund, Habitat Cambodia now has a growing partnership with two of the leading Micro finance Institutions in the country, Thaneaka Phum and Hattha Kaksekar Limited. These partnerships have enabled us to advocate for low-cost housing, making housing loans available to low-income families, and has allowed us to start providing construction technical assistance in the provinces of Takeo and Battambang.
- The beginning of our first rental housing project – In partnership with Pour Un Sourier du'Enfants, we began the Smile Village project. This project provides education, food, clothing, and health care for children living in the Steung Meanchey dump site and will provide their families with adequate housing while they are taught financial management and livelihood skills.

This long-term preparation for participation in the Cambodian economy will allow them to eventually become self-sufficient. After graduating from the program they will be ready to generate their own income through newly acquired skills and invest in a house for themselves with their profits.

- Mekong Big Build – In November we hosted over 150 volunteers from around the globe to begin work on Smile Village, laying the groundwork for our most ambitious and most comprehensive project ever. This 2.2-hectare site will ultimately consist of 278 housing units, a childcare, health care, and community centers. Moving families into safe, decent housing and connecting their children to educational opportunities, and basic services is the surest means of helping them break the cycle of poverty.

In 2014 HFH Cambodia will take a major leap forward as we begin work to serve the first 125,000 of the 600,000 families in Cambodia that lack adequate housing.

- We will deliver assistance to previously under served parts of the country through our Housing Support Services Program.
- We will be spending more time listening to the families in the communities we serve. Getting their perspectives and input is vital, and assures us of producing real impact when it is based on an understanding of what is needed to build secure, healthy, resilient lives.

In 2014, we ask you to continue supporting Habitat Cambodia so we can serve more families in need. If you have not supported us in the past, then we would love to have your support now. Your support provides the resources we need to improve lives in Cambodia. By contributing to our mission you will give hope to more people than ever before.

- Continue to help us with funds for Habitat for Humanity's mission.
- Donate now. Create a support page on the Give2Habitat.org website.
- Volunteer. Offer your talents and skills.

In 2014 we are setting new goals, aiming for higher targets, and touching the lives of more Cambodians in need. Join with us as we make a difference in Cambodia.



Don Boring
Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Disaster Planning and Response Programs



Shelter and disaster relief kit distribution in Siem Reap

Near the end of the rainy season last year, many areas of Cambodia were severely affected by flooding, including Battambang and Siem Reap Provinces; locations where HFH Cambodia is active. According to government reports, 31 percent of the population (74,160 families) was either evacuated or had their homes destroyed in Battambang.

Habitat Cambodia, in cooperation with Jersey Overseas Aid Commission (JOAC) through HFH Great Britain was instrumental in designing the mechanism and implementing a support response program to assist families in Battambang. Working with local and government disaster management officials, a seven-month program was launched, aimed at supporting a minimum of 650 households in four districts of the province. In this

project, families will receive shelter repair kits, construction technical support for house repair, and undergo monitoring and evaluation. Habitat Cambodia also actively assisted 600 families affected by flooding in Siem Reap Province through a project supported by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and facilitated by HFH Korea. Over 600 emergency shelter kits (ESKs), home cleaning kits and water purification filters were distributed in affected communities. The ESKs are a flexible method of assisting disaster-affected families, since they allow each family to use the kits to meet their own needs.

Building Homes, Building Positive Lives (BHBPL)

Training sessions were given in multiple communities on livelihood skills, financial management, home maintenance, water sanitation as well as HIV/AIDS awareness through the Building Homes, Building Positive Lives project. Moreover, five community toilets were built in Kandal Province, and state electricity connections were obtained for families in Phnom Penh.

The focus for this multifaceted project is to work with our partner Maryknoll helping to improve the living conditions and the lives of vulnerable families in Cambodia; people living with or affected by HIV/Aids and orphans.

Chapadem Chivet Thmey (New Start New Life) Update

Phnom Penh and Kandal Provinces

In early December a four day training session was held in Phnom Penh which integrated participants from both the Building Homes Building Positive Lives and Chapadem Chivet Thmey, or New Start New Life projects. Twenty-nine participants gathered from different areas of Phnom Penh and Kandal Province. By the end of the sessions, head of households had received instruction through presentations, role-plays and discussions on family financial management, proper home maintenance, creating strategies for opening a small business, as well as water sanitation HIV education, and soya beans and soap production.



Training participants practice hand washing skills



Home affected by flooding in Battambang Province



BHBPL project home in Kandal Province



Group discussion in Small Business Management Training Workshop

Viva Volunteers



Habitat
for Humanity®
Cambodia



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volunteer team

For more information visit:
www.habitat.org/gv/

Global Village Update

December 17: Unable to come and build in Smile Village themselves, our Global Village team from Doshisha University held a fundraiser for the project instead on the streets of Kyoto City, Japan, where they raised over \$1,200 for HFH Cambodia.

17-23 December: A 15 member Global Village team from Kaywon School of Art and Design traveled from Gyeonggi-do, South Korea to Siem Reap and worked to construct two brick community toilets. On the last day of the build they had a formal dedication in the afternoon, where the team shared local fruits and snacks with the community and learned some traditional Cambodian dances. Later in the day they also had the opportunity to visit a local primary school in a nearby district, where they were able to spend time with the schoolchildren teaching painting and having some fun making balloon animals.

18 – 24 December: A Global Village team from Singapore Management University was in Siem Reap, working to build new brick toilets. While there, the team had the opportunity to do a home-stay at Wat Svay village. On the last day of the build, there was a community celebration where they shared local fruits, snacks and dancing with the villagers and skilled workers.

04 – 11 January: A fourteen member Australian GV team, calling themselves “Team Amok” worked alongside home partners and skilled workers to complete a wooden house in Kandal Province. At the end of the week they held a new home dedication with songs, dancing, and a farewell meal with the family.

The Aussies were also treated to a surprise arranged by HFHC – a Cambodian oxcart ride!



Volunteer's Voice



December 06: In recognition of their efforts at Mekong Big Build in November, a celebration was held for our youth group of volunteer translators where they received certificates of appreciation. The event was also an opportunity for them to evaluate strengths and weaknesses, make recommendations for future build events, as well as talk openly about the present state of youth community service in Cambodia. After their presentations on the highs and lows and a Q & A session, the fun continued with guitar music and singing. The work of our interpreter team during the Mekong Big Build was invaluable.

December 03-04: The progress on the first cluster of homes in Smile Village got some big help Texas-style, from an enthusiastic team of volunteers from MegaCARE Missions of The Potter's House Church. Over two sunny, hot days this group of fourteen volunteers sponsored by the HFH Dallas Area affiliate worked alongside our home partners, adding to the work of the Mekong Big Build 2013 volunteer teams. The walls of the Smile Village homes grew ever taller thanks to their effort.





Upcoming Events

02 - 03 January

Training of Trainers: Financial Education for Thaneakea-Phum, LTD. in Phnom Penh

04 - 11 January

Global Village Team from Australia in Phnom Penh

24 January - 07 February

Global Village Team from Northern Ireland in Siem Reap

12 - 19 February

Global Village Team from Japan in Phnom Penh

15 - 21 February

Global Village Team from Japan in Battambang

25 February - 13 March

Global Village Team from Japan in Phnom Penh

27 February - 15 March

Global Village Team from United States in Takeo



Special Feature

Housing Financing Program: Family Profile

Kuon Earm, 46, and her husband Chhan Seoum, 56, have five daughters; One is married and is living separately with her own family. The other four are living in Thailand working as construction laborers to support the family at home. In addition to this, the family is dependent on farming for their income.

The construction of their home began three years ago, but it has remained unfinished due to lack of funds. To date the house has the foundation, walls, and roof, but they have been unable to add windows, doors or finish plastering the walls. Their home is too small for the many family members to live in comfortably. Soon another of Kuon's daughters will also marry, which will add a family member to the household.

To finish the work on their home and improve their living situation, Kuon approached Habitat Cambodia. After the family completed the application process, Kuon was able to enlarge the house and finish the work through a housing loan provided by Habitat for Humanity Cambodia.

"I am very happy to be able to receive this loan and complete our home before my daughter gets married," Kuon said. She was excited to learn that there was a group of volunteers coming from Northern Ireland to support the family in completing their house.



Habitat Cambodia's Housing Finance Program: *An Overview*

Habitat Cambodia's Housing Finance Program focuses on four types of loan activities, and coordinates with each homeowner to determine which is best suited to their situation. *Retail loans* are provided to successful applicants in both Phnom Penh and Siem Reap to either build or improve their home, or provide the ability for the family to access improved water and sanitation, or connect to available electricity. Families are offered a suitable loan amount which fits their capacity to make regular repayments. Another facet of the financing program is *Institutional Lending*. In Battambang Province, Habitat Cambodia has provided a total of \$50,000 to our partner micro finance institution, Cambodia Business Integration for Rural Development (CBIRD) which provides loans to target families currently living on a social land concession area and enables them to finance house construction and home improvement. HFHC works in partnership with Vision Fund Cambodia in Siem Reap province to promote lending for construction of sanitation projects. We provide a small package of incentives to VFC's clients who pay back their loan on time. As of December 2013 Habitat Cambodia has served 418 clients in two districts. The fourth and largest aspect of this program is *Micro Build*. This program is part of Habitat for Humanity International's work with capital loans funding. Habitat Cambodia, in collaboration with our regional office, assists established micro finance institutions (MFI's) in developing or re-defining their products to cater to low-income families' housing needs., and providing capacity building training to their credit officers and their clients on construction technical assistance and financial education for home improvement. To date, HFHC has worked in partnership with two of Cambodia's largest MFIs, Thaneak Phum (Cambodia) Ltd., and Hattha Kaksekar Ltd. (HKL). The Micro Build Project recently reached a \$2 million loan agreement with HKL.

New Arrivals



Please welcome Ms. Chheang Somalay, our new Procurement Assistant. Somalay holds a B.A. in Accounting from VANDA Institute. She has three years experience in field of procurement and accounting. Prior to coming to HFH Cambodia, she worked for the Reproductive and Child Health Alliance.

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Welcome also to Nou Vannsan, our new Resource Development and Communications Officer. Vannsan graduated from the Institute of Foreign Languages, Royal University of Phnom Penh in the Field of Education. In 2009, Vannsan began work as a Communications Assistant at Save the Children Norway and moved to Global FISH Alliance as Communications and Networking Coordinator.

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We are extremely pleased to welcome back Pauline Waddell as our Volunteer Engagement Advisor. In 2013 Pauline was our IVP Construction Technical Assistant. With her many years of construction and architectural experience, she provided us with her expertise in Landscape project support for our Mekong Big Build 2013 and many other building projects. Welcome back Pauline!

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Show your support for HFH Cambodia!
Create your very own fund raising page
www.give2habitat.org/cambodia

What is Give2Habitat?

Give2Habitat is an online fund-raising platform, making it quicker and easier for you to raise awareness and funds for the vital work of Habitat for Humanity building homes, communities and hope for families in need of a safe, decent, affordable place to live.

Why use Give2Habitat?

Give2Habitat allows you to leverage the support of your own online social networks, and add your voice to the global Habitat for Humanity community.

When you start fund-raising with Give2Habitat, you'll have your own personal fund-raising page where your friends can donate and support Habitat for Humanity in a specific community, city or country.

You can tell your own story of what you are doing to help Habitat's work, post com-

ments, updates and images, as well as track progress as you raise much-needed funds.

Then linking to your existing Facebook, Twitter and other social media accounts, it's easy to share your fund-raising story, and rally support from friends and family all over the world.

With Give2Habitat, you're part of the community!

Wonderful people from all over the globe who use Give2Habitat, all united by the Habitat vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to call home. Give2Habitat allows you to work alongside others around the world who are dedicated to ridding the world of the scourge of inadequate poverty housing.

Fund-raising online eliminates many of the expenses that come with traditional offline fund-raising, like promotional materials and event costs. Plus, it significantly lowers administrative costs for Habitat for Humanity. So, more of your money goes directly to help families in need.

3 Ways To Become Involved

• Start a Support Page

Help us raise essential funds; start a fund-raising page and rally your friends for support.

• Find a Project and Volunteer

Find an upcoming project and take on a rewarding challenge to help us change lives in Cambodia

• Donate Now!

Help break the cycle of poverty & build long-term financial stability for our home partners.

It's a sustainable way to give !

Or Kunh!



Habitat
for Humanity®
Cambodia

Habitat for Humanity Cambodia says thank you to our corporate and international partners and our affiliate title donors. Together, we will continue improving lives and building communities in Cambodia.

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Paul and Aileen Munn and Activate Church, Towerbrook, Scot and Keely Sellers

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