

Street Children Transformation Project, Cambodia

FY17 Annual Update

Project Profile

Project Goal	To transform the lives of at-risk and current street children			
Project Outcomes	#1	To improve community structures to protect girls and boys and prevent them from living and working on the streets		
	#2	To increase mental, physical and social resilience of street girls and boys		
	#3	To improve access of older street girls and boys and their families to economic and employment opportunities		
	#4	To improve social services and protection for at-risk and current street girls and boys and their families		
Project Beneficiaries	Girls	1,148	Boys	1,536
	Women	425	Men	270
	TOTAL		3,379	

Progress in Economic Development

- Based on a street survey among **79 street families**, **91% of street children** have at least 1 member in their family earning income through temporary employment such as waiters, shop vendors
- Upon regular counselling from World Vision, **11 street families** with **16 children** successfully moved off the streets and were reintegrated into communities. 13 families who lived in village communities and had previously intended to migrate to the city chose not to.
 - These street families received grant support to start up small businesses in livestock raising, selling of soft drinks, fruits, vegetables, and their average income improved from **about USD 1.25 to USD 5** a day

Progress in Health and Education

- **A total of 46 street children under 18 months old** received age-appropriate immunisation against Hepatitis B, Diphtheria, Tetanus, polio, measles, and pneumonia
- **29 street children** were re-enrolled in public schools as a result of the support by Street Parent Support Groups
- **22 street children** who started formal and informal education recently showed an increased motivation and willingness to improve their literacy skills
- **6 former street children aged 15 – 18 years old** who formerly used to beg and collect scraps received safe accommodation, food, and vocational training in air conditioning and sewing machine repair services, increasing their employability

Progress in Child Protection & Advocacy

- **120 youth aged 12 – 18 years old** formed child protection groups to advocate for child protection and social development among street children
 - Events were organised to celebrate children and also promote safe migration among village communities
 - **32 school drop-outs** were encouraged to re-enrol in public schools and attend informal education classes in mobile libraries
 - **USD 70** was raised from government staff and teachers to support school supplies for **59 vulnerable street children**
- A total of **78 vulnerable street children** have received birth certificates
- **173 child abuse incidences** were identified, reported to and responded by the Child Protection Networks
- Based on a street children survey among **82 street parents and caregivers, 96% of them** reflected an awareness of the vulnerabilities their children face to exploitation, child labor and sexual abuse and how to better protect them
- Based on a street children survey among **81 street children, 79%** were equipped with skills and knowledge on how to protect themselves against dangers such as exploitation and trafficking as they live and work on the streets
- **40 students in 8 universities** led outreach events to raise awareness on the plight of street children in Phnom Penh, advocating on topics related to the welfare and rights of these children
- **11 groups** within Social Welfare, Child Protection committees and Health centers in Phnom Penh reported an increased ability to protect street children as a result of training received by World Vision
 - **219 at-risk children** received health services and counselling support
 - **24 street families** received support to start new businesses



Members in village communities near Phnom Penh attended awareness sessions educating them on the dangers living and working on the streets can bring to children and promoted safe rural-urban migration

Story of Hope



Phalla, 33 years old, is the mother of 5 children. She and her husband, Nhan, 38 years old live in, Korng Pisey District, Kampong Speu Province in Cambodia.

Before World Vision had reintegrated them back to a village community, they were a street family who spent more than 5 years living in Phnom Penh. She shares her story with us:

“My family had no house or land for 5 years, we struggled to provide food, healthcare, school supplies for my children. Other than working as street beggars and garbage collections, we had no proper employment.

We normally sleep in the pagoda and sometimes escaped from local authorities when they wanted to eliminate beggars on street. One day, one of my sons was arrested by the local authorities and they sent him to the Government Centre for street children. He was released after a few days but nothing change. We also incurred a debt of about 1000 USD because we needed money for healthcare.

As I was unable to pay back the loan, we were threatened and cursed by loansharks. There were so many things to worry about. Throughout this time, staff from World Vision had visited us regularly and gave us advice on how to deal with our problems. We attended awareness sessions which taught us about the importance of hygiene and child protection.

They counselled and encouraged us to find hope and eventually convinced us to return back to the village we came from. They supported us with a small house, and a cart to start a business selling fruits and vegetables. Now, we’re living happily in our new house and my children can attend school regularly and are no longer exposed to the dangers of the streets. I am so grateful for World Vision.”