

Youth Star News

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Story of Change – by Chhon Voeurn



Volunteer Voeurn with his students during his tutoring class

Bosba is the last child among her 5 siblings. I was so sad to learn that she is an orphan living with two of her siblings while the other two are working in Phnom Penh. Before a Youth Star volunteer came to her community, she was very reserved, lacking in confidence and shy - but very gentle. As she was busy, she couldn't perform well at school. Bosba was ranked 33rd among a total of 40 students in her class. She did not want to continue her study as she has no parents and relative to take care of. Bosba did housework and worked part time to earn money. Due to the fact that she was malnourished, lacking in personal care and hygiene, she was often sick of typhoid, diarrhea, powerless and dizzy.

As a Youth Star volunteer, my first assignment in her community was to do community mapping, collect data and statistics, and visit villagers' households. I became particularly interested in Bosba's family and frequently visited her and gave her motivation. As do other kids in the village, Bosba enjoys interacting with the Youth Star volunteer. She then decided to study Khmer literature and English from me. As part of the teaching, I also taught her living sanitation which includes clean water and clean housing. After becoming a member of the children's club, Bosba could join extra classes taught by small teachers and became actively involved in reading activities (Using the Mobile Library Project supported by SIPAR) and awareness raising campaigns. I am proud to see her great change from a despairing young girl to an industrious, active and outstanding student. She is now ranked number 6 among a total of 40 students in her class. All her teachers pay her compliments and highly appreciate her hard work. From a girl who knew no English, Bosba can now read and speak basic English. She becomes healthier and more committed to school saying she does not want to quit school any more.

It was not an easy job to accomplish this change; however, I am satisfied with my work.

International Volunteer Day and National Youth Forum 2015

In Phnom Penh on December 4-5, 2015, Youth Star Cambodia helped celebrate International Volunteer Day (IVD) by attending the 5th National Forum on Promoting Volunteerism. Some other volunteer organisations who attended were the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) in Cambodia, the VolCam network, the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport, development partners, volunteers and youth from all around Cambodia. Youth Star volunteers from the three target provinces in Cambodia actively participated in the discussion sessions during the two-day event. According to the United Nations Volunteer in Cambodia, during the National Forum more than 500 young people from all around Cambodia met in the Institute of Technology Cambodia to engage in dialogue with development experts from the UN Agencies, Government partners and Non-Governmental Organizations to find ways how youth and volunteers can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The theme of the event was "Volunteer together to achieve Global Goals". The event helped the participants to be part of the new development agenda and to contribute to the development of Cambodia.

Youth Star volunteers and participants discussed how they can contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – a new set of 17 goals that are going to frame the global development agenda for the next 15 years and will replace the Millennium Development Goals that are expiring at the end of this year. Cambodia is now on the process of localizing the 17 goals.



Youth Star volunteers at ICT on International Volunteer Day (IVD) 2015

Tutoring and Reading Skills Training

The training was organized in partnership with Aide et Action and SIPAR in Kampong Thom Kratie and Prey Veng Province. Recognizing that the work of Youth Star volunteers involves the educational sector, providing additional training on tutoring and reading skills is essential to the success of our work. The training provided skills and knowledge on educating and teaching, as well as classroom and mobile library management, tutoring slow learners, and strategies for assisting and reading to out of school children (OOSC). Advice in setting up and operating youth clubs, managing and encouraging local volunteers and youth club members was also provided as they are the key actors in achieving our goals.



Youth Star volunteers and staff during the training in Kampong Thom

The recall training is also organized in order that the Youth Star volunteers and staff during the training get to know the success, failure and planning of the volunteers and youth club representatives. This enables the Youth Star management team to guide and support these volunteers and enhance their capacity to be on the right track and to effectively and efficiently realize the goals.

The main objective of the training is to make sure that Youth Star volunteers and youth club representatives will:

- have skills in management of classroom and tutoring slow learners and understand the role of mobile library facilitator.
- be familiar with mobile library management tools for effectively organizing reading sessions with children including OOSC.
- reflect on and identify the key challenges and achievements made during their first 3 months in the communities.
- have better understanding about youth club's roles and the importance of its charter.
- have a basic understanding about strategies to organize an effective community campaign.
- be comfortable with project monitoring tools.

School Enrollment Campaign



Volunteer Ham Sonita is organizing the campaign in Kampong Thom

In October 2015, Youth Star volunteers based in Kampong Thom, Kratie and Prey Veng Provinces organized enrollment campaign as a part to promote primary school enrollment. Working with schools, children and local authority, our volunteers helped explain the importance of education and the role of parents sending their children to school. The campaign was organized just before the open of primary school registration.

Digital Data Collection

Youth Star Cambodia was currently selected as one of the four partners to co-implement the project On Digital Data Collection and Visualization for Monitoring and Evaluation. Funded by Development Innovations (DI), the Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) is implementing a pilot project to build the capacity of NGOs to improve their project implementation by using digital data collection and reporting. Youth Star Cambodia is one of four NGOs partners chosen to implement this project. This project's aim is to strengthen the capacity of NGOs partners, to use technology for data collection and reporting in order to improve the implementation of the partners' programs..

The objectives of the project are:

- To collaborate to implement the pilot project on Digital Data Collection and Reporting tools
- To improve the NGOs internal capacity on Digital Data Collection and Reporting tools
- To promote ICT4D to improve the outcomes of each organization.

Being a partner to implement this project, we are optimistic that data and information will be analyzed quickly and accurately. It will help measure our impact on both our volunteer and the communities in which we work.



Support Us

Donating to Youth Star Cambodia

Help us to grow Good Citizenship in Cambodia by giving young people an opportunity to serve as volunteers in underserved rural communities. Your donations will support education programs for students at risk of dropping out of school, youth led community sanitation, and youth led prevention of gender based violence activities, amongst others. At a time of global economic difficulties Youth Star relies more than ever on donations and has an urgent need to raise more funds. The cost of training, supervising and supporting one volunteer alone is \$3,000. Please see our [Get involved](#) section on our website for information on different ways to donate or contact us at

Email: admin@youthstarcambodia.org.

Or you can donate through:



Thank you!