



CHES e-Newsletter

Winrock International is a nonprofit organization that works with people in the United States and around the world to empower the disadvantaged, increase economic opportunity, and sustain natural resources. Winrock matches innovative approaches in agriculture, natural resources management, clean energy, and leadership development with the unique needs of its partners. By linking local individuals and communities with new ideas and technology, Winrock is increasing long-term productivity, equity, and responsible resource management to benefit the poor and disadvantaged of the world.

What is CHES?

Winrock is implementing Children's Empowerment through Education Services (CHES) project to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in agriculture through education services.

The 4-year project is funded by the United States Department of Labor under Cooperative Agreement IL-16567-07-75-K. CHES is being implemented in four provinces of Cambodia namely Pursat, Prey Veng, Siem Reap and Kampong Cham in close collaboration with governmental and non-governmental

Away from Child Labor and Towards a Better Way for Live through NFE Programs and Skill Training

One aspect of CHES' services for vulnerable children from 15-17 years old is to provide protection from hazardous child labor or the worst forms of child labor in agriculture. CHES has strengthened the quality of their Non-Formal Education (NFE) program through capacity building for NFE teachers who will teach these vulnerable children.

NFE is an official education system which contributes to achieving "Education for All". CHES has supported NFE strategies to promote literacy, life skills and vocational skill training, and the National Plan of Action to eliminate the WFCL so that these vulnerable children will be withdrawn and improve their living conditions.

To operate the NFE program smoothly, CHES has cooperated with the Provincial Department of Education Youth and Sports for a ten-day NFE teacher training for 30 persons (9 females) who are formal teachers, contracted teachers or are on the Child Labor Monitoring Committee members in Siem Reap and Pursat. Kampong Cham and Prey Veng will be conducted later in April.

The training objectives are to provide conceptual, technical and pedagogical support for literacy classes. The training includes both theory and practice of adult learning to make sure that all participants are competent to open literacy classes in their communities.

A non-formal education student last year who finished bicycle training with the CHES project in Pursat set up a shop in own village. After the training, the student got start up kit from the project to buy materials to run job in own community. For an example, Ra You, male, who disabled leg, 18 years old, lives in Kdath village, Me-thuek commune, Bakan district, his parents move to work performance of rubbery plan at Kratie province. He is responsible for taking care 1 brother and 7 sisters in the same house. From this skill, he can earn incomes about 5000 Riel to 9000 Riel (\$1.25 to \$2.25) per day. The incomes contribute food and educational materials for the dependents, and save for buying the repairing materials.

Contents:

Semester Joint Government Partner Meeting with Winrock International

Child Labor Awareness Campaign has spread to new air wave
Page 2

CHES Strategic Planning Retreat
Page 3

Voices of Children
Page 4



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Putting Ideas to Work

Semester Joint Government Partner Meeting with Winrock International

The government partner meeting was attended by H.E. Prak Chantha, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training, the Deputy Governor of Prey Veng, the Department of Child Labor, the Provincial Department of Labor and Vocational Training, the Provincial Department of Education Youth and Sports, ILO-IPEC, KAPE and Wathnakteap at Salina Hotel in Siem Reap Town on 28-29 January 2010.

Mr. Chea Kosal, Director of the CHES Project, said, "The objective of the meeting is to present the progress of the CHES mid-term program and the six-month progress report and the future plan of the Provincial Department of Labor and Vocational Training from each target province."

However, before the proceeding meeting three groups were divided up to visit CHES implementation areas in Angkor Thom, Sotr Nikum and in Chi Kraeng District. Then the meeting was conducted in order to focus on what they had learned during the project site visit and they presented recommendations for improvement.

H.E Prak Chantha, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training provided recommendations to the-

CHES project in the meeting that "CHES should continue to provide capacity building to the Provincial Committee of Child Labor, the Child Labor Monitoring Committee and the Commune Council and persons who represent children and women; and work to integrate the project into the government system to ensure sustainability." She also added that the project should carry on the education and awareness raising regarding child work and child labor and strengthen the cooperation among stakeholders during the monthly coordination meeting."



Child Labor Awareness Campaign has spread to new air wave

To spread awareness of the negative impacts of child labor and the importance of education for social mobilization to combat the worst forms of child labor in agriculture, the CHES radio phone-in program has expanded to a new radio station, "Sarika FM 106.5", and to a new relay station in Siem Reap, "Angkor Ratha FM 95.5", every Friday from 11:00-12:00pm.

The program has invited guest speakers who are in the area of their expertise in order to respond to questions from callers about the topics of education and child labor. If the callers answered right, she/he will receive awareness materials from the program such as radio, T-shirt, bags and Poster. The program also has a quiz for callers which plays the answers using the guest's voice. This program runs under the collaboration of Winrock and the Radio Voice of Democracy (VOD) as well as from funding provided by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Winrock hopes listeners will find the CHES radio phone-in program of interest and Winrock would like to encourage the public to call-in the program in order to share comments and feedback. The CHES radio phone-in program also broadcasts every Tuesday from 11:00am-12:00pm on municipal radio FM 103 MHz. This started last year.



Mr. Chea Kosal, the CHES project Director, launched the program and to be a guest speaker for the first topic about the CHES Project on radio Sarika FM 106.5



Please call-in to share your experience or ask questions through:

Municipal FM 103 MHz

Phone number 012 999 012 and 023 63 03 103

Sarika FM 106.5 MHz

Phone number 011 203 092 081 881 065
and 092 996 000

Putting Ideas to Work

CHES Strategic Planning Retreat

The main objective of the Winrock International Strategic Planning Retreat on 09-12 February in Sihanouk province is to review the achievements made at the mid-point of the project and to reflect on the challenges encountered. "We look forward to the last half of the project with a view to sharpening our focus. We will seek solutions for the challenges encountered and we will develop plans and recommendations aimed at improving the effectiveness of the CHES implementation", said by Mr. Chea Kosal.

Due to the above objective, CHES staff members have been requested to present their job responsibilities and include key achievements, the issues and challenges they encountered since the project started, and their action plan for 2010-2011. Also, the meeting reviewed and discussed the recommendations made from the CHES mid-term evaluation in order to develop a clear strategic plan.

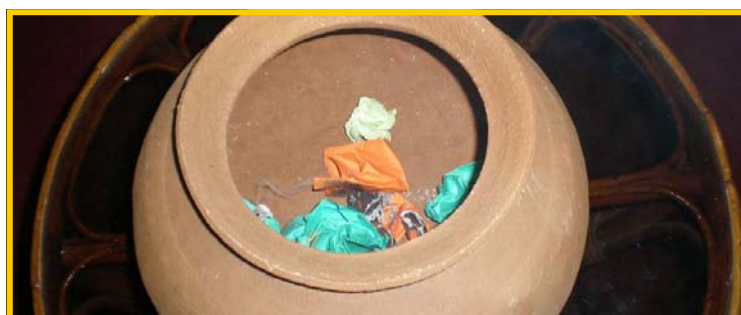
It was conducted in Sihanouk province in order to create a learning environment that was positive and relaxed after reaching the two year mark of project implementation. The entire staff had fun and socialized over lunch and dinner.

Mrs. Ly Visakha showed her impression that, "staff retreat was to help staff learn to be with each other and to develop a deeper understanding of who we are as individuals and as a group because last two years with the project implementation, we were busy with our own responsibility. "

Team building occurred through playing games and visiting tourist sites. Team growth focused on activities that would meet specific needs of the team such as learning to communicate more clearly, learning to trust each other, and using active listening skills. The staff retreat was conducted with the full of enjoyment of the staff and there were many creative activities introduced for individual and team members.

Mr. Chey Tech, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer talked with a smile that, "Spending time with coworkers in a way that is fun, relaxed, and reflective can be nourishing as well as productive. Now we can know more about personality to improve team work."

Staff members wrote what they hate or dislike to put into this jar pot then to burn it.



Putting Ideas to Work

VOICES OF CHILDREN



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I know I have changed!

My name is Say Savong. I study in grade VI at Lvea primary school.

My study has more improved now. Previously, my study was poor due to often absence of class attendance. The reason of my absence was that I had to help my family to do work for income.

Currently, Winrock International organization supports my study in state school. I was a two-month re-entry student before enrollment to state school because I dropped out of school for one year.

From: Lvea village, Spean Tnaot commune, Chi Kraeng district
Siem Reap province

I understand the value of education—It is never too late to return to school

I lived at floating village; my living condition is so difficult. My mother earns income through sewing fish nets. I do not have father. I have mother, grandmother and younger sister. Currently, I live with my grandmother. She supports my study through wood selling. I do not have boat for going to school sometimes.

I dropped out of school for one year because I had to help family to do work. One day, the Child Labor Monitoring Committee members provided me counseling about the importance of education and selected me to attend the two-month re-entry program.

I studied this program with hope. When I finished study this program, I have been re-enrolled into state school and received the educational scholarship kit for a whole year. I have finished primary school and transited to Kampong Luong secondary school locates about 4 Kilometers from boat parking. I have rented boat 30,000 Riel (about \$7.5) per month to pick me up from my floating house to boat parking. I love my study the most because I want to be a teacher in the future.

From: Pursat province



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A child from floating village in Pursat province is telling about his life and study in the National Workshop on Preliminary Findings of Mid-term Evaluation of CHES Project

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Editor
Porny You

Associate Editor
Beth Beale

Winrock International
CHES project, All rights reserved.
#48, Street 242, Sangkat Chaktomuk, Khan Daun Penh
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
P.O. Box No. 1201
Tel: +855 (0) 23 212 334/6 Fax: +855 (0) 23 212 335

Website: www.winrockcambodia.org
Email: communications@winrockcambodia.org

Putting Ideas to Work