

Dear friends of Kamboo Project,

It's already August again and therefore high time to inform you. 2024 has continued the encouraging trend from the previous year: our team in Cambodia is implementing many projects in parallel, "the shop is buzzing". We could actually write a comprehensive newsletter every two months, but - as you probably know - our focus is on action and implementing projects. We can only manage marketing & communication with volunteer work...

Despite this limitation, our cornerstones are important to us. We are proud to have passed another comprehensive audit by <u>ZEWO</u>. We are eligible to carry the ZEWO seal of approval for another 5 years, and to the start of 2029 at least. It helps our internal procedures to be measured against such rigorous external standards. Plus: it should give you - dear donors - additional confidence in us that your donations will be implemented with a high degree of efficiency and effectiveness and, above all, will benefit the school children, their schools and families in Cambodia. **By the way: we are the smallest organization among around 500 Swiss NGOs to bear the ZEWO seal of approval.** That's quite something! You can learn about this, plus gain a good overview of Kamboo Project, by delving through our latest presentation slide deck:

KP Slide Deck.pdf

In the first half of 2024, we implemented or significantly developed a total of 16 projects in our three programs. But one after the other...

We implemented 5 projects in the **"Construction and Renovation" program**. For example, <u>we supported Boeung Chum and Ta Ei Primary School in renovating</u> a total of eight classrooms, where the floors were repeatedly damaged by flooding, mud and dust. In other projects, school kitchens were built and fences were installed to ensure the safety of school children.



Two projects were important in the **"Water & Sanitation" program**. Our support for the maintenance of the drinking water supply at Arranh Rangsey and Wat Roka Primary School continues. At the beginning of 2024, it became clear that the school was having difficulties maintaining its drinking water facilities and needed support. The schools showed great commitment, which is why we extended our support for another two years.

The Hygiene Project, the program to improve school hygiene, has made progress since celebrating our successes with nine elementary school on November 23 last year. The initiative has now been extended to five more elementary schools. Since January 2024, we have carried out numerous activities, such as introducing a hygiene curriculum for student education and conducting training for teachers. We also organized a hygiene day at the five schools, focusing on activities such as brushing teeth and washing hands. We provided soap and washing stations to support these events.





We have implemented a total of 8 projects in the **"Education" program**. For example, we provided 170 pupils and 72 girls from Trapeng Thom Primary School with important materials such as exercise books, pencils, rulers, art materials, flip-flops, water bottles and school bags. On April 3, 2024, Kamboo Project successfully delivered 10 laptops, 10 sets of desks and chairs, and an LCD projector to Boeung Chum Primary School. This equipment ensures that the school children have access to important technology for their educational progress. Other highlights include <u>our efforts to prevent early marriage of girls</u> or our projects to <u>provide bicycles for school children</u>.

Many thanks to all donors for their help with all these projects. This would not have been possible without you!

As always, we are dependent on your donations so that our work can continue.

General donations help us to respond flexibly to needs in Cambodia. You can do this here:



Anyone who wants to donate to a specific activity or topic can obtain detailed information from us and then make a decision. For this purpose, we have now developed our own themed sites:



PROJECT FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION and RENOVATION Building Futures: Constructing and Renovating Schools for Rural Cambodia

In Cambodia, inadequate school infrastructure poses a significant barrier to education. Many students must travel long distances to attend school, which contributes to high dropout rates.



LIBRARY PROJECT: Strengthening the culture of reading as a breeding ground for progress

In Cambodia, access to education remains difficult in many places, resulting in persistently high levels of illiteracy. With the library project, Kamboo Project is entering this gap and creating a powerful tool to promote reading culture among the youth and prepare the ground for transformative change from within.



SHIP PROJECT: Clean, safe and dignified school environments forsuccessful learning

Kamboo Project is determined to tackle Cambodia's WASH challenges (WASH stands for water, sanitation and hygiene). A particular focus is on creating clean and safe school environments and providing basic hygiene training for teachers and students. Through targeted WASH initiatives at various elementary school in the Prasat Bakong district, the project raises health standards for both pupils and teachers. At the same time, it promotes the dissemination of this knowledge in the local communities and thus contributes to improving public health in the region.



SCHOOL GARDEN PROJECT: Seeds of Change: Supporting CambodianSelf-Sufficiency Through Gardening

Our confidence in traditional gardening methods inspired us to introduce these techniques to schools once they reopened. We aim to empower teachers to encourage students to become self-sufficient by learning about planting and land management.



ICT TRAINING PROJECT: Bridging the digital divide

Kamboo Project aims to equip teachers and students in Cambodia with the digital skills that are essential for success in the 21st century. Through specific training and targeted support, we strive to bridge the digital divide and promote development opportunities in rural communities.



PROJECT AGAINSTEARLY MARRIAGE: A yes-word for education and self-determination

Cambodia has one of the highest rates of child marriage in Southeast Asia. Affected girls usually have to drop out of school and run the risk of becoming victims of domestic violence. Kamboo Project is working hard to end child marriage in the Prasat Bakong district by empowering girls and families through education and awareness-raising. The aim is to create a future in which every Cambodian girl has the freedom to shape her own path in life.



VELO PROJECT: Mobility of learners

Long distances to schools are a major obstacle to education for many children in rural Cambodia. Kamboo Project has set itself the task of overcoming this obstacle by distributing bicycles among school children. Since 2019, over 300 children in the Prasat Bakong district have already been helped to get to school safely and in a reasonable amount of time. Through close cooperation with local schools and community representatives, a careful selection is made of those who are most in need of this form of support.



PROJECT VELO-INSTALLATION for sustainable routes to school

In rural Cambodia, many children who live further away from schools are provided with bicycles to give them access to education. However, due to normal wear and tear, many of these bicycles sooner or later become unusable. Kamboo Project is responding to this with a special initiative to repair and supply spare parts. The aim is to ensure smooth and continuous access to education for the more than 10,000 pupils at 52 elementary schools in the Prasat Bakong district.

Learn more about it here

Finally, a special note: In Switzerland, the legal basis has been expanded to allow non-profit organizations to be taken into account in the will and to allow one's own

values and goals to live on even after death. For many people, dealing with death is not easy, especially when you are young or in the middle of your life. Since the obituaries show every day that death can occur suddenly, it makes sense to deal with your own death early on. Writing a living will and a will always makes sense. Like many NGOs, Kamboo Project has dedicated itself to the topic of wills and offers <u>information and support here</u>. In this context, we have been a member of <u>Dein Adieu</u> for a year, which is a very competent partner in this regard.

DeinAdieu.ch conducts webinars for donors of its partner organizations with the title "Creating a will - free of charge and online". The next webinars are on:

- Thursday, September 19, 2024,10:00 11:00 a.m.
- Monday, November 11, 2024: 1:15 -2:15 p.m.

Interested parties can register here: <u>https://app.deinadieu.ch/webinars/ngo/7723?wid=62</u> (Sep 19) <u>https://app.deinadieu.ch/webinars/ngo/7723?wid=61</u> (Nov 11)

We hope we have been able to show you all the great things your support can do!

Thank you very much for your interest and your contributions!

Until the next newsletter, Your Kamboo Project Team in Cambodia and Switzerland

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Your donation in good hands.





