

EDUCATION SUPPORT FUND

Our Education Support Fund will continue to sponsor 4 hospitality students a year to Siem Reap as well as continue to support students through Year 12 and after to study in their chosen field. Many children in Kampong Tralach Village have never attended school. We would like to extend this fund to sponsor children to attend the public schools.

HOW IS THE PROJECT FUNDED?

The project has been self-funded but our objective is to ensure that the project is sustainable in the long term. We receive some funds through the generosity of individuals and the maintenance work of our trade skills section. Sale of produce from the farm is small but will increase over time.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We welcome you to join our project. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Our tri-monthly newsletters and website will keep you informed of the project's progress. The total value of all donations will be used exclusively for the project. Please view our website to find out more about our skills training, what our latest fundraising focus will achieve, learn about our community involvement, view short videos and peruse the monthly newsletters.

WE INVITE YOU TO VISIT KEP GARDENS

If you are in Kep you may like to visit us and see first hand what we are doing. You would be more than welcome. Please call us anytime on 015 653 371.

Phone: 015 653 371 015 741 585

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KEP GARDENS

Cambodians and Australians working together for a brighter future. A training centre teaching various skills to assist rural Cambodian youth to gain employment.

WHAT IS KEP GARDENS?

Kep Gardens is a community development project. It is a non-profit, non-government organization with no political or religious affiliations. Kep Gardens is committed to the training and education of young people in a rural Cambodian community. These young people have very limited opportunities to enable them to seek further education due to family circumstances. We believe that education and employment are the two main ingredients to help people improve their living standards. But this must be sustainable and based on people being able to access opportunities to improve their own futures. Consequently, all classes and courses at Kep Gardens are free of charge.



WHAT IS OUR VISION?

Our vision is for a self-sustaining site providing education through an English school, community library, computer, hospitality, trade and farming skills and an Education Support Fund.

HOW ARE WE ACHIEVING OUR VISION?

In 2007, in conjunction with the local community, we purchased 2.3 hectares of land in Kampong Tralach, Prey Thom Commune, about 10 kms from Kep City, roughly 164 kms south of Phnom Penh. Currently we employ 8 Cambodian people and a larger number of casual staff at various times.

AGRICULTURE SKILLS

Agriculture skills are taught to staff on a daily basis as we establish our chicken farm, fish farm, orchard and vegetable garden. Workshops for the local villagers are planned when our projects are well established.



ENGLISH SCHOOL

Our English school has been running since 2008. We run 4 classes every day from Monday to Friday: elementary, beginner, intermediate and upper for 44 weeks of the year. Yearly enrolment is 120 students and we have a substantial waiting list. Students' ages range from 6 years old to mature adults. English is an invaluable skill for those who are looking for work in services or hospitality. We intend to build a two classroom school house which will enable us to cater for more students, set up a volunteer teaching system and enlarge on the subjects being taught.



LIBRARY

We currently run a small library during class times. The schoolhouse complex will include a library/activity centre accessible to the whole community. Activities will include story telling mornings, play mornings in the toy library for younger children, daily newspapers for the older members of the community and access to computers for email and internet.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Computer classes, employing Khmer teachers, will commence when the schoolhouse/library complex is completed and adequate power is connected.



HOSPITALITY SKILLS

In 2009/10 we sponsored 4 students to the 5 star Paul duBrule Hospitality and Tourism School in Siem Reap. They undertook a 12 month intensive training course each studying different areas. We are very proud of our graduates who are now gaining valuable work experience in local businesses. They also provide training seminars to staff at guesthouses and restaurants in the Kep area. It is intended that 4 students a year will be selected from the English school to continue this hospitality sponsorship.

TRADE SKILLS

Much informal training is being conducted as we build staff quarters, chicken coops, sheds, drainage and water storage facilities. This will continue as we build the school house and library and develop our building and maintenance work in the Kep/Kampot area.

