

GlobalGiving Project:

## Help Rural Children of Cambodia Fulfill Potential

By

Taiwan Fund for Children and Families Cambodia Branch Office  
(TFCF Cambodia)



### Organization Introduction

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Taiwan Fund for Children and Families Cambodia Branch Office (TFCF Cambodia) was established in 2015. We are a child welfare organization based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Collaborating with local partners, TFCF Cambodia aims at promoting and advocating for the wellbeing of underprivileged children and families in Cambodia.

As the country being devastated by civil war, the culture and tradition vanished at the same time. To empower children and families who living in poverty, TFCF Cambodia initiates programs building people's pride in themselves, in communities, and in the nation.

### Project Summary

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Due to poverty and lack of opportunity, rural children in Cambodia tend to have no choice for their future but to work as farmers or migrant workers as their parents did. School education

is meaningless because of the circumstances. TFCF project gives a chance for rural children of Cambodia to discover and fulfill their potential through a football team building. We hope to bring those assisted children back to school by providing milk, football skills coaching, mentoring and teammates sharing. We teach them about teamwork, self-esteem & new skills at school and help develop their self-confidence to successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges in the future. We believe they will make a different world tomorrow.

## Problem Statement

Cambodia has the highest primary dropout rate among Asian countries and is placed the 14<sup>th</sup> globally. Oddar Meanchey (OM) is a province (khaet) of Cambodia located in the remote northwest, and primary and secondary schools in OM performed below national average.

The dropout trend analysis conducted by USAID in 2011, here is the key reference in the following table.

	<b>Dropout Rates</b>	<b>Promotion Rates</b>	<b>Survival Rates</b>	<b>Province Ranking</b>
National Average	19.8	86.45	38.88	
Phnom Penh (Capital)	9.1	86.6	62.1	22
Oddar Meanchey Province	22.8	74.8	21.7	2

OM Province has low ability to promote and retain students in the education system. The dropout rate is the 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 22 provinces.



Near the Cambodia-Thailand border, DPC Trampong Primary School located in OddarMeanchey Province (OM), which is 430 km far from the capital. The school with 500 students faces problems similar to many rural schools across Cambodia. In second semester of 2016, nearly 9 percent of students in Trampong School dropped out meaning that they could not finish their primary education and have little chance to come back.

According to our studies, the core problem of dropout is the low self-esteem of students, which caused high dropout rate (low promotion rate and survival rate). Agricultural work is the most common job in OM; due to poverty caused by flooding and drought, low skilled workers, especially men, are forced to illegally migrate to Thailand. By seeing parents' and relatives' lives, students tend to believe they will have the same destiny. Besides poverty, as is typical for rural areas, limited opportunities for organized recreation also plays as a push factor. The school curriculum has only core subjects which students show no interests in attending school. Thus, students lack a bond to the school as well as the society.

Early dropout and poverty are chicken and egg problem. The more time passes by, the more children stop their education. To rebuild a positive self-esteem, we ought to intervene because it is the prime and important time to learn, develop and grow for school-age children.

## Project Objective

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The mission of Trampong School Football Team is to build children's self-confidence and self-esteem by increasing recreational and social activities in Trampong community. To foster a bond between students and school/community, we may provide a healthy, safe, and supportive learning environment for children.

How can our project make a change in Trampong community? A number of reports indicate the involvement in sports and school-based/school spirit-related activities reduce rates of children dropping out of school, and extracurricular activities positively impact students' attitudes towards school. As interview with students and their parents, they understand the importance of the education. However, when the meaning of school is only about education instead of where they feel belonged, whenever there is an opportunity to earn more income, they will go.

As one of the first Asian countries joined FIFA (International Football Federation), football is the most popular sport in Cambodia and has history over eight decades. Cambodia football was one of the strongest in Southeast Asia until the war tore the country apart, and it has not yet been fully recovered. However, we foresee the allure of football to rural children and decide to help them fulfill potential through a football team.

Bringing the nation back to glory becomes a mutual goal for every Cambodian, meaning that football can be a pull factor for both students and their parents to remain in the community. The sport strengthens the connection of not only the team but all students, enhances members' mental and physical well-being and self-esteem, and broadens rural students' perspective outside their hometown.

There are six key milestones to reach our mission: 1) establish a school team in which the members consider bringing the team to a national level as a common goal; 2) do consistent and intensive training by team captain and coach; 3) join regional matches to improve skills; 4) join national matches to gain experience, 5) duplicate the model to other schools and have more football teams in the community to establish a junior football league; and 6) turn Trampong School and the community as a football center of the country.

As the training goes, every member is supplemented with milk to improve their insufficient nutrition. Our social workers would support children as the role of mentor and companion. TFCF is implementing the program in collaboration with Trampong School faculty, Cambodia National Team, local authority, and Indochina Starfish Foundation.



*Soksophano, a six grader, is the football team captain. Though his parents are both construction workers, he never gives up his dream as a football player.*

## Project Scope

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The project mainly supports 36 members of a football team of Trampong School. Five hundred students and faculty as well as more than one thousand residences in the community will be benefited in a long term perspective.

## Anticipated Results

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The project enhances students both mental and physical abilities. As the team becomes stronger, team members credit to themselves, the school, and the community. They not only have the belief but the ability to decide what their future should be like, and disseminate the belief to other young people.



## Time Table

Month Monthly Goals	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Project continue
Establish a school football team	√	√											
Team building and training			√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Join regional match								√	√	√	√	√	√
Join national match										√	√	√	√
Establish a football league													√
Football center													√



## Donation Option

USD \$10	will support one child with milk for a month
USD \$20	will support one child with a pair of football shoes
USD \$30	will support one child with a set of football clothing and gears
USD \$50	will provide one child with training equipment
USD \$120	will support one child with milk for a year
USD \$250	will pay for a professional football coach for a month
USD \$1000	will provide a team a proper football practice field
USD \$2000	will sponsor a team to participate in a football match outside hometown

## Budget

The following budget is calculated for one year project.

Description	Unit	Unit Price (USD)	Sub Total (USD)
<b>Clothing &amp; Gears</b>			
Clothing (Shirt & Pants)	36 x 2	\$7.00	\$504.00
Shoes	36	\$17.00	\$612.00
Foot protector	36 x 2	\$3.00	\$216.00
Shocks	36 x 2	\$1.00	\$72.00
Gloves	2	\$6	\$12.00
<b>Field Equipment</b>			
Ball	10	\$5.00	\$50.00
Whistle	2	\$1.50	\$3.00
Air Pump	2	\$5.00	\$10.00
Vest	18	\$2.00	\$36.00
Training cones	45	\$20.00	\$900.00
Soccer Goal	1	\$45.00	\$45.00
Soccer Pole	1	\$280.00	\$280.00
<b>Nutrition</b>			
Milk a month	36 x 12	\$10.00	\$4,320.00
<b>Football tournament cost</b>			
Coach (month)	1 x 8	\$250.00	\$2,000.00
Transportation	1 x 2	\$250.00	\$500.00
Accommodation	20 x 2	\$20.00	\$800.00
Food	40 x 2	\$20.00	\$1600.00
Miscellaneous	1	\$40.00	\$40.00
<b>Total</b>			12,000.00

## TFCF Cambodia Contact Info

Address: #15, Street 01, Sangkat Teukthla, Khan Sen Sok, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

E-mail: Cambodia@ccf.org.tw

Tel: 855-23-231-732

[TFCF Cambodia Facebook \(in Chinese\)](#)



財團法人 台灣兒童暨家庭扶助基金會  
Taiwan Fund for Children and Families