

SeeBeyond**Borders**

EK PHNOM DISTRICT

JULY-DECEMBER, 2018



6 MONTH REPORT

CHANGEMAKER COMPETENCY INTEGRITY COURAGE RESPECT

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KEY STATISTICAL DATA

Data	Number
Schools Implementing the Quality Teaching Program	27
Teachers in the Program <i>(Total of mentees, mentors, senior mentors and principal teachers)</i>	166
Mentees in the Program	109
Mentors <i>(not including senior mentors)</i>	51
Senior Mentors <i>(not including mentors)</i>	6
Schools Implementing the Sports Program	7
Sports Carnivals Held	1
Schools Implementing the Health Program	2
CCP Students	13

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SeeBeyondBorders has been working in Ek Phnom since 2013. In this district, we are implementing our Khmer Literacy Program alongside our Quality Teaching, Systemic Capability and Community Engagement Focus Areas.

This district is currently in the Maintenance Phase. 15 new schools have been incorporated into the Quality Teaching Focus Area, therefore we differentiate between “Old” and “New” Ek Phnom. Senior Mentors have been appointed and are assisting teachers in the New Ek Phnom.

Ek Phnom is the only district in which our Literacy Program is in operation. Its goal is to improve the professional knowledge, practice and engagement of teachers teaching literacy. It incorporates reading, writing, speaking and listening. 6 school now partake in the Literacy Program.

In total there are 168 teachers in our broader Quality Teaching Focus Area. These teachers work in 27 schools with 3,774 beneficiary students.

LITERACY

- The Literacy Program is now in operation in 6 schools in Grade 1. A workshop took place in October for teachers and principals from all 6 schools. Teaching techniques used in other phonologically based languages have been adapted to suit the unique Khmer context. This approach has the potential to revolutionise Khmer literacy teaching so that students can learn in a more intuitive and engaging way, reading for meaning and with enjoyment. In one school (Rouhal Seng Lech) a pilot program is in operation in Grade 2. The success of this pilot will determine whether we expand the program to Grade 2 classes in other schools next year.
- The pilot year last year was highly successful, with 92% of students passing the Observational Survey Assessment at the end of the year, proving that they could read independently for meaning. In the control school, no students passed this test.



JULY – DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



- A Fraction Workshop took place in Ek Phnom from the 16th to the 18th of October. This workshop was jointly facilitated by Senior Mentors and SeeBeyondBorders' staff.
- The literacy program was expanded to 6 new schools.
- A literacy workshop took place from the 24th to the 27th of October 2018. Principals and teachers from all 6 schools were invited to attend
- The District Office of Education conducted a meeting in December 2018 to discuss the new literacy program
- A sport carnival took place in December 2018. This carnival was coordinated in Prek Chdour Primary School with assistance from a visiting Australian school group.
- A Health Day took place at Rohul Soung Lech in December 2018. This day was facilitated by SeeBeyondBorders staff, a school from Australia and community members.

JULY – DECEMBER CHALLENGES

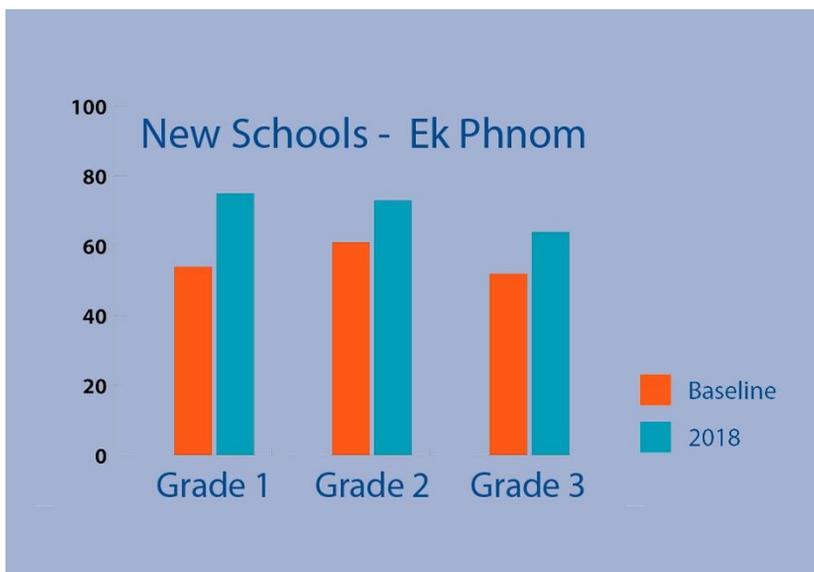
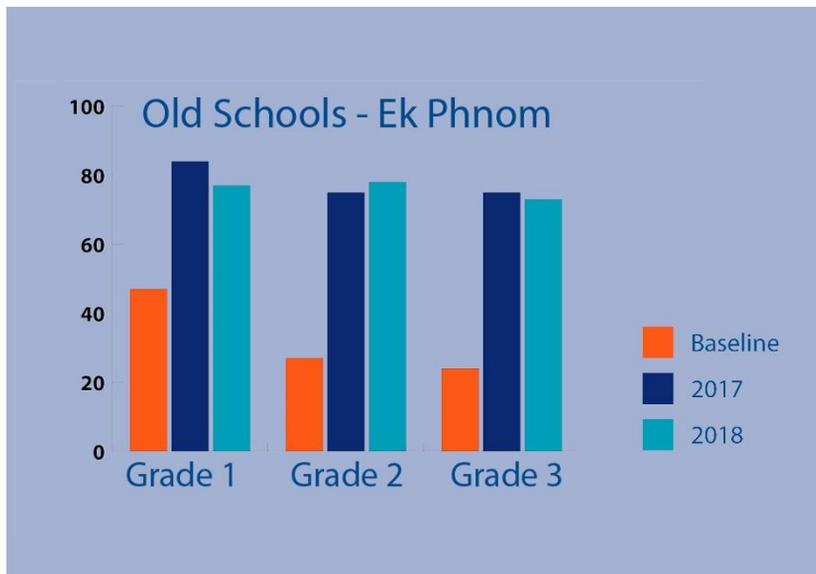


- Many of the Senior Mentors did not carry out visits to mentees. During the Maintenance Program, Senior Mentors are not paid to carry out visits. As a result without remuneration and active encouragement from the DOE, the Senior Mentors have little incentive to carry out observations. As an organisation we are examining how to ensure mentor visits are carried out and standards are maintained during the Maintenance Program.
- The District Office of Education (DOE) lacks the capacity to take over the running of the Quality Teaching Focus Area. We are working with them to provide training and to improve their own internal capabilities.
- Some mentees are currently teaching their own classes meaning they do not have time to visit their mentees. years
- A number of teachers in the literacy program are finding it challenging to follow the literacy planner. As a result we are trying to get the weekly planners delivered to the school earlier. This will allow them greater time to prepare and to read over lesson content well in advance of teaching time.



STUDENT TEST RESULTS

Student testing in Maths took place in July. In Old Ek Phnom we have seen similar results as to Bavel, with students in Grades 1 and 3 scoring slightly lower than July 2017. We are taking this as an opportunity to learn and see how we can improve as we move forward. Meanwhile, the schools in New Ek Phnom have made excellent progress with students achieving consistently higher results across all grades.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

The contribution you make to SeeBeyondBorders makes a substantial difference to the lives of some of the poorest and most vulnerable communities in Cambodia.

A large proportion of Cambodia's teachers and parents grew up in a world where the chance of a decent education was almost entirely eradicated. The result is that many of those teachers have not received the basic schooling and advanced training needed to help lead and inspire current and future generations.

Alongside the bleak historical context, the education system remains grossly underfunded despite the proven correlation between education, development and the eradication of poverty.

The programs offered by SeeBeyondBorders and supported by you enable teachers to make the right choice, building their skills and capability, encouraging students, parents and members of the community to engage with and play a role in strengthening education from a community level. Education is creeping up the national agenda, and in the meantime, SeeBeyondBorders is enabling teachers and communities to create their own positive educational impact. Thank you for your continued support.

This project is in part funded by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program. We thank them for their support.



Change begins with education