

Australian Ambassador's Visit to SeeBeyondBorders October 2023



From the Senior Leadership Team

Dear Ambassador Whyatt,

We sincerely thank you for taking the time to meet with our SeeBeyondBorders team here in Kralanh. We are excited to be working in this new district where we will be launching our innovative *Transform Education* program in nine schools.

As a result of the very substantial funding that we have been fortunate to receive from ANCP since 2017, SeeBeyondBorders is now in a strong position to expand our reach into new districts. In particular, the learnings and experience that we have acquired from implementing our ANCP-funded *Quality Education* program in Battambang during the past six years have equipped us well to now work in further-behind districts such as Kralanh, here in Siem Reap Province.

The high regard in which SeeBeyondBorders' work is held is borne out by the fact that, on the basis of the documented success of the ANCP-supported programs in Battambang, some 41 schools applied to participate in the new program in just two districts in Siem Reap. We are extremely proud of having achieved this recognition within the education sector, and we are very grateful to the Australian Government, and to DFAT, for making this possible.

As well as building capacity and enhancing resources for practicing teachers, ANCP funding has also enabled our first cohort of five female Educational Changemakers to complete their training and graduate as leaders in the education sector. One of these successful graduates is now working with SeeBeyondBorders here in Kralanh to help lead ongoing transformative change in educational practice, and is a role model for women's future leadership in the sector. Our second cohort of 10 women Changemakers, also supported by ANCP, are now pursuing their dreams. You will learn more about their experiences firsthand during your visit today.

Our overarching Vision at SeeBeyondBorders is of *a generation of Cambodian children empowered by education*, and this can only be achieved if we can bring about lasting systemic change across the education sector. With the ongoing generous support of ANCP, we are inspired to continue to pursue this goal.

In line with DFAT's expressed support for locally-led development, and with some 14 years of successful operation as an Australian-based organisation in Cambodia, SeeBeyondBorders has begun its journey towards localisation and locally led development. As we transition to more local leadership and decision-making, we will continue to deliver on our commitment to enabling the provision of quality education for Cambodian children. Furthermore the unique and substantive links we have built with Australia and with Australians will be strengthened. This is of paramount importance to our organisation. We hope and trust that we will continue to benefit from the invaluable support of the government and people of Australia that has made our progress possible thus far. Your time investment today is significant and greatly appreciated.

Respectfully and with our ongoing thanks,

Pov, Phath, Taing Im, Colm



Our Impact this Year



56
Schools



176
Teachers



47
Mentors

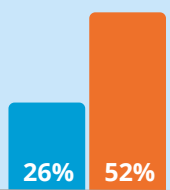


40
School Leaders

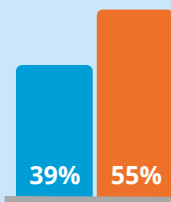


7,188
Children

Impact Data



52% of Grade 1-3 children reached minimum proficiency levels in literacy compared with only **26%** in control schools.



55% of Grade 1-3 children reached minimum proficiency levels in maths compared with only **39%** at the beginning of the year.

Who You Will Meet



Pheung Pov - Managing Director

With over 15 years in Education, Pov joined SeeBeyondBorders in 2013. He became Country Manager in 2017 and recently was appointed as Managing Director, after returning from completing his Master of Education at Mary Immaculate College in Ireland.



Colm Byrne - CEO International Operations

Colm has been living in Cambodia for over nine years and is a qualified teacher. Since July 2022 Colm has led SeeBeyondBorders Cambodia as CEO International Operations.



Blung Phath - General Manager Programs

Joining SeeBeyondBorders in 2013, Phath is now General Manager of Programs. Prior to assuming this position, he was Country Manager, Operations Manager and Project Manager for Angkor Thom.



Lok Taing Im - General Manager Shared Services

As General Manager Shared Services, Taing Im oversees Human Resources, Engagement, IT and Compliance. She is also responsible for Child Protection and Safeguarding at SeeBeyondBorders.



Katrina Hergstrom - Organisational Development Consultant

An Australian citizen, Katrina joined SeeBeyondBorders in November 2022. She primarily supports the Senior Leadership Team, working both in Cambodia and remotely from Australia.



Loeuy Sreyrov - Teaching Development Officer-Educational Changemakers

Sreyrov joined SeeBeyondBorders as a Changemaker in February 2021. She is now a Teaching Development Officer supporting the Educational Changemaker Project.



Lula Belinfante - General Manager Fundraising

Lula has been fundraising for NGOs in Cambodia since 2018. She joined SeeBeyondBorders in early 2021, as the General Manager of Fundraising.



Yarn Somphors - Educational Changemaker, Cohort 2

Somphors is one of ten Educational Changemakers taking part in Cohort 2 of the project. She is from Kralanh district and worked in the education sector prior to being selected for the Educational Changemaker project.

About SeeBeyondBorders

Since 2009, SeeBeyondBorders has been improving the quality of education in government primary schools through evidence-based programs, research and policy input into teacher development. Our work aligns directly with the SDG 4 Quality Education and SDG 17 Partnership for Goals.

SeeBeyondBorders provides training and mentoring to school teachers in areas where they need the most support - maths, literacy, and classroom management. We engage parents and other community members to build an understanding of the value of educating their children; and work with the local and national government to foster a commitment to improving the education system nationally.

SeeBeyondBorders has been accredited by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), responsible for managing the Australian Government's aid program, since 2017. We receive support through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

To ensure children can access the quality education they deserve, we also work in partnership with local communities to improve school facilities, and to encourage children to attend school and value education.

About Your Visit

SeeBeyondBorders welcomes a visit from the Australian Ambassador.

This booklet is intended to be a guide to your visit, give you an introduction to SeeBeyondBorders and our work, and to familiarise you with the key people you will meet.

This meeting with key members of the SeeBeyondBorders staff and representatives from the educational community in Kralanh district is a great opportunity to witness first-hand the challenges and opportunities facing education and development in Cambodia today, and how with the support from the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) - change begins with education.

Before Your Visit

We ensure all steps are taken to ensure the safety of children within the communities we work with. We therefore ask all visitors, to read and sign some key policies before visiting schools. Please use the links below to review the policies that we will ask you to sign in order to visit programs.

1. [Child and Vulnerable People Protection Policy](#)
2. [Code of Conduct](#)
3. [Risk Management Policy](#)
4. [Safeguarding Policy](#)
5. [Development Policy](#)
6. [Inclusion Policy](#)



About Sronal School

Sronal Primary School is located in Kralanh District in Siem Reap Province. This year, SeeBeyondBorders began the process of implementing a new program, Transform Education, in this school along with 20 other schools in Siem Reap province.

While there, you will meet Toem Hoeub who is the principal at Sronal school. This school was one of 9 schools selected in Kralanh district out of more than 40 schools that applied in Siem Reap province to participate in the Transform Education program.

Itinerary in Kralanh

3:30 pm	Arrive at Sronal School
	Sign documents
3:40 pm	Classroom visit
	ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS - AS FOLLOWS:
4.00 pm	Words from Ambassador Whyatt
4:05 pm	Words from Principal Toem Hoeub
4:10 pm	Input from SeeBeyondBorders team
4:20 pm	Time for questions/interview

ANCP Funded Projects

The Quality Teaching program has been running in Battambang province since 2017, with the support of generous funding from ANCP. This financial year, ANCP funding has been allocated across three core projects- Literacy, Educational Technology and Educational Changemakers. Each of the titles below can be clicked on for more information about each project.

Quality Teaching

The Quality Teaching program develops confident and competent communities of teachers committed to quality teaching and ongoing professional development. Our team works with Cambodian teachers developing best practice teaching methodologies. In order to improve their skills however, teachers need more than just workshops. They need ongoing support to ensure that they are putting their learning into practice.

To achieve this, SeeBeyondBorders trains existing teachers to become mentors, so that they can guide fellow teachers to improve their performance. Under the Quality Teaching Program, there are three projects: Literacy, Educational Technology, and Educational Changemakers.

Literacy

The goal of SeeBeyondBorders' Literacy Project is to improve the professional knowledge, practice and engagement of literacy teaching. We aim to help children reach minimum proficiency levels in literacy, appropriate to their grades. Every year, our Literacy Project Manager and Technical Education Manager facilitate multiple workshops to build teachers' knowledge.

In order to monitor teaching capacity, a skill scale is used twice a year to assess teachers and provide support. Ongoing mentoring from SeeBeyondBorders' Teaching Development Officers regularly takes place to ensure that teaching, evaluation, literacy knowledge, and classroom management skills are developed using observation and constructive feedback.



Educational Technology

In February 2021, we launched the new Educational Technology Project at Rohal Soun Lech, a rural primary school on the outskirts of Ek Phnom District in Battambang. After a successful pilot project, we have progressively developed and expanded this project to now include 52 teachers across 11 schools. The project aims to build teaching capacity through the use of educational technology and digital resources.

We enhance learning by bringing educational technology to rural Cambodian primary schools. Teachers are provided with tablets that house our quality, contextual educational resources for teaching maths and literacy, mentoring, and continuous professional development. Through training and ongoing support, teachers can effectively use technology to improve classroom engagement and improve learning outcomes.

Educational Changemakers

The Educational Changemaker Project began in 2021 in Battambang Province and aims to reduce the barriers to women becoming leaders in the education sector in Cambodia. This project not only develops a toolkit to become a future Changemaker, but also gives opportunities for Changemakers to pursue their dreams of making a difference in education within a supportive community that recognises the intrinsic value of women in leadership.



"Women play a significant role in community development where women support each other to grow. I am honoured to have a chance to facilitate the Educational Changemakers Project which transforms young female leaders to develop their Educational Leadership skills."

Phan SreyPhet, Project Manager, Educational Changemakers





For more information regarding our organisation and programs, you can visit our website here: <https://www.seebeyondborders.org/>

For more information about support from ANCP, click here: <https://www.seebeyondborders.org/ancp-australian-aid/>



“As Chief Executive of SeeBeyondBorders in Australia, and working closely with the ANCP, I am delighted to hear Ambassador Whyatt will be visiting our education projects in Kralanh District, Siem Reap. We look forward to the Ambassador seeing first-hand the impact of our work. Locally-led development enhances the quality of Cambodian education, ensuring remarkable outcomes for teachers and students, illustrating the effectiveness of the Australian Government’s program.”

***Sally Miles, Chief Executive Australia,
SeeBeyondBorders***

