



Ambassador Yip's Visit to SBB Cambodia February 2025



**Australian
AID** 

SBB

From the Senior Leadership Team

Dear Ambassador Yip,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to see our work on the ground in schools in Kralanh. As of 1 January 2025, this work is being led by SBB Cambodia, our local NGO.

We are delighted that you are the first official visitor to see the work that SBB Cambodia is undertaking in schools.

Our organisation, SBB Cambodia, has emerged as a result of the growth and success of SBB Australia over many years. This growth and success has in turn been possible only as a result of funding from the Australian government and from Australians. Since 2017, SBB Australia has been fortunate to receive significant ANCP funding which has enabled us to expand our reach into new districts. In particular, the experience and learnings acquired from implementing our ANCP-funded EdTech project in Battambang has equipped us well to now work in further-behind districts such as Kralanh, here in Siem Reap Province.

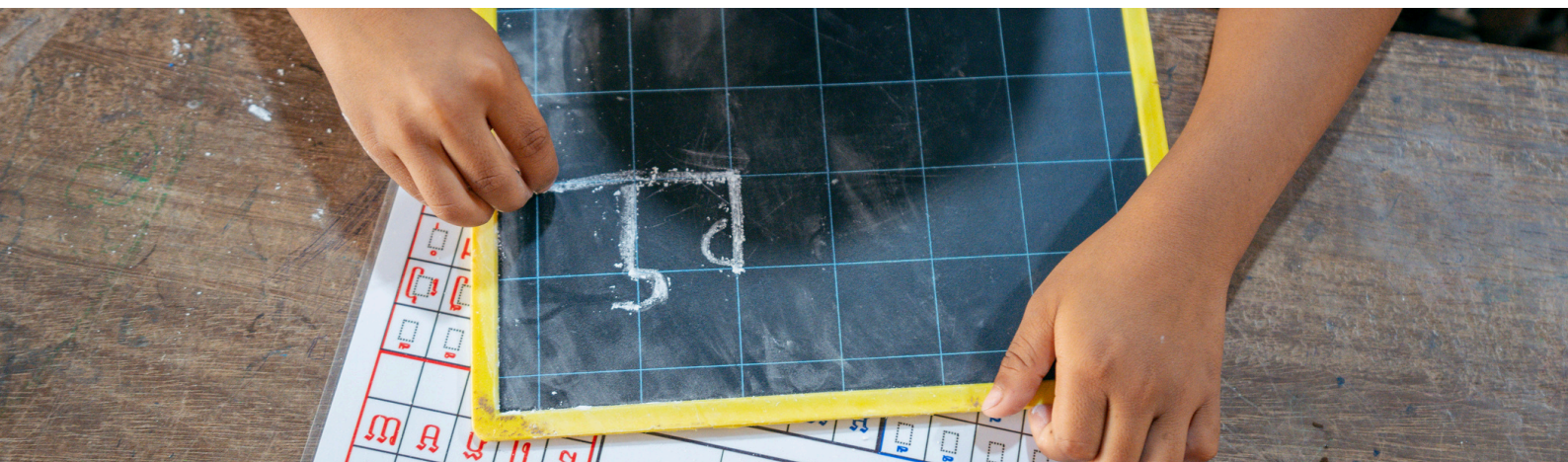
Today Cambodia has one of the weakest education systems in the world but change is happening, and we at SBB Cambodia are extremely proud to be part of that change. While modest in scale, our work is evidence-based and research informed. Children in our programs do better at school. There is a very strong correlation between SBB interventions and students' achievement of maths and literacy Minimum Proficiency Levels (MPLs).

After three years of our interventions in Battambang there was a 29% increase in the number of students reaching MPLs. Now here in Siem Reap, after barely one year of our interventions, there has already been a 12% increase in students reaching MPLs. More children are learning in school.

Meanwhile, Australian Award Scholar Kim Ann, who you met in Phnom Penh last year, will not be with us today. She left Cambodia in January to begin studying in Adelaide. Kim Ann comes from the district you are visiting today, so she is with us in spirit and has recorded a special video message which we look forward to showing you.

For now we want to thank you once again Ambassador for your presence today. It matters a great deal to all of us.

Pov Pheung, Sreyphet Phan





Our Impact this Year



2

Teacher
Development
Centres



31

Schools



120

Teachers



48

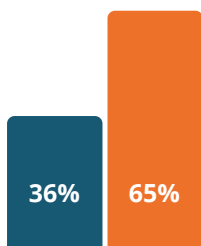
School
Leaders



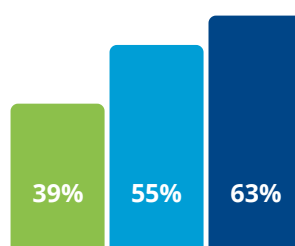
6,674

Children

Impact Data



65% of Grade 1-3 children reached Minimum Proficiency Levels in literacy compared with only 36% in control schools.



2021 to 2023 assessments show that increasing numbers of Grades 1-3 children reached Minimum Proficiency Levels in maths.



Who You Will Meet



Pov Pheung - Managing Director | SBB Cambodia

With over sixteen years of education and development experience Pov leads our organisation from Siem Reap. He is a teacher by background.



Sreyphet Phan - Provincial Manager | SBB Cambodia

Sreyphet joined SeeBeyondBorders in 2021 and the Senior Leadership Team last year. She met Ambassador Yip in Battambang at the end of 2024.



Sreyrov Loey - Project Manager (LTM) | SBB Cambodia

Sreyrov comes from and works in Kralanh District. She is an Educational Changemaker alumni.



Virak Chea - District Manager | SBB Cambodia

Virak has extensive experience, working both with organisations in Cambodia and in education.

Who You Will Meet



Somphors Yarn - Project Manager (LIL) | SBB Cambodia

Somphors has a Master of Education and joined the organisation as a staff member in January 2025.



Sambor Kang - Project Manager (MTM & TPI) | SBB Cambodia

Sambor has extensive experience working in the Cambodian education sector. She is an Educational Changemaker alumni.



Colm Byrne - CEO International Operations | SBB Australia

Colm has lived in Cambodia since 2014 and is a teacher by background. He met Ambassador Yip in Battambang last year.



Derek Culligan - Chief Financial Officer | SBB Australia

Derek, an Australian citizen, has a background in compliance. He is based out of the Siem Reap office.

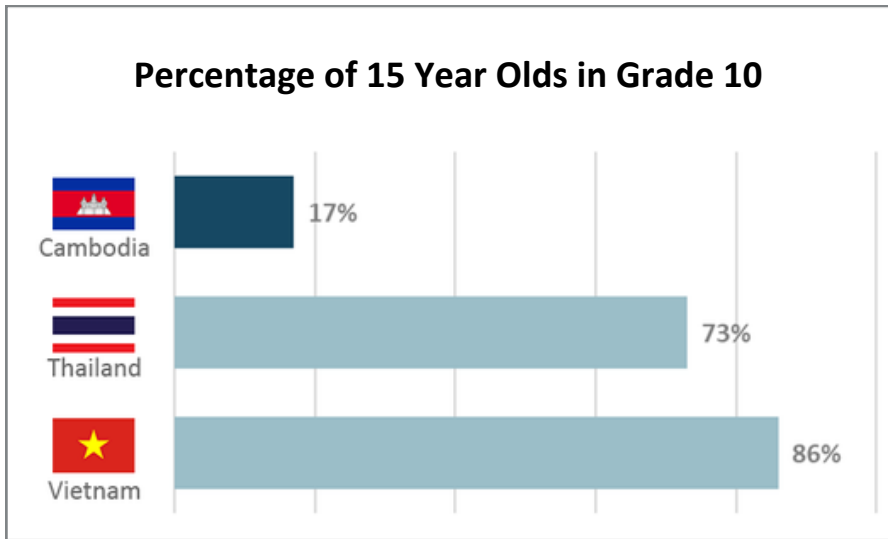


Naret Sok - District Governor | Kralanh

Naret works collaboratively with SBB to ensure the effective running of programs in the Kralanh District.



The Educational Challenge and Opportunity in Cambodia



Out of all 81 countries that participated in PISA 2022 Cambodia placed 81st. Our work is now being implemented in north-western Cambodia, where access to quality education is poorest and students' educational outcomes are lowest. This means there is enormous opportunity to achieve transformational change for the most disadvantaged children and communities in Cambodia.

About SBB

Since 2009, SBB 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 SDG 4 Quality Education and SDG 17 Partnership for Goals. SBB Cambodia 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.

SBB Australia 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).



I am very excited to hear Ambassador Derek Yip will be visiting the education projects in Kralanh along with Ms Harris. It is wonderful they will get to see first-hand the impact of our work. Our focus on locally-led development is transforming Cambodian education, demonstrating the lasting impact of Australia's investment.

Sally Miles, CEO, SeeBeyondBorders Australia





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.

- [Child and Vulnerable People Protection Policy](#)
- [Safeguarding Policy](#)

Itinerary in Kralanh

Time	Activities
2:30 pm	Arrive at Tonloop Primary School in Kralanh District
2:35 pm	A brief about SBB's ANCP funded support in the school
2:45 pm	Meet the school principal and local community
2:50 pm	Visit classrooms
3:10 pm	Leave for Teacher Development Centre (TDC)
3:20 pm	Roundtable discussion and video messages from Australia
3:50 pm	Visitor book signing and photos
4:00 pm	Return to Siem Reap City

ANCP Funded Projects in Siem Reap

Literacy Teacher Mentoring

The Literacy Teacher Mentoring Project focuses on improving teachers' professional knowledge and skills in literacy teaching. It introduces various universally proven approaches and methodologies which have been adapted and tested in the context of teaching Khmer literacy, and enables teachers to practice them. As teachers become confident with different methodologies, selecting and applying those that work best for them and their students, literacy competency among students improves.



Maths Teacher Mentoring

Our UNESCO Award-winning mentoring project saw Grade 1-3 students' achievements in maths improve by an average of 40% points. The Maths Teacher Mentoring Project is designed to build on that success, enabling teachers to adapt alternative methods for teaching maths and use them in their classrooms. Ongoing mentoring equips teachers to better respond to their students' needs, and as they build their skills, they have more enthusiasm and enjoyment for teaching maths.



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://seebeyondborders.org/in-australia/>

