

autumn 2024 / #01

newsletter

ELQ INITIATIVE
EDUCATIONAL LIFETIME QUOTATION
The Reaching out Project
thereachingoutproject.org



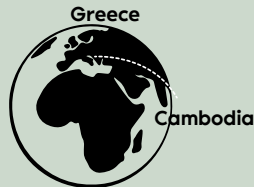
What an amazing year!



The Reaching out Project
ELQ INITIATIVE



1274



8236 km



5



DONATE

for October
2024 events

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WHO WE ARE

The Reaching out Project operates directly on the ground in Cambodia, supporting schools, children, and communities. ***“We are committed to supporting and providing more opportunities for children in Cambodia and other countries. Our focus is on imparting knowledge and education within a sustainable, safe, and secure environment that fosters growth.”*** Our aim is to prevent children from dropping out of school and to provide them with an education in child-friendly schools under sustainable teaching and living conditions. We strive to improve their mental health and break the cycle of poverty.



MISSION

“
Our mission is to improve and transform the lives of impoverished and vulnerable children in Cambodia and beyond. We aim to create a pathway out of poverty, enhancing living conditions, educational opportunities, and mental health support.
”

VISION

The Reaching out Project is our heartfelt initiative and signifies our commitment to leaving behind a better world in kindness, dignity, and respect. Our Vision extends beyond merely helping and supporting children, schools, and communities. ***“We believe in a better future for this generation. We envision this generation in Cambodia as being the last to know the cycle of poverty and the first to open a new chapter in terms of mental health improvement and prosperity.”***

STRATEGY

As The Reaching out Project we developed a system based on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and work towards to succeed in our mission and objectives. We have developed a comprehensive approach called the **Integration of Needs Innovation System** to address and meet all the adopted 10 SDGs and achieve better and faster results for poor and vulnerable children.

- 1 Transforming Children's lives in Cambodia and other countries
- 2 **Invest in Zero Hunger and eliminating poverty**
- 3 Improving Access to Education
- 4 **Building Child-Friendly Schools**
- 5 Fruit & Nutritious Food Programs
- 6 **Improving children Educational & conditions (bicycles, notebooks, pens, study desks, backpacks)**
- 7 Clean Water & Sanitation Projects
- 8 **Mental Health support**
- 9 **Gender Equality support**
- 10 Creating a Pathway for Children from Primary School up to University
- 11 **Supporting Families and Communities (Door to Door, Shoulder to Shoulder Programs)**
- 12 Enhancing each individual and their Skills
- 13 **Creating Partnerships to achieve our goal**
- 14 Supporting Research Evidence and Analysis for better results
- 15 **Integration of Children Needs Hierarchy Model**

Our Integration of Needs Innovation System provides us with a comprehensive understanding of the challenges at hand. This drives our efforts towards succeeding in our aim and mission, and results in significant progress in children's lives.

SDGs

Our approach not only aligns with the top six **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. The Reaching Out Project's program goes beyond this universal call.

We have established and follow a more ambitious system which utilises **10 SDGs**, leading to sustainable growth, child-friendly schools, safe and secure communities with better living conditions, and an environment where children grow up free from any violence, abuse, injury, and existing current hazards to children's mental and psychological health.



In September 2023, The Reaching out Project successfully hosted an event at a Primary School in Wat Sdei, Kampong Khleang, Cambodia. The event was live-streamed all over the world, (www.youtube.com/live/I41eUAD67qc?si=bJSKG9mutBnaTSIP) attracting more than 1000 viewers. We, Eleni and Thomas, personally delivered live all the essential support to children & school, including school equipment to enhance the quality of teaching.

1. Delivery Ceremony Live Sep 2023



“One event, 353 children, 53 bicycles, 2800 notebooks, over 4000 pens & pencils, 353 backpacks, study desks, large quantity of sport-equipment, play yard development, for one academic year



Thanks to you and all our friends and their support in Greece, Italy, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and other countries all over the world, we successfully brought joy to these children, making a direct impact on their lives from that day, alleviating worries and feelings of deprivation due to poverty. During the live delivery event that took place on 28th September 2023, we all witnessed the shocking conditions in the village and community via live streaming. Door to Door we personally discussed with each family, sharing their problems and encouraging their children attend secondary school.

“*Shoulder to Shoulder with our daily heroes and their families*

The second phase of the nearly three-hour live event took place at the school. In front of government representatives, including the Dep. District Governor Mr Tan Sopheak and the Chief Officer of the Ministry of Education Mr Tan Lean, we presented our holistic multi-year plan, which ensures that children continue to secondary school and do not drop out of it. We outlined our plan, making it child-friendly school, with clean water, library, a computer lab, and English

classes for all children. We forged strong bonds with the community there, as we have already expanded to support more schools and more children.

We will continue with more delivery events this year, but more importantly, we will continue supporting these children and tracking their progress, ensuring that they continue with their studies, and supporting them every step of the pathway, improving the quality of education, eliminate poverty and hunger, provide clean water for everyone, and improve the mental health of children and families.

more things are to come... “Annual New Delivery Event End October 2024



<https://thereachingoutproject.org/event/delivery-ceremony-at-wat-sdei-primary-school/>





Thnal Dach Primary School

Thnal Dach Khang Kaeut village, Kien Sang Sangkae community, Sotr NiiKom District, Siem Reap province, Cambodia

2. Fruit Program & Nutritious Food

Through Fruit Program, we:

reduce hunger

enhance the overall health status of children, physical and emotional well-being

improve mental health

increase enrollment rates

eliminate depression and anxiety

contribute to improve students behavior and attendance



break the cycle of malnutrition, promoting education, and fostering healthier & happier children in Cambodia

motivate children to attend school daily, leading to better concentration in classes



“Fruit Program launched January 2024 for 120 children



Our organisation proceeded with all the necessary preparations and partnerships to expand and launch another Fruit Program, in Chamres Primary School in Svayloe District, Siem Reap Province, Cambodia.



“New Fruit Program ready to launch Chamres Primary School, Svayloe District, Cambodia



Most children in Cambodia lack access to clean water and sanitation, leading to both severe health risks and unstable growth. As The Reaching out Project Organisation, we implement clean water projects; we have established partnerships with companies, experts in the field and specialised in providing Clean Water & Sanitation both in schools and communities.

Staying unwavering to our mission educating children and providing them everything is required to create a pathway out of poverty, Clean Water & Sanitation SDG of United Nation is of top priorities for us.

“ **We aim children stop drinking dirty and harmful water from wells, pods or rivers**

3. Clean Water & Sanitation Projects



Project 2

“All Clean Water & Sanitation Projects are 100% funded by The Reaching out Project”



Project 1

New partnership for Clean Water & Sanitation SDG

We are delighted to announce our **new Partnership** for our Clean Water & Sanitation Projects with “**Water for Cambodia**” **Organisation** which are the experts in water and filtration systems with more than 20 years’ experience in the field of Cambodia.

With the new partnership we are committed to successfully meet the Clean Water & Sanitation SDG and help thousands of children and their families in Cambodia to have access in Clean Water.

This new partnership built in May-June 2024 during our latest visit in Cambodia and signed in July 2024. UN encourages partnerships between organisations to meet successfully the SDGs and in The Reaching out Project we believe experts in various fields will help us to succeed our mission faster and stronger. ►



Project 1

Wat Sdei Primary School Water Project, Project Owner: The Reaching out Project funded the project by 100%.

We implemented successfully a 2 phases project to clean the water in Primary School we support, as for years almost 400 children were drinking harmful brown water daily, from the dirty wells and rivers or the rain. Water has cleaned (filters, pipes and faucets changed, new Biosand material) and after long tests all indices and water standards have been fixed. *We are happy to announce that now, water is 100% potable and safe for any use.*

Project 2

Chamres Primary School Water Project, Project Owner: The Reaching out Project funded the project by 100%.

After our latest visit in Chamres Primary School May 2024, we discovered children have no water at all; an old well was abandoned and no electricity power is found in commune and school. Therefore, we decided to build a new manual hydraulic water system, taken water directly from the well and clean it with Bio-Sand Filters. All 54 children are able to drink clean water and have sanitation every day in school.



“Government after 4 unsuccessful drillings abandoned any try and left children with no water”

Project 3

Sen Chey Primary School water supply project, Project Owner: The Reaching out Project funded the project by 100%.

In instances where access to the schools, such as those in mountainous areas, becomes almost impossible, from previous year we support, provide and funding water solutions like small 20-litre containers to Sen Chey primary school, monthly, to meet the water needs of each 120 children and teacher. The 3 hours' truck delivery method within the jungle is secondary to the fact that children have clean water to drink daily.

Project 4

Upcoming Water Project: High School in Kampong Khleang, Project Owner: The Reaching out Project funds project by 100%, Fundraising is open

Fundraising has started

We completed the first assessment in high school resulting that children have no water filter system at all, drinking dirty unsuitable water directly from well and lake.

“585 students have no access to clean water”



4. Our Latest Visit in Schools and Communities in Cambodia May-June 2024

Thnal Dach Primary School Delivery Ceremony May 2024

On 26th May 2024 the primary school in Thnal Dach organised for The Reaching out Project a welcome ceremony to express their gratitude for our support in their school.

The event was live covered worldwide and included among others, welcome speeches, traditional Apsara dances, team playing games, delivery of our notebooks, pens & pencils and sport equipment for all 120 children for the rest of academic year, 3 study desks for poor families and children, fruits & food for children and more.



Government representatives presented in delivery ceremony and it is remarkable that a group of children cooked for us for a lunch.

During this visit in Thnal Dach village we arrange and transferred a very sick student in hospital as their family couldn't afford of it. In addition, we managed to bring timber to build a house of this child and his brother and sister because of living in wooden hatch with half floor missing, with no walls and no roof, risking children a serious injury.



From fields in Thailand back to School in Cambodia

Phai Phopa and Chock Bunyung the best students of 6th grade at Thnal Dach Primary School. But their thirst for knowledge was cut off suddenly and violently due to poverty. The inability of their families to cover even the basics of survival cost such as daily food forced the two children to drop out of school and moving to Thailand to work alongside their parents *as cheap labor in fields from the very ages of twelve years old.*



*“ thirst of knowledge
burned brightly ”*



*“ the core of our organisation:
Children in School ”*



This could not be accepted by our organisation. Through our **“Shoulder to Shoulder”** program and in collaboration with the community and the school, we managed and agreed with parents that children belong in school and should return to it.

We informed parents that The Reaching out Project will cover children’s living and academic expenses and especially their rice which is the most important for their food together with clothes, as well as psychological support upon their return.

Indeed, in May 2024 during our latest visit days in Cambodia, we managed to repatriate the children from Thailand to Cambodia and restart the school. Our relief was truly indescribable since their return in Thanl Dach Primary School, where every child belongs.

C

Formal Meetings and Working Group with Government District

On 31st May Governor in Siem Reap, Srikonum District Mr Kim Vanak, invite us for a meeting and awarding us for our so far contribution in schools and communities of the broader district. In this meeting were presented apart from us, Mr Ly Senghout, Mr Tan Sopheak, Mr Tan Len and our Interpreter Mrs Chanly Pich and we discussed and agreed the agenda of issues and priorities as organisation that we need to cooperate with the Government to implement our goals and objectives for children, schools and communities.

“Meeting Agenda

Child-Friendly Schools, New Schools to build, Health Care, Mental Health Disorders, Clean Water, Food and Pre School programs, are of the top priorities discussed and agreed with District

All participants we established a working group for fast and productive communication. Finally, we arranged and met in Thnal Dach School some days later to discuss the location of new school that The Reaching out Project will build in Thnal Dach.



D

Thnal Dach Ceremony: Scanning New School Location with Government

Few days after our successful meeting with Government we met all again in Thnal Dach Primary School we support for a celebration ceremony and discussing the location of the new school building. Governor responsible for

Educational Portfolio Mr Ly Sengout and his team created an event together with school as a gratitude to our support. Then we analytically discussed the area spot of the new school building project.



“New School Building will increase the enrolments in Primary School by 20% as per demographics



Chamres Bridge Pass + Roof Repairing



“No electrical or any other power, no water, no food, no notebooks

During our visit in May 2024 in Chamres Primary School we do support, hidden in mountains, we realised how difficult is to educate children. Passing a broken wooden bridge during our visit, it was frustrating realising the daily danger these children have towards school of falling into the stream and risking huge injuries.

Same or worse danger was the broken aluminum panel roof above school class; rain enters to the class room and panels are hanging broken and with a small breeze could literally cut their heads off.

Same situation with water as we found out an abandoned water well substracting the children's right for clean water. They use to drink rain water or water from dirty pods.

Immediate solutions and actions: Same day during the ceremony, we provided to all children notebooks,

pens and pencils for their academic needs and immediately we visited a building materials' store and we bought sewerage pipes, concrete, sand and bricks and next day villagers built the crossing bridge to school for the children.

It was so simple but community could not afford it. So we built that crossing bridge in 2 days after we saw the condition.

We repaired also the roof protecting children from the rain until we build the new school to avoid any accident that may cause injury to children.

E


Registration as Foreign NGO in Cambodia

We are thrilled to announce the registration of our non-profit organisation as Foreign International NGO in Cambodia and the opening of our new office in Cambodia as an important and historical milestone succeeded for implementing our programs and actions. The Reaching out Project is registered in the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Education official archives as one of the few Europeans and the only Greek International NGO actively operating in Cambodia. This strategic movement enforces our mission and increasing the bounds with our beneficiaries, schools and communities and our partners.

5. Registration in Cambodia



 GROUND FLOOR, No 083 HOUSE,
Thnal Dach Lech Village, Danrun
Commune, Sortnikum District, Siem
Reap Province, Kingdom of Cambodia

New Office opening in Cambodia

This great news come together with the opening of our new Office in Cambodia.

Our new Office will play significant role to succeed our mission and vision and meet our goals. Together with Partnerships in the region, the new Office will deal faster and with transparency all cases of The Reaching out Project Organisation and will be the pylon for Schools and Communities to have more easy access to our Organisation. The new Office in Cambodia will be staffed with people with relevant experience focusing on locals.

MoU

Signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation represents, as The Reaching out Project, our commitment, willingness and our strategic decision policy and focus on our long term support of impoverished children in Cambodia and Region under UN methodologies and SDGs.

“MoU with the Government is an action of recognition of our already achievements and our multi-year national integrated plan for the country

& New Office opening

6. Our Official Book Publication

We are extremely happy to announce that in May 2024 we have published the Official Book of our Organisation with **ISBN 9786188718401**.

Our official book named **“The Reaching out Project, Cambodia 2023-2024** introduces our organisation to the world and describes our activities, our multi-year program, our methodologies, experiences, and achievements in Cambodia since our first visit.

It shows our direct huge impact we have already to more than 1000 children and by reading the book and navigating into the photos from our personal archive, you will realise what this Initiative and Support signifies our commitment and how we implement our actions and programs.

*National Library of Greece,
Stavros Niarchos Foundation National Library
and Parliament Library*



*“May 2024
The Reaching out Project
Official Book Publication*

As authors and publishers of our Official Book, a free edition, we wanted to show to the public what can be achieved in places more than 8000 Km away from Europe and how people can act together to a higher cause as to educate a generation. Through our eyes we give you the unique world uncurled in front of us and what we did to shape this world to a better one.

We believe this official book will be the example of many people being aware of situation in Cambodia and beyond and we can assure you it is only a start, more things are to come.



7. Upcoming Projects

Annual Delivery Ceremony 2024

Having as a guide the previous successful delivery event in 2023 for 353 children, this year we continue to support Educational needs for more than 1000 children and 5 schools. This year also we will deliver bicycles, notebooks, pens, pencils, backpacks, sport equipment, teaching equipment, covering their needs for one more academic year. This year delivery ceremony will take place in all schools around **End October 2024.**



“Delivery Ceremony of Academic material for children is a standard delivery event that The Reaching out Project hosts, and takes place ANNUALLY for all schools we support in Cambodia, ensuring all children, we support have everything they need to attend school



Clean Water & Sanitation

Project in High School in Kampong Khleang with 585 students. A totally new filter system with tanks is required, aiming to clean the water coming directly from water well.

Fundraising has started.



3

Building Schools Projects. 2 Schools Design and Build Projects

Thnal Dach Primary School. We will implement the Design and Construction of two or three class rooms 8x7m plus terrace plus rain protecting corridor. *Estimated cost for 3 class rooms with piles foundations 67,000 US dollars. Fundraising has started.*



Chamres Primary School. We will demolish of old unsuitable structure and we will design and build of 3 classrooms with internal space protected from wind and rain together with a play yard and reforming the outside school area with safe gravel for children with play area. Solar panels will be used to the roof for small power consumption inside the class rooms. *Estimated budget 58,000 US dollars. Fundraising has started.*



Both schools are in permission stage establishing the final form of type of school that will be constructed. After permission stage, designs will be conducted and budget will be secured with the approved contractor.

“Fundraising is highly important to implement these schools building projects



4

More fruit and nutritious food programs are launched soon in more schools

Chamres Primary School with 54 students is in top priority of expanding our Fruit Program and Breakfast for all children. **Fundraising has started.**





5

English Classes in Primary Schools

We preparing to launch a new full promising English Program in Schools focusing on strengthening children motivation to continue school and unlocking more job opportunities for them after graduation.

Fundraising has started.



6

Pre-School Programs in Communities

In Cooperation with Government District we set up the standards (building, time program and grandmothers' ability verification) to launch a pre-school program in Kampong Khleang and Thnal Dach, which will allow preschool care, so all children of the family being at school and not forced to babysitting babies of their family.

Fundraising has started.

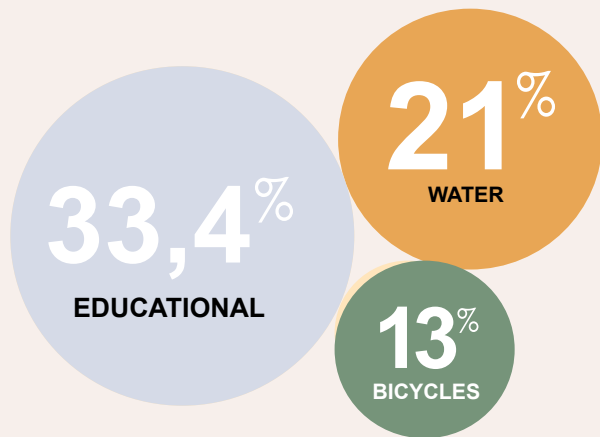
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Library and Computer Labs in Primary Schools

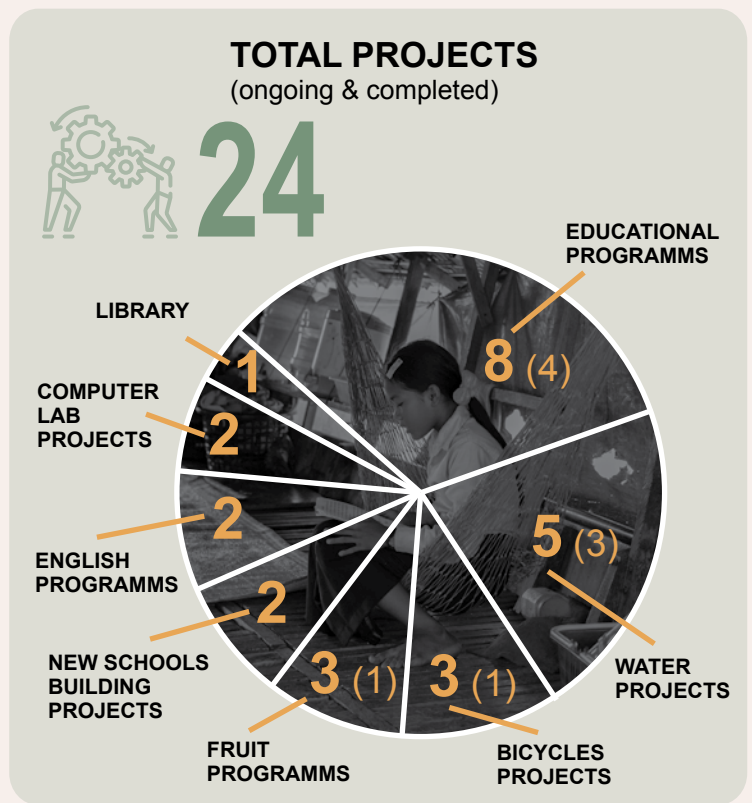
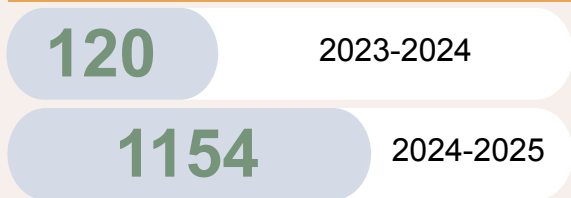
Wat Sdei with almost 400 students is about to be the first Primary School in Siem Reap with a wall mounted library and a complete and fully verified lecturing computer lab. **Fundraising has started.**



8. Our Highlights in Numbers (Sep 2023-Aug 2024)





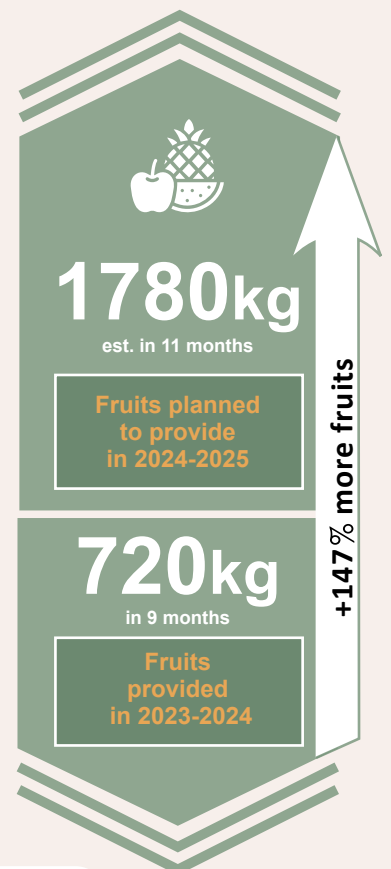
Children access to clean water 



Children we support	
353	1274
Academic year 2023-2024	Academic year 2024-2025

 **261%**
More children supported by The Reaching out Project

Academic material 2023-2024 support	 
53 bicycles given	
3260 notebooks	
4450 pens & pencils	
353 backpacks	



14,2% Completion of our 5 year strategic plan

9. Call to Action (CTA)

End of October 2024 we deliver academic materials to more than 1000 students

CALL FOR DONATIONS

We continue Together

“Cambodian children are in urgent and continuous need. It is our responsibility to transform children’s lives and give them a pathway out of poverty through education

“Support today and harvest a fruitful generation educated for a life



Donate

for our current projects, programs & Annual Delivery Events at the **End of October 2024**

Join the site for your donation

<https://thereachingoutproject.org/donate/>

or support directly to organisation’s bank account

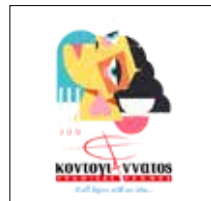
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Supporters: 9 countries

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- U nited Kingdom
- G ermany
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- C ambodia
- F rance
- I taly
- T hailand

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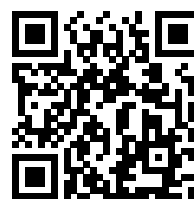
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