



Annual Report 2021

KROUSAR THMEY – មូលនិធិខ្មែរទី១ ជួយកុមារកម្ពុជាទីទំលាក់

New Family – First Cambodian foundation for underprivileged children

Nouvelle famille – Première fondation cambodgienne d'aide à l'enfance défavorisée





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FORE WORD



Message from the Founding President

30 years already!

It has now been 30 years since we started Krousar Thmey. In March 1991, in the Site II refugee camp on the Thai border, the idea was first to help destitute refugee children, orphans of war or young ones abandoned by parents traumatized by twenty-one years of war, violence and exile, with no hope of returning to Khmer soil.

Very quickly, reflection and common sense took precedence over emotion. To carry out humanitarian actions, one must not let the heart decide: it is a trigger, but it is the head that must analyze, think and decide. We thus embarked on a real project of development to:

- Enable the children to regain their **identity** with a name, a date of birth and a civil status;
- Facilitate their **integration** into the world around them, especially for children with disabilities, and gradually - by involving, empowering and trusting local actors and authorities - have the reins of the organization taken over by Cambodians, but also by the State, as was the case with the official transfer of the five special schools for deaf or blind children in 2019;
- Enable the children to regain their **dignity** and roots, with the development of cultural projects (dances, traditional music and exhibitions on Khmer heritage).

At the end of 2021, due to health restrictions, the 30-year anniversary was celebrated by video-conference with the children and teams in Cambodia, and the volunteers and donors in Europe.

Whether we are members of the Cambodian teams, European volunteers or donors whose generosity has ensured the financing of these activities, we can all be proud of our achievements, proud of these thirty years of daily commitment, proud of these thousands of children who now have a future in a peaceful country.

Benoît DUCHÂTEAU-ARMINJON
Founding President



Message from the Executive Director

The health and socio-economic crisis caused by Covid-19 did not spare Krousar Thmey in 2021. Fortunately, the field teams were able to use all the lessons learned in 2020 to face the challenges and take care of the children in their charge.

2021 was marked by the significant adaptation of some activities to better respond to the emergency needs of families in street situations and outside cases affected by the pandemic. Child Welfare teams benefited from online training to increase their skills and improve their work in supporting disadvantaged children and their families.

With schools closed for most of the year, the post-transfer evaluation of the special schools was conducted online. As a result of this evaluation, Krousar Thmey made recommendations to the Ministry of Education to ensure a smooth transition in the years to come.

Due to the prolonged closure of the schools, the two high schools in Serey Sophon had to withdraw their students from the classes taught at the Krousar Thmey School of Khmer Arts and Culture when it reopened, in accordance with the Ministry's instructions on the scheduling of classes and the teaching of priority subjects. Despite this, the art school has maintained its online activities for the benefit of volunteer students through the distribution of homework sheets or videos.

During the lockdown period (April-May), Krousar Thmey completed the mission of drafting and revising its internal policies. The Academic and Career Counseling project activities policy and the Child Protection policy were thoroughly revised. The adaptation of the Human Resources policy to the new government regulations was completed in September.

At the end of the year, strict health measures did not prevent the Foundation from celebrating its 30th anniversary with pride. Children, staff, partners and volunteers celebrated the anniversary both locally and remotely.

At the end of this eventful year, thanks to the generosity of our donors, partners, and volunteers in Europe, I am convinced that Krousar Thmey will continue to be a major player contributing to the development – and especially the post-pandemic recovery – of Cambodia.

CHOUR Darong
Executive Director

KROUSAR THMEY AT A GLANCE

The 1st Cambodian organization helping disadvantaged children, founded in 1991 in the Site II refugee camp in Thailand.

OUR VISION

A world in which all children are empowered to grow into independent and responsible adults

OUR MISSION

Enable the integration of underprivileged children into Cambodian society through education and support adapted to their needs, with respect to their traditions and beliefs

OUR VALUES

IDENTITY

every child can reconnect with their roots and traditions

INTEGRATION

every child is fully integrated into Cambodian society

DIGNITY

every child is respected and can build the future they deserve

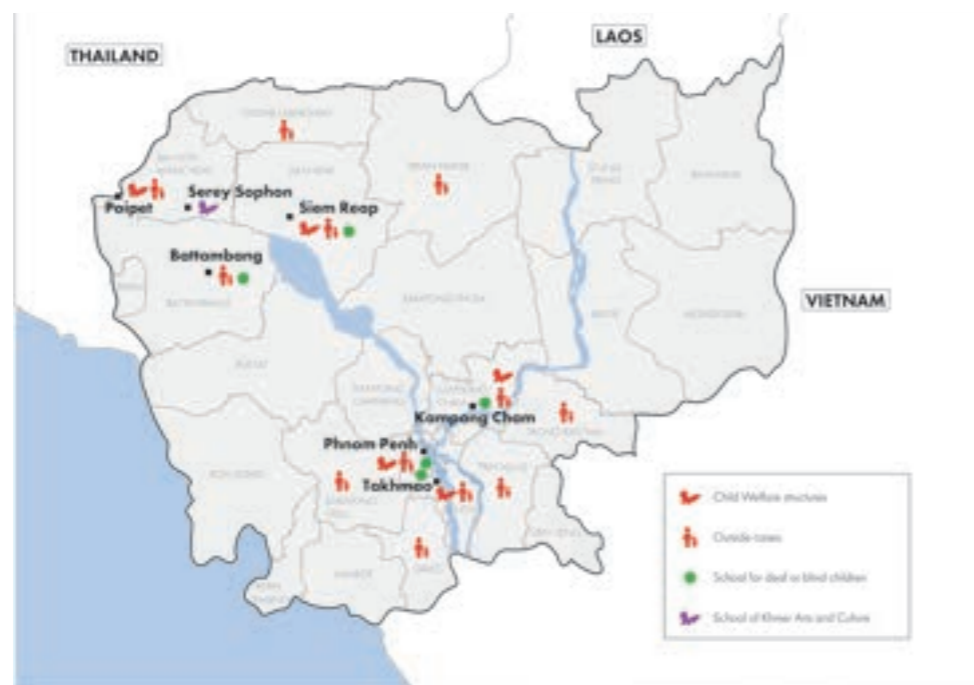
Krousar Thmey offers a portfolio of cross-cutting programs and projects supporting over 1,000 children in their development in 2021: Child Welfare, specialized and inclusive Education for Deaf or Blind Children, Cultural and Artistic Development, Academic and Career Counseling, as well as Health and Hygiene.

In the spirit of sustainable action, Krousar Thmey ensures that its support does not lead to any privilege, dependence or disparity in the community.

Krousar Thmey's main principle is the development of projects led by Cambodians for Cambodians. Only two European volunteers provide the organization with support in communication, donor relations, and grant contract management.

Apolitical and secular, the action of Krousar Thmey has been acknowledged internationally for its impact, capacity for innovation and sustainability.

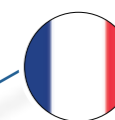
KROUSAR THMEY OPERATES 3 PROGRAMS AND 2 CROSS-CUTTING PROJECTS IN 12 CAMBODIAN PROVINCES



INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

Krousar Thmey benefits from the support of various entities around the world. Their fundraising and communication networks greatly contribute to the success of all programs thanks to their communication and fundraising operations.

KROUSAR THMEY CAMBODIA
67 Cambodian employees
2 European volunteers
11 members on the Board of Directors



KROUSAR THMEY FRANCE
50 members - 39 volunteers
1 seat on the Board of Directors of Krousar Thmey Cambodia



KROUSAR THMEY SINGAPORE
5 volunteers



KROUSAR THMEY SWITZERLAND
16 members - 10 volunteers
1 seat on the Board of Directors of Krousar Thmey Cambodia

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

2019



Hero Award
(World of Children)

2015



Benoit DUCHÂTEAU-ARMINJON receives the Trophy for French living abroad, Humanitarian and social category

2015



Phalla NEANG nominated in the top 10 best teachers in the world by the Global Teacher Prize

2013



First Prize for Education in the Asia-Pacific region (Stars Foundation)

2012



Humanitarian Prize
(World of Children)

2010



Wenhui Award for Educational innovation (UNESCO)

2003



Human Rights Prize of the French Republic

2000



Cooperation Prize of the French Republic

KEY FIGURES 2021

**1,073 CHILDREN AND YOUTHS
SUPPORTED BY THE ORGANIZATION**

CHILD WELFARE



- 228 Children supported
- 416 Children identified during outreach
- 138 Children welcomed into our structures
- 94 Children followed-up as outside cases
- 14 Children reintegrated into their families

EDUCATION FOR DEAF OR BLIND CHILDREN



- 726 Students in the five special schools
- 372 Students enrolled in inclusive classes (public schools)
- 125 Specialized teachers
- 342 New signs created
- 610 Books in braille printed

CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT



- 107 Students at the School of Khmer Arts and Culture
- 62 Children and youths benefited from cultural and artistic activities in our structures
- 15 Students in the art school's permanent troupe

ACADEMIC AND CAREER COUNSELING



- 373 Youths supported:
- 265 Students in high school
- 59 Youths in employment
- 42 Youths enrolled at university
- 7 Youths in vocational training

HEALTH AND HYGIENE



- 219 Children supported
- 100 Children monitored by local doctors
- 99 Children vaccinated against Covid-19
- 93 Children monitored by local dentists
- 81 Children monitored by psychologists

STRATEGY AND PRIORITIES



STRATEGY IN 2021

Following a strategic reorientation of its activities in 2020, Krousar Thmey placed the Child Welfare program at the forefront of its action in 2021. The objective was to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation process of programs and cross-cutting projects and to finalize the update of internal policies, in order to ensure quality care and support for disadvantaged children and their families. The ongoing transfer of the Education program and the future transfer of the Cultural and Artistic Development program were also key objectives for the organization.



PRIORITIES IN 2021

Improving the quality and methods of monitoring and evaluation of the Child Welfare program

A major review of Krousar Thmey's internal policies and procedures was completed in 2021. A policy covering the practice of the Academic and Career Counseling project activities was finalized. The association's Child Protection policy was thoroughly revised to better respond to the realities on the ground. In accordance with the new social work regulations introduced by the Ministry of Social Affairs, all social workers in the Child Welfare program have been trained in the monitoring procedure for children in care. With the support of our partners, a new case tracking system has been implemented. Named OSCaR (Open-Source Case Management and Record Keeping), this system is fully computerized and common to all organizations working in the child protection sector. Social workers in the child protection centers are currently being trained to use it.

Supporting the NISE and the Ministry of Education in the implementation of innovative projects

Despite schools being closed for eight months of the year, capacity building trainings for NISE (National Institute of Special Education) trainers, special education and inclusive classroom teachers were held remotely. Workshops to strengthen the skills of students with visual or hearing disabilities were also held in person when the schools reopened, with the aim of preparing them for higher education and socio-professional integration.

Throughout the year, the Sign Language Committee continued its research and documentation work both remotely and in the field. In order to facilitate the teaching and learning of Cambodian Sign Language, the development of the Signs Discovery platform continued throughout the year. The Foundation continued to carry out various projects during the year to improve the quality of education in special schools. These projects included improving the quality of multimedia libraries, building an audiology laboratory in the Battambang school, and equipping four of the five special schools with Braille printers.

Finally, a remote audit of the special schools by representatives of Krousar Thmey took place in October 2021, to assess the progress of special education and the provision of services to deaf or blind students following the administrative transfer.

Pursuing discussions regarding the transfer of the Cultural and Artistic Development program

During the nationwide closure of the schools, priority was given to the survival of the art school through the continuation of its online activities, especially in the form of videos. Once the schools reopened in the last semester, the goal was to re-engage with partner public high schools to offer students the opportunity to attend art classes again as soon as possible. Discussions regarding the transfer of the School of Khmer Arts and Culture to the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts remained on hold during this period of national recovery of school activities.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2021

JANUARY



Teacher training on eye care and curriculum for children with low vision.



FEBRUARY



First public performance of the School of Khmer Arts and Culture's permanent troupe after the lifting of Covid-19 measures.



MARCH



Schools close nationwide on March 21, due to the unprecedented spread of Covid-19.



APRIL



First Krousar Thmey staff are vaccinated against Covid-19 with support from the Health Advisor.



MAY



Soft skills training on online safety and the dangers of social media and the internet for youths supported by the Academic and Career Counseling project.



JUNE



World Blindness Summit Madrid 2021 attended online by blind university graduates supported by ICEVI.



JULY



Launch of a Safe Migration awareness-raising campaign for families in Banteay Meanchey province.



AUGUST



Workshops on morality and self-confidence for youths supported by the Academic and Career Counseling project.



SEPTEMBER



Ministry of Social Affairs awards certificate of appreciation to Poipet center for their work in child protection.



OCTOBER



Online training on healthy eating for children in the protection structures led by healthcare company Sanofi.



NOVEMBER



Soft skills training in job preparation, leadership, communication and goal setting for visually-impaired students in Siem Reap special school.



DECEMBER



Krousar Thmey 30 years celebration in all protection structures and School of Khmer Arts and Culture.



1991

Krousar Thmey is founded to welcome abandoned or orphaned children in the Site II refugee camp in Thailand.

1993

The first temporary street children center opens in Phnom Penh.

1996

Opening of the school of arts in Serey Sophon and revival of shadow theatre which had disappeared under the Khmer Rouge Regime.

1998

Krousar Thmey celebrates its first Family Festival.

2004

First broadcast of the national TV news in Cambodian Sign Language.

1992

Repatriation of children to Cambodia: a first protection center opens in Siem Reap welcoming 40 children.

1994

The first school for blind children opens in Phnom Penh. A braille standard is established by Krousar Thmey.

1997

The first school for deaf children opens in Phnom Penh. Cambodian Sign Language is created.

2000

The first blind and visually impaired children are enrolled in public school.

2006

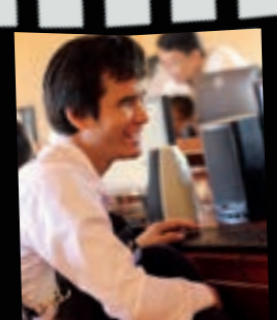
3 blind or visually impaired students obtain their high school diploma – a first in Cambodia.



Over 10,000 children supported

Our History

Over 3,000 children reintegrated



2009

The first deaf student obtains their high school diploma – a first in Cambodia.

2011

Registration of all teaching staff of the five special schools as civil servants by the Ministry of Education.

2014

The Ministry of Education takes over the financial responsibility for the Braille workshop and the Sign Language Committee.

2017

Creation of the first University Resource Centre for deaf or blind students in Battambang.

2020

Krousar Thmey supports the NISE in adapting the national e-learning program.

2010

Creation of the Academic and Career Counseling department.

2012

Krousar Thmey receives the World of Children Humanitarian Award for its 20 years of action and commitment.

2016

Signature of the agreement related to the transfer of the five special schools to the Ministry of Education, in the presence of His Majesty King Norodom Sihamoni.

2019

Official transfer ceremony of the five special schools to the Ministry of Education.

2021

Celebration of Krousar Thmey's 30th anniversary against the backdrop of Covid-19 restrictions.

Success Stories

Krousar Thmey is also the story of amazing people who have dedicated their lives and careers to the mission. Here are their stories...



Her Excellency, Mrs. NEANG Phalla,
Director of NISE, former Education Program Manager at Krousar Thmey

"In 1993, the founder of Krousar Thmey invited me to work with him. Before that, we did not have, nor had we ever heard of, an education system in Cambodia for children with disabilities, whether they were blind or deaf."

When I started this work, I was faced with a number of challenges and difficulties. First, there was a lack of human resources and teaching materials. Secondly, when searching for students and collecting data on children with disabilities, parents and families were reluctant to disclose information about their children's condition. They were afraid and ashamed of having children with disabilities and thought that their neighbors would discriminate against them. Some parents did not believe that children with disabilities could learn and work: "Ordinary people who are physically fit have difficulty learning! What can blind people do?"

At the start of 1993, the Krousar Thmey school only had eight blind students. By the end of the school year, the school had over 30 students. I became the first teacher for blind or deaf students in the history of Cambodia. The experience I have gained over the past 30 years allows me to express my gratitude to Krousar Thmey for its efforts in creating and developing education for blind or deaf children in Cambodia. I sincerely hope that this work will continue to evolve in the future.

Furthermore, I am very happy that the head of the government and the leaders of the country recognize and value this work. For example, Krousar Thmey's five special schools for blind or deaf children have been successfully transferred to the Ministry of Education, which is now in charge of their management. Children and young people with disabilities can now receive a quality education. Some have graduated and found employment, while others have become more independent and responsible members of society."



M. HANG Kimchhorn,
Deputy Director of NISE,
former Deaf Education
Program Coordinator at
Krousar Thmey

"I am very proud of my 12 years of experience in special education. As it is a field that interests few, this work requires a lot of patience, dedication, effort and determination to overcome the many obstacles in collaboration with the different ministerial departments. The special education program is unique in Cambodia and the activities carried out are truly beneficial for deaf or blind children and orphans. In particular, the Royal Government's outstanding contribution to building infrastructure and training human resources in this field is of great importance."



M. VORN Vy,
Deputy Director of NISE,
former Blind Education
Deputy Program Coordinator
at Krousar Thmey

"I have been working with Krousar Thmey for 13 years in the field of education for children with disabilities. I greatly appreciate the work of this organization because they have always had a clear and specific vision for the special education program. I would like to thank them sincerely for allowing me to help change the lives of children who thought they would never receive a full education. It is my sincere hope that Krousar Thmey will continue to secure resources for the special schools and support the training of special teachers until the NISE reaches its full potential as a training hub."



Mr. VOEUN Samnang started his career at Krousar Thmey when the NGO was created in the Site II refugee camp in Thailand in 1991. He first worked as an accountant,

then as a deputy director, and is now the Director of Takhmao Center and the Child Welfare Program Coordinator for the South Zone.

"I am very proud to have worked with Krousar Thmey to help vulnerable and marginalized children in Cambodia so that they can be integrated through the provision of basic needs (housing, food, education and health care) while respecting their religion, traditions and beliefs. The entire staff is united and supportive as we all sail in the same boat. Above all, my professional activities are in line with my will and passion, as I myself was a victim during my childhood."



Mr. TOCH Boren was successively a student, art teacher, and assistant director before becoming Director of the art school in 2018. He has participated in many

theatrical performances with the troupe to raise awareness about human trafficking and especially child trafficking.

"I sincerely hope that the art school will continue to operate and develop progressively so that the next generation of children can learn and know about Khmer art, which in turn will encourage them to protect and preserve this art. I will never forget the students' smiles and joy when they discover art, which I myself have felt as a student. I firmly believe that art is truly essential for children, and that art represents the smiles of people around the world."



Mr. KHIEV Khunna and Mrs. PIN Bunram, parents of the Siem Reap 1 family house

In 21 years, the couple estimates having cared for about 30 children: "We wish to raise all the children towards a better future. Our work gives us a lot of joy and satisfaction and makes us happy, both for the children and for ourselves."

Mrs. PROM Sokhy, mother of the Kpop Veng family house

"Since June 1, 1999, my husband and I have been caring for the children of Krousar Thmey, helping them to overcome their past traumas and become independent and responsible adults. I am proud to see what they have become and I love hearing from them. Knowing that they have followed my teachings and guidance gives me great satisfaction and courage to continue being a mother. The children are my life."



Mr. VOEUN Hann, senior social worker at Poipet center

Hann started his career at Krousar Thmey at the creation of the NGO in the Site II refugee camp in 1991. He has been a social worker and Child Welfare Program Coordinator for the North Zone. "For me, Krousar Thmey is one big loving family. I know that my work matters and I want to support children who are in a precarious situation to help them (re)find stability and protect them from any form of violence."

Mrs. MOK Vanchit, former director of Poipet center

Vanchit joined Krousar Thmey in 2001 and has been instrumental in the development and operation of the Poipet center. "What I enjoy most about my job is being a strong link between the children, their families and the organization's partners. I also really enjoy helping to make the center a comfortable place for our beneficiaries."



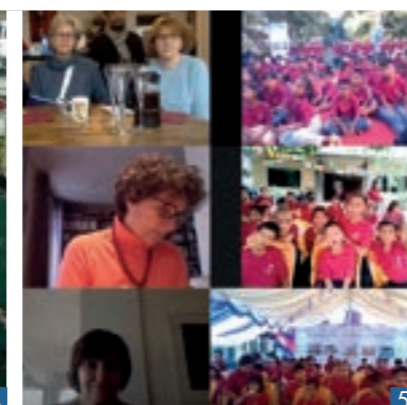


Celebrating 30 Years

On December 12, 2021, the protection centers and the art school were filled with the sound of drums and laughter from children and employees, as Krousar Thmey celebrated its 30th anniversary. **A day of games, dance performances, traditional music, speeches of appreciation and encouragement, and festive meals.**

The spacious and green Takhmao center was able to accommodate all the children and staff of the Chamkar Mon center, the family houses of Kpop Veng and Kampong Cham, as well as all the staff of the Krousar Thmey Cambodia main office. Due to health restrictions, the northern Siem Reap and Poipet centers, as well as the art school could not join the gathering in the south and therefore celebrated the anniversary in their own structures.

The atmosphere was both festive and nostalgic for those present, with a special thought for all those who could not be there in person. Benoît Duchâteau-Arminjon, founder of the organization, as well as representatives of Krousar Thmey's international entities, joined the festivities by video-conference and delivered speeches to celebrate the work and commitment of the teams, and to remind us of how relevant our mission still is.



1. Celebrations at Poipet center
2. "Robam Chounpor", Blessing dance at Siem Reap center
3. Krousar Thmey founder, Benoît Duchâteau-Arminjon, on Zoom
4. Celebrations at the art school in Serey Sophon
5. Members of Krousar Thmey's international network on Zoom

6. Welcoming the NGO's director at Takhmao center
7. "Chai Yam", traditional dance
8. "Teang Proat" or pulling the rope game
9. "Labeng Lot Baew" or Rice sack race
10. "Don Daum Kau Ey" or Musical chairs
11. "Buh Aung Kunh", traditional game

12. "Robam Neasat" or Fishing dance
13. "Robam Santepeap" or Peace dance
14. "Robam Chounpor", Blessing dance at Takhmao center
15. Employees receive a work certificate in honor of 10 years or more of service
16. 30 years birthday cake for the children

RESPONDING TO COVID-19

During the first semester of 2021, Cambodia experienced an unprecedented increase in the number of Covid-19 cases, linked to the "February 20 incident", which was the third and by far the most serious episode of community transmission in the country. **In order to curb the spread of the virus, strict measures were implemented:** curfew from 8pm to 5am, ban on inter-regional travel, closure of tourist sites, non-essential businesses, cultural spaces and schools, prohibition of alcohol.

On April 15, 2021, **a strict three-week lockdown of Phnom Penh city** and Takhmao commune was declared. The situation and the government's decisions then evolved steadily, and most of the measures were lifted in June. At the end of July, following the emergence of the Delta variant, a three-week curfew, among other measures, was imposed nationwide, and strict lockdowns were imposed in ten border provinces to limit the movement of people and goods.

On November 1, **after eight months of closure, all schools in the country finally reopened their doors to fully vaccinated children, with an adjusted timetable** to reduce the number of students in the classrooms. Although students in grades 9 and 12 were able to resume their studies in September, it was not until the number of Covid-19 cases had actually decreased nationwide that schools were able to reopen fully.

During this year of restrictions, some of the Foundation's usual activities were suspended or scaled down. The teams drew from the lessons learned in 2020 to adapt and ensure the continuity of activities, as well as the quality of care for the children and families supported.



Preventing and managing cases of Covid-19

Krousar Thmey's Health Advisor, in conjunction with the health referents within each structure, ensured **the transmission of information related to the virus**, as well as the instructions of the Cambodian Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization. He also coordinated **the vaccination of team members and children against the Covid-19 virus**. All employees, youth aged 18 years and older, and children aged 5-17 years were thus vaccinated as part of the national vaccination campaign launched in February 2021.

When **cases of Covid-19 were detected among children or employees** of protection structures, every effort was made to support them in their care by local health authorities. Food and medical support were also provided. If possible, the quarantine was done within the structure itself, away from the non-affected children. Fortunately, all affected children and adults recovered quickly without any complications.

Preserving the mental health of children and employees

The remarkable solidarity and courage of the teams who took turns night and day during this stressful period on both a personal and professional level is to be commended. However, **the psychological support service of the NGO partner Transcultural Psychosocial Organization** was most appreciated, providing free telephone support to all children and employees who wished to talk to professional psychologists.



Continuing to conduct outreach sessions in targeted communities

In August, the teams of the temporary protection centers of Chamkar Mon and Poipet were able to resume their outreach activities while respecting preventive health measures. Indeed, going out to meet children and families living in street situations represented a significant risk of exposure to Covid-19 and endangered the children living in the centers. **The outreach activities were therefore conducted directly in the communities targeted by the local authorities, who act as a link between Krousar Thmey and the families in need.** The admission of new children was only authorized by the local authorities at the end of the year.



Providing exceptional emergency assistance to families in need

In partnership with Friends-International and the ChildSafe Alliance network of NGOs, Krousar Thmey participated in an emergency assistance project for families most affected by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Krousar Thmey's social workers teamed up with local social welfare authorities to identify the needs of the most vulnerable among beneficiaries monitored as outside cases, as well as among families met during outreach sessions. Food parcels, hygiene products, medicine and rent vouchers or cash were regularly distributed to families in compliance with health measures.



Emergency assistance was also provided to victims of gender-based violence. Indeed, one of the socio-economic consequences of the health crisis is the increase in cases of domestic and sexual violence. Krousar Thmey offers food, shelter and health care to girls and women victims of violence within the Foundation's protection centers. This project, funded by UNICEF, will continue until September 2022.

Facilitating access to education through distance learning

Following the closure of schools on March 21, **distance learning resumed with the release of the Ministry of Education's official learning program**, consisting in one hour of instruction per grade level per day, broadcasted on national television and via a dedicated mobile application. **"MoEYS E-learning"** provided all students from grade 1 to grade 12 with access to educational videos, textbooks and assessments. In the centers, the children took turns using the available computers, and new tablets were distributed to each facility thanks to a generous donation. Our teams monitored classes and maintained regular contact with teachers for homework and support.





Supporting the youth of the Academic and Career Counseling project remotely

The Academic and Career Counselors from the Child Welfare and Education programs **provided remote monitoring and support to youth in higher education, vocational training, or employment during this challenging time.** Through phone calls, Telegram messaging, and face-to-face meetings, when possible, they listened to the needs of the youth and responded to them. Interpersonal skills training (life skills, leadership, self-confidence) was conducted online and then face-to-face when it was possible again and when the special schools reopened.



Supporting the Ministry of Education in adapting distance learning and training

As in 2020, Krousar Thmey supported the Ministry of Education in **developing online courses adapted to the needs of students with visual or hearing disabilities.** Training conducted by the NISE and the Sign Language Committee was able to be conducted remotely to **strengthen the pedagogical skills of special education teachers.** Due to restrictions on entry into Cambodia, the international trainers had to postpone their visit until 2022.



Encouraging artistic and cultural activities

Closed from March to October, the **School of Khmer Arts and Culture in Serey Sophon had to adapt to the situation by offering distance learning courses** when possible. Thus, 12 videos were produced by the teaching staff to maintain the link with the students during this difficult time. The dance and music teachers were also able to conduct online classes for interested students. As for the drawing class, assignments were sent to students during the school closure.

In the protection centers and family houses, **free dance, singing, traditional shadow play, and creative arts workshops were essential activities to occupy free time and reduce the stress of the confined children.** In addition to these informal activities, the long-term protection centers of Siem Reap and Takhmao maintained weekly dance and music classes. During the year, the children were able to enjoy a few cultural outings, including visits to the Angkor temples for the children in the Siem Reap and Poipet centers.



Individual interview between a youth and the Academic and Career Counselor at Siem Reap protection center.



A child is vaccinated against Covid-19 at a local health center.



Children play traditional instruments in the Takhmao protection center music room.





CHILD WELFARE

Victims of neglect, poverty, trafficking or difficult family situations, **street children** constitute a vulnerable, out-of-school, often traumatized and marginalized population.

The Child Welfare program, which **helps children and their families by providing emotional, educational and material support**, aims to create the necessary conditions for them to build a better future.

To this end, Krousar Thmey's priority is to **strengthen the quality of its care and monitoring of beneficiaries to help reintegrate children into their families.**

OBJECTIVE: Facilitate the reintegration of marginalized children into their families and society through emotional, educational and material support



CHILD WELFARE

IDENTIFICATION

Krousar Thmey's social workers regularly conduct day and night outreach activities in high-risk areas of Phnom Penh and Poipet to identify children living on the streets or in situations of high vulnerability within their families. **The children's profile is often the same: for their survival, or to contribute to their family's income, they are forced to beg or to collect waste to resell it.** Most of them have never been to school, or only for a short period of time.

Several meetings are often necessary to convince the child and their family to join one of the Foundation's two temporary protection centers. The protection center provides the child with a reassuring and caring environment before being reintegrated into their family, when possible. Close collaboration is maintained with the local public authorities, who regularly refer cases known to them. Krousar Thmey also works in partnership with specialized networks and organizations to ensure synergy between the actors of the child welfare sector in Cambodia.

In 2021, outreach activities had to be suspended for several months before resuming in August and in communities targeted by local authorities. **Social workers conducted 104 outreach activities, meeting 416 children, including 177 girls.** The number of children and families heavily impacted by the health crisis and the socio-economic repercussions has increased considerably. However, Krousar Thmey was not authorized to receive new children until the end of the year.

FAMILY REINTEGRATION

Krousar Thmey's priority is to enable the child to live with their family. Once the child is off the streets, they are welcomed into one of the protection structures, where they can grow up in a stable and secure environment. Meanwhile, **the social workers conduct regular assessments of the family situation**, according to a formalized procedure in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs, which is continuously reviewed and adapted to correspond to the realities in the field. If the family situation improves, the reintegration process can begin. This is done in consultation with the child, their family, Ministry representatives and Krousar Thmey social workers.

Once the child and the family are reunited, financial and material support is provided until a stable situation is achieved, enabling the family to meet its needs and the child to stay in school. Social workers continue follow-up visits until this goal is achieved. Social workers continue follow-up visits until this goal is achieved and now offer family therapy sessions and positive parenting practices to strengthen family ties and promote social harmony. **In 2021, 14 children were reintegrated into their families and 94 are being followed-up as outside cases.**

PROTECTION STRUCTURES

Krousar Thmey has **three types of structures** adapted to the child's needs, age and family situation: **temporary protection centers, long-term protection centers and family houses.**

The temporary protection centers aim to provide a safe environment for the child, while the family situation is being assessed. If reintegration into the family is not possible, the child may be placed in one of the long-term protection centers or family houses. The children are provided with a stable environment, in accordance with the Cambodian way of life, support for formal and non-formal education, cultural, artistic, sports and fun activities, health and hygiene monitoring, advice on academic and career counseling, as well as reinforced psychological support. The aim is to stabilize and prepare the children for their future social reintegration.

At the end of 2021, Krousar Thmey was operating eight structures: two temporary protection centers (Chamkar Mon and Poipet), two long-term protection centers (Siem Reap and Takhmao) and four family houses (Kampong Cham, Kpop Veng, Siem Reap 1 and 2).

SUPPORT SYSTEM IN 2021

Identification of street children
& Assessment of the family situation
by Krousar Thmey social workers

104 outreach sessions conducted

416 children identified



Temporary protection centers
Assessment of the family situation

67 children welcomed



Family reintegration
Priority of the program, along
with access to education

14 children reintegrated into their families

94 children followed-up as outside cases

If reintegration
is possible

If reintegration is not possible,
transfer to a medium to long-term
protection structure



Long-term protection centers
Assessment of the family situation

43 children welcomed



Family houses
Assessment of the family situation

28 children welcomed

If reintegration
is possible

THE “SAFE MIGRATION” PROJECT

OBJECTIVE: Ensure decent return conditions and reintegration support for families deported or repatriated from Thailand following their illegal migration

Launched in 2016, the "Safe Migration" project is a collaborative operation involving different members of the ChildSafe Alliance and the 3PC network (the Partnership Program for the Protection of Children), of which Krousar Thmey is a key contributor. This project is being conducted in the town of Poipet, located on the border between Cambodia and Thailand, in a sensitive part of the country, where poverty and the impact of Covid-19 are very significant. The organization works hand-in-hand with two partners: the Thai organization Peuan Pecan and the local NGO Damnok Toek. Since 2020, the area of intervention and services offered have been extended to the city of Phnom Penh and the province of Kandal (in the south of the country), following an agreement signed between Krousar Thmey and Mith Samlanh (Friends-International).



IN 2021

30 Social workers from the 3PC network trained to intervene at the Poipet transit center

In 2021, 7,631 people, including 3,007 women and 1,252 children, were deported as a result of illegal emigration to Thailand or repatriated for various reasons (victims of trafficking, abuse, forced labor). These people were taken to the Poipet Transit Center where they were tested for Covid-19 – positive cases were immediately quarantined – before presenting themselves to the local authorities for the assessment of their situation. Social workers from partner NGOs then offered adapted services: distribution of health and food kits, care for children separated from their families and support for reintegration.

A national awareness campaign was launched and various communication materials (posters, brochures, t-shirts) were distributed to inform people about the dangers of illegal emigration. The aim was also to increase the visibility of the 3PC network so that the member NGOs are identified as key players working closely with migrant communities.

TRAINING FOR STAFF AND BENEFICIARIES

OBJECTIVE: Improve the quality of services for better day-to-day support of beneficiaries

In 2021, Krousar Thmey employees received training in soft skills development, case management, child protection policy and child abuse prevention. These trainings were provided by partner organizations. Strengthening the skills of the program teams is essential to improve the quality of care and support for children and their families.

In turn, the families of the children supported have benefited from trainings on good parenting practices, positive parenting and the prevention of domestic violence. Krousar Thmey works to reintegrate the children in the best possible conditions, starting with a safe family environment. In order to guarantee a stable financial situation, support for the creation of an income-generating activity (poultry breeding, fishing, small business) is also offered.



IN 2021

16 Families supported in the launch of a small business

14 Trainings on parenting conducted by social workers

“

TESTIMONY: Sophea, former beneficiary, supported by Krousar Thmey for 10 years

Sophea lived in our protection structures from 2007 until 2017. He remembers this time with fondness: *“I felt such warmth from the staff and parents who took care of me. I had a nice place to live and go to school, food, physical and spiritual care. I went to school and they supported me until I could go to university.”*



Now aged 22 with a Bachelor's degree in Management, Sophea wishes to study in China. The clever young man obtained a scholarship to pursue a Master's degree in Public Administration at the University of Science and Technology in Beijing. Currently living in Phnom Penh, he is taking an online Chinese course from the Chinese University, while waiting to actually travel there.

“I can't believe that something like this would happen to me. I applied twice to this university, but my application was rejected both times. But I still hoped to study abroad one day. I had a dream to study, if not in the West, at least in Asia. When I got the results for the scholarship in June 2021, I didn't know what to say, I was so excited!”

Once he finishes his studies, Sophea wished to return to Cambodia to use his capacities and knowledge to serve in a public institution. He is a true model of success for the young people supported by Krousar Thmey: *“Now that you have a chance to study at university, you should try to fulfil your hearts' dreams. Believe in yourself!”* he tells them.

”



STRATEGY IN 2022

- Follow a clear line of case management to ensure effective support of children and families followed as outside cases;
- Build staff capacity to work with families, notably through family therapy and psychological support;
- Develop a portfolio of services tailored to the needs of children and their families.





EDUCATION FOR DEAF OR BLIND CHILDREN

Since 1994, Krousar Thmey has been committed to the education of deaf or blind children and their integration into society. **A network of five special schools was created and administered for 25 years**, until its transfer to the Cambodian authorities in July 2019.

Thanks to its expertise, the Foundation has thus contributed to the creation of the first public system of special education in Cambodia. **The schools have been placed under the strategic leadership of the Department of Special Education (DES) of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS)**. Budgetary and administrative management is decentralized to the provincial education offices.

In parallel, **the National Institute for Special Education (NISE)** is in charge of training specialized teachers and developing curricula. The Institute is also in charge of the production of adapted resources and relies in particular on **the Braille workshop and the Cambodian Sign Language Committee**, placed under its responsibility. As technical advisor to the Ministry of Education regarding special and inclusive education, the NISE also conducts activities to **raise public awareness on the topic of social inclusion**.

In close collaboration with NISE, **Krousar Thmey works to support the implementation of special and inclusive education policies, as well as the development of innovative projects**, thus ensuring a smooth transitional period.

OBJECTIVE: Enable children with visual or hearing disabilities to find their rightful place in society by providing them with access to tailored education and support to prepare them for working life



EDUCATION FOR DEAF OR BLIND CHILDREN



KROUSAR THMEY'S INVOLVEMENT



The continued close collaboration between the Foundation and the ministerial agencies during this transition period ensures a transfer of necessary technical skills to the Ministry's staff, which will directly benefit the students with disabilities, the specialized teachers and all stakeholders in this sector.

In 2021, the Foundation was able to conduct the audit of the NISE and the five special schools remotely. This process is intended to support the educational authorities in the management of special schools and to assess the quality of educational services in each school. Following the analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, solutions and ideas, the following

recommendations were made to the Ministry of Education:

- Strengthen the selection and training of sign language interpreters to facilitate access to higher education for deaf and hard of hearing students;
- Facilitate the professional integration of students with hearing or visual disabilities;
- Form a new interdepartmental committee to develop Cambodian sign language, implement the special education curriculum, provide pedagogical training for special education teachers, and encourage the installation of adapted infrastructures for students with disabilities in public and private schools;
- Improve the provision of school materials, internet, transportation and accommodation for students with disabilities in public and private schools;
- Promote and support special schools in strengthening the quality of education, especially in the area of teaching and e-learning;
- Recruit secondary school teachers according to their subject of expertise;
- Strengthen cooperation between ministerial and provincial departments for special education;
- Cooperate with the Department of Physical Education and Sports in sending athletes with disabilities to local and international activities and competitions;
- Encourage the practice of artistic activities in special schools and the participation of students in local and international activities and competitions;
- Strengthen the administrative management, leadership, and monitoring and evaluation capacities of the management teams of both the NISE and the five special schools.

PRELIMINARY AND IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR SPECIALIZED TEACHERS

OBJECTIVE: Strengthen the skills of specialized teachers for the education of deaf or blind students, and train new specialized teachers

In partnership with the NISE, Krousar Thmey supports the implementation of trainings, notably through the search for funding and networking with international collaborators and experts. The NISE is responsible for training new teachers in the mastery of Cambodian Sign Language, Braille, inclusive education, computer skills, sports activities, as well as orientation and mobility. All teachers and school staff also participate in training provided by partner organizations on topics such as child development and teaching practices, speech therapy, and multimedia library management, in order to strengthen their skills and develop new ones.



At the beginning of the year, a training session on **academic support for blind and visually impaired children** was conducted at the Siem Reap special school by the director and the deputy director of NISE. 23 teachers, including 11 women, from the special school and from inclusive classrooms in public schools participated. At the end of the year, the Sign Language Committee conducted an online training on learning sign language for teachers of special schools and inclusive classrooms.

IN 2021

125 Specialized teachers in the five special schools
20 New sign language interpreters graduated

MULTIMEDIA LIBRARIES

In accordance with government recommendations, each of the special schools has been equipped with a multimedia library to **promote access to reading, as well as specialized and inclusive resources**. For blind or low vision children, stimulating reading and learning materials such as Braille books, digital resources or 3D material are available. For deaf or hard-of-hearing children, resources based on images and/or sign language are reserved for them. The libraries are open to all classes according to a schedule set by the school principals. Staff members, including specialized teachers, have been recruited and trained in the operational and technical management of the libraries with the support from our long-term partner SIPAR.



In 2021, to prevent Covid-19 gatherings and contamination, the SIPAR team of trainers visited each school directly to conduct refresher training for librarians. In the same year, **30 books were translated into Braille and printed in 300 copies** (10 copies of each book) for distribution to schools. Four audiovisual books were also produced and distributed.

IN 2021

30 Books translated into Braille
300 Braille books printed
4 Audiovisual books produced and distributed in schools

DEVELOPING CAMBODIAN SIGN LANGUAGE

OBJECTIVE: Document, formalize and disseminate Cambodian Sign Language to improve access to education and the integration of deaf and hard-of-hearing people in Cambodia.

Under the direction of the NISE, the Sign Language Committee continues its work in the country's special schools and deaf communities to document and collect new signs on the appropriate platforms. As a result of their work in **collecting and creating new signs** (done remotely from July to December due to Covid-19), sign language textbooks for 5th graders in math, Khmer literature, geography, and history were written in 2021 and should be finalized and printed in 2022. The Committee has also worked on **strengthening the skills of specialized teachers through sign language training**. In addition, **20 new sign language interpreters graduated in early 2022** following a successful year of training supported by our partner Deaf Development Programme.



In an effort to make Cambodian Sign Language accessible to everyone, the Foundation supports innovative projects, including the **mobile application "Words and Pictures"** launched in April 2020. The inclusive tool lists more than 500 everyday words, available in English and Khmer, in audio or visual versions, in the form of pictograms for sign language. Easy to use, the application aims to facilitate communication between deaf or hard-of-hearing children and their relatives. In December 2021, a successful campaign to promote the app conducted by SMART, the first local phone company, generated over 150 downloads in one month.

IN 2021

- 342** Signs documented and created
- 100** Hours of sign language courses
- 4** Observation missions in the special schools

In addition, an e-learning platform called **"Signs Discovery"** is currently being developed and is the object of a collaborative effort between the Foundation, the platform's creator Patrick Labelle, the NISE and the Ministry of Education's IT department. At the end of 2021, the platform was officially presented online to members of the Sign Language Committee and specialized teachers. It is in the process of being transferred to the Ministry of Education.

SPECIALIZED SCREENING AND FOLLOW-UP



Krousar Thmey supports the Ministry of Education in providing care adapted to the needs of children with visual or hearing disabilities. Blind or visually impaired children receive **regular ophthalmological consultations and optical equipment** (glasses, magnifying glasses, lamps) that are essential in their daily lives. This equipment notably enabled specialized teachers to adapt and broadcast the national e-learning program to Grade 9 and 12 students to help them prepare for the national end-of-school-year exams.

For deaf or hard-of-hearing children, the partner organization **Enfants Sourds du Cambodge (ESC)** provides and adapts hearing aids depending on the evolution of their hearing level. ESC also trains speech therapists and school

technicians in the maintenance of hearing aids and the manufacture of ear molds. **In 2021, the construction of the audiology laboratory at the Battambang school was completed, which will allow for the on-site manufacturing of hearing equipment**, as is already the case in the special schools of Chbar Ampov and Siem Reap.

BRAILLE WORKSHOP

Located at NISE headquarters within Phnom Penh Thmey Special School, the Braille workshop is responsible for **transcribing and printing all school books of the national education program into Khmer Braille for blind students and scholars in Cambodia**. Thanks to the Japanese government's "Kusanone Grant" awarded in December 2020, the special schools of Phnom Penh Thmey, Battambang, Kampong Cham and Siem Reap were also equipped with Braille printers and audio recording equipment. The goal being to increase the printing capacity to effectively meet the learning needs of over 200 blind and visually impaired students and their teachers.

“ TESTIMONY – Danita, former student at Battambang special school, now a radio hostess

Danita, a former student of Battambang Special School, is currently supported by the Academic and Career Counseling project of the Education program. She is working as a radio hostess while studying for her fourth year Bachelor's degree in Business Management at Battambang University. She receives monthly support and follow-up guidance from the project manager.



"My name is Danita, I am 22 years old and single. I am from Battambang province. I am currently working as a radio hostess at Voice of the Blind for people with disabilities. I feel at peace and happy with my job and my workplace. I am also in my fourth year at Battambang University. My field of study is business management. As I cannot see, I face many problems and challenges in my studies, to travel, do research and so on... However, thanks to Krousar Thmey, I received a computer and continue to receive monthly financial support to be able to complete my studies.

I had the opportunity to study at the special school for deaf or blind children in Battambang. I began my studies at Krousar Thmey school on October 2, 2005. Before joining the special school, I did one year in a public school, but it was very difficult for me. That's why I joined a special school. I started in Grade 1 and I was very happy because all the teachers were well trained to teach blind and deaf children. On top of that, they took good care of us by providing us with school materials, food and accommodation. All the teachers were very kind and took care of us as if we were their own children. They taught us what they knew and helped us with our studies every day.

For me, studying at a special school changed my life, I went from being a helpless blind girl to a member of the Voice of the Blind staff. As a person with a disability, I would like to encourage all people with disabilities to do their best to improve themselves and succeed in the future by studying and following the advice of teachers. Don't lose heart and keep moving forward!"

STRATEGY IN 2022

- Develop a vast network of partners to promote academic and career counseling for youth with disabilities;
- Promote Cambodian sign language;
- Strengthen the skills of NISE employees and special schools;
- Increase cooperation with other government agencies.





CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT

From its beginnings in the refugee camps, Krousar Thmey has sought to foster in the children **a sense of belonging to Cambodian society and thus facilitate their knowledge of their roots and their social (re)integration** upon repatriation. The Foundation has set up cultural exhibitions for the public and initiated art classes for children to teach them music, traditional dances and shadow theater.

In addition to passing on a culture and know-how from one generation to another, Krousar Thmey strongly believes that **art provides therapeutic support for children with troubled pasts or disabilities**. Today, the program is divided into two parts: **the School of Khmer Arts and Culture in Serey Sophon, and artistic activities in the Foundation's protection structures**.

Following the transfer of the five special schools of Krousar Thmey to the Cambodian authorities in 2019, the cultural and artistic education taught within these structures is now under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education.

OBJECTIVE: Enable children to make their cultural heritage their own and to grow through the (re)discovery of traditions and arts



CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT

ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE PROTECTION STRUCTURES

For 30 years, Krousar Thmey has made cultural and artistic activities available to all beneficiaries of the Child Welfare program. Through the practice of **traditional music and dance classes, shadow theater, the celebration of Khmer festivals, as well as cultural visits**, the children are able to develop their creativity and self-confidence. It is also a therapeutic way for them to express themselves in ways other than words, which contributes to the healing process of traumatic experiences. Ultimately, these teachings enable them to **reconnect with their identity and to better embrace their culture**.

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, children were regularly invited to perform at public events to promote Khmer culture. **The highlight of 2021 would be the children's musical and dance performances for the celebration of the NGO's 30th anniversary** at Takhmao center. The children's cultural outings have been very limited due to restrictions related to the pandemic. The different traditional celebrations, Khmer New Year and Pchum Ben (the festival of the dead) were organized within the structures.

THE SCHOOL OF KHMER ARTS AND CULTURE

OBJECTIVE: Provide a place of learning open to all and dedicated to the teaching of traditional Cambodian arts, to help bring this ancient culture to life

For 25 years, the Serey Sophon School of Khmer Arts and Culture has been promoting access to artistic and cultural disciplines to pass on Cambodian traditions from generation to generation. Located in the province of Banteay Meanchey, the school is now a nationally recognized institution. It ensures **the transmission of cultural and artistic heritage to students from two public schools of the city through dance, music, painting and sculpture classes**. During the summer vacation, the school is also open to anyone interested in traditional Cambodian arts and offers free introduction courses.

Between March and October 2021, the school remained closed due to the Covid-19 crisis. Teachers created and posted videos online to provide distance learning in drawing, sculpture, and music. When the schools gradually reopened, students from the two public high schools were not allowed to return to the art school, as this subject was considered a non-priority in the adjusted schedule. **Thus, in the six months that the school was open, only volunteer children from the community were able to participate in classes.**

Discussions about the transfer of the school to the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and the future integration of an arts curriculum into the national curriculum have been put on hold but are expected to resume in 2022.

IN 2021

107 Students enrolled during the school year

15 Students in the art school's permanent troupe

THE PERMANENT TROUPE

The art school's permanent troupe is made up of volunteer students who regularly give performances to promote traditional Khmer arts. **These events are designed to increase access to culture for excluded populations and to raise awareness of Khmer arts and culture, especially among elementary school students in the province of Banteay Meanchey.** The troupe also performs on invitation from local authorities, partners or individuals. Inspired by Krousar Thmey's example, the provincial Department of Culture and Fine Arts created its own troupe in 2019, composed exclusively of former students of the art school, to disseminate traditional Khmer arts nationwide.

In February, at the invitation of the departmental council of Serey Sophon, the troupe gave its only performance of the year for the inauguration of a high school before an audience of 400 people. As soon as the schools partially reopened, the troupe's student members resumed their training. Thanks to their dedication, they are making an essential contribution to the awareness and transmission of this cultural heritage.



TESTIMONY – Sophan, student at the School of Khmer Arts and Culture

Sophan, 17 years old, is an 11th Grade student at Samdech High School in Serey Sophon and a 3-year member of the School of Khmer Arts and Culture's permanent troupe.

When telling us about his first time at the school, Sophan smiles and says how happy he was to meet the director and teachers, and to make new friends. He has been studying music at the school for four years now, joining the ranks of the permanent troupe after his first year. *"I first felt panic during my first performances, but now it just feels normal. I love Khmer musical instruments and would like to contribute to preserving and transmitting Khmer music in the future."* He plays the Roneat Ek, a traditional Khmer instrument resembling a large wooden xylophone in the shape of a curved rectangular-shaped boat. Sophan has travelled to Battambang, Phnom Penh and Siem Reap for troupe performances in the past and looks forward to travelling abroad one day.

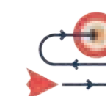
Today, the young man works part-time in a car-repair shop but still finds the time to practice music. Before Covid times, he would come to the school every evening after school. *"The teachers care a lot about the students. They advise us not to be lazy but to be dedicated to our studies."*

Sophan wishes to become a Khmer language teacher in Serey Sophon. *"Even when I become a teacher, I will still practice music at the school of arts"* he says confidently. He is grateful to all the teachers and Krousar Thmey for creating the school for children to study and practice music. A message to the future generations of students: *"Please continue to preserve and popularize Khmer music!"*



STRATEGY IN 2022

- Strengthen cooperation with the two partner high schools to encourage student participation in art classes;
- Strengthen teacher skills to ensure quality instruction;
- Improve digital access to arts education to attract public school students;
- Implement innovative projects and/or events to promote the school's activities.





ACADEMIC AND CAREER COUNSELING

Since 2011, Krousar Thmey has supported the young people in its programs in building their futures, particularly in terms of **access to higher education, vocational training or employment.**

The Foundation provides them with **advice, personalized follow-up and guidance towards the path best suited to their needs and desires.** The project officers also offer various workshops and trainings to middle and high school students, with the aim of **increasing their interpersonal and non-technical skills on various topics** such as life skills, self-confidence, problem solving, communication, interview preparation, and life goal setting.

Following the transfer of the special schools in 2019, the NISE became responsible for the follow-up of students with visual or hearing disabilities, with the support of Krousar Thmey who is also directly involved in the follow-up of the youth in the Child Welfare program.

OBJECTIVE: Support young Cambodians in building their future by facilitating access to higher education, vocational training and employment



ACADEMIC AND CAREER COUNSELING



ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY

The project officers ensure **personalized follow-up and support** to young people who are about to finish or have finished high school, to guide them in their **post-baccalaureate studies**. They receive extensive information on higher education, so that each student can choose the studies and the university or school adapted to their abilities and wishes. **Visits to establishments** are also arranged for them to discover the sites and courses on offer. In 2021, 16 young people were able to visit Angkor University and South East Asia University in Siem Reap.

A number of **partnerships** have been formed to facilitate the transition of young people into **higher education** and to assist them in obtaining scholarships. If needed, the Foundation also offers monthly material and financial support to students to help with their tuition, transportation and housing costs. **Suitable materials** for students with visual or hearing disabilities, such as Braille books, audio recorders, and sign language interpreters may be provided by the NISE.

IN 2021

42 Young beneficiaries in university, including **26** blind or low vision, **13** deaf or hard-of-hearing and **3** youths from the Child Welfare program.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Vocational training is an essential part of the activities offered by Krousar Thmey to young high school students who are pursuing a career-oriented path. Taking into account the skills and profiles of each individual, the Foundation strives to expand its network to provide a wide range of opportunities and training options suitable for all. Developing partnerships with training centers for instance, allows us to **offer quality training courses**. In 2021, youth from the Child Welfare program visited the Sala Bai Hotel School in Siem Reap, while youth from the Education program participated in the National Inclusive Employment Forum organized by the Ministry of Social Affairs and the NGO Light for the World. In 2021, 7 young beneficiaries attended vocational training, including 6 youths from the Child Welfare program and one youth with a visual impairment.



Sreyleap, 20 years old, cooking apprentice at Sala Bai Hotel School in Siem Reap.

TOWARDS EMPLOYMENT

Young people in Krousar Thmey's programs who wish to enter the workforce also benefit from personalized support to meet their expectations: **job search assistance, skills development and company visits**. Krousar Thmey works in close collaboration with some twenty partners and companies, offering career opportunities in various sectors, such as catering, handicrafts, tourism or the media. **Training sessions** and workshops are held on a regular basis to prepare students for the job market or to help them launch their **own business**. The Foundation provides ongoing follow-up and support to employers to facilitate the successful integration of young people into companies.

IN 2021

59 Youths in employment, including **26** blind or low vision, **32** deaf or hard-of-hearing and **1** youth from the Child Welfare program.

“

TESTIMONY – Pov, student in Civil Engineering at National Technical Training Institute, Phnom Penh

Pov, 19 years old, lived at the Kpop Veng family house for eight years before being reintegrated into his family in 2021.



"Krousar Thmey has been supporting me since primary school until now. It is such a blessing and it helps me a lot as a first-year university student. I am studying Civil Engineering at the National Technical Training Institute in Phnom Penh. I need money for costs related to studies such as transportation, school books, uniforms and other study materials. Krousar Thmey supports me with all these purchases. If I did not receive this support, it would be very difficult for me.

Krousar Thmey's project officer supports and guides me in my studies and career choices. She is sweet, supportive and responsible. She comes to visit me and calls me often, to check on me and how I am doing with my classes. She always gives me good advice and encourages me to keep going. When I start my second year of university, I would like to find a part-time job. Then, when I finish university, I want to find a good job as an engineer.

To the other children in Krousar Thmey's structures who want to study at university later, I would like to say never give up on your dream. Krousar Thmey is behind you, they will always support you to achieve your goals. They will always be there for you. Keep doing your best and study hard for a brighter future."

”

STRATEGY IN 2022

- Encourage young people to pursue vocational training before they enter the job market;
- Organize meetings between current and former beneficiaries to share experiences and advice;
- Offer more training in soft skills to help youth prepare for their academic and professional future;
- Work closely with the Ministry of Social Affairs, the National Employment Agency and other relevant bodies to promote the inclusive integration of youth with disabilities.





HEALTH AND HYGIENE

The Health and Hygiene project aims to provide all children and staff members at Krousar Thmey with **enhanced medical care in order to improve their health and ensure their daily well-being.**

This includes educating children and training staff in good hygiene practices, food safety and the prevention of infectious diseases.

In 2020, **Health and Hygiene activities became a cross-cutting project**, common to both the Child Welfare and Education for Deaf or Blind Children programs.

From 2022 onwards, the project will benefit exclusively the children and staff of both the Child Welfare program and the Cultural and Artistic Development program. The Ministry of Education will be responsible for monitoring the health of students and staff in the special schools.

OBJECTIVE: Protect the health of Cambodian children and staff, so they may grow to their full potential as children, adolescents and adults



HEALTH AND HYGIENE

SUIVI MÉDICAL ET SOINS

The children benefit from **regular medical care and follow-up adapted to their needs**. The **Health Advisor** is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of health activities conducted within Krousar Thmey's structures. He makes routine visits to all of the Foundation's protection centers and family houses. In the field, he is assisted by **health referents and parents of the family houses**, all of whom are **trained in the care of minor ailments, regular monitoring of children's health, and first aid**. The latter are also responsible for taking the child to the hospital if necessary and for informing the Health Advisor of the situation.



In addition to their regular monitoring by Krousar Thmey staff, **the children visit public health centers or receive visits by local doctors twice a year**. European doctors also visit the children **every year** to examine them and work closely with Cambodian doctors to improve the care provided (this was not possible in 2021 due to Covid-19 restrictions). The evolution of the child's health and medical procedures are recorded in **an individual health book**, thus ensuring a personalized follow-up throughout their care.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT AND FOLLOW-UP

Our staff pays particular attention to **the mental health of the children** supported under the Child Welfare program. Victims of neglect, poverty, trafficking or difficult family situations, these children often require psychological follow-up and support to overcome their traumatic experiences. By listening to the children and giving them time to share, the social workers are able to help them express themselves, which is essential for their development.



From 2015 to 2021, the children's evaluation and psychological follow-up were implemented through a partnership with the organization **EMDR Cambodia** (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing). At the end of 2021, as the partnership with EMDR ended, the Foundation signed a new partnership with the NGO **Transcultural Psychosocial Organization**. Specific training was provided to staff members of the facilities on psychological first aid, understanding children's trauma and post-traumatic stress.

VACCINATION

Working with local health authorities, Krousar Thmey provides **free vaccination** for children in its structures if they have not been vaccinated against several diseases, such as hepatitis B, measles, mumps, rubella, polio, diphtheria and tetanus. 86 children and 10 staff members were vaccinated in 2021. This **preventive measure** allows children to grow up healthy and strong. Should the authorities' vaccine supply be insufficient, the Foundation has set up a fund to purchase vaccines from private institutions.

Within the framework of **the national vaccination campaign against Covid-19**, the Foundation facilitated the **immunization of children and staff members**. First, the young adults were able to be vaccinated and obtain the vaccination card, essential for travel and access to public facilities. Then, the vaccination was carried out in decreasing age groups. By the end of 2021, 99 children aged five and over and 41 employees had received a complete vaccination course.

IN 2021

99 Children vaccinated against Covid-19

49 Children vaccinated against Hepatitis B

TRAINING COURSES

The Health Advisor oversees the capacity building of health referents and other staff members. Training courses are conducted by internal contributors, external consultants and partners with certified expertise. In 2021, **first aid, child trauma management, child psychology and nutrition** were among the topics covered in training sessions. Furthermore, punctual training sessions were held thanks to the intervention of partners, such as **Sanofi** or the **Health Action Coordinating Committee (HACC)**, which provided respectively training on food safety and sexual and reproductive health.



TESTIMONY – Sophorn – Health Referent at Siem Reap protection center

Since 2013, Sophorn has been caring for the children of Krousar Thmey at the Siem Reap Protection Center, taking on several roles at once: assistant director, bookkeeper, and health referent.

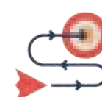


As Health Referent, she represents the children's go-to-person for all health concerns. *"When a child is sick, I make sure they take the right medicine or take them to the hospital. Every 3 months, I monitor their height, weight and general health, then send health reports to KT's Health Advisor and the Ministry of Social Affairs."*

During the pandemic, the multi-tasker was in charge of teaching the children about Covid-19 prevention measures: *"I taught the children how to prevent infection by wearing masks, using hand sanitizer, social distancing and keeping living spaces clean. Hygiene is important."* When cases were detected among children or staff members at the Siem Reap center, she says she was very concerned: *"Having done the rapid tests myself, I preferred to isolate myself for two weeks to protect my family. I have small children. It was very hard, but I received a lot of support from the Health Advisor and the Child Welfare Program Manager during that time."*

STRATEGY IN 2022

- Ensure vaccination coverage for all children and staff;
- Cooperate closely with public and private health services, as well as partner NGOs, to improve access to curative care;
- Strengthen the capacity of the teams in terms of psychological support





FINANCIAL REPORT

The Covid-19 pandemic continued to worsen in Cambodia in 2021, heavily impacting Krousar Thmey's operations. **A significant 23% increase in expenses** compared to 2020 is to be noted due to this phenomenon. Indeed, **the prolonged health crisis has strongly impacted the financial situation of the families supported**. Budget lines had to be readjusted to meet the real needs of beneficiaries whose daily income from small businesses was no longer sufficient.

Despite a 20% decrease in funds from Krousar Thmey's international network, funding from other sources doubled. Thus, the organization did not face any financial difficulties this year.

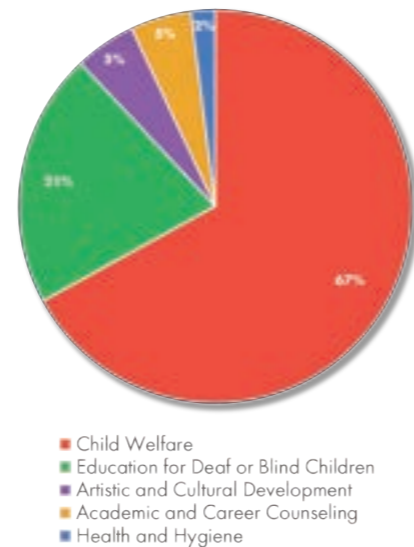
Furthermore, as a result of the measures implemented in recent years and the sale of the land of structures whose activities had ceased, **the NGO now has sufficient reserve funds to guarantee a certain level of financial security for the years to come.**



DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM IN 2021

Expenditures by program	2021
Currency: USD	
Child Welfare	539,472
Education for Deaf or Blind Children	169,221
Cultural and Artistic Development	39,020
Academic and Career Counseling	13,510
Health and Hygiene	41,322
Total (USD)	802,545
Total (EUR) *	678,552
Total (CHF) **	733,607

* Average annual rate USD/EUR : 0.8455 ** Average annual rate USD/CHF : 0.9141



USE OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Expenditures	Notes	2021	2020	Var.
Currency: USD				
Human Resources	(1)	331,497	304,636	9%
Transportation	(2)	7,354	10,940	-33%
Food and clothes	(3)	79,144	73,495	8%
Health and Hygiene	(4)	30,323	41,565	-27%
Schooling expenses	(5)	62,176	44,877	39%
Sport, cultural activities	(2)	6,196	7,317	-15%
Utilities, equipment and supplies	(3)	135,761	31,274	334%
Monitoring and evaluation	(6)	30,100	21,498	40%
Capacity-building, training	(7)	55,888	33,094	69%
Advocacy, communication and fundraising	(2)	8,387	9,423	-11%
Other costs and services	(8)	15,936	35,298	-55%
Assets depreciation		39,784	37,794	5%
Total (USD)		802,546	651,211	23%
Total (EUR) *		678,552	581,531	17%
Total (CHF) **		733,606	647,108	13%

* Average annual rate USD/EUR : 0.8455 ** Average annual rate USD/CHF : 0.9141

(1) Human Resources expenditures increased this year with the recruitment of staff for the Child Welfare Program and a long transition period between Finance Managers at the main office.

(2) There were less transportation expenses than expected due to Covid-19 restrictions (less travelling and less outdoor activities).

(3) Due to Covid-19, these lines increased. There was a significant need to stock up on vitamins, food and refrigerators during the lock-down, including costs of working from home.

(4) Health and hygiene expenditures decreased by 27% thanks to local donations of hygiene materials to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

(5) Schooling expenditures increased due to the new uniform requirement in public schools and extra financial support provided to university and vocational training students in line with Krousar Thmey's new Academic and Career Counseling Policy.

(6) Due to lock-down, many families lost their source of income. Extra financial support was therefore provided to them to cope with their economic loss.

(7) As part of the strategy to strengthen the Child Welfare Program, the budget for capacity-building training for social workers increases significantly every year.

(8) There were more exceptional expenses charged to this line for additional projects under the Education Program in 2020. We have changed the way we record this expense in 2021.

SOURCES OF FUNDING

Resources	Notes	2021	2020	VAR.
Currency: USD				
Donation funds directly collected in Cambodia	(1)	230,140	129,015	78%
Donations from organizations and foundations		211,284	103,486	104%
Donations from Cambodian authorities		10,800	15,800	-32%
Private donations		8,056	9,729	-17%
Other income		195,967	65,149	201%
Income from sales, artistic and cultural performances	(2)	300	1,310	-77%
Gain from fixed assets sales	(3)	54,820	100	54 720%
Interest rates and exchange gains	(4)	140,847	63,739	121%
Funds from Krousar Thmey's international network		428,744	53,852	-19%
Krousar Thmey France	(5)	134,383	800	16 698%
Krousar Thmey Switzerland	(6)	294,361	531,052	-45%
Krousar Thmey Singapore	(7)			
Donations in kind		8,163	7,426	10%
Rice donation		7,739	7,426	4%
Other donations in kind		424	-	-
Total resources (USD)		863,014	733,442	18%
Total resources (EUR) *		729,678	654,964	11%
Total resources (CHF) **		788,881	728,821	8%

* Average annual rate USD/EUR : 0.8455 ** Average annual rate USD/CHF : 0.9141

(1) Donations received directly in Cambodia from local organizations and foundations increased significantly in 2021 due to the Covid-19 crisis.

(2) The School of Khmer Arts and Culture and the protection centers performed less artistic shows in 2021 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

(3) Krousar Thmey sold land in 2021.

(4) Due to the fixed term deposits from land sales in 2019, Krousar Thmey's annual bank interest has increased consequently.

(5) Krousar Thmey Cambodia received funds for 2020 and 2021 from Krousar Thmey France. Funds raised are recorded only upon in-bank reception. Krousar Thmey France usually transfers donations to Krousar Thmey Cambodia once every few years.

(6) Krousar Thmey Cambodia received funds for 2021 from Krousar Thmey Switzerland, which mainly funds local structures and some additional projects.

(7) Krousar Thmey Cambodia did not receive any funds from Krousar Thmey Singapore in 2021 due to school closures in Singapore. Indeed, the International French School in Singapore was unable to raise funds to support the Academic and Career Counseling project this year due to Covid-19 repercussions.

BALANCE SHEET

Assets	Notes	12/31/2021	12/31/2020
Currency: USD			
Total Fixed assets		276,435	298,138
Fixed assets	(1)	276,435	298,138
Total Current assets		2,947,634	2,858,071
Receivables	(2)	32,932	66,201
Cash on hand		2,443	6,548
Cash at banks	(3)	2,912,259	2,785,322
Total Actif		3,224,069	3,156,209
Liabilities	Notes	12/31/2021	12/31/2020
Currency: USD			
Equity		3,066,848	3,005,651
Reserve		13,307	10,967
Provident/Past seniority payment obligations and health funds		80,868	74,348
Payables	(4)	4,483	4,046
Income summary account		58,563	61,197
Total Liabilities		3,224,069	3,156,209

(1) The decrease of fixed assets between 2020 and 2021 is due to the fact that buildings and building renovation are depreciated throughout the year.

(2) This amount corresponds to receivables from Krousar Thmey France, advances to implementing partners, and loans given to employees.

(3) Cash at banks slightly increased due to the return of bank interest from term deposits.

(4) The payables correspond to the amount that Krousar Thmey Cambodia will pay to Krousar Thmey France.

BUDGET OF 950,000 DOLLARS

UNDER 4% OF ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS





FUTURE PROSPECTS



PRIORITIES IN 2022

- Improve the quality of the Child Welfare program's services and strengthen relationships with sector stakeholders;
- Strengthen collaboration with the NISE and the Ministry of Education for the transfer of innovative projects in special and inclusive education;
- Continue discussions around the transfer of the Cultural and Artistic Development program to the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts (MoCFA);
- Continue to actively pursue local fundraising opportunities.



STRATEGIC GOALS 2021-2025

Strengthen the Child Welfare Program: the heart of Krousar Thmey's work

- Maximize the quality of support provided to children living in the facilities;
- Empower the families of reintegrated children by providing sustainable solutions;
- Support all the youths monitored in the framework of the academic and career counseling project to integrate into the workforce;
- Have Krousar Thmey's expertise in child protection and sustainable social reintegration services recognized by the target population and the Cambodian authorities.

Transfer the Cultural and Artistic Development program to the competent authorities (Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and Ministry of Education): ensure the integration of the Serey Sophon School of Khmer Arts and Culture into the public education system

Finalize the transition period for the transfer of the Education program to the Ministry of Education to ensure that it takes charge of innovative services and projects for children with visual or hearing disabilities.





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CAMBODIAN PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

His Majesty the King NORODOM Sihamoni
Her Majesty the Queen Mother NORODOM Monineath Sihanouk
Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN Sen
Samdech Dr. Bun Rany HUN Sen
Dr. HUN Maneth
The Royal Government of Cambodia
Cambodian Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts
Cambodian Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
Cambodian Ministry of Social Affairs
Ministry of Defense TEA Banh
Ministry of Information KHIEU Kanharith
Ministry of Interior SAR Kheng
His Excellency the ambassador for Cambodia at UNESCO
His Excellency the ambassador for Cambodia to France

ORGANISATIONS, FOUNDATIONS & INSTITUTIONS

French Embassy in Phnom Penh
French Embassy in Singapore
Japanese Embassy in Phnom Penh
AMANJAYA Foundation
AMIS DES ENFANTS DU MONDE Association
ANBER Foundation
BRUNEAU Foundation
CARITAS Switzerland
CLARIANT Foundation
DUBRULLE Family
ENFANCE ESPOIR Foundation
EUROPEAN UNION
EYE CARE Foundation
GREEN LEAVES EDUCATION Foundation

HIRZEL Foundation
Humanitarian Group of the International French School in Singapore
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION OF PEOPLE WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT (ICEVI)
OVERBROOK SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
JAVARY-FIALA Family
LES 7 DE LA CITÉ Theater troupe
LOCAL4LOCAL
LOMBARD-ODIER Foundation
LOUIS DE LASSENCE Foundation
MAY-OUI Foundation
THE NIPPON FOUNDATION
PROMESSE ST EGREVE Association
RAKSA KOMA Foundation
SAVE THE CHILDREN Cambodge
STIFTUNG HIRTEN KINDER Foundation
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LA VOIX DE L'ENFANT Association

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3PC (Partnership Program for the Protection of Children)
ACLEDA Business Institute
ANGKOR CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
ANGKOR UNIVERSITY
ASIA EURO UNIVERSITY
ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND IN CAMBODIA
BAYON PATISSERIE SCHOOL
BROWN COFFEE
CARITAS Battambang
CAMBODIAN LIVING ARTS
CAMBODIA WORLD FAMILY
CHEA SIM UNIVERSITY OF KAMCHAYMEAR
CHILDREN IN FAMILIES
CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
CRC CAMBODIA
DAMNOK TOEK
DEAF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
DON BOSCO TECHNICAL SCHOOL
SIHANOUKVILLE
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NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF
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NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT
NGO EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (NEP)
ONE-2-ONE
OPEN INSTITUTE
OUTREACH BTB
PANHA CHIET UNIVERSITY
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PSC EDUCATION CENTER
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF CAMBODIA

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ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW AND ECONOMICS
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SIPAR
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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH-EAST ASIA
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Mrs. Judit VAN GEYSTELEN
WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER

COMPANIES

AMANJAYA HOTEL
ANGKOR ARTWORK (Eric STOCKER)
BAJAJ INTRACITY
BLIND MASSAGE CENTER
BODIA NATURE
CAMH Co. LTD
D+Z URBAN HOTEL
PROMOTION FOR DISABILITY PROJECT
KHMER CERAMICS & FINE ARTS CENTER
LONG RA Car mechanic
PUNLEU THMEY Restaurant
RADIO HAPPINESS VOICE FOR THE BLIND
SAN FRANCISCO COMPANY
SENG POV Car mechanic
SMART Cambodia
SOCIAL COFFEE
SOFT SKILL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SERVICE
TEMPLATION ANGKOR BOUTIQUE
THALIAS (Malis Restaurant, Khema, Arunreas Hotel)
TOP STREET RESTAURANT
VOICE OF THE BLIND Radio station

KROUSAR THMEY TEAMS

The volunteers and employees of Krousar Thmey France, Krousar Thmey Singapore, Krousar Thmey Switzerland and Krousar Thmey Cambodia.

AND ALL THE PRIVATE DONORS

Thank you !



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