

អង្គការឧបត្ថម្ភគ្រួសារកម្ពុជា

**Cambodia**

**Family Support**

# **Progress report**

**IMPROVING RURAL EDUCATION**

**(BUILDING A COMMUNITY LITERACY SCHOOL)**

**BUILDING LOCATION:**

**Boron village, Treng commune, Rattanak Mondul district,  
Battambang Province, Cambodia**

**FUNDED BY FAMILIES OF**

**Robinson, Smith, Alan, Cheryl Mulgrew, and Hemsley  
From Perth, Australia,**



**Reported by  
Dr. Samnang ENG,  
20, Jun, 2025**



## **INTRODUCTION:**

This is the 9<sup>th</sup> of Cambodia Family Support (CFS)'s community education center. This education center (Literacy center) was totally funded by a group of families. They are very generous people from Perth, Australia. Our thanks and heartfelt is going to Robinson, Mulgrew, Smith, and Hemsley's families.

This group of families is well documented that, "David and Rosalind Smith led a group of Rotary clubs of Perth visited CFS in October 2016. During his visits, Director of the Cambodia Family Support (CFS), Dr. Samnang, brought them to see CFS works including a rural school and many poor families and children who lives. CFS works was impressed by visitor teams. One particular interest to Dave and his teams was a small rural education centers placed among poor children. During the visited, he had asked many children about their education. Many children replied that schools are far from their villages, poor access to public school due to no mean of transportation, shortage of school materials, no chance to school due to they turned to help family for generate incomes and some said no school close to their houses etc. Realizing of such difficulty and seeing reality of a CFS literacy school with healthy smile of children, Dave told CFS director that education is a key means for further bright and the education can be improving people's ability toward dignity and can be helped others as they growth.

After seeing CFS implementation to help rural poor families including help rural for better education, Smith and his team are happy to support CFS, the support was particular for improving rural child's education. From year to year, he brought his friends including Peter and Anne Robinson, Alan and Cheryl Mulgrew visited Cambodia Family Support (CFS). They were having the same ideas, and are happy to see CFS-project and willing to support. Then the support is moving on from year to year until this year.

As committed to support the rural children and their families, Dr. Samnang, director of Cambodia Family Support (CFS) approached the visitors on their returned by requested to supporters for each year school building donation. The supports mostly for school building, but the implement of helping child's education is not alone. It is meant that after school building, child's education has been integrated into mutual existing of CFS implementation and routinely monitor especially improving livelihood or income generation among their parents. This initiative is enabled their parents responsible to long-terms for their child education.

Remarkably, the supports for building rural literacy school were mostly by David, Rosalind Smith family and his team including Peter and Anne Robinson, Alan and Cheryl Mulgrew. I still remember that since 2017, there are 9<sup>th</sup> community education (literacy schools) are built including one school this year. Among those schools are:

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Literacy School, namely "Lomphat Community Education Center". The school built in Jun 2017, at Lomphat village, Oda commune, Kamrieng district, Battambang province.
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Literacy School, namely "Prey Sanhtah Community Education Center". The school built in May 2018 at Prey Sanhtah village, Steoung Trang commune, Pailin Province.
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Literacy school namely "Samaki primary school". The school built in Oct-2019 at Samaki village, Tasen commune, Kamrieng district, Battambang province.

4. 4<sup>th</sup> Literacy school, namely “Okoki community education center”. The school built in May-2020, at Okoki-village, Trang commune, Kamrieng district, Battambang province.
5. 5<sup>th</sup> Literacy school namely “Preymonkul community education center”. The school built in April-2021 at Prey monkul village, Otavao commune, Pailin province.
6. 6<sup>th</sup> literacy school namely “Okanteangva community education center”. The school built in April 2022 on CFS lands at Okanteagva Village, Stoeungtrang commune, Salakrao district, Pailin province.
7. 7<sup>th</sup> Literacy school Namely “Chipang community education center” the school was completely built in October 2023.
8. 8<sup>th</sup> Literacy school named Dangkot community center for education.
9. 9<sup>th</sup> Literacy school named Boron community center for education.

NB: Please note that the name of Lomphat, Prey Sanhtah, Samaki, Okoki, Preymonkul, Okanteangva, or Chipang or Dangkot and Boron is the name of village where school located.

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

##### **Why this project?**

Cambodia Family Support (CFS) has been achieving greatly results of helping many rural poor families. But the number of families who had helped by CFS are too small compared to families who are needing. We are helping marginalized rural poor family to enabling them to fully responsible their child education. Practically, we provided them with four mutual main components such as

- (1). improving income generation by helping them to generate income),
- (2). Improving them to access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene,
- (3). Improving rural knowledge attitude and practice,
- (4). Improving local network for prevention and protection vulnerable women and children. However, this project is an additional project, which is proposing to build a community center for education “Community Literacy School”. This school building is proposing to build at Boron village, Treng Commune, Rattanak Mondul district, Battambang province.

Boron is a poor rural remote village situated close to Pailin (border with Pailin province). Many villagers/families are mostly displaced, sought new land for productivities. They are farmers, cultivated/ or some sought daily labor from other for survival. During my recent visit, many families said that they need a school for their children. According to group interviewed, they reported that some children are taking care by their sibling or by their grandparents while their parents are moving and working far from home that is why some children in this village have no chance of getting a proper education. Moreover, some children are dropped out of school due to sickness or even turned to help their families for generated income, reported by local authority.

The relationship between poverty and a lack of education is well-established. Many poor families reported that they have no skill, no education, low job payment, living with poverty from generation to generation. Therefore, to break ‘poverty cycle’ is education.

That is a reason for us to propose your kind assistance for building a community education for these children. You can help to make a difference and future positive change by providing our poor children with a simple school building for their education. CFS will help the community's poor parents through our existing livelihood development activities, increasing daily income and ensuring their children continue to attend school.

**PROJECT TITLE:**

- Improve rural education by building a community center education (Literacy center) for rural children.

**Project objective**

- Enabling marginalized rural children to access proper education

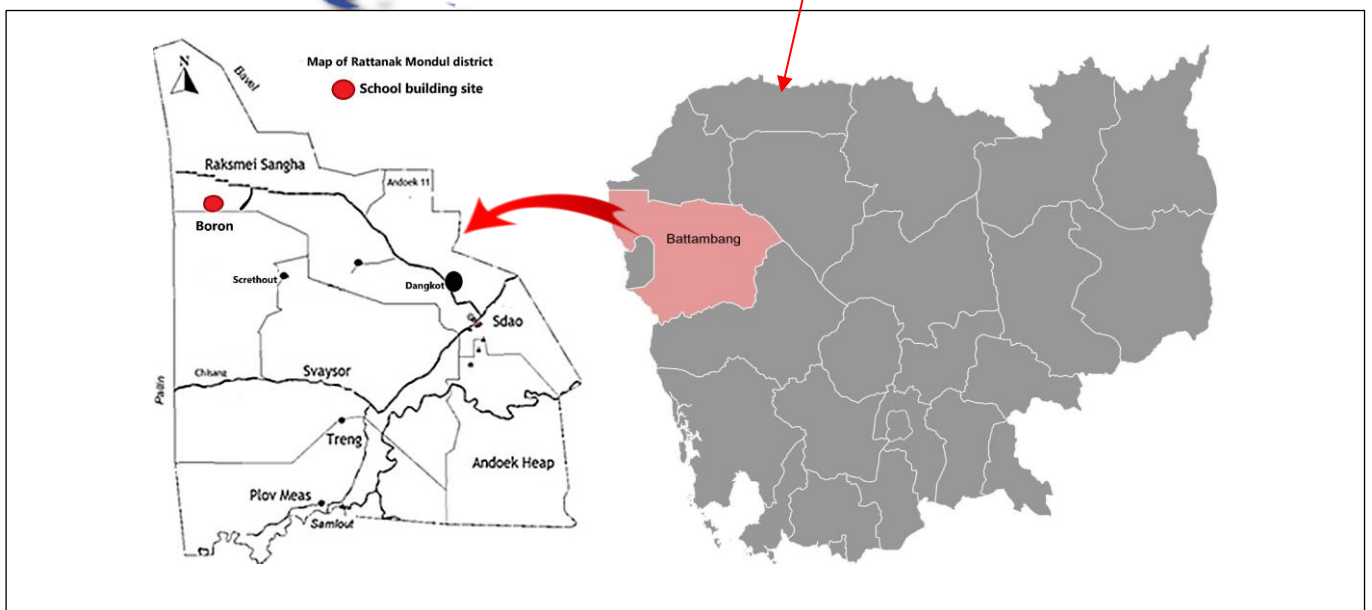
**Expected outputs:**

- At the end Jun 2025, there is a Community Center for Education “A literacy school” will completely be built.
- No less than 50 children in Boron village, who had even never enrolled or dropped out will be registered and regular attended.

**Project Location:**

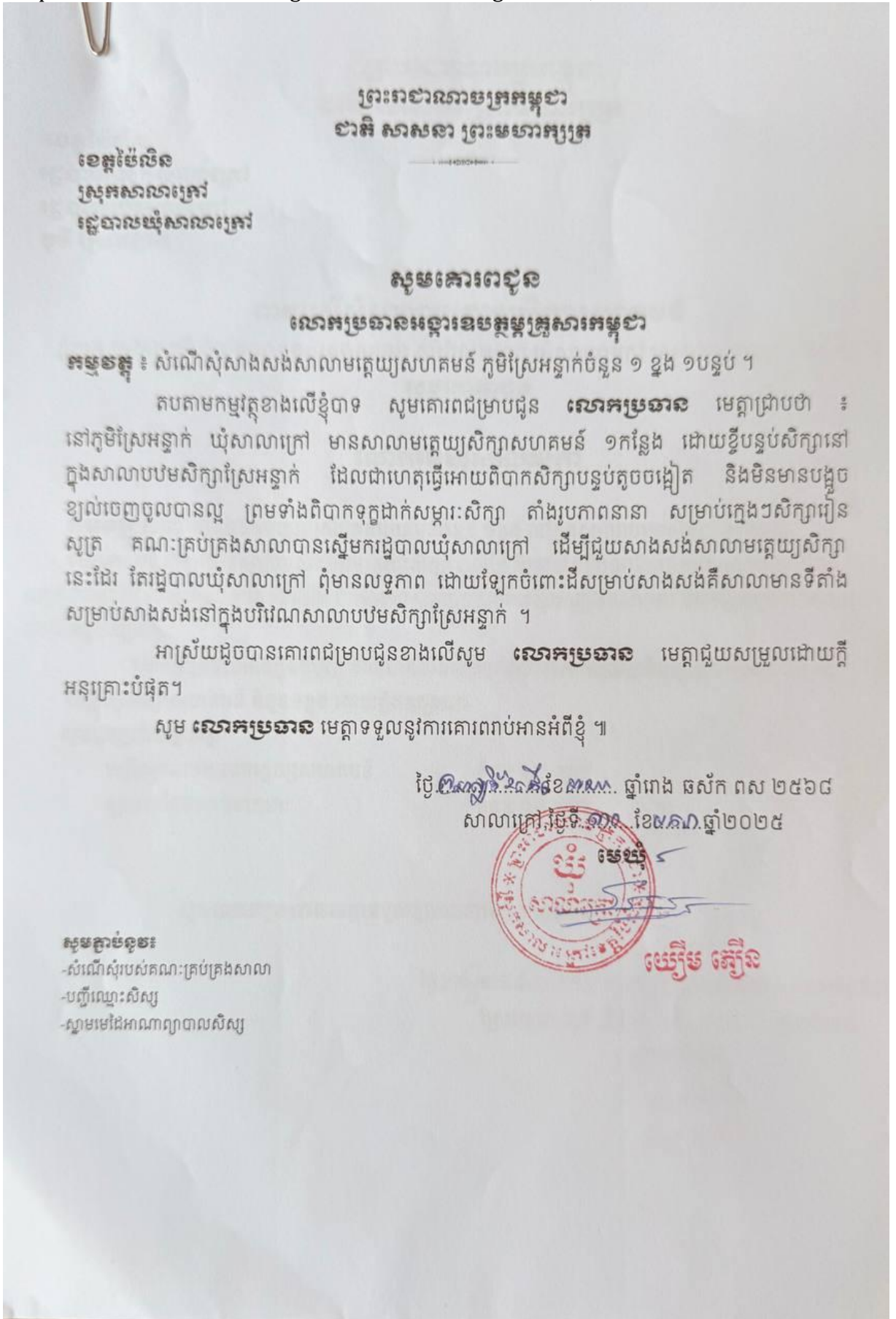
This community center for education built at Bouron village, Treng commune, Rattanak Mondul district, Battambang province. This school is serving a minimum of 50 children who have either never attended school or even dropped out.

World map: location for school building,





- Proposal of Salakrao district governor for building a school,



As seeing requests, director of Cambodia Family Support (CFS) Dr. Samnang Eng contacted his board director Dr. Vincent Keane and Helen Keane who are currently living in Perth Australia to identify the potential donors and supports.

Finally, the same group of Australia family including Robinson, Mulgrew, Hemsley David Smith families are happy to support this proposal. However, due to our fund is limited therefore, a school building at Boron village, Treng commune, Rattanak Mondul district, Battambang province was approved.

As usual, CFS director visited a location for building and conducted assessment to make sure that everything is going without risk during and after building. This assessment was also to make sure that local government can be identified a teacher, salary payment for teacher including school maintenance will not CFS responsible.

This year, we are very lucky to have our board of director Dr. Vincent Keane and Helen Keane visited and conducted assessment location for building, see his pictures as below:



(CFS-bord of director, Dr. Vincent Keane and Helen Keane visit location for school building)

There are two locations for this school building, but after visiting, our board of director, he didn't approve the location where close to a big pond as he seen during his visited, therefore, after his returned, Dr. Samnang, has met village chief and villagers to discuss a possible relocation for school building or fill up the pond where we are going to build.

As result of discussion, villagers are agreed to fill up the pond, as having some photos as below:





As the pond that close to the location for school building had filled up. As agreed between the director of CFS and local commune leader and villagers, then CFS director contact constructor for possible building. Traditional believe was conducted before building, see picture as below,



(We pray for security and safe as Khmer traditional-believed). Then, school building was started.

**Process of building:**



(Foundation of building has made to ensure strong building)



(Foundation of building has made to ensure strong building)

Dr. Samnang, CFS-director conducted monitoring to see the building progress?





From day to day, the building is progressing,

Dr. Samnang as responsible person for this construction was usually kept monitoring to see the construction progress including quality of material for building

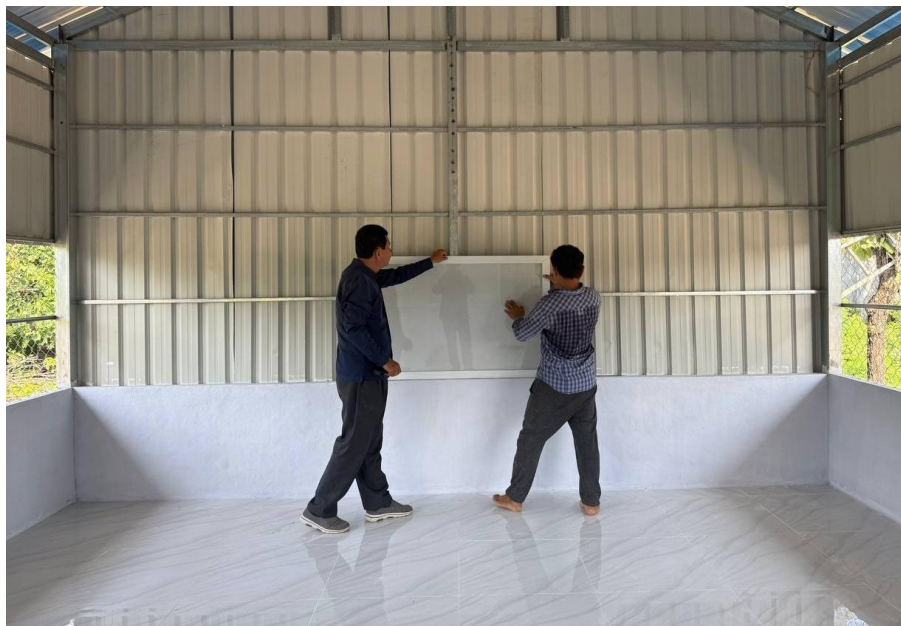




(Dr. Samnang and his field supervisor visiting the progress of construction)

From day to day, the school construction is progressing and finished,





(Building is completed)

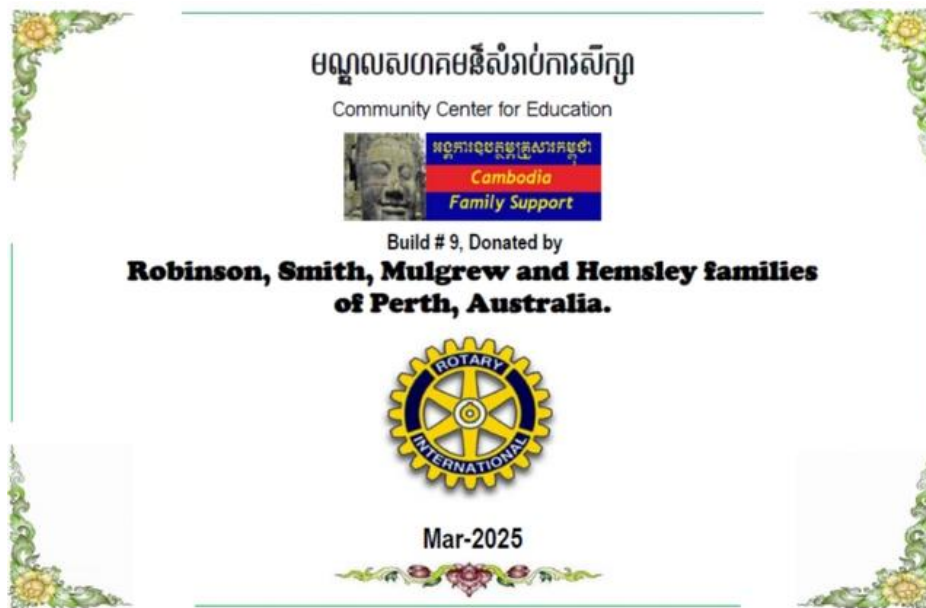
As the school construction is completed, Rattanak Mondul District governor as well as teachers, parents are very happy to have that support. School inauguration and appreciation letter by district government had given to CFS:



(District governor delivered an appreciation letter to CFS during school inauguration)



(First day of our new school)



On behalf of Boron children, as well as Cambodia Family Support (CFS) and myself, I would greatly like to say thank you very much for very generous, Please accept all of my greatest gratitude.

Your Sincerely,  
Dr. Samnang