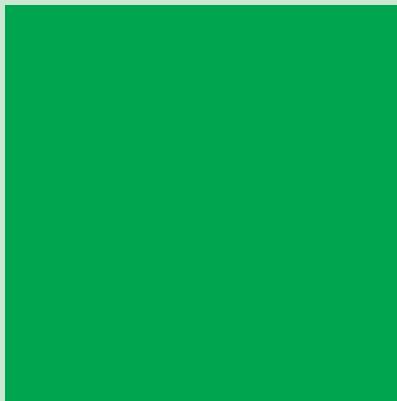


Community Sanitation And Recycling Organization

អង្គភាពការិតផ្តៃវិនិចនាថ្មីយោស់បានមេ (ស្ថាបី)



Annual Report 2014

List of Acronyms

CSARO	Community Sanitation and Recycling Organization
GFC	The Global Fund for Children
IRRC	Integrated Resource Recovery Center
MOEP	Mobile Outreach Education Program
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
SGP	Small Grant Programme
SHGs	Self-Help Groups
SWMP	Solid Waste Management Program
UCDP	Urban Community Development Program
UN-ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
WPDC	Waste Picker Development Center

I am pleased to present the 2014 Annual Report of Community Sanitation and Recycling Organization's activities. 2014 proved to be a year of opportunity, but also big challenges for the organization. We started the year on an optimistic note with CSARO receiving recognition and an International Award for Innovations in Urban Management at an international conference held in Tehran, Iran. We also marked completion and opening of our new Integrated Resource Recovery Center (IRRC) in Cambodia's seaside province of Kampot. And a series of public educational campaigns were launched in Kampot town to support activities there. In Phnom Penh we continued the Waste Picker Development Project, Solid Waste Management Project, and the Mobile Outreach Education Project. Some success of these programs were new skills learned by 105 waste picker Self-Help Group members; compost production increased by 50% at our Waste Picker Development Center (WPDC); and 181 waste picker children were provided medical care and support to go back to school.



These positive developments were against a backdrop of continued political insecurity and uncertainty after the contested national elections in July 2013. As a result, the economy of Cambodia is still in a slump, employment is difficult to find and millions of Cambodians are still trapped in poverty. Waste pickers remain some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged segments of Cambodian society, while poor communities in general face problems of: food and housing insecurity; poor local governance; limited access to education and health services; lack of adequate clean water and other problems. In rural areas communities face the additional burden of difficult access to markets for local produce; environmental degradation, and the impacts of climate change.

CSARO is committed to build program sustainability to meet its long-term vision. In 2014 all CSARO programs worked towards greater sustainability with actions taken to reduce administration and overhead costs. CSARO also strives to build on previous successful programs and learn from our experience to build effective and efficient programs.

In 2014, CSARO gratefully acknowledges funding support from the Manos Unidas (Spain); United Nations Development Programme's Small Grant Programme (UNDP-SGP); and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP). To expand program coverage and help more communities help themselves and the environment, CSARO is actively seeking new donors and development partners. Your comments and feedback are welcome.

Sincerely,

Heng Yon Kora, Executive Director
Community Sanitation and Recycling Organization

About CSARO

Since its founding in 1997 by a group of local and international development workers, the Community Sanitation and Recycling Organization (CSARO) has been one of the leading Cambodian non-governmental organization committed to improving the environment and living conditions of the urban poor. We believe in a participatory development approach which empowers and builds up local communities. A special focus of CSARO's work is on improving the living and working conditions of the thousands of adult and child waste pickers who make their living by sorting through rubbish on the street or at the city's dumping sites.

VISION

Urban communities where residents and waste pickers work together to transform slum areas into clean, safe and healthy places to live, and where waste pickers work together to improve their social and economic conditions.

MISSION

To encourage and motivate urban poor to improve their capacity and their environmental, social and economic conditions.

GOAL

Empowered urban communities and waste pickers, cooperating to improve their environment and creating better family economic conditions for a sustainable future.

CSARO PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Empowered waste pickers Self-Help Groups work cooperatively to implement a solid waste management system generating improved waste recycling, better social and economic conditions.
- Waste picker youths have improved education and health, and are able to meet their own economic and social needs.
- Develop town-wide solid waste management strategy for Kampot that is decentralized, pro-poor and reduces carbon emissions.
- A strengthened organization with improvements in capacity, effective systems and efficient operations to sustainably implement the program

Building communities through self-help

Activities in Phnom Penh

During 2014, CSARO had three main activities based in Phnom Penh, viz., (a) Waste Picker Development Project (b) Solid Waste Management Project, and (c) the Mobile Outreach Education Project. In terms of coverage, CSARO works in 16 Villages within 4 Sangkats (wards) at three Districts of Phnom Penh City. The target areas are poor communities which confront a number of social and practical problems such as lack of access to physical infrastructure and basic services, as well as widespread poverty and low levels of school attendance.

Self-help is the best help

In each Sangkat, CSARO encouraged local waste pickers from some of the poorest households to form Self Help Groups (SHG). In total, 19 SHGs have been formed with a membership of about 105 families. As an initial support, all SHGs were provided with training to build their understanding and capacity on the concepts of SHG, and the benefits of community-based savings and record keeping. They also received training to build awareness on environment issues, the dangers of handling wastes, and the benefits of recycling activities such as production of compost and handicrafts from waste (wearable

When Hope Grew from Compost for Chea Sopheap

A widow and an AIDS sufferer, Ms Chea Sopheap, 38, lives with her son in Sen Sok 5 village, Sangkat Khmuonh, Khan Sen Sok, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Before 2012, she was employed as a construction worker, earning about 20 dollars a month. She collected and sold recyclable waste for an additional 10-15 dollars a month. However, this income was insufficient to support her family and her own medical expenses.

In 2012, at CSARO she learnt the technique of recycling waste to create compost. Now, she heads a self-help group of five and earns 55-60 dollars a month. Her son received school materials, uniforms, food, bicycle, first aid, medical checkups, and home visits from CSARO. He now attends school regularly. Her health has improved since she now has two days off each week to undertake regular medical checkups. She observes, "I'm very happy. I regularly earn 75 dollars a month and can participate in environmental protection. I want my group to be able to produce around 10,000 kilograms of compost every month. Once we get our license from relevant ministries, I am hoping we can increase sales."



their daily earnings as a “savings and credit” fund which they use for member emergencies, and to improve community-based recycling activities and increase household income. This program is helping members to build their financial stability and self-confidence in managing funds.

SHGs hold monthly meetings to discuss work plans, progress made, what activities to focus on, particularly with regard to recycling, compost production, marketing of products and also to share support and build solidarity.

Power through knowledge

While going to a zoo is a normal treat for many children from higher income families around the world, for the 41 waste picker kids from Phnom Penh slums the trip to Tamao zoo was a life changing event. Apart from the opportunity to see the wildlife there and learn more about environmental issues the special trip arranged by CSARO was also a signal that there was someone out there who cared about them and their future.

The Story of Pov Rosa

Unlike most kids in Phnom Penh, Pov Rosa spent his nights dodging vicious dogs and large vehicles as he picked through mountains of garbage. School was an afterthought for this 10 year old. As the middle child in a family of 10, Pov Rosa was expected to do his share so the family would not starve. So, he joined his parents and his siblings to scavenge recyclables at the city’s waste-disposal sites, earning a meager 1,500-2,000 Riels a day.

On October 15, 2010, Pov Rosa attended a CSARO social worker’s non-formal training in his community. The agency’s mobile outreach education program sounded appealing. The social worker visited his home and counseled his parents. With encouragement from his parents; and his new found eagerness to study; young Rosa went back to school with materials, uniforms, a bicycle, regular medical checkups, and home visits from CSARO. He began attending the government public school, never missing a day, and became one of the best students in his class. He also received non-formal training in hygiene and sanitation, life skills, and was taken to visit zoos and museums with CSARO support.

He still uses his free time to help his family collect recyclable waste. His ambition, he says, is “to be a doctor. Then I can help my family and other vulnerable people in my community.”

Pov Rosa is one of hundreds of children in Phnom Penh, forced to pick waste for survival, who have benefited from CSARO’s various activities to help them and their families improve incomes, recover their health and rebuild their lives.



"We believe that this is the best possible way to make children receptive to a broad range of inputs to develop their intellectual and emotional development" says Heng Yon Kora, Executive Director, CSARO. "CSARO believes in creating opportunities for development and learning beyond school premises; recreation and exposure learning has a major importance in augmenting the learning and social development of the children".



For CSARO, educating waste pickers is the primary means of empowering them. In support of this goal, through the years, CSARO provided social support and disseminated materials for awareness raising among target communities. Besides providing regular and routine health check-ups to all waste pickers, particularly women and children, we also support the long-term treatment needs through institutional linkages and referrals. In 2014 this included health support for 93 waste picker children who receiving first aid, de-worming medicines, polio drops, and Vitamin A supplements. The program also provided support to encourage child waste pickers to stay in, or enroll in schools to continue their studies. During the years CSARO staff helped a total of 181 waste picker children students register in local schools and provided monthly follow-up visits with students and parents. In turn, CSARO also coordinated with school authorities to support integration of children from waste picking background into the mainstream. Through this program, all students received school materials such as notebooks, pens, pencils and book bags, and start up counseling on the importance of education. For promising children and young persons, CSARO also arranges specialized sports training.

For waste picker families, social and economic insecurity and extreme stress of their lives adversely impact on their capacities and mental well-being and in addressing this CSARO had taken preventive and curative steps. The CSARO team identified "children at risk" and referred them to other specialized NGOs for support or counseling. During this period, in a particular instance, 87 waste picker children received counseling for shock or stress relating to their family's forced eviction from the Boueng Kok area of Phnom Penh; and one waste picker girl (15 yrs old) was kidnapped for sex trafficking, the case was referred to Cambodian Women's Crisis Center, she was recovered and is now staying in the organization's safe house.



Turning waste into wealth

Cambodia faces many problems related to waste management. Organic materials in landfills break down to release damaging leachate and methane, a potent greenhouse gas. Uncollected waste, including plastic materials, is often burned releasing toxic gases or is left scattered in the community blocking drainage systems, waterways and creating public health concerns.

To help address these issues in a sustainable way, CSARO opened the Waste Picker Development Center (WPDC) located on the outskirts of Phnom Penh City in 2009. The WPDC is run by and for the SHGs, who process waste from one of the city's markets to produce rich organic compost, which is sold to farmers, gardeners and home owners. CSARO trains the self help groups on marketing the compost and helps to establish good relationships with farmers, explaining the benefits to them.



During 2014, waste processing at the WPDC increased by 75%, from 2,000kg/day to 3,500kg/day. In total 660 tons of organic waste were collected from markets and communities and processed into 97 tons of organic compost. It is estimated that this process reduced 325 tons of green house gas emissions (about 0.20 % of the city's estimated total), while the compost contributes to soil fertility, reduces the demand of chemical fertilizer etc.; and the process reducing social vulnerability of the self-help group members involved.

CSARO's compost was tested by an independent laboratory in October 2013 and found to be a good source of Organic Carbon, Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K), as well as micro-nutrients which are very important for healthy crops. The project also linked with farmers in 2 villages in Kampong Speu Province to conduct on-farm testing of compost use on 20 hectares of rice fields. 64 farmers received trainings on compost use and benefits.

The CSARO team provided regularly followed up during the 2014 growing season to monitor results. At harvest time the average reported increase in rice production was about 22.7 %. This activity had good collaboration with the local Department of Agriculture to promote and raising awareness of organic farming. The participating farmers were very happy to use approach of organic compost to improve their soil structure and crop yields. Local authorities were also very happy with the pilot program and requested to replicate it in neighboring villages. SHG members making compost also report increased income by 2,000-4,000



riels a day (\$0.50 to \$1.00), a 20% to 40% increase.

UN-ESCAP commissioned a review of the in April 2013. The report stated "The project, implemented by CSARO, was found as a pioneering initiative in the fields of solid waste management in Cambodia. The project contributes extraordinarily in the fields of environmental justice and community well being....."

Vong Saven's Successes with Recycled Handicrafts

Mother of three, Ms Vong Saven, 46, lives in Sen Sok 5 village, Sangkat Khmuonh, Khan Sen Sok, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. In October 2007, the seamstress learnt how to recycle waste into handicrafts from CSARO. She now leads a women's self-help group of 13.

Initially, the jewelry, photo frames, bags, and hats that her group produced found no buyers since people were unwilling to use products made from waste material. Vong Saven earned only 25 dollars a month. With recycling providing lesser income than expected, some group members left to work in garment factories.

It took years Vong Saven persevered, working with NGOs to build capacity and expand markets. Finally the group's products began to gain popularity, especially among foreigners. In 2012, she helped her group's activities and updated the designs for her products. Her group has now improved their production process and widened their markets. She notes, "I can earn 50-60 dollars a month selling recycled products and providing techniques to others. I also help promote savings. I plan to organize my group as a community-based organization. I can help my community ensure a clean environment and better living standards."



Moving Beyond Phnom Penh

Pilot Activities in Kampot

With support from UNESCAP, CSARO started a new project in 2012 entitled “Pro-poor and Sustainable Solid Waste Management” in Kampot City, situated about 148 kms away from Phnom Penh. The pilot project aims to enable Kampot city, to develop and implement town-wide solid waste management strategies that are decentralized, pro-poor, low-carbon and can be partly financed through the sale of carbon credits.



As part of this program, in January 2013, CSARO completed construction of the Kampot Integrated Resource Recovery Center (IRRC) with the installation of electricity, water supply and equipment for compost production. In building up core team’s capacities, CSARO’s four members received training in compost production in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Further, five members of the Waste Picker SHG from Kampot also received training in compost production at CSARO’s WPDC in Phnom Penh..



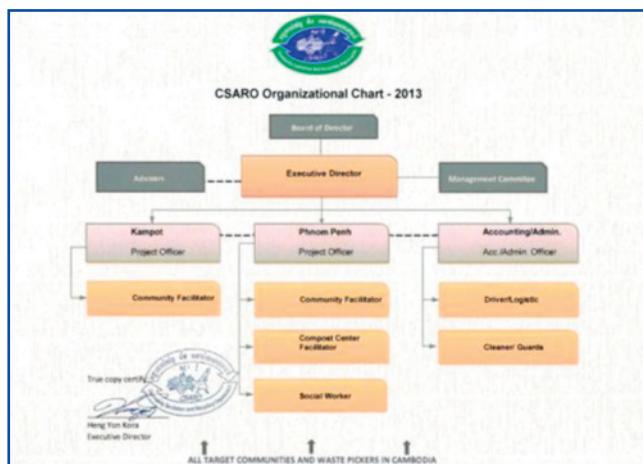
The IRRC project began receiving organic waste from the city’s waste collection contractor in March 2013, and by May of 2014, about 232 tons had been processed, unfortunately at least 139 tons of waste was rejected because the contractor is failing to provide separate organic and mixed waste containers as agreed. By the end of the year only 3.5tons of finished compost was produced. In support of this activity, CSARO designed and produced 5,000 posters, 6 public sign boards, 20 sets of leaflets, 20 CD education materials, 10 banners with messages promoting the importance of Source Separation of waste. Additionally, CSARO conducted nine rounds of Source Separation campaigns for local vendors and households in, and around Kampot’s Samaki market with more than 3000 participants. In terms of raising awareness among the younger generation, CSARO also launched “school contact” programs during the year and two rounds of pilot training on source separation were also organized with 20 school teachers.

Institutional Development Programs

Bonding for better outcomes

CSARO believes in on-going staff development and involvement of partners to strengthen skills and in turn build a strong and effective organization. A staff management committee holds regular meetings and is involved in strategic planning, review of budgets, activities plans, and scheduling. In 2013 and 2014, 13 staff members and 15 members of SHGs from Phnom Penh and Kampot

also took part in a 5-day reflection and planning retreat held in Sihanoukville. The group reviewed the 2014 budget and activity plan, logical framework, and monitoring information. It was also an opportunity for team building and bonding.



To maintain and strengthen coordination in program implementation, CSARO organized quarterly meetings with commune authorities and waste picker self help groups to share information on development interventions and challenges faced by the program. Through these meetings CSARO has been able to build cooperation with local authorities and raise awareness on the issues.

On the technical side, CSARO provided three staff members from the Waste Picker Development Project training on improved compost process management, recycling center administration, monitoring and reporting. A master composter/trainer came from Waste Concern organization in Bangladesh with support provided by UNESCAP.



Networking and Advocacy

CSARO actively networks with other NGOs in the field, both at locally and globally, which enables it to pool resources that can be deployed to benefit waste picker families and their children in particular. At the same time, the collective strength built up by these NGOs is also utilized in advocacy initiatives to enhance the accountability of the government towards solid waste management and environmental issues. While believing fully in the rights-based approach to development, CSARO also seek to create common opportunities and common points of action with the government and other stakeholders. To further this objective, CSARO has developed a continuing relationship with, among others, the Municipality of Phnom Penh, Municipality of Kampot, the Ministry of Environment and the Provincial Department of Agriculture in Kampong Speu.

CSARO also worked closely with the Kampot Municipal Solid Waste Management Committee which includes representatives from the Municipality, the garbage collection contractor, department of environment and others to advocate for development of a mid-term waste management plan for the area which includes good environmental practices and support for waste pickers and disadvantaged communities.

During 2013-2014, CSARO was happy to receive visits and exchange experiences with 18 UN Volunteers; the representative from Manos Unidas (Spain); Waste Concern (Bangladesh); United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP, based in Bangkok); Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA, based in Philippine) and staff from the Korean Ministry of Environment.

CSARO is an active member of NGO networks like Local NGO forum and the Cambodian Coordinating Committee. During 2013-2014, the organization also had contact and collaboration with environment and child oriented groups like: World Vision Cambodia-WVC, Green Village Organization (GVO), World Development Organization, Friend International, and CIAI.

Vision for the Future:

Phnom Penh:

CSARO will continue and consolidate its operations at the Waste Picker Development Center to increase compost production and resource recovery.

Work with the Ministry of Agriculture to obtain testing and certification of CSAROs compost products and get authorization for marketing the material under new Ministry of Agriculture regulations.

Continue staff and project development inline with the organizations 3 year strategic plan.

Kampot:

Develop and implement a strategy for extending waste collection services beyond the markets to include restaurants, hotels and households in consultation with waste collection contractor, the Municipality of Kampot and other relevant stakeholders. This will include taking stock of the current systems in place to facilitate source separated waste collection, identify gaps and devise appropriate mechanisms to recover organic and recyclable waste.

Provide training opportunities to the IRRC staff to improve operational efficiency and managerial efficacy.

Improve the business plan of the IRRC, in particular by maximizing revenue opportunities

Engage with schools and colleges to raise environmental awareness related to 3R (reduce, reuse and recycle) practices

2013 AND 2014 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Financial Status

Community Sanitation and Recycling Organization (CSARO)

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
For the year ended 31 December 2014

	2013 US\$	2014 US\$
Opening Balance:		
Cash on Hand	707.00	1,296.00
Cash in Bank	<u>37,129.00</u>	<u>79,067.00</u>
	37,836.00	80,363.00

Receipts for the Year:

Funds Received from Donors

MANOS UNIDAS	33,135.00	47,900.00
UNDP-SGP	44,991.00	0.00
Global Fund for Children (GFC)	17,000.00	0.00
UNESCAP	80,438.00	44,388.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	7,048.00	6,407.00
TOTAL RESOURCES	182,612.00	98,695.00

\$220,448.00 \$179,058.00

Expenditure

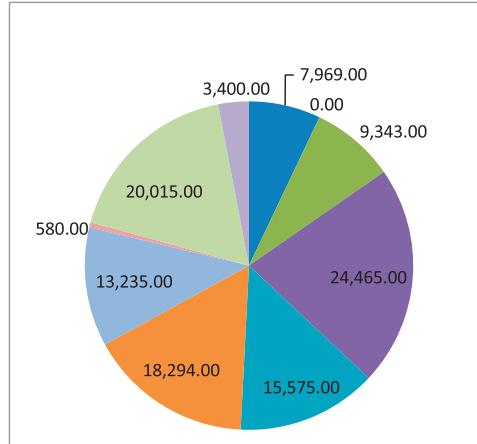
Cash Refund to UNDP closing project	0.00	7,969.00
Urban Community Development (UCD)	2,617.00	0.00
Mobile Outreach Education (MOE)	7,206.00	9,343.00
Pro-poor and sustainable solid waste Management	53,834.00	24,465.00
Green house gas emissions from dumping site	13,179.00	15,575.00
Improved income, health & education of waste picker	10,386.00	18,294.00
Livelihood in Kg. Speu is improved through used of organic farming	9,717.00	13,235.00
CSARO Strengthened development	1,614.00	580.00
CSARO Overhead cost	39,482.00	20,015.00
Monitoring & Evaluation	<u>2,050.00</u>	<u>3,400.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	140,085.00	112,876.00

Closing Balance:

Cash on hand	1,296.00	1,621.00
Cash in Bank	<u>79,067.00</u>	<u>64,561.00</u>
	80,363.00	66,182.00

\$220,448.00 \$179,058.00

USE OF FUND IN 2014





Community Sanitation And Recycling Organization

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