

Community Sanitation And Recycling Organization



**Annual
Report
2011
2012**

... we are working together for our clean environment...



LIST OF ACRONYMS

CDC	Community Development Committee
CSARO	Community Sanitation and Recycling Organization
GFC	The Global Fund for Children
IDP	Institutional Development Program
MOEP	Mobile Outreach Education Program
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
SCIAF	Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund
SHGs	Self-Help Groups
SWM	Solid Waste Management
SWMP	Solid Waste Management Program
UCDP	Urban Community Development Program
WPDC	Waste Picker Development Center



Contents

	Page
MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.....	4
About CSARO	5
Community development in Phnom Penh.....	6
Changing lives, building communities.....	7
Working with children and young people.....	8
Changing the future one life at a time.....	9
Developing solid waste management.....	10
Helping the environment, helping people.....	11
Institutional Development Program.....	12
Looking to the future.....	13

CSARO

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This report covers the period Jan 2011- December 2012. It has been both an exciting and challenging time for CSARO as an organization. Opportunities arose to begin to set up recycling centers in urban centers outside Phnom Penh, taking CSARO's model of managing waste to new areas. We have been glad to increase our influence on implementing sustainable waste management in ways that benefit the wider community, especially the poor. We are grateful for the support of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) in this work.



Meanwhile financial pressure on our Phnom Penh operations due to the global financial crisis and the end of some funding sources have meant scaling back on our program and reducing staff. Despite this we have managed to maintain much of our core program, running the recycling centre and continuing to support communities in Phnom Penh to improve their waste management. Over 4500 people continue to benefit from this work directly and indirectly, each with their own journey to success; this report celebrates some of those stories. As CSARO continues to expand to provincial towns this number will be multiplied several times over. None of this work would be possible without the generous support of our donors, listed below. We are deeply thankful for their support to the program.

As we look forward we continue to want to see the reach of our vision for the transformation of urban areas extended to new areas and populations. Increasingly we are working alongside government to demonstrate the viability and benefits of our approach both in environmentally and socially. We are maintaining our focus on the urban poor, empowering individuals and communities to improve both their livelihoods and their environment.

I hope you enjoy reading this short report of our work; we would be pleased to provide you with more information.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Heng Yon Kora'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

CSARO Executive Director
Mr. Heng Yon Kora

About CSARO

Community Sanitation and Recycling Organization (CSARO) is a Cambodian non-governmental organization (NGO), established in February 1997 by a group of development workers committed to improve the environment and living conditions of the urban poor in Cambodia. CSARO is a leader in the use of participatory models to improve conditions in the areas where the urban poor live, which are often unplanned and un-serviced parts of the city. A special focus of CSARO's work is 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 and from piles of garbage.



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 people 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

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

Community development in Phnom Penh

Lack of fundamental skills, little cooperation and poor services in such areas as water sanitation, health care, infrastructure and education make life difficult for some urban poor community residents. The idea of growth and development sounds as if it is a very hard-to-reach destination, which has discouraged many people from taking action to confront their own problems.

“Life has been hard in Sen Sok since its establishment in 2001 as people do not have a clear focus on how to achieve development despite a great desire for it. Their living standard is low and so they struggle to take part in the development process,” claimed Mrs. Khloth Phalla, an active social worker and a resident of Sen Sok community. This urban community and others like it on the outskirts of Phnom Penh, often populated with residents evicted at some time from more central locations face multiple difficulties with poor services, infrastructure and often low social cohesion.

CSARO believes that applying a people-centered approach to ensure sustainable community development is a secure and productive process that stimulates the community residents to learn to identify their own needs, raise challenging issues and hence collaboratively solve problems by themselves. Furthermore it empowers the community members to be capable of advocating their rights and needs to others, increasing the participation of the local authorities in charge as well as other related bodies.

Through implementing this people-centered model, CSARO has successfully facilitated a stronger approach to development in these communities; establishing local committees with the skills to manage development more actively.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

CSARO's community development program uses two main structures to build local capacity for development:

Self help groups are small groups of 5-10 people who agree to join together in a particular activity. Sometimes this is waste collection, recycling waste into marketable handcraft items or perhaps making compost from organic waste. The group learns together and supports each other; often this becomes a more general support including looking after one another's children and helping each other in times of trouble such as serious sickness.

Community Development Committees take responsibility for overseeing the self help groups and other aspects of community development, sometimes managing projects such as repairing roads and supporting the set up of good waste management in their area.

Changing lives, building communities

Achievements 2011 -2012

During this period CSARO delivered:

- 10 trainings on recycling waste by making handicrafts, composting, home gardening and waste collection with over 122 participants
- 5 new SHGs established and introduced to the main SHG concepts with 25 participants
- Regular monthly and quarterly meetings of SHGs with over 34 participants
- Over 700 recycled items sold to local market outlets
- Indirectly supported over 900 households (4500 individuals) in the communities of Sensok, Samaki and Trapeang Krasang through Community Development Committees and self help group work.



My name is **Chhim Sareth**. I am 42 years old. I am from Sen Sok Community, Sangkat Khmounh, Khan Sen Sok in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. I have six children (four girls and two boys) and my husband is motor taxi driver and we have very meager money to manage our family. I recycle magazine, other paper, and plastic into home decoration, jewelry, bag, and other products. We keep our output to vander at the Toul Tom Pong market for selling our products.

I am a member of Self-Help Group (with 13 other women) who recycles paper and other material into home decoration items and jewelry. I have received training and marketing from CSARO for recycling different items into beautiful things.

For my income from recycling products is not regularly depend on our sales. If the products were much sold, we got US\$70 per month and we got US\$15 if the products were not much sold. In average, I earn US\$ 40 per month. Working as recycler helps me to earn and stable income at home where I can also hot look after my children. It also helped me enhance my skills and my knowledge about other things like gender issue, the law and citizen rights, HIV and sexual health, hygiene, etc.

My work has not just brought money, but also increased my confidence, self-esteem and courage my face in the future. My income is supporting my family expenses; now my children can go to study and buy school supplies for them. I am respected by my husband, my children and my neighbors because I earn for my family income. My dream is developing our recycling products and have own shop for selling them.

Working with children and young people

Achievements 2011 -2012

Thanks to poverty and a lack of resources, many Cambodian urban poor children do not have opportunity to attend formal schooling. Many parents feel they have little choice but to push their children to earn a living in the same way they do, by sifting waste on the street or in the rubbish dumpsites. For those children who don't attend school, the livelihood is this lack of education will prevent them improving their opportunities and catch them in a cycle of continuing poverty.

Supporting to vulnerable waste picker children and their families is a vital part of CSARO's work, aiming to build children's confidence and capacity to be able to attend school for education, especially ensuring their literacy skills which open up more chances for their future. CSARO's program also covers important messages about good health, hygiene and the rights of children.

Throughout 2011 and 2012, CSARO has vigorously supported child waste pickers from grade 1 to 6 to continue their study at public primary school as there is a high risk of them dropping out. As education is a vital support for changing their future, child waste pickers and their families are supported by CSARO through provision of student uniforms, stationeries, rice and other foodstuffs to ensure it is possible for them to access school.



MOBILE OUTREACH PROGRAM

CSARO's programme supports children in a number of important ways. There have been significant adjustments to the program during this period due to changing regulations and external support:

Mobile education – Waste picker children were met at various points around the city and the communities CSARO worked in to provide them with education on health and sanitation, hygiene, child rights and basic literacy and numeracy. During 2011 this became increasingly difficult as the authorities restricted meetings of this sort and so larger meetings with children have now stopped.

Health support – As well as training on health, support is offered in the form of Vitamin A and deworming supplements. In addition, children facing serious medical issues are supported to access the health care they need.

Family development – As the opportunities for mobile education sessions have reduced, CSARO has worked more with children in their family settings, teaching children and families and particularly encouraging children's right to access education.

Supporting schooling – Going to school does carry some costs and CSARO supports the poorest families with uniforms and other supplies to help overcome this barrier to children accessing education.

Access to rights – Poorer families often miss out on their right to get a birth certificate for children; CSARO works with local authorities to ensure that every child is registered and has the documents they are entitled to.

stationeries, rice and other foodstuffs to ensure it is possible for them to access school.

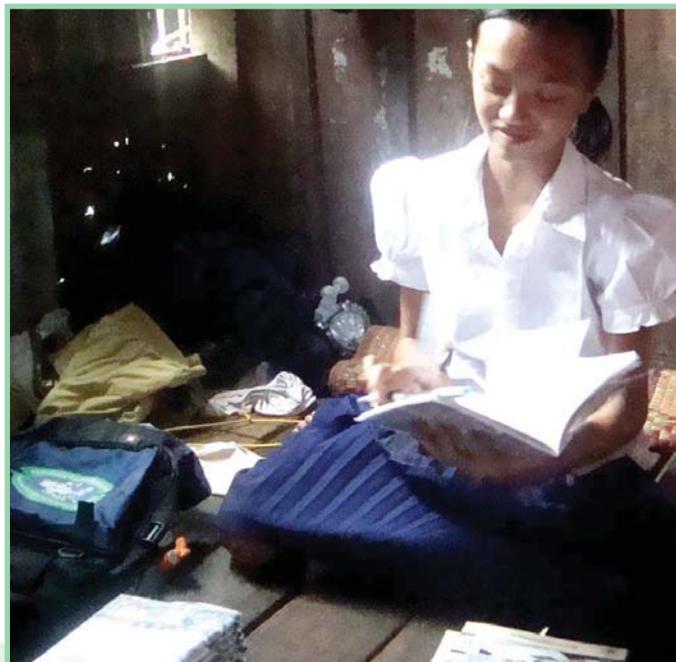


Changing the future one life at a time

Achievements 2011-2012

During this period CSARO delivered:

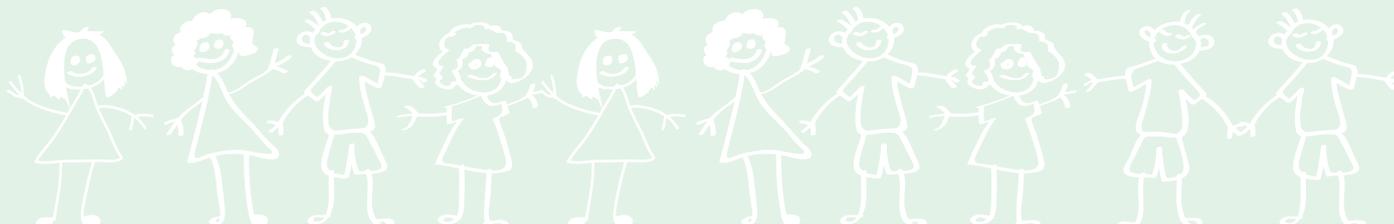
- Over 125 training meetings with more than 180 waste picker children covering health issues, hygiene and basic literacy/ numeracy
- Over 150 waste picker children trained in first aid and given Vitamin A and deworming.
- 150 children helped to get birth certificates for public school registration
- Over 80 children supported to access education and provided school materials
- 50 children participated in international children's day



Sok Channy is a girl who was born in a waste picker family living in Toul Kork Community. She is 13 years old and she studies in grade 4 in Neakavon Primary School. She was born in Phnom Penh; she has 5 siblings (4 sisters and a younger brother) and she is the oldest child in her family. Before she met CSARO-MOE Social Worker, she never goes to school regularly and mostly goes to collect waste materials with her siblings from their house to Toul Kork. She went to collect the waste in the morning or afternoon according to her studying time. She always went to pick the waste every day. In average they can earn around 7000R to 10000R per-day, it cannot support a big family with 7 members. Sometimes, they cannot collect any wastes because of heavy raining or raining season. Moreover, she cannot go to study because her family has not money to buy school materials and school fee for her.

One day, CSARO program staff had met her cousin who CSARO has been supporting. During the time of MOE social worker was conducting training in contact point, then **Channy** went to look at the students training. She went to learn with the students and asked the MOE staff to join. The time it was the chance she met CSARO and returned to school.

After supporting from CSARO over 2 years ago, she is really glad. She can go to school regularly and her studying is better. She has enough school materials for her studying and save her income from buying school materials. Especially, she never goes to collect the waste because her mother does not allow her to pick the waste. She likes to join with waste picker children meeting with Social Worker to study together to become a good citizen. During meeting, Social Worker always encourages her and other children to study hard. In a smiling face she said, "I want to become a good teacher because I want to teach children. Especially, I want to teach children in poor community to improve their writing, reading, can find a good job for supporting their families, and live in dignity."



The management of waste is a large and increasing problem in Cambodia. Huge amounts of both organic and non-organic waste are produced every day with an increasing amount of plastics. Where it is collected this waste finds its way into landfill; Phnom Penh has already opened a second dumping site. In many slum areas of Phnom Penh and in provincial areas there is no effective mechanism for collection and waste gathers under people's houses, on open ground or in waterways.



Many of the poorest households in towns and cities attempt to make a living collecting recyclable waste and selling it to middlemen. These families are often vulnerable – both to health problems and to buyers who will cheat them knowing they have poor education and may struggle to read scales or deal with calculations. CSARO provides skills training and a structure through which these groups may gain some mutual support. At the same time there is a significant need for community education on the dangers of waste and poor waste disposal.



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

CSARO's program is currently based in two locations, Phnom Penh and Kampot. The approach involves the setting up of recycling centres where organic waste can be collected and recycled as compost, while other waste is also collected and recycled where possible.

What is unique about CSARO's approach is that where possible waste collection is carried out by community members rather than being sourced to a large company. In Phnom Penh one company has responsibility for collecting waste but does not separate it for processing; this limits what CSARO can do. The recycling centre collects waste from markets for recycling but can no longer collect directly from most communities.

With the support of local government and UNESCAP CSARO has begun operations in provincial towns (where company collection is limited or non-existent), constructing recycling centres and looking for local people to collect, separate and compost waste. This both generates income and new skills for poor households and has direct environmental benefits.

Workers doing composting or collecting waste are organized into Self Help groups of 5-10 who support each other in their work and in other ways. Being taught the necessary skills, some have full time work at the recycling Centre running composting operations, and some work in the community, gathering and recycling household waste.



Helping the environment, helping people

My name is **Vorn Ny** and I am 43 years old. I am from King House Village. I have six children (4 girls and 2 boys) and my husband is a constructor worker. He does not go to work regularly because no works for him to do. We are one of the families evicted from Boeung Kork since 2009. We were living along the road and train road after eviction. It was really hard for us in that time then, we heard that Cambodian king gives gift as house to poor people or old people. Fortunately,



my family is one of families get a house from Cambodian King at Som Rong Village. I have been composting solid waste nearly two years to earn for my living and my family too. I am member of the ten self-help group person was formed to do solid waste composting.

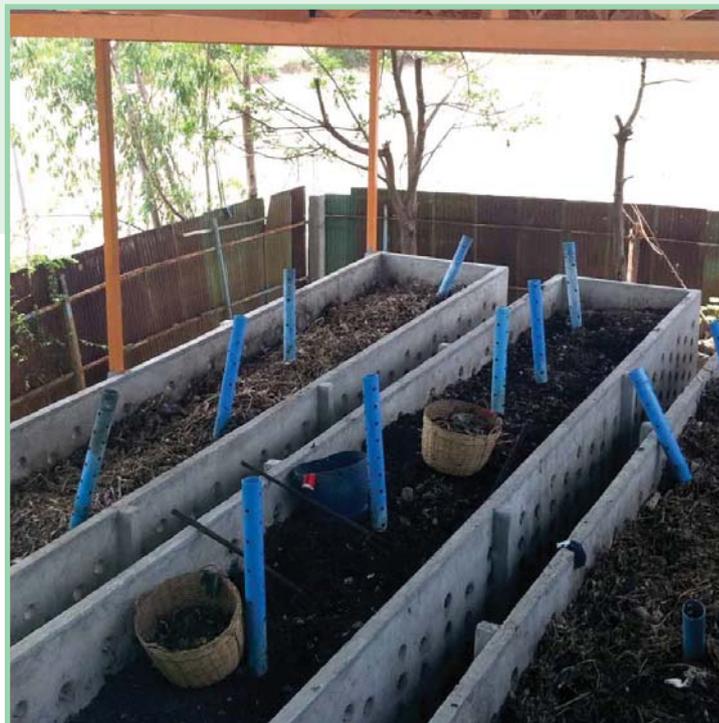
We do composting at CSARO demonstration center and receive constant training and marketing support from CSARO. Currently, we have eleven compost containers. I earn US\$ 55 per month from selling compost.

This work was boosted my confidence to support my family and increased my self-esteem because I produce a useful product that people want. My income is supporting my family expense and now all my children can go to study, have clothes, etc. I am respected by my husband, children, and my neighbors too because I earn for my family income. I do not have television or radio at my house as income is just enough to support our daily living.

Achievements 2011-2012

During this period CSARO achieved:

- An increase in the compost production from its PP recycling centre to 2.50 tonnes per day. The total for the year was 459 tonnes.
- Sale of 114 tonnes of compost; a regular monthly income for the SHG running operations at the PP centre
- Agreement with the Kampot authorities to use some land and collect waste; beginning construction of a new recycling centre
- A baseline survey and community education conducted in Kampot



Institutional Development Program

CSARO works to develop both its systems as an organisation and individual staff capacity through its internal development program. Staff have opportunities to join training and other events to expand their experience and knowledge, while the way the program, finance and staff are managed is regularly reviewed for possible improvements. Even the newest staff are encouraged to participate actively with senior staff and take every opportunity to learn and share from others.

Capacity Building Training

CSARO has been able to give staff a few good opportunities for training during the year, although this was limited by funding issues. There have been regular monthly meetings to share information and learn from each other as well as quarterly meetings which have covered looking at results measurement, reviewing the budget and working on action planning. As well as this there have been four regional training workshops in Thailand, India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, sharing information and learning with other NGOs. In addition new methods of composting have been developed with technical input from UNESCAP.

Networking

Working with other organisations is an important part of CSARO's approach. Internationally links were made with such organisations as WIEGO, Waste Concern, PARI, KPKKP Indian, GAIA through the regional workshops attended. Locally the government is an important partner as CSARO advocates for more widespread good practice in waste collection and management; this includes the national and local ministry of the environment as well as schools. Other NGO partners include MARYKNOLL, World Vision Cambodia (WVC), Star Fish, NAPA, Mercyteam International, CESO, IDA, MCCC, SCC, My house, ISF, Riverkid, Hagar, CCF, ICC, PSP, Precious women, CPN, Krousa Yeoung. NGO Forum, Mlup Baitong, CCC and others.

Staff Retreat

An organized staff retreat to Sihanouk Ville province allowed all members of CSARO to discuss their lessons learnt from the last working year and seek better activities for the coming year. Importantly, all staff took the opportu-



Looking to the future

Challenges and Lessons Learned

During 2011 - 2012, CSARO faced a number of challenges which it is learning from for the future:

- Funding proved unstable with some longer term partners stopping support either due to changes in direction or the financial crisis.
- Marketing both of recycled products and compost is a key challenge in order to make activities self-sustaining. In particular products made from recycled materials are difficult to find large markets for in Cambodia.
- The Municipality and local authority have lack of regulation on waste collection, separation and recycling within the city and local towns. Obtaining voluntary commitment to these important tasks remains difficult.
- Waste collection in Phnom Penh is outsourced to a private contractor who does not separate waste significantly. As this contractor has now extended into the communities of Sen Sok and Samaki (it did not previously because of poor infrastructure) CSARO's waste collection is no longer encouraged.
- Many of waste picker children don't have birth certificate, which causes additional difficulties in their registration at public school.



Future directions

In light of the challenges faced, lessons learnt and new opportunities currently opening up, CSARO is looking to develop particularly in the following areas over the coming period:

- To develop strategic frameworks that help increase the market share of recycled products and compost through the integration of great quality and an expansion of target areas, so as to provide better income generation opportunities for the community.
- Continue to widely promote a pro-poor, community based model of solid waste management.
- To extent into further provincial areas with recycling centres
- To restructure the scope of educational support activities to child waste pickers to ensure that more of them will return to formal education; including a stronger advocacy element helping with birth certificates and working with school authorities.
- To continue to enhance staff capacity, encourage their contribution through motivation, and allow them to gain access to more advanced and diversified skill training courses so as to work better in a collaborative, devoted and honest manner and stay with the organisation.



2011 and 2012 Statement of Financial Position

Financial Status

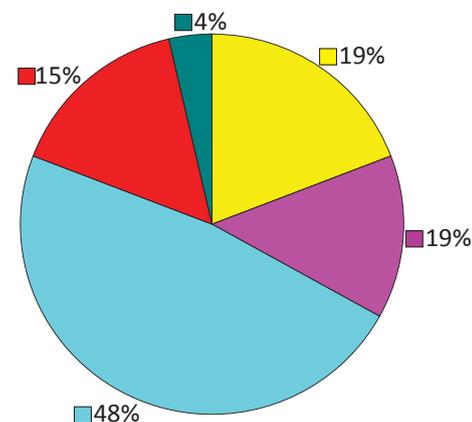
Community Sanitation and Recycling Organization (CSARO)

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

For the year ended 31 December 2012

	2011 US\$	2012 US\$
OPENING BALANCE		
Cash on Hand	542.43	500.86
Cash in Bank	17,992.95	38,666.34
	18,535.38	39,167.20
RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR		
<i>Funds Received from Donors</i>		
MISEREOR	24,823.45	0.00
MANOS UNIDAS	20,985.99	18,892.40
Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (S	23,871.26	15,327.67
Global Fund for Children (GFC)	15,602.01	16,000.00
<i>Miscellaneous Receipts</i>	8,750.48	7,026.30
TOTAL RESOURCES	94,033.19	57,246.37
	\$112,568.57	\$96,413.57
EXPENDITURE		
Urban Community Development Program	15,565.76	11,454.89
Solid Waste Management Program	21,501.79	8,334.24
Mobile Outreach Education Program	26,311.99	28,744.83
Institutional Development Program	8,971.83	9,218.38
Monitoring & Evaluation	1,050.00	2,200.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	73,401.37	59,952.34
CLOSING BALANCE		
Cash on hand	500.86	273.89
Cash in Bank	38,666.34	36,187.34
	39,167.20	36,461.23
	\$112,568.57	\$96,413.57

USE OF FUND IN 2012





ម្ចាស់ជំនួយរបស់ ស្តារូ CSARO'S Donors



មណ្ឌលអង្គការ ស្តារូ

អាសយដ្ឋាន: ភូមិសំរោង សង្កាត់ឃ្នួញ ខណ្ឌសែនសុខ
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 (៨៥៥-១២) ៣៥១ ៧២២

អ៊ីមែល: info@csaro.org
 គេហទំព័រ: www.csaro.org

CSARO Center Address

Village Som Rong, Sangkat Khmuonh, Khan
 Sen Sok, Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia
 P.O Box 2015 Phnom Penh 3
 Tel: 855-12-217-747/ 855-12-957-255
 855-12-351-722

E-mail: info@csaro.org
 Website: www.csaro.org