



READING AND LEARNING TO BUILD THE FUTURE



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

CONTENTS

A MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM	3
ABOUT SIPAR	4
School Library Program	6
Reading for All Programs	8
Youth Empowerment Program	14
Book Publishing Program	17
EVENT HIGHLIGHTS	20
RAISING AWARENESS	22
OUR PARTNERS	24
FINANCIAL REPORT 2021	25
ACTION PLAN FOR 2022	26



A MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM

The year 2021 was eventful. The second wave of the spread of COVID-19 led to the closure of schools in March, affecting the population of Cambodia and more particularly people in precarious situations. The **national school closure** affected more than **3.2 million students** across the country, threatening the progress made in education development in recent years.

Our teams mobilized to continue their work among the most vulnerable populations while respecting government's health measures. We have diversified our activities, and our programs have been adapted to provide a relevant response to each situation. In order to provide communities with permanent access to books, we have gone as close as possible to our beneficiaries by **setting up reading stocks** in target villages with the help of community volunteers.

In addition, our "Mobile Libraries" program has been able to expand its field of intervention thanks to the **two new tuk-tuk libraries**: A second tuk-tuk library circulating in the poorest neighbourhoods of Phnom Penh and a new tuk-tuk library replacing our motorcycle library in Ratanakiri. We also took the opportunity to have our motorcycle library join the boat library circulating among the communities living on and around the Tonle Sap Lake.

We also continued to strengthen our programs in **garment factories and prisons** in Cambodia. The second phase of the project in the garment factories ended in September 2021. 32 factories have collaborated with Sipar throughout these six years and **26 continue** the library service for workers at their companies. The activities of the prison program were partially and momentarily disrupted, but the **27 libraries** remained accessible to prisoners, while literacy classes continued in four prisons, benefitting 94 inmates.

In October 2021, we launched a new three-year project entitled "**Youth Employability and Civic Engagement**". This project aims to improve the job prospects of young Cambodians and strengthen their participation in civil society. Following the success of our pilot projects in the Youth Empowerment program, we are setting up a Library Orientation Center in 15 high schools in 14 provinces and equipping each of them with a Nomad Lab, which is a mobile digital lab developed by our partner the **NGO Passerelles numérique**. At the same time, we will strengthen the Community Based Organizations (CBO) previously called "Youth Clubs" by installing Nomad Labs there. And we will design digital and printed tools to support high school students in their professional orientation.

Sipar will therefore relentlessly pursue, while expanding, its mission of promoting reading, providing educational support and supporting Cambodian youth development in the most disadvantaged areas. **We wish to express our sincere gratitude to our dear friends, partners and donors** who, in these unprecedented times, have continued to support our efforts to strengthen the positive momentum of the educational sector in Cambodia.

The Sipar Team

ABOUT SIPAR







Reading and Learning to Build the Future

Sipar is an international NGO operating in the education sector in Cambodia since 1991. Sipar works to improve literacy rates and to encourage reading habits among children and adults through an expanding network of libraries and reading spaces in schools, villages, hospitals, garment factories and prisons. Working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS), as well as with local authorities and communities, Sipar promotes literature and brings books to Cambodians nationwide through innovative programs.




In addition, realizing the challenges faced by the book industry in Cambodia and the lack of books in Khmer language, Sipar launched its very own publishing department in 2000 to produce quality literature in Khmer for children, young people and adults. With the illiteracy rate as high as 20% in Cambodia, Sipar works to increase access to knowledge and education, helping Cambodian people on their path to literacy.






Reading for All

-  14 mobile libraries operating at 103 sites in 7 provinces: 9 van mobile libraries, 3 tuk-tuk libraries, 1 boat library and 1 motorcycle library
-  27 prisons equipped with reading units in 24 provinces and Phnom Penh
-  17 communal libraries in 3 provinces
-  19 hospitals equipped with a playground-library in 17 provinces and Phnom Penh
-  26 Library Learning Centers (LLCs) in garment factories in 8 provinces and Phnom Penh
-  35 reading stocks with community volunteers

School Libraries

-  32 reading corners in community preschools in 6 provinces
-  307 libraries in primary schools across 24 provinces and Phnom Penh
-  9 referral libraries in secondary schools in 9 provinces

Youth Empowerment

-  25 Youth Clubs (including 13 registered as Based Community Organisation - BCO) in 20 municipalities in 2 provinces (Kratie and Prey Veng)
-  3 Libraries Orientation Centers (LOC) in high schools in 3 provinces
-  33 reading stocks managed by members of Youth Clubs

Book Publishing

-  3.1 million books printed since 2001
-  24 new titles published in 2021, for a total of 244 titles published over the years since 2001
-  More than 80 training sessions held since 2004

39 YEARS

57 LOCAL
Staffs

Present in all
25 provinces &
municipalities

+326 000
direct beneficiaries
580 libraries
and
reading services

OUR VISION

An educated and literate Cambodian population, empowered to build a sustainable future for their country.

OUR MISSION

To contribute to human development in Cambodia – in particular that of disadvantaged populations – by promoting reading and access to knowledge and education.

OUR VALUES

- Independence
- Transparency
- Respect for cultural diversity
- Transmission
- Innovation
- Empowerment

Sipar's activities are organized in 4 main programs:



**SCHOOL
LIBRARIES**



**READING
FOR ALL**



**YOUTH
EMPOWERMENT**



**BOOK
PUBLISHING**



All of Sipar's programs focuses on 3 main UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- 4 - Quality Education
- 10 - Reduced Inequalities
- 17 - Partnerships for our Goals

Other SDGs are addressed by Sipar through specific programs:

- 3 - Good health and well-being (through our awareness sessions on health)
- 5 - Gender equality (Youth Empowerment program and awareness sessions on STEAM)
- 8 - Decent work and economic growth (LLCs in garment factories' project)
- 15 - Life on Land (through our awareness sessions on environment)
- 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (libraries in prisons' project)

We use the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a framework to assess our achievements and the impact of our programs.

A photograph of two young school children, a girl on the left and a boy on the right, sitting and reading a book together. They are both wearing white short-sleeved shirts and dark blue trousers. The girl is looking at the book with a focused expression, while the boy is looking down at the pages with a slight smile. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

To support the implementation of a national policy for libraries in schools at preschool and primary school levels.

COVID-19 IMPACTS

The implementation of our projects has been heavily impacted by the spread of COVID-19 following the second wave of the epidemic and the closure of schools for almost the entire year, disrupting the learning process of millions of children and young people. Despite this difficult context, which challenged the usual schedule of Sipar's program, we have developed new activities in each project in order to adapt them to the needs of our beneficiaries.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES PROGRAM



PRE-SCHOOLS AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Preschools: Reading Corners and Training

Context: Today in Cambodia, **only 23% of the 3-to-5-year-old children attend kindergarten.** There are very few public preschools. Most are community preschools run by the communes themselves and by the parents of the pupils. They severely lack material support and trained teachers. Early childhood education is slowly becoming a priority for Cambodia, but there is still a long way to go.

In order to introduce reading into early childhood programs, between 2012 and 2021, Sipar set up 32 reading corners and trained 50 teachers in community preschools in seven provinces. We set up nine new reading corners in kinder-

gartens located around the poorest neighbourhoods of Phnom Penh, Kompong Speu Province and Siem Reap Province.

Moreover, to introduce them to Khmer numbers and letters, our teams of mobile librarians distributed **150 “Montessori”** (Sipar Books, 2019 edition) to young students in the target villages of the boat library in Kampong Chhnang Province – and 100 sets to community kindergartens. “Montessori” is a set of seven booklets inspired by the Montessori method to help young students learn to recognize – letters and numbers.

Primary Schools: Construction, Libraries and Training

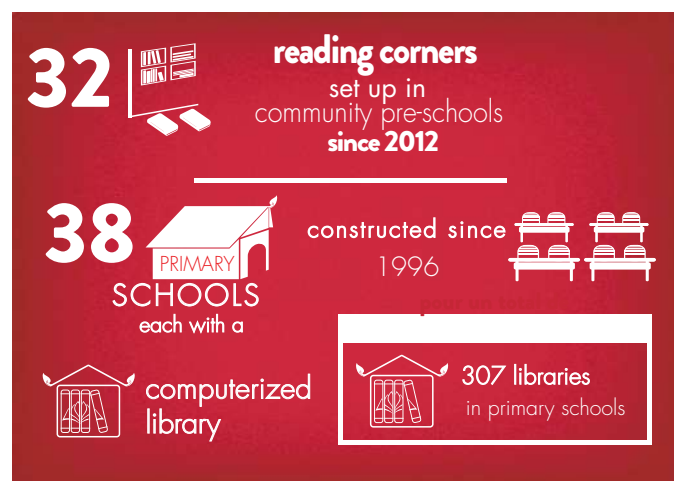
Context: In 1993, Sipar launched a school library project in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to **set up an extensive network of 300 libraries in primary schools, reinforce school library standards and train the librarians.** Until now, this project has developed and been incorporated into the national policy on school library development.

In order to make the libraries more attractive for young readers and satisfy their curiosity, Sipar has planned to provide each of the **300 primary libraries with 100 new books.** Thanks to our donors, a total of 191 schools have been equipped and restocked since 2019. In 2021, the book distribution was postponed due to school closures and the other 110 libraries will be restocked in 2022.

We have also continued, at the request of the local education authorities, to construct schools in remote areas of Cambodia. In October 2021, we completed the

construction of a five-classroom school building at Prey Peay Primary School in Kampot Province; one of the new classrooms will serve as the school library.

Between 1996 and 2021, Sipar has built a total of 38 school buildings.



To contribute to the development of a reading culture and life-long learning in Cambodia: promoting access to books and information which are important for the socio-economic condition among disadvantaged population.

A man with dark hair and a mustache, wearing a grey polo shirt and a blue lanyard, is sitting and reading a colorful book to two young children. The children, a girl with curly hair and a boy with short hair, are looking at the book with interest. The man's shirt has a logo on the left chest that says "Sipar" with a stylized lotus flower above it. The background is a bright, outdoor setting with a green structure.

Sipar

READING FOR ALL PROGRAMS



INCLUSION PROGRAM

Context: Sipar promotes inclusive education in order to reduce barriers to learning and encourage the participation of all students, including those with functional or linguistic limitations. In 2018, Sipar partnered with UNICEF Cambodia to help change attitudes towards people with disabilities and promote the emergence of an inclusive society. Through this effort, 6,000 children and 635 adults in 115 villages in the country were made aware of the daily obstacles faced by people with disabilities and the ways to promote their educational and social inclusion.

In 2021, still within the framework of the collaboration between Sipar and UNICEF, we continued the "Inclusive Education" project by developing inclusive material kits and introducing a new component for the Tampuan and Jarai multilingual education program.

1. **Kits of inclusive educational materials:** 60 kits have been developed consisting of 40 teaching aids and 26 adapted book titles.
 - Orientation sessions on the use of inclusive education-



“In the inclusive education project, we have created many kinds of educational games for children with and without disabilities to play together. With these games, children not only can play, but also learn new things, create friendships and solidarity.”

BET Vicheka,
Assistant Librarian at Sipar

nal-material kits in five provinces; training of trainers on the use of the kits with eight executives from the Department of Special Education and four executives from the National Institute of Special Education.

- Four refresher training sessions for librarians in five special education secondary schools (two in Phnom Penh, and each once in Battambang, Kampong Cham, and Siem Reap provinces).
2. **Kits of multilingual educational materials:** 86 kits of multilingual educational materials were designed and produced, of which 34 were handed over to the direction of the Provincial Office of Education in Ratanakiri Province.
 3. **Two bilingual titles Khmer-Tampuan and Khmer-Jarai** have been written for primary school children of these two minorities. An orientation workshop was organized for 34 Khmer-Tampuan schools in Ratanakiri Province.
 - 4,000 copies of the Khmer-Tampuan story book have been published. Every student studying in multilingual schools is to receive a copy.
 - The Khmer-Jarai book is to be published and distributed in early 2022.

60 educational
kits
of inclusive learning
materials produced

394 primary
school teachers
trained on their use

86 sets
of multilingual
educational
materials

34 Khmer-
Tampuan
schools participated
in the multilingual
orientation workshop



MOBILE LIBRARIES

Context: The mobile library program has been serving children and adults since 2000. There are now 14 mobile libraries—that is, nine van libraries, three tuk-tuk libraries, a boat library and a motorcycle library—which serve 103 sites in seven provinces of Cambodia each week, offering activities around reading and writing, provide book lending service, and also tutoring and information on crucial social issues.

We are delighted and proud to have **launched two new mobile libraries in 2021**: the second tuk-tuk library for communities in the poor neighbourhoods of Phnom Penh in partnership with the child-assistance NGO Planète Enfants et Développement, and the first tuk-tuk library in Ratanakiri Province thanks to the support from RESPEK.

Despite the impact of COVID-19 in 2021, our mobile librarian teams have mobilized to provide **tutoring classes** for children to prevent school dropout, and this, in addition to their usual **reading activity**. The activities were led in the villages at the volunteer's house in small groups of a maximum of 10 people in compliance with health measures. Our teams offered weekly tutoring sessions on key subjects – Khmer and mathematics – in line with the national curriculum and with the support of digital tablets to familiarize children with digital tools in education.

At the same time, the mobile-librarian team worked on the design of new educational games in Khmer and mathema-

tics. A total of **20 educational games** were produced and tested with children in the target communities.

To further support the youngest children in the most vulnerable communities of Ratanakiri and Kampong Chhnang provinces where our boat library operates, 450 students received "Montessori" kits.

To ensure the sustainability of these initiatives, Sipar has set up **reading stocks** in the villages by working closely with community volunteers. As many as 35 reading stocks with a total of 11,531 books were put into service and are managed by these community volunteers. Our teams provided them with technical support for the management of these stocks and for the storytelling and awareness sessions on various topics.



“Every week, I always wait for the Sipar mobile library to arrive in my village so that I can return books and borrow new ones. I have two siblings at home. Whenever I bring new books home, they always read them. Of all the activities, I enjoy free reading the most.”


HENG Sreyneath,

Grade 5, Titrao Primary School,
Kandoeng Commune, Takeo Province

9 
Mobile libraries
vans

3 
tuk-tuk mobile
libraries

1 
Biblio moto

1 
Boat mobile
library

 **103** Sites
targeted

35 Reading
stocks
in villages 


14 500
Beneficiaries



MOBILE LIBRARIES WITH THEMES

The mobile library teams organize awareness sessions on key topics: health/nutrition, road safety, inclusion of people with disabilities, yoga and meditation, the environment and STEAM.

Four mobile libraries have specialized in these themes in order to raise awareness among children, adolescents and adults of social issues. In addition to reading sessions, book lending and tutoring, each of these four mobile libraries has a specific program:

The mobile library van “Environment” has been in place since 2015—thanks to the support of the Fondation de Luxembourg through the Fondation Mosaïque—to promote reading and raise awareness of specific issues relating to the environment among beneficiaries.

The mobile library van “STEAM” (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) is an innovative component of the mobile library program that was introduced in 2019 and added to the reading activities. It is circulating in Phnom Penh thanks to the support of the Fondation Antoine de Saint Exupéry pour la Jeunesse.

The mobile library van “Yoga and Meditation” was included in the program thanks to the partnership between Sipar and the Sabrina garment factory to help improve the health and well-being of children and young people in rural areas through daily yoga practice and meditation.

The mobile library van “Road Safety” was initiated in 2013 through a partnership between Sipar and TotalEnergies Cambodia to promote reading and raise awareness of road safety. The mobile library operates in target villages and schools to stimulate reading and awareness. In 2021, we worked closely with CBOs to lead the Road Safety Campaign.

Our teams have also integrated hygiene and nutrition awareness into each reading session before starting activities, emphasizing on barrier gestures in these times of pandemic.

The populations in the brick factories and in the lakeside villages on the Tonle Sap were provided information on family planning, domestic violence, breastfeeding, money management and so on.



I am delighted to see many opportunities for children in isolated and disadvantaged communities to have access to books and actively participate in activities led by Sipar’s mobile library team. The promotion of reading is very important, requiring the support of all stakeholders to encourage mobile library activities to continue their mission and strengthen children’s education.

KHEM Thann,

Mobile Library Programs Coordinator,
Sipar



LIBRARY LEARNING CENTERS IN GARMENT FACTORIES

Context: The Cambodian textile industry employs more than 700,000 people, 85% of whom are women, mostly under the age of 24. Due to the lack of access to basic educational resources, 25% of the working population are illiterates. Since the spread of COVID-19 in 2020 and 2021, women textile workers have been among the first economic victims: 203 textile factories have been closed and more than 150,000 workers have lost their jobs.

Since 2013, the Library Learning Centers (LLCs) have been set up by Sipar in garment factories and aim to reduce the vulnerability of the working population while strengthening these workers' ability to contribute to production. The LLCs offer workers **reading, literacy and awareness sessions** on important social subjects delivered at their workplace in order to enable them to develop the habit of reading and self-learning. In 2021, the project reached the end of its second phase (July 2018 – September 2021), co-financed by the French Development Agency, the Weave Our Future Foundation (Auchan), the Pierre Bellon Foundation, the Australian Embassy and Smart Axiata.

Since the launch of the project, **32 Library Learning Centers (LLCs)** have been set up in 32 factories. Among them, 26 LLCs continue to maintain their operations independently, four LLCs have been suspended their services due to the closure of the factories, and two have been closed following a decision of the factory managers. About **12,000 workers** have had monthly access to the LLCs and the awareness sessions led by our partner Cambodian Women for Peace and Development and by peer educators (trained factory staff from the health and human resources departments). As

for the literacy classes, more than 900 workers participated in the program.

Sipar decided to continue to work with the factories as technical advisor in order to maintain the LLCs to:

- Provide support to the most recent factories (LLCs created in 2019, 2020)
- Provide technical support to the factories most in difficulty (old and recent)
- Provide intervention of Sipar mobile librarians in the factories to co-organize the promotion of books with the LLCs working group of the factories involved
- Work with the librarians of the factories in difficulty to help them with: the use of the PMB software (library management software), the selection of books, the promotion of the reading corners for the workers' children, etc.



“Since collaborating with Sipar, we have seen that the staff is satisfied with the library as well as with the literacy classes. Many of them borrowed books and use the knowledge they have acquired to educate their children at home.”

EA Sokly,

HR Manager of Top Summit Garment Factory

26
LLCs for **75 781**
workers
(85% female)

12 000
regularly using
the LLC services

45 000
participated
in
awareness
sessions

900
participated
in
literacy classes



LIBRARY SERVICES IN PRISONS AND THE REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

Context: Most of the 37,000 detainees in Cambodia come from a disadvantaged or marginalised background, with low levels of education: 30% to 40% of them lack basic literacy and numeracy skills and have no professional qualifications. Institutions such as the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training are providing more and more educational and vocational training services, but educational opportunities and services preparing the detainees for their release remain insufficient.

The Prison Library Program, launched in 2012 in collaboration with the General Department of Prisons (Ministry of Interior) with the support of the European Union and the French Development Agency, **aims to contribute to the education, preparation for release and rehabilitation** of detainees of the 27 prisons in the country. The project is currently in its third and final phase (March 2019-May 2022), which aims to ensure the sustainability of the network of **27 prison libraries**, and to strengthen the capacities of the General Department of Prisons and the prisons themselves to implement and run educational and pre-release services for detainees.

In December 2021, the new library of the Tboung Khmum prison was set up with computerized management. More than **2,300 books have been digitally catalogued** and made available to inmates and guards trained in computer management of the library. The Phnom Penh Municipal Prison made a request to Sipar and will also have a library in early 2022, bringing the total number of prison libraries to 28.

The spread of the second outbreak of COVID-19 has severely

impacted prisons and strict measures have been put in place to slow the spread between visitors and inmates. Libraries maintained their services, but conferences and training as well as visits to prisons were suspended for several months.

The literacy classes organized in four prisons in partnership with the provincial offices of education, benefited 94 prisoners. The reintegration preparation sessions led by our partners Mith Samlanh and M'lop Tapang were suspended. Nevertheless, the reintegration-preparation training for executives from the General Department of Prisons and five prison officers were conducted, facilitated by the trainers from Mith Samlanh. Training sessions resumed in November 2021.

In 2022, we are launching the **new project "Offline Digital Education" in prison libraries** in partnership with our NGO partner Passerelles numériques. This program aims to strengthen prisoners' learning process and support them in their preparation for reintegration thanks to digital content on 10 computers per prison. Two pilot projects were to be launched in March 2022.

“Reading is very important, especially after our reintegration into the community. It will help us find a good job.”

24-year-old prisoner in Kandal prison

27 
libraries
for **37 772**
detainees

9 223
readers
per month



94
participants
in literacy
classes

60
participants
in pre-release
and rehabilitation
sessions



To support secondary school students and members of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) located in villages in remote rural areas, to improve their job prospects and help them become supportive actors for education and social development of their community.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Context: In Cambodia, 15–29-year-olds represent almost 43% of the population. In remote areas of the country, access to quality education is still very limited and the dropout rate remains high among young people entering the labour market, many of them unqualified.

Promoting reading, education, guidance and volunteering for young people in rural communities remains our priority. Few secondary schools in Cambodia effectively use libraries as places of knowledge and resources to support learning. In addition, young people, and mainly those in rural areas, know nothing about the labour market. A survey of 300 students revealed gaps in knowledge of the labour market and only the professions of teacher, doctor, policeman and manager were mentioned.

In this context and based on nearly 10 years of experience in the field of libraries in secondary schools and youth volunteering in rural areas, the three-year project “Youth Employability and Civic Engagement” has therefore been launched in October 2021, co-financed by the French Development Agency, to improve job prospects and strengthen the civic engagement of middle and high school students, 55% of them being girls, in 36 rural communes in 14 provinces.

This new project aims to transform 16 high school libraries into Library Orientation Centers (LOCs) equipped with a digital lab called Nomad Lab and serving nearly

27,000 young people to strengthen and extend the network of 23 Community Based Organizations (CBOs), and to design new printed and digital tools for personal development and guidance assistance for young people to support the socio-educational development of their communities.



“My favorite activities are backpacking libraries and tutoring. Thanks to these activities, I have greatly improved my ability to work in a team, my flexibility and my research skills. It also allows me to improve my studies. I really hope that the Sipar team will continue to support our activities in rural areas.”

HENG Sam Oun, 18,
President of the CBO of Peam Muntea,
Prey Veng Province

3 Libraries
Orientation
Centers
equipped with
Nomad lab

1 CBO
equipped with
Nomad lab

25 Youth
clubs
with
560 members
418 girls 142 boys



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Libraries' Orientation Centers in Secondary Schools

Since 2019, Sipar has initiated three pilot projects to set up the Libraries Orientation Centers (LOCs) in secondary schools. The first one was set up at the Hun Sen Kraing Sramo High School in Kampong Chhnang Province with the support of the Can Sport Shoes factory. In 2020, we continued this initiative and set up two LOCs: one in Chi Hé high school in Kampong Cham Province with Kinal Foundation

support, and the other in Bun Rany Hun Sen Prey Poun high school in Prey Veng Province with the support of Smart Axia-ta.

The partnership with the NGO Passerelles numériques enables the installation of the Nomad Lab, offering students digital materials for orientation assistance and the strengthening of digital skills.

Youth Civic Engagement for Community Development

Members of Community Based Organizations (CBOs), previously called Youth Clubs, run a mobile book lending service for villagers in their communities that is referred to as the Backpack Libraries, hold tutoring sessions for primary school students in difficulty as well as awareness campaigns on various themes for local residents.

Four to five times a week, they lead school tutoring sessions on Khmer language and mathematics in connection with the national program for 733 primary school children, this, always in full compliance with health measures. Despite the circumstances generated by the pandemic, the young volunteers of Kratie and Prey Veng provinces successfully organized 11 awareness campaigns during

2021, bringing together a total of 574 participants around themes such as Road Safety and Yoga & Meditation. CBOs members have also created 33 reading stocks that welcome around 300 beneficiaries every month.

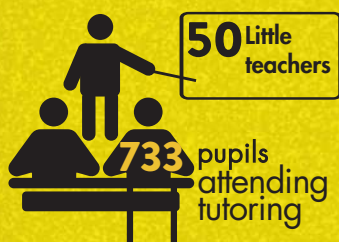
As part of the project, the CBOs network will be extended to eight new communes.

On a pilot basis, a digital lab (Nomad Lab) has been put into service with members of the CBO of the Pratheat commune in Prey Veng Province. All CBOs will soon be equipped with Nomad Labs for the development of digital skills and support for digital learning.



79 Backpack libraries

385 readers per month



50 Little teachers

733 pupils attending tutoring

33 Reading Stocks

in the villages



11 AWARENESS campaigns with

574 participants



To support the Cambodian publishing sector by training human resources in different professions, and to offer Cambodian children, teachers, educators and the general public a wide variety of quality books corresponding to their needs and tastes.

BOOK PUBLISHING PROGRAM





BOOK PUBLISHING PROGRAM

Context: Only recently has reading begun to gradually find its place into Cambodian schools and homes. This is demonstrated by the great success of the National Book Fair launched in 2010, which continues to attract more and more visitors each year. However, the publishing sector in Cambodia remains underdeveloped and lacks professionalism and creativity, especially when it comes to children's literature.

Sipar has been working since 2001 to publish original and quality fiction and non-fiction works in Khmer language, which are distributed through reading services supported by Sipar and other NGOs as well as through a network of bookshops. In 2021, our publishing team has demonstrated a remarkable resilience throughout the year, managing to maintain their production pace and their level of creativity with **24 new titles published** and **127 titles reprinted**. **3.1 million copies** were published and distributed since 2001!

A large, innovative publishing project has been funded by the World Bank to promote the development of complementary literature suitable for children of primary school levels 2 and 3, and to strengthen the practice of reading at home. The publishing team has been specially trained on the production of books for these levels. Five existing titles were adapted and four new titles published in the new collection "I Start Reading". The nine titles

were published in 5,000 copies each and were promoted via Facebook. In three months, we reached approximately 900,000 people on our Facebook page "Sipar Bookshop" and more than **2.5 million views** on our advertisements and promotions. Despite the pandemic, new points of sale in the provinces have been identified in order to reach remote audiences. Our goal is to make young parents aware that they can have their children read from the first grades of primary school.



“Although it has been a difficult year for testing and publishing our books, our team has remained resilient and flexible to maintain our book production throughout the year. Our project with the World Bank has enabled us to develop online sales and promote children's reading to parents via online sales channels.”

OUCH Sodany,
Publishing Coordinator at Sipar

24
New Titles
published
in 2021

244 **20**
TITLES in collections
published since 2001

3,1 millions
COPIES
published since **2001**

83
TRAINING
sessions
since 2004



BOOK PUBLISHING PROGRAM

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS IN 2021



The "Veary and Kiri" Book Series

«Veary» is a series of books about the adventures of a little dragon living on an island with his sister. We also have published two stories of the adventures of a little boy named Kiri and his friends. Our publishing team will continue to produce stories for these two series.

"Les Khmers," a Full Series on Cambodia's History in French

After releasing a full series on the history of Cambodia in Khmer, our publishing team completed the last two books of "Les Khmers" series in French in 2021. This is a series of three books on the history of Cambodia from the prehistoric period to the post-civil war recovery and the progress made in recent years toward development.



The translation and publishing of "The Sea Wall" by Marguerite Duras

It is a pleasure for Sipar publishing team to reintroduce the well-known novel by Marguerite Duras who was familiar with Cambodia during the colonial period. The novel's main setting is in the southern part of Cambodia, and after over seven decades, this novel is available in the Khmer language for the first time.

The translation and publishing of the comic book "In Thomas Pesquet's Suit" by Marion Montaigne

Cambodian readers, particularly comic fans, get a glimpse of an astronaut's daily activities and how hard it is to become an astronaut through the intimate life of the modern French hero, Thomas Pesquet and colorful illustration by Marion Montaigne.



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



JANUARY

TWO NEW MOBILE APPLICATIONS ON GOOGLE PLAYSTORE

Sipar has released two new mobile applications, Basic Numeracy and Quizz on Life Skills, on Google Playstore. They can be found by using the keywords "SiparCambodia."



FEBRUARY

"READING DAY" CAMPAIGN

To celebrate National Reading Day, which is celebrated every year on March 11, Sipar's mobile librarians' team organized events from February 20 to March 11 through reading contests in schools and communities.



MARCH

THE FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARY IN MONDULKIRI

In cooperation with the Department of Education, Youth and Sport, Sipar set up the first public library in Monduliri Province, which was inaugurated on March 11, 2021. In addition, Sipar delivered 500 books, trained the librarians and provided a computer with PMB software to manage the library.



MARCH

YOUTH CLUBS MOBILIZE

As Phnom Penh grappled with lockdown measures, members of Youth Clubs strove to continue supporting children in their communities through small-scale activities and creating reading stocks at their homes to enable children to borrow books to read at home.



JUNE

AN EDITORIAL PROJECT WITH THE WORLD BANK

A project was funded by the World Bank to promote the development of complementary literature adapted to children of primary levels 2 and 3 to strengthen the practice of reading at home and boost the purchase of books by young parents.



SEPTEMBER

THE FIRST SIPAR LIBRARY IN RATANAKIRI

In cooperation with the Provincial Office of Education, the first Sipar library in Ratanakiri Province was created and now provides reading material and bookborrowing services to children in the region.



SEPTEMBER

A NEW TUK-TUK MOBILE LIBRARY IN RATANAKIRI

To reach and engage more ethnic minority children who struggle to access quality education and schooling, Sipar's motorcycle mobile library in Ratanakiri Province has been replaced by a tuk-tuk mobile library in order to transport more educational materials.



NOVEMBER

5TH ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN WITH TOTAL ENERGIES

To promote traffic laws compliance and reduce the number of traffic accidents, Sipar participated with TotalEnergies in the events of the 5th Road Safety Campaign in Phnom Penh with the other partners and also organized this campaign in the Youth Clubs from Nov. 10 to 16, 2021.



NOVEMBER

DIGITAL CAMP AT THE BUN RANY HUN SEN PREY POUN HIGH SCHOOL

As part of the partnership with Smart Axiata, Sipar organized a "Digital Camp" at the Bun Rany Hun Sen Prey Poun High School in Prey Veng Province, which enabled 240 students to familiarize themselves with the use of computers, tablets and other digital tools.



DECEMBER

A NEW LIBRARY IN TBONG KHMUM PRISON

In partnership with the Directorate General of Prisons, Sipar set up a new library, provided training for guards, and supported the cataloging of books at the Tbong Khmum prison. This new library started operating on Dec. 1, 2021.



DECEMBER

SEMINAR MARKING THE OFFICIAL END OF THE PROJECT IN GARMENT FACTORIES

The seminar to officially conclude the project "Reading and Learning in the Workplace – Libraries Education Centers in Garment Factories" was held on Dec. 20, 2021 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Huy Han Song, secretary of state for the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training; Mrs. Meach Sotheary, Secretary General of Cambodian Women for Peace and Development; Mr. Kaing Monika, deputy secretary general of the Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia; and Ms. Ophélie Bourrhis, director of the French Development Agency.

GOING BEYOND BOOKS, RAISING AWARENESS

With the pedagogical expertise and experience of serving underprivileged communities, Sipar has developed **awareness campaigns** on various issues in cooperation with corporate and institutional partners. Sipar is delivering key messages in remote communities via our network of Mobile Libraries, Youth Clubs and in partnership with organizations such as the Cambodian Women for Peace and Development in garment

factories. For each issue, we create our own educational games and materials, adapting the message to the target audience, mainly vulnerable young people and adults.

Our goal is to achieve behaviour change and to encourage Cambodians to become Ambassadors on these topics within their families and communities.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS TOPICS

HEALTH & HYGIENE

To deliver key messages on Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Health among populations in disadvantaged areas, with the support of local authorities.

Topics:

- Hand washing
- Brushing teeth
- Healthy eating
- Drinking clean water
- Proper use of latrines
- Breastfeeding
- COVID-19 personal hygiene habits



“I am very happy every time the mobile library from Sipar arrives at the brick factory. My favorite session is the one on hygiene because it teaches me how to live a healthier and cleaner life, and I can share what I learn with my parents.”

Kimhouy
12 years old, beneficiary
at a brick factory

ROAD SAFETY

To contribute to people's awareness of road safety and promote safe behaviour on the road.

Topics:

- Code of conduct and road signs
- Ethical driving
- Wearing a helmet
- Dangers of speeding
- Cell phone use while driving
- Drinking and driving
- Eye checks for good vision



“I learned the traffic laws and how to read traffic signs. It is important to stop and look both ways before crossing the road. My family travels a lot. So, I can use what I learned with Sipar and share it with them.”

Chetra
12 years old, student at
Kork Rormeet Primary School
in Kandal Province

ENVIRONMENT

To encourage the population to develop good habits in terms of environmental preservation through interactive activities.

Activities:

- Videos and quizzes on the use of plastic
- Workshops on making “No Littering” signs
- Reading sessions on the environment
- Waste recycling workshops
- Community waste collection/cleanups
- “Cleanest village” contest



“I'm really thrilled to see the change in attitudes among the children we engage with in the villages. From one “environment” session to the next, we can see that they start to care and understand the importance of maintaining clean living environments. They even engage their family members at home when we carry out our activities!”

HIM Channy
Sipar's Mobile Librarian

INCLUSION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

To make people aware of the challenges faced by people with disabilities in their daily lives and to develop inclusive attitudes towards them through games and creative activities.

Activities:

- Games to help identify challenges faced by people with hearing, visual, motor or mental disabilities
- Brainstorming and illustration of solutions to be adopted in local communities
- Reading stories about the daily life of children living with disabilities



“Inclusive Education is a great project both for me as an educator and my students. For educators, it helps us to observe and understand the needs of our students and know how to improve our classrooms to fit those needs. For students, it helps them to strengthen their solidarity, gives them the motivation to engage in class as well as increase their self-confidence.”

CHHENG Soavry
Educator, Ochrap Primary School

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics)

Since 2019, Sipar has been helping children in Cambodia discover STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) through educational games in order to stimulate their interest in this sector, which is facing a severe lack of human resources.

Topics:

- Biology (human body, animals, plants)
- Elements (water, air, heat)
- Mathematics (simple functions, equations, measurements)
- Physics (weights, forces, magnetism)
- Chemistry (mixing, reactions)
- Electricity (basic circuits)
- Engineering and Mechanics (wheels, bridges, towers, airplanes)
- IT (using tablets to play maths games)
- Art (primary and secondary colours, painting, drawing)



“With STEAM, I can read, write, draw and above all, learn interesting scientific experiments. My favorite experiment is with magnets, and I can use what I learn here at school.”

Vatanak
11 years old, beneficiary
at a brick factory

YOGA AND MEDITATION

The new mobile library on Yoga and Meditation introduced in 2019 aims to improve the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people by:

- Increasing their ability to focus in class
- Reducing stress and anxiety in their daily lives
- Improving their self-esteem and emotional intelligence
- Developing their flexibility, posture and balance
- Encouraging empathy and positive attitudes towards their peers



“Yoga is really fun and enjoyable. It's always great when Sipar librarians come to help us practice.”

Sou Oun
15 years old, ninth grade student,
Beung Prey High School, Phnom Penh

OUR PARTNERS

OUR INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS



ORGANISATION
INTERNATIONALE DE
la francophonie



CNL
CENTRE
NATIONAL
DU LIVRE

OUR INSTITUTIONAL SPONSORS



OUR SPONSORS AND PARTNERS



*Agir pour le
développement humain*
FONDATION PIERRE BELLON

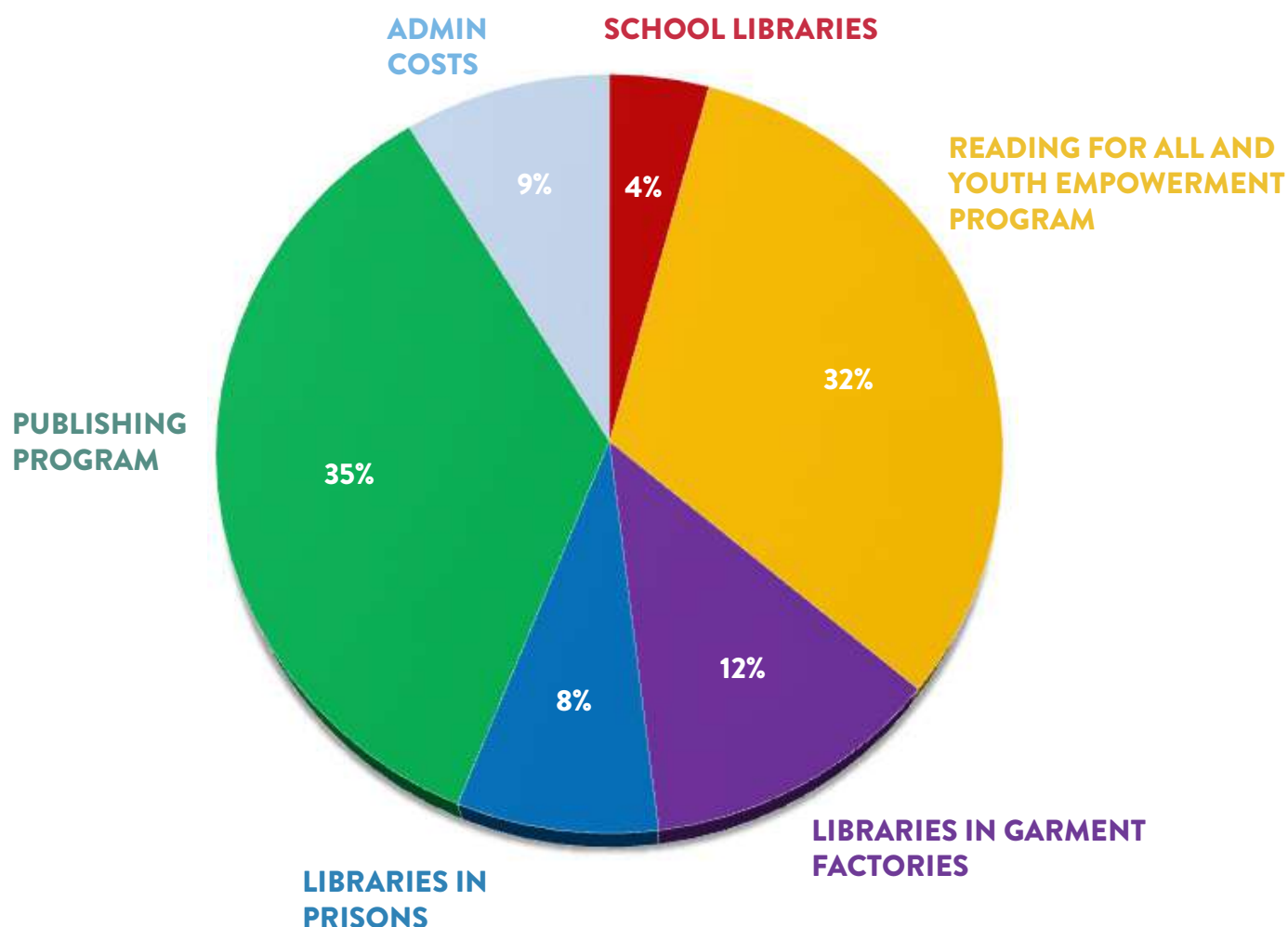


OUR ORGANIZATIONS WE WORK WITH

Action Cambodge Handicap, Asia Foundation, Cambodian Library Association, Cambodia Book Publishers Association, Cambodian Women for Peace and Development, Caritas Cambodia, Friends International, GMAC, IBBY, International Committee of The Red Cross, Krousar Thmey, La Voix de l'Enfant, Lycée Français René Descartes, Mith Samlanh, Mlop Tapang, NGO in Education Partnership, Passerelles numériques, Planète Enfants et Développement, Rabbit School, Room to Read, RTI, Save the Children, SVA, This Life Cambodia, Youth Star

FINANCIAL REPORT

EXPENDITURE PER PROGRAM (USD)



\$ 513,300



\$ 175,600



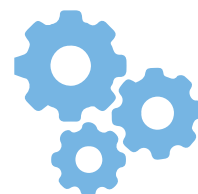
\$ 465,300



\$ 61,400



\$ 117,400



\$ 128,100

TOTAL : \$ 1,461,100

ACTION PLAN FOR 2022



SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAM

Continue the collaboration with relevant departments of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport through training and promoting reading

Pre-schools

- Continue to support the reading corners in the community pre-schools
- Continue the training of pre-school teachers

Primary school libraries

- Continue to provide books to 110 libraries and raise awareness regarding health, hygiene and the environment
- Set up four libraries in four primary schools around the brick factories
- Revise the primary-school libraries standards with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport



READING FOR ALL PROGRAMS

Inclusive Education

- **Multilingual education for ethnic minorities**
 - Publish and deliver the bilingual book Khmer-Jarai to support the multilingual education program
 - Distribute kits of multilingual educational materials

Mobile Libraries

- Continue the reading sessions and develop new educational activities
- Improve the educational services provided by all mobile libraries (reading, environmental awareness, STEAM, road safety, etc.)
- Strengthen community reading stocks and libraries
- Continue to improve community volunteers' capacity to manage the reading stocks
- Continue providing capacity building for Sipar mobile librarians
- Strengthen cooperation between mobile libraries and pre-schools and primary schools
- Develop new tools for more effective monitoring of mobile library activities
- Cooperate with the provincial offices of education and NGO partners to create synergy for specific projects based in the provinces.

LLCs in Garment Factories

- Provide technical support to factories with LLCs created more recently in 2019 and 2020
- Provide technical support to factories with LLCs in most difficulty (old and recent) with the support of mobile librarians (use of PMB management software, promotion of book corners for children, etc.)
- Provide intervention of Sipar mobile librarians in the factories to co-organize the promotion of books with the LLCs working groups of the factories involved

Libraries in Prisons

- Set up libraries in the two new prisons of Kampong Cham and Pursat provinces
- Set up a library in the municipal prison of Phnom Penh
- Train the new prison officers-librarians on how to manage a library, evaluate and certify prison officers and librarian detainees in 28 prisons
- Continue to follow-up and provide technical support to literacy classes in 10 prisons
- Strengthen the cooperation between the librarians/prison guards and the literacy teachers to improve the quality of the educational services available to detainees
- Train 10 officers/librarians and three DGP officers on the “Building Future” curriculum and on the preparation for the reintegration of prisoners
- Conduct awareness sessions for the students of the Police Academy of Cambodia on the importance of prison libraries
- Strengthen the capacity of the General Department of Prisons and the prisons themselves to effectively implement the education and rehabilitation national policies and to ensure their sustainability
- Launch the pilot project “Offline Digital Education” in CC2 and CC1 prisons and prepare a new 3-year project
- Prepare and organize a national seminar for the 3rd phase of the project closure



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

Project “Youth Employability & Civic Engagement”

- **In Secondary Schools**
 - Set up six new Libraries Orientation Centers equipped with Nomad Labs and strengthen the three pilot CBOs
 - Organize training for at least 70 new librarians and education managers
 - Organize nine workshops on the promotion of the use of Libraries Orientation Centers with student councils in nine high schools
 - Organize career forums in nine middle and high schools
- **In Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)**
 - Set up Nomad Labs in eight CBOs
 - Support the 14 independent CBOs and register four new CBOs
 - Organize three training sessions for CBO leaders and members: leadership, tutoring and reading, fundraising
 - Continue the partnership with the National Council for Youth Development
- **Design of Printed Tools**
 - Analyze the needs of young people in orientation and personal development
 - Develop the two first orientation and personal-development guide books



BOOK PUBLISHING PROGRAM

- Print 23 new titles and reprint 80 existing titles
- Translate and publish in Khmer the comic book on women “Culottées” by Pénélope Bagieu
- Develop two series of books for children aged 3 to 5 and 5 to 7
- Develop/translate a book on the theme “Water”
- Support the members of the mobile library teams who wish to write the next stories of Veary and Kiri

FRANCE

16 rue Champ Lagarde
78000 Versailles

+33 (0)1 39 02 32 52

CAMBODIA

148 Norodom Blvd
Po-box 31
Phnom Penh

+855 (0)10 200 740



Photo Credits : Florent de Warren / Laurent Jannic / Sipar

Designed by : Mathieu Mazin

www.sipar.org

www.sipar-books.com

