



READING AND LEARNING TO BUILD THE FUTURE



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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Sipar obtained the IDEAS label at the beginning of 2023. It attests to best practices in terms of governance, finance and action effectiveness.



A MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM

Sipar celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2022! Originally established in 1982 in Versailles, France, to help refugees from Southeast Asia, its mission in Cambodia began in 1991 with support for primary school education and reading. Sipar then **developed reading awareness** and **educational support programs** for all Cambodians, and especially for children and people from vulnerable communities in the country.

More than **300 libraries** in public schools are now accessible to students. Sipar continues to support these libraries through the renewal of book stocks, library management training, storytelling, and awareness sessions on social and environmental issues.

Today, **14 mobile libraries** circulate in seven provinces of Cambodia as well as in Phnom Penh and its suburbs, animating reading and holding education sessions. To give our beneficiaries permanent access to books, we have created **79 micro-libraries** managed by volunteers in rural villages, and **25 libraries in garment factories** serving workers and managed independently by companies.

The activities of the “Prisons” program have developed and each of the **28 prisons** in the country is now equipped with a library. A pilot project has been launched in five prisons to **introduce offline digital education** to support prisoners in their preparation for reintegration and their personal development.

The project of the “Youth Development” program has entered its second year. **Eight Libraries and Vocational Orientation Corners** (LVOC) have been set up in high schools to prepare high school students for their professional orientation and **15 Community-Based Organizations** (CBO) are registered with their communes. Our team also organized training to strengthen the skills of librarians and CBO members, and supported the establishment of career forums in high schools or online to assist students with their professional orientation.

Finally, our editorial team continues to help promote reading and education in Cambodia by offering new titles every year. In 2022, **24 new titles** were published, enriching our current catalog of **270 titles**.

Building on its 40 years of activity, Sipar will continue, while extending, its mission of promoting reading and education for all, providing educational support, and supporting Cambodia’s youth development in the most disadvantaged areas.

We **sincerely thank all our precious friends, partners and donors** who continue to support us so that we can contribute to the educational dynamic 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 help **improve literacy rates** and to **encourage reading habits** among children and adults through an expanding network of libraries and reading spaces in schools, rural villages and city suburbs, garment factories, brick factories, hospitals and prisons. Working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS), as well as with the local authorities, communities, and local and international associations, Sipar promotes literature and brings books to Cambodians nationwide through innovative programs.



In addition, having seen the challenges faced by the book industry in Cambodia and the lack of books in Khmer language, Sipar launched its very own publishing program in 2000 to **produce quality literature in Khmer** for children, young people and adults. With the illiteracy rate as high as 12.3 percent in Cambodia, Sipar **works to increase** access to knowledge and education, accompanying Cambodian people on their path to literacy.






Education and Reading for All

-  • 14 mobile libraries operating at 104 sites in 7 provinces: 9 van libraries, 3 tuk-tuk libraries, 1 boat library, and 1 motorcycle library
-  • 28 prisons equipped with reading units in Phnom Penh and 24 provinces
-  • 17 communal libraries in 3 provinces
-  • 19 hospitals equipped with playground libraries in Phnom Penh and 17 provinces
-  • 25 Library Learning Centers (LLCs) in garment factories in Phnom Penh and 8 provinces
-  • 34 micro-libraries at volunteer houses at the rural area

Education Sector

-  • 315 libraries in schools across Phnom Penh and 24 provinces
-  • 45 micro-libraries in community preschools and primary schools

Youth Empowerment

-  • 15 CBOs registered in 15 rural communes in 2 provinces (Kratie and Prey Veng)
-  • 8 Libraries and Vocational Orientation Corners (LVOC) in high schools in 8 provinces
-  • 30 micro-libraries managed by members of CBOs

Book Publishing

-  • 3.2 million books printed since 2001
-  • 24 new titles published in 2022, for a total of 270 titles published over the years
-  • More than 83 training sessions held since 2004

40 YEARS

62 Cambodian employees

13

members
of the Board of
Directors

1 national
coverage

in
25 provinces &
municipality

+340 000

direct beneficiaries

640 libraries and
reading places in
service

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 into 4 main programs:



**EDUCATION
SECTOR**



**EDUCATION AND
READING FOR ALL**



**YOUTH
EMPOWERMENT**



**BOOK
PUBLISHING**



We use **the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** as a framework to assess our achievements and the impact of our programs:

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

We contribute to the following SDGs, to which **we respond through specific programs:**

- SDG 3 – Good health and well-being (through our awareness sessions on health)
- SDG 5 – Gender equality (Youth Empowerment program and awareness sessions on STEAM)
- SDG 8 – Decent work and economic growth (LLCs in garment factories' project)
- SDG 12 – Responsible consumption and production (through our awareness sessions on the environment)
- SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (libraries in the prisons' project)

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

A young girl with dark hair, wearing a white school shirt and a green sash, is sitting at a round wooden table. She is looking down at an open book in her hands. On the table next to her is a small basket filled with red and white flowers. In the background, there are white shelves filled with various books and educational materials. The overall setting appears to be a school library or a classroom.

EDUCATION SECTOR PROGRAM



EDUCATION SECTOR PROGRAM

Preschools: Reading Corners and Training

Context: In Cambodia, *only one in three children* between the ages of three and five attend kindergarten. These schools are located in few parts of the country and there is a very small number of public kindergartens. Most are community schools run by the municipality and the students' parents. They are severely lacking in resources and trained teachers.

In 2022, to **introduce reading** into **early childhood** programs, Sipar set up **19 new micro-libraries** in kindergartens located around brick factories near Phnom

Penh, and in the provinces of Kampong Chhnang and Kampong Speu. Each micro-library has a stock of 100 to 500 books.

Micro-libraries are now our relay points to promote reading among these very young children by giving them daily access to books. Teachers in community preschools and volunteer managers of micro-libraries are **trained** and **supported** by our teams of mobile librarians in the management and animation of these micro-libraries.

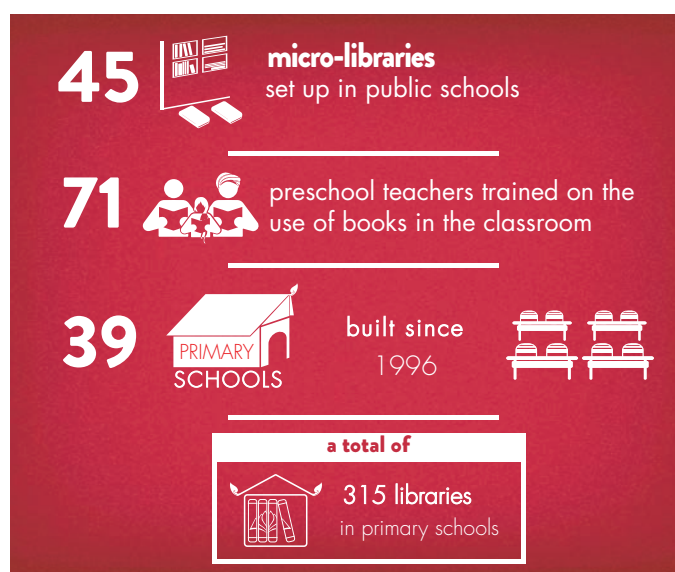
Primary and Secondary Schools: Construction, Libraries and Training

Context: In 1993, Sipar launched a school library project with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MOEYs) in three parts: setting up a network of 300 libraries, creating the Office of School Library with the strengthening of library standards, and the training of primary school librarians. Over the past 20 years, this project has developed and been incorporated into the national policy on school library development.

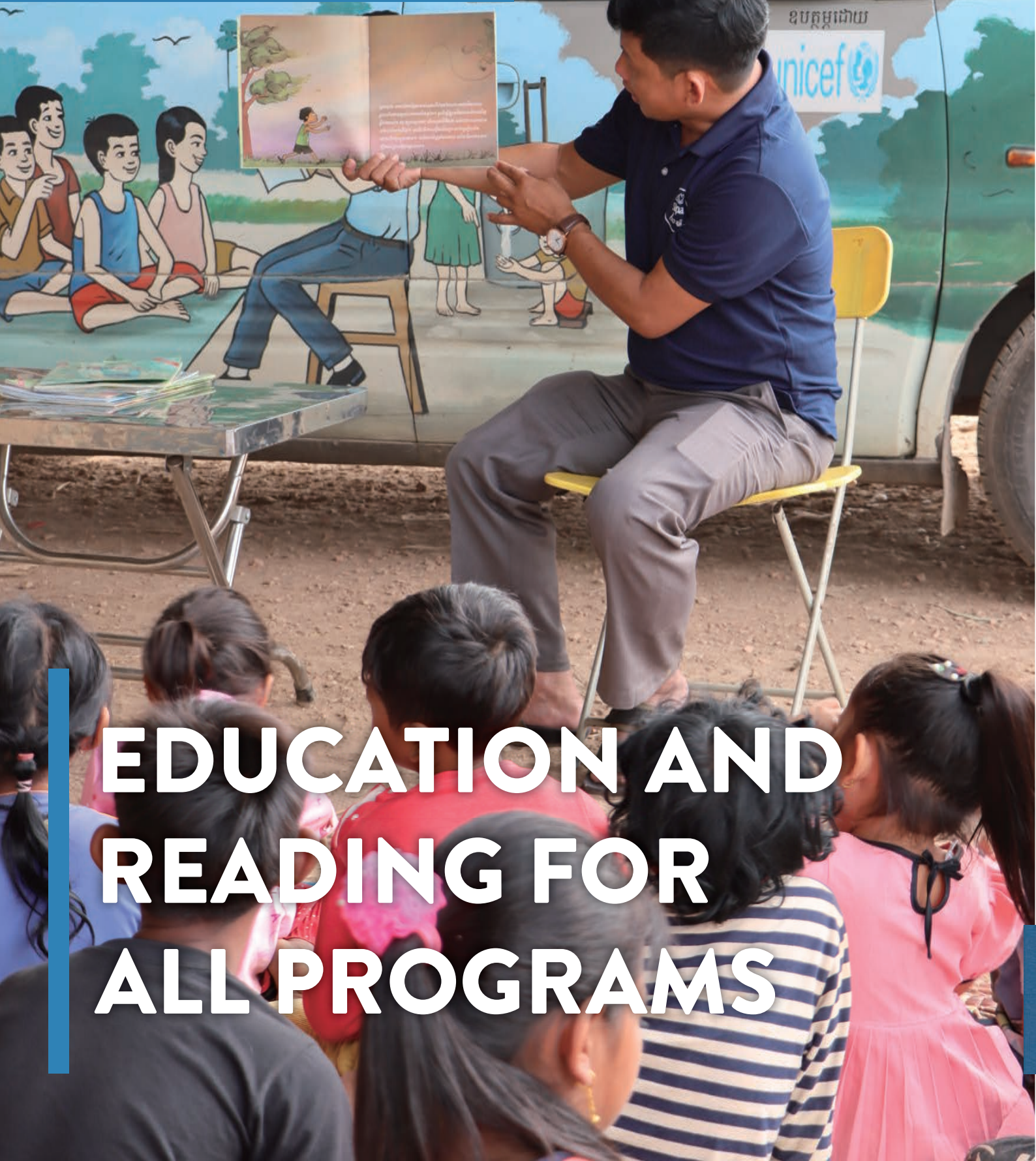
To make the libraries more attractive for young readers and satisfy their curiosity, Sipar has provided each of the 300 primary school libraries with 100 new books in 2019. Thanks to our donors, we were able to bring additional books to 35 schools in 2022, and we plan to distribute them to 34 additional schools in 2023. We have also set up seven new libraries and 18 micro-libraries.

In 2022, we inaugurated the first building of Karsang Secondary School in Chang Krang commune in Kratie province's Chet Borei district! A new school building with five rooms and a library was inaugurated to meet the educational needs of around 400 students during

the school year. Two micro-libraries have also been set up in secondary establishments, and are both equipped with a stock of 300 books corresponding to the needs of middle and high school students.



To support the disadvantaged populations to help them develop the habit of reading, and promote access to books, information and education, which are essential for socio-economic development.



EDUCATION AND READING FOR ALL PROGRAMS



MOBILE LIBRARIES

Context: The lack of educational infrastructure, such as public libraries, deprives communities in the suburbs of Phnom Penh and neighboring provinces of access to books and knowledge. Since 2000, Sipar's mobile library program has been serving children and adults by offering activities around reading and writing, providing them with book lending services as well as tutoring and sharing information on crucial social issues.

Our fleet now includes **14 mobile libraries**: nine van mobile libraries, three tuk-tuk mobile libraries, one boat library, and a motorcycle mobile library. Sipar's mobile libraries circulate in the villages from Monday through Friday, serving each week **104 sites** in seven provinces and reaching more than **15,000 beneficiaries**. A session generally starts with animation around reading, (narration and free reading), continues with educational and creative games, then concludes with book-lending service. Our teams have recently added **tutoring** sessions on key school subjects – **Khmer and Mathematics** – to the weekly sessions.

To ensure the sustainability of its actions, Sipar has set up micro-libraries in villages by working closely with community volunteers. So far, **34 micro-libraries** with a total of **26,000 books** have been put into service and are managed by volunteer villagers. Our teams have provided technical support for the management of these libraries and for storytelling techniques as well as for raising awareness on various topics.

In parallel with the reading sessions, our teams organize **awareness sessions** on key subjects: health and nutrition, road safety, the inclusion of people with disabilities, yoga and mindfulness, the environment, and STEAM, that is, Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. Four mobile

libraries have specialized in these themes to raise awareness among children, adolescents and adults.

Sipar does not stop there. We spread our skills to future players in the field. Our teams have trained teachers and young people at Kantel middle school in Kampong Speu province in library management, running reading sessions and, in partnership with a local NGO specializing in psychology, initiated students into stress management.



“The role of mobile librarians is very important to helping children develop reading habits. Mobile libraries also create a joyful atmosphere when children come together to listen, read and play together. We are constantly developing and updating our activities to provide a flexible and inclusive learning opportunity for all children.”

CHORN Sopheak,
mobile librarian at Sipar

9 vans
mobile library

3 tuk-tuks
mobile library

1 motorcycle
mobile library

1 boat
mobile library

104 targeted
sites

34 micro-libraries
in villages



15 000
Beneficiaries



MOBILE LIBRARIES FOR DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS

Context: Nearly 18 percent of Cambodians live below the poverty line, that is, less than US\$2.50 per day per person. The vast majority of disadvantaged Cambodians live in the slums of Phnom Penh and rural areas, mainly in the Tonle Sap Lake area and in the mountainous areas, which is where poverty rates are the highest.

Since 2013, in partnership with RESPEK, Sipar has been working with the **minority population** in Ratanakiri province to promote reading and provide educational support to children. These Tampuan and Jarai minority families had to leave their traditional way of life as hunter-gatherers in the forests to become sedentary farmers and herders—a transformation requiring new adaptive skills. A motorcycle mobile library now replaced by a **tuk-tuk mobile library** equipped with books and educational games circulates in **12 remote villages** of the Banteay Meanchey district. The reading and education sessions are led by our bilingual Khmer-Tampuan librarian who provides essential support to children, enabling them to strengthen their learning in the Khmer language.

In 2018, Sipar initiated the first project for the development of reading and the fight against illiteracy among the families of brick factory workers. Each factory has an average of 40 families living there, amounting to 150 people with 50 of them under the age of 18. The workers' families live in extreme poverty with their children having little access to education. In 2020, Sipar set up two mobile libraries, which toured four brick factories every week. Today, they visit **12 brick factories** regularly, working with **400 children** and their parents, and supporting the schooling of children

aged 6 to 12.

We also support families living in very precarious situations in the slums of Phnom Penh. These inhabitants have little access to education and health infrastructure, and experience a very high rate of illiteracy. Sipar has put into service **two tuk-tuk mobile libraries** serving **14 slums**, and **two special education schools**. The first tuk-tuk mobile library was launched in 2019 and the second in 2021 in partnership with the NGO Planète Enfants et Développement to promote reading, provide educational support and raise awareness of social issues.

Sipar in 2019 launched on the Tonle Sap Lake the very first **boat mobile library** for the **inhabitants of the lake** and the **floating villages**, which tend to be remote and not easy to reach. The educational level in those villages remains low: one child in four does not go to school due to the lack of transportation. The boat mobile library operates every week, touring three target villages and three adjoining villages in the commune of Phnom Thlok. This project helps the fight against school failure and dropping out. In addition, awareness sessions on social issues are conducted by our teams several times a year with the adults in these villages.



I think that Sipar's mobile librarians have a nice way of reading books and I'm always on board with the stories. After each session with the mobile library, I like to borrow Khmer literature books to read at home. My parents love the mobile library and encourage me to participate and learn.



THANG Sokrin,

13 years old, Sipar mobile library participant



LIBRARY LEARNING CENTERS IN GARMENT FACTORIES

Context: The Cambodian textile industry employs more than **700,000** people with 85 percent of them being women mostly under the age of 24. Due to the lack of access to basic education resources, this working population includes a high proportion of illiterates, that is, 25 percent.

Since 2013, the **Library Learning Centers (LLCs)** have been set up by Sipar in **32** garment factories, aiming to reduce the vulnerability of this working population while strengthening these workers' ability to contribute to production. While the project reached the end of its second phase in 2021, as many as **25 LLCs** continue to operate independently, providing access to their libraries to more than **75,000** employees, serving approximately **7,000** persons each month.

The LLCs offer workers reading, literacy, and awareness sessions on important social subjects that are held at their workplace to enable them to develop the habit of reading and self-learning. With the support of the Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia (GMAC) and UNESCO, these LLCs regularly organize literacy classes for the employees.

Sipar is now working with the factories as a technical advisor to keep the LLCs running and to provide support for library management and reading promotion as needed:

- Advice to librarians on the use of PMB library management software and data collection
- Encouragement and assistance in the organization of promotional «Library Outside the Walls» programs
- Exchange of experiences and initiatives, thanks to the organization of a social network of which all the librarians of the 25 LLCs are members
- Publication and distribution to all factories of a practical guide on library management in a textile factory



“The project in the garment factories has been very useful for both the workers and their employers. It provided important resources for workers to help them develop general knowledge as well as self-learning habits encouraged by reading and practicing what they learn in the workplace. Sipar remains a technical partner for all our partner factories.”

TEP Bopha,
technical project assistant at Sipar

25
LLCs



serving **75,000**
workers
(85% women)

7 000 workers
regularly using LLCs'
services



LIBRARY AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN PRISONS

Context: Most of the detainees are young people coming from vulnerable backgrounds, with very low educational levels and socio-economic status, and without professional qualifications. The institutions offer an increasing number of educational and professional-training services, but educational opportunities and services to prepare the detainees for their release remain insufficient.

National Prison Library Network Development Program

Since 2012, Sipar has strengthened the national network of **Libraries/Education Centers** in prison thanks to co-financing from the European Union, the French Development Agency and the Pierre Bellon Foundation in cooperation with the General Department of Prisons of the Ministry of Interior. This project has aimed to contribute to the **education** and preparation for the **socio-professional reintegration** of prisoners.


The 3-year project reached its third and final phase in May 2022. The **28 libraries** are now managed directly by the prisons themselves with the support of the General Department of Prisons. The 28th library is that of the Phnom Penh municipal prison that was equipped and put into service at the beginning of 2022 and is now accessible to prisoners.

The reintegration preparation sessions were conducted by our two local partners: the NGO Mith Samlanh in the prisons of CC2, Kandal, Prey Veng, and Svay Rieng with **100 beneficiaries**; the NGO M'lop Tapang, which was unable

to intervene in the Sihanoukville prison that was still affected by COVID-19, provided medico-psychological support to hundreds of young drug addicts, giving them the opportunity to recover and enabling them to avoid detention.

With the operational support of Sipar, which has provided **educational support** to guardian teachers and material support to students, the Department of Non-Formal Education of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport is now implementing national literacy policies for literacy in prisons. In 2022, **21 literacy classes** benefited **427 detainees**.

A national seminar, which brought together the 28 prison directors and was co-chaired by the Ambassador of France to Cambodia and the Director General of Prisons, was organized in July 2022 to review the achievements of the project launched in 2012, and to officially launch the next prison education program for March 2022 through February 2025.

28 
Libraries/Education
Centers
38 000
inmate beneficiaries

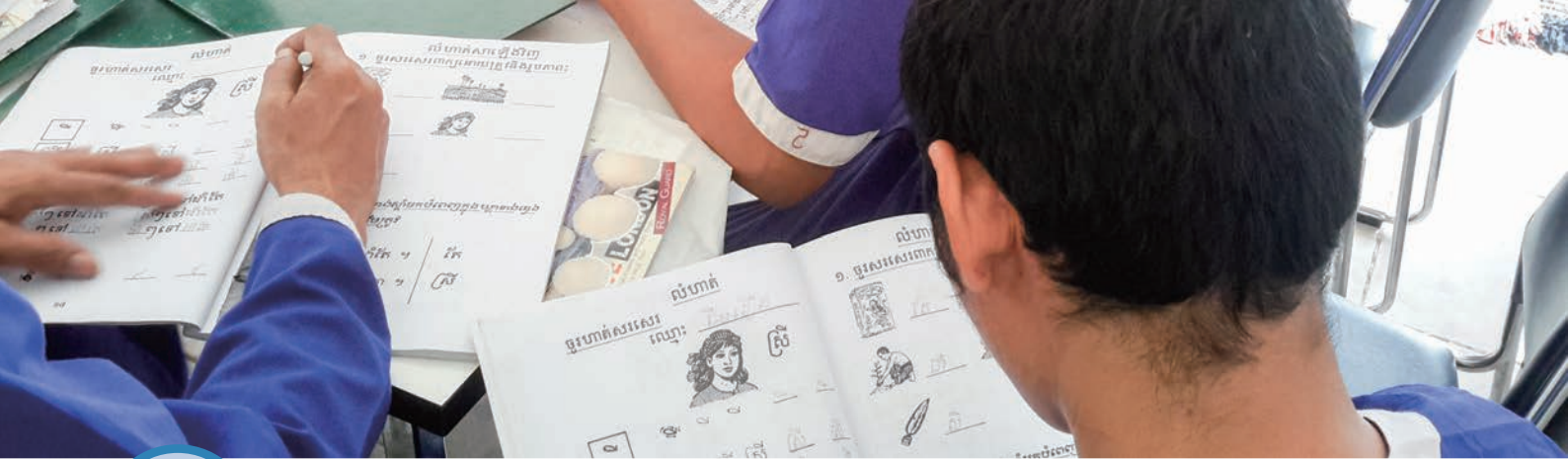
8 000
readers
per month

5 libraries
equipped with
digital laboratories
with **250**
beneficiaries



427
beneficiaries
of the literacy
classes

100
beneficiaries
of the socio-
professional
reintegration sessions



LIBRARY AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN PRISONS

Prison Education Program (March 2022-February 2025)

Thanks to the experience acquired in the course of developing the national network of libraries in prisons over 10 years, and the awareness that the needs of prisoners in terms of education, training, and preparation for reintegration remain important, Sipar has decided to launch a new innovative and effective project for education in prisons in partnership with the General Department of Prisons and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, a project supported by the Pierre Bellon Foundation.

Offline digital education has been introduced as a pilot project in five prison libraries and will expand to all 28 prisons by February 2025. Each prison will be equipped with a NomadLab, which is an offline digital laboratory developed by our partner, the NGO Passerelles numériques. Ten computers are provided in each prison with more than **800 reading files, 260 educational video files, and 120 offline applications** available to inmates. This program aims to reinforce prisoners' learning and support them in their preparation for reintegration. Since the project was set up, more than **250 prisoners** have been able to access the content developed in these offline digital laboratories.

Consultation and book lending services in the 28 prisons remain available to all prisoners. Nearly all the libraries are managed with the PMB library management software and our team will continue to provide technical support and training to guards and inmate librarians according to their needs.

The Sipar team will also continue its pedagogical support for guards trained by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to teach the **new literacy program** leading learners to the end of grade 6 of primary school.

In addition, we are introducing **cultural** and **creative**

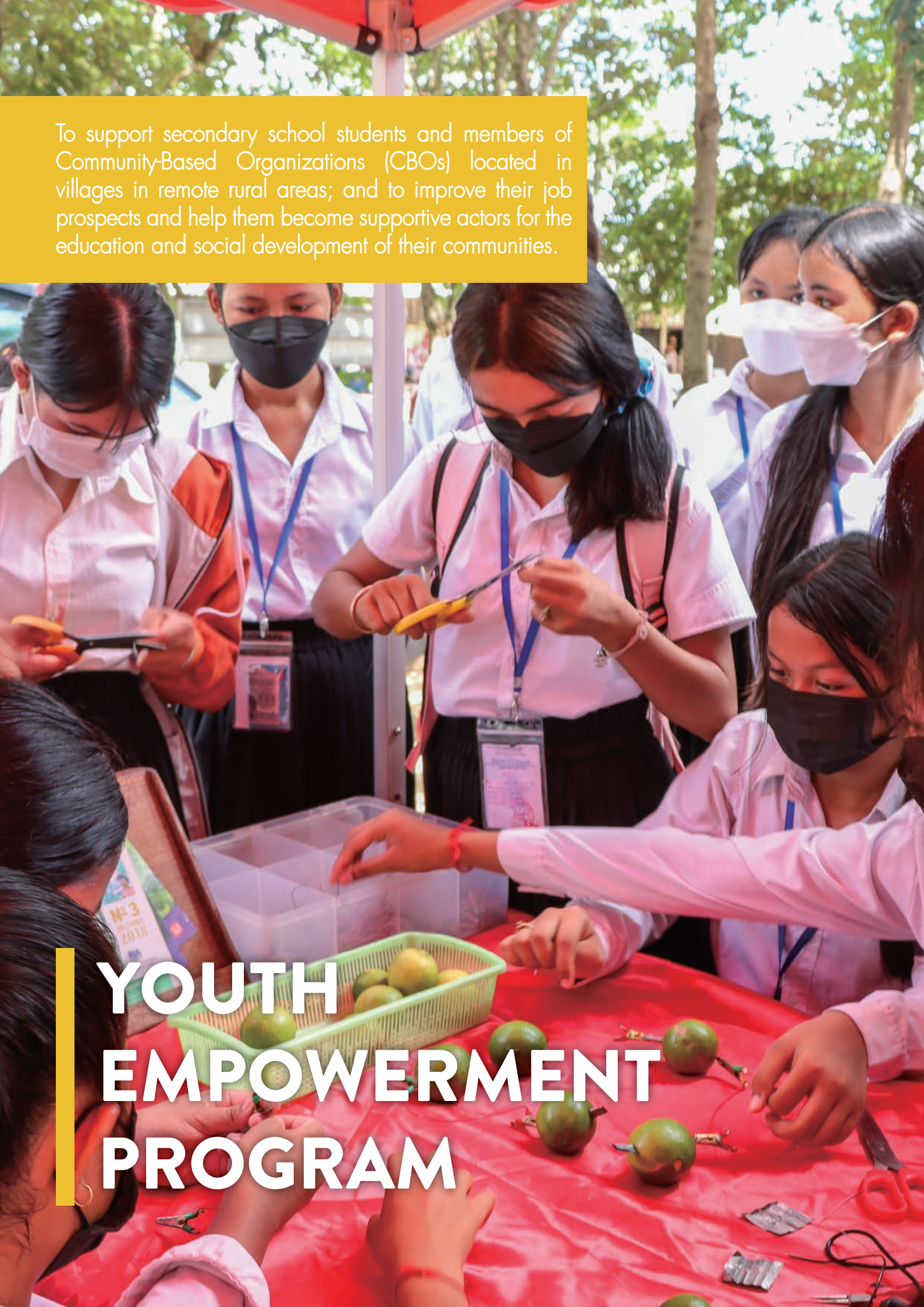
activities. A first writing workshop, which was led by a volunteer Khmer-Swiss journalist, took place with seven women inmates of the CC2 prison participating. The works produced will be the subject of a publication following editorial work carried out by the Sipar publishing team. Literary and artistic creation workshops will be held in four other prisons.

The Sipar team will formalize a partnership with the National Employment Agency. The Provincial Employment Agencies (Job Centers) in five provinces have already been approached by Sipar, the General Department of Prisons, and the prisons to ensure preparation for the socio-professional reintegration of detainees. Those managing these Job Centers will organize the training of prisoners before their release on various preparatory skills for their reintegration: good communication, problem-solving, self-confidence, job search, labor market, resumes and interviews, relations with managers and colleagues, etc.

“ I am very happy to have participated in the “Education in Prison” program because I can now learn new technologies thanks to digital devices. When I am released, I think I will be able to master these tools.

Detainee in Kampot Prison

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



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Context: In Cambodia, 15-to-29 year-olds make up nearly 43 percent 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 labor market, with many of them having no skills. Sipar is currently developing a three-year project called “Youth Employability and Civic Engagement.” Launched in October 2021 and co-financed by the Agence française de développement (French Development Agency) and in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, the project aims to improve employment prospects and strengthen the civic engagement of these young people.

Libraries and Orientation Spaces in Secondary Schools

In 2019, Sipar initiated the implementation of three **Libraries and Vocational Orientation Corners** as a pilot project in three high schools. In view of the results obtained, Sipar embarked on a three-year project aimed at transforming 13 other high school libraries into Libraries and Vocational Orientation Corners. They will be designed and equipped with additional furniture and printed materials as well as a **digital laboratory** (Nomad Lab) set up by our partner, the NGO Passerelles numériques, offering students digital tools to help their orientation to learning, and strengthening their digital skills.

To date, we have **eight** Libraries and Vocational Orientation Corners **set up**—each one equipped with more than 800 printed materials and eight computers (Chromebooks) with more than 110 online and offline applications—in support of learning and guidance for middle and high school students. We have trained librarians, guidance counselors, the school management team, and relevant ministry executives in the management and use of the multimedia resources of the Libraries and Vocational Orientation Corners.

To accompany student orientation assistance, Career Forums are organized once or twice a year in each high

school to introduce students to academic and professional opportunities as well as to the best way to prepare for their future after graduation. **Eight Career Forums** were organized in secondary schools and **three held online**. More than 500 high school students at each event went to meet representatives of academic institutions and private companies from different sectors who were taking part in these forums.



“The Library and Vocational Orientation Corner at Saom Thom High School offers benefits to students and allows us to explore careers, jobs, and other skills. We can also research universities and careers as we prepare for our studies after graduation.”

RORCHOM Bopha,
student of Saom Thom High School

8 Libraries and Vocational Orientation Corners
set up and equipped with
digital laboratories

11 Career Forums
with more than
5 000 participants

65 teachers trained
(**20** women)



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Youth Civic Engagement for Community Development

At the same time, the project's mission is to strengthen and expand the network of 23 Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) in the service of the socio-educational development of communities, and to design new printed and digital tools for personal development and support for guidance of young people. The members of the CBOs, who are 12 to 18 years old, come together as volunteers to carry out projects aimed at supporting schooling and education in their communities, and promoting reading:

- 4 to 5 tutoring sessions per week on Khmer language and mathematics are led by 89 "little teachers" in line with the national program, benefitting 1,350 primary school children.
- 37 members lead a traveling book-lending service, taking the backpack library to their communities and

reaching nearly 800 villagers per month.

- 30 micro-libraries, installed in some CBO members' homes, welcome nearly 300 beneficiaries every month.
- In 2022, five awareness campaigns reached 2,000 participants around themes such as road safety, the environment, the promotion of reading, and school enrolment.
- 13 CBOs were equipped and the members were trained in the management and use of a digital laboratory (NomadLab) equipped with eight digital tablets for assistance with professional orientation, digital literacy, and the tutoring of children (calculation and reading applications).

The Development of Printed and Digital Educational Materials

To enrich the documentation made available to young people, career and personal development guides and new interactive digital tools will be produced and distributed over the three years of the project to support young people in their orientation and preparation for their future. A total of 11 titles will be published and distributed and 4 digital tools designed and downloaded unto Nomad Labs computers.

In 2022, several of those titles were published or were in the process of being produced:

- The poster and leaflet (30,000 copies) "A path to prepare my future" were produced and distributed in high schools for student guidance.

- Three issues of the business magazine "Are you ready?" on careers in the renewable energy, agriculture and tourism sectors were updated, republished, and distributed.
- The editorial team has started designing a guidebook on air transport professions in partnership with Cambodia Airports, which will be published and distributed in the second quarter of 2023.
- The project team has started designing a guide for CBOs' volunteers geared toward local socio-educational development, which will be published and distributed in the second quarter of 2023.


15 CBOs with **600 members**
(13 CBOs equipped with Nomad Labs)



37  **backpack libraries**
800 readers per month



89 little teachers
1,350 beneficiaries from the tutoring

30  **micro-libraries**
among members

5 **AWARENESS** campaigns
with **2,000** participants



To contribute to the education of the Cambodian population by publishing for children, teachers, educators, and the general public a wide selection of quality books corresponding to their tastes and needs; by promoting reading to these populations; and by training in the various publishing professions.



BOOK PUBLISHING PROGRAM



BOOK PUBLISHING PROGRAM

Context: Recently, interest in reading has begun to find its way into Cambodian schools and homes. This is demonstrated by the enormous success of the national book fair, launched in 2010, which attracts more and more visitors every year. However, the quality of publishing in Cambodia is still insufficient and the sector lacks professionalism and creativity.

Sipar has been working since 2001 to publish original and quality fiction and non-fiction works in Khmer language. They are distributed through reading services supported by Sipar and other NGOs, and are also available in a vast network of bookshops. In 2022, our publishing team has demonstrated remarkable resilience throughout the year, managing to remain as efficient and creative as ever: **24 new titles** were published and **77 titles reprinted**. In total, **3.2 million copies** have been published and distributed since 2001!

We have also developed a **new collection** titled “**Lom Arom**,” which consists of fiction books written by Cambodian writers for teenagers. Following this new collection intended for young readers, we will continue to develop quality books to promote reading in Cambodia.

Our team also trains writing enthusiasts by offering **writing workshops** and training on the techniques for producing children’s books. In February 2022, we organized a training session with eight participants on how to **create a story** in the “I start reading” collection, which includes the book series on the adventures of Kiri

and Veary. Four new titles were developed and released as a result of this training.

To celebrate our 40th anniversary, Sipar launched at the end of 2022 a **competition for writers and illustrators** of books for children in Khmer language. This competition was meant to encourage candidates to embark on writing stories for young people and to bring out talents in this sector. A total of 76 candidates took part in the competition and **four winners** were selected.



“ I participated in a training on writing children’s stories focusing on a series of books that Sipar had launched in 2021 featuring Veary and Kiri. Following this training, I wrote two stories about Kiri: “Kiri Consoles his Sister” and “Veary Can Fly” I am very happy that these two books have been published because they are the very first children’s stories I have written. ”

SIN Sovanrattana,
editor at Sipar

24
New Titles
published
in 2022

270 **20**
TITLES in collections
published since 2001

3,2 million
copies
published since 2001

83
training
sessions
since
2004



BOOK PUBLISHING PROGRAM

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS IN 2022

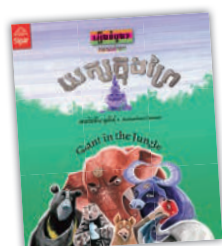


Asbov

Written by Cambodian anthropologist Ang Choulean, “Asbov” is a historical fiction that takes readers back to 16th-century Cambodia to witness a religious pilgrimage to ancient temples, the process of making stone inscriptions, the liberation of slaves by nobles, and the daily life of the people.

The Water

“The Water” Book of l’Apprenti Écolo—text: Water Family, illustrations: Nicolas Trève. Originally published in 2019 by Vagnon editions. Translated to Khmer, “the Water” is an informative book (with additional information on Cambodia) that explores the importance of water for humans, animals and the world, and how we can protect water, which is a limited resource.



Giant in the Jungle

With whimsical illustrations and a comedic undertone, “Giant in the Jungle” is an uplifting ecological tale that teaches children about the danger of plastic waste in Nature.

A five-book set in the “Let’s Read” collection

This five-book set, which is part of the “Let’s Read” collection, consists of five short stories published by the École des Loisirs and translated to Khmer, which parents can read to their children. The stories explore themes such as emotions, conflicts, friendship, and love.



A five-book set in the “First Story” collection

This box of five books in the “First Story” collection consists of five short stories that were published by the École des Loisirs and translated to Khmer. These are stories that parents can read to their children to take them on crazy adventures with courageous characters, and stimulate the imagination.



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



JANUARY

LAUNCH OF THE 28TH PRISON LIBRARY IN PHNOM PENH CORRECTIONAL CENTER

The Sipar team assisted in setting up a new library in the Phnom Penh's Correction Center, which is the 28th library of the "Libraries in Prisons" project. In addition to materials and book distribution, Sipar has also provided training on library management with the PMB software.



FEBRUARY

CAREER FORUM IN BUN RANY HUN SEN PREY POUN HIGH SCHOOL IN PREY VENG PROVINCE

Sipar's flagship project "Career Forum" resumed after postponements due to the global pandemic at Hun Sen Prey Poun High School in Prey Veng province, with over 240 high school students joining to learn about academic and employment opportunities.



MARCH

LAUNCH OF THE BOOK "CHEEKY WOMEN" AT THE FRENCH INSTITUTE OF CAMBODIA

"Cheeky Women", authored by Pénélope Bagieu and translated to Khmer by Sipar, was officially launched at the French Institute of Cambodia on March 9, 2022, as part of the International Women's Day celebrations.



MARCH

CAREER FORUM AT SAOM THOM HIGH SCHOOL IN RATANAKIRI PROVINCE

The "Career Forum" held at Saom Thom High School in Ratanakiri province to provide students with information on academic and employment opportunities was attended by more than 400 students. A new library equipped with a computerized system was also inaugurated to serve students' educational and research needs.



APRIL

VISIT TO THE KANDAL PROVINCE PRISON BY FRENCH AMBASSADOR JACQUES PALLET

H.E. Jacques Pellet, ambassador of France to Cambodia, Mr. Yazid Bensaid, director of the French Development Agency in Southeast Asia, Ms. Ophélie Bourhis, director of the French Development Agency in Cambodia, as well as Mith Samlanh's representatives were accompanied by Sipar as they visited the library facilities and viewed the library services offered at Kandal Prison.



MAY

WORKSHOP ON THE SUSTAINABILITY OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN PRISONS

Sipar hosted a workshop on the "Sustainability of Education Programs in Prisons," which was attended by 25 officers from eight prisons. The objective of the workshop was to ensure the continuity of education programs in prisons, especially the library services, literacy classes, and the program for the reintegration process of the detainees.



JULY

SEMINAR ON THE “LIBRARIES IN PRISONS” PROJECT AND LAUNCH OF THE “EDUCATION IN PRISONS” PROJECT

To sum up 10 years of support for the development of the national network of prison libraries by Sipar in partnership with the General Department of Prisons and to launch the new 3-year prison education project, a national seminar co-chaired by the Ambassador of France and the Director General of the General Department of Prisons brought together the 28 prison directors.



AUGUST

LAUNCHING OF A NEW LIBRARY AT TONLE KONTEL HIGH SCHOOL IN KAMPONG SPEU PROVINCE

A new standardized library was inaugurated at Tonle Kontel High School in Samraong Tong district in Kampong Speu Province in partnership with Sabrina Garment Manufacturing to encourage reading among more than 300 students and raise awareness of the importance of yoga and meditation for students.



SEPTEMBER

CAREER FORUM AT ANG ROKA HIGH SCHOOL IN TAKEO PROVINCE

Ang Roka High School in Takeo Province recently carried out a “Career Forum” in cooperation with Sipar and our partners with the participation of more than 1,000 high school students who learned about education and vocational opportunities after graduation.



OCTOBER

LAUNCH OF THE “CHILDREN’S BOOKS WRITERS AND ILLUSTRATORS CONTEST”

To celebrate Sipar’s 40th anniversary and encourage new talents in the publishing sector, the “Children’s Books Writers and Illustrators Contest” was launched and remained open until mid-November. Four works were selected, and the four winners received awards during Sipar’s 40th Anniversary celebrations.



DECEMBER

INAUGURATION OF NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND LIBRARIES

Thanks to the generosity of Madame LY Sovanna and her friends, a new school building and a library were inaugurated on December 1, 2022, at Prey Peay Primary School in Kampot province to accommodate the school’s 500 students, and a new five-room school building and a library were inaugurated on December 12, 2022, at the Korsang middle school in Kratie province to welcome 400 middle school students.



DECEMBER

SIPAR CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

To commemorate its 40th anniversary, Sipar held an open day. The stands animated by the members of the teams enabled the public to learn about the projects being conducted, and activities for children around reading were led by our ambassador DJ Nana and librarians. The winners of the “Children’s Books Writers and Illustrators Contest” were announced during the event.

GOING BEYOND BOOKS, RAISING AWARENESS

As an education expert NGO in contact with the most disadvantaged, Sipar has developed **awareness campaigns** on various issues in cooperation with corporate and institutional partners. In partnership with these local institutional, private, and associative players, Sipar is delivering key messages in remote areas via its programs and through its **mobile libraries** and its **Community-Based Youth Organizations**. For

each of these topics, Sipar designs and uses books, educational tools and educational games, adapting the messages to target the most vulnerable young people and adults.

Our goal is to **achieve behavior change** and to **encourage Cambodians to become ambassadors on these topics** within their families and communities.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS TOPICS

WATER, SANITATION, HYGIENE AND HEALTH

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

Topics:

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



“ Sipar’s mobile librarians taught me about good hygiene practices like regular hand-washing and daily showers. Hygiene is important to me to avoid getting myself and my family sick. Bad health will affect my studies, so I try my best to always keep clean.”

CHAN Sreylen
a participant in Sipar’s mobile
library in a brick factory

ROAD SAFETY

To contribute to people’s awareness of road safety and promote safe behavior on the road.

Topics:

- Traffic laws and road signs
- Ethical driving
- Wearing a helmet
- Dangers of speeding
- Mobile phone use while driving
- Drinking and driving
- Eye checks for good vision



“ Road safety awareness is very important for my students. To get to school, they have to take the national road every day, shared by cars and big trucks. This is very risky for their safety. I encourage my students to learn as much as possible from Sipar because road safety awareness not only serves them now but will continue to serve them well into adulthood.”

CHEY Sokha
community teacher

ENVIRONMENT

To encourage people 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



“The environment is important to me because that’s where we live. I try to be careful with my habits by not littering and putting waste correctly in the bins.”

KHEUN Sopheak

11 years old, a participant in Sipar’s Environment mobile library

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

Since 2019, Sipar has been helping children in Cambodia discover STEAM through educational games to stimulate their interest in these sectors, which are 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 math games)
- **Art** (primary and secondary colors, painting, drawing)



“Every month I can read about 10 books. I like reading science books because they help me learn new things about the world. The STEAM mobile library helps me a lot to expand my knowledge relating to science.”

Nita

12 years old, a participant in Sipar’s STEAM mobile library

YOGA AND MEDITATION

The new mobile library on Yoga and Meditation introduced in 2019 aims to improve the mental health and well-being 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 toward their peers



“Doing yoga and meditation helps me get stronger and healthier, improve my memory and sleep better too.”

Sreyka

13 years old, a participant in Sipar’s Yoga and Meditation mobile library

OUR PARTNERS

OUR INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS



OUR INSTITUTIONAL SPONSORS



OUR SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

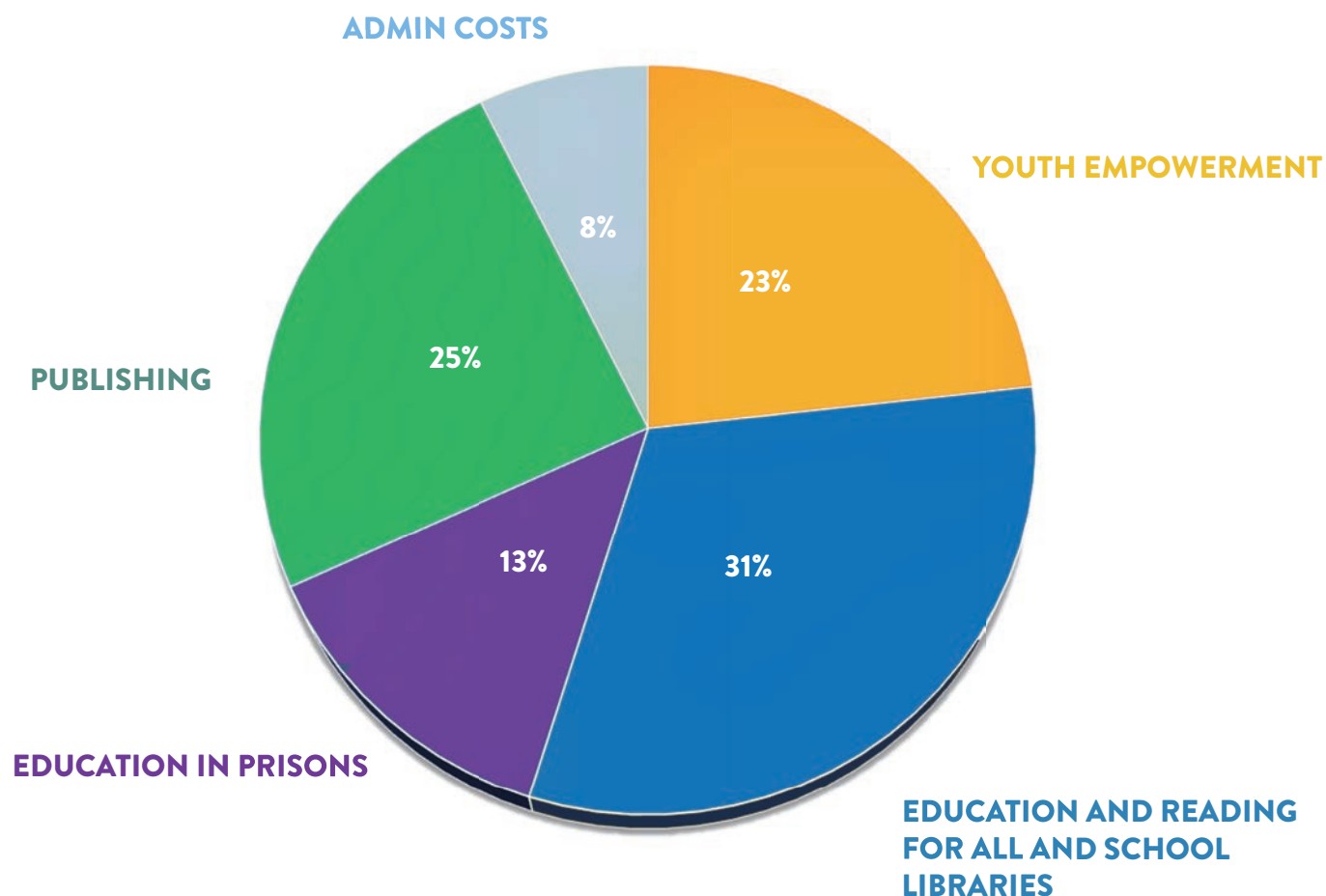


ORGANIZATIONS WE WORK WITH

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, 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, EMDR, AZAHAR Foundation

FINANCIAL REPORT

EXPENDITURE PER PROGRAM (USD)



\$ 383 400



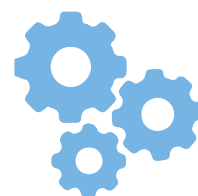
\$ 491 900



\$ 361 900



\$ 207 400



\$ 113 700

TOTAL : \$ 1 558 300

ACTION PLAN FOR 2023



EDUCATION SECTOR

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

Preschools

- Continue to support the reading corners in community preschools
- Continue the training of preschool teachers

Primary school libraries

- Continue to provide books to 34 libraries and raise awareness regarding health, hygiene, and the environment



READING FOR ALL

Mobile libraries

- Continue reading sessions and develop new educational activities
- Continue to promote awareness sessions focused on changing people's social behavior regarding the environment, STEAM, yoga/mindfulness and road safety, and initiate new activities in these areas
- Strengthen micro-libraries in villages
- Strengthen collaboration between mobile libraries and kindergartens and primary schools at the intervention sites
- Develop a staff capacity-building plan in response to new projects and build the capacity of new librarians and library assistants
- Develop new tools for more effective monitoring of mobile library activities
- Collaborate with the Provincial Directorate of Education and NGO partners to establish synergy regarding specific projects based in the provinces

LLCs in Garment Factories

- Provide technical support to factories with LLCs facing most difficulty (old and recent) through the mobile librarians (use of PMB library management software, promotion of book corners for children, etc.)
- Intervention of Sipar mobile librarians in the factories to co-organize the promotion of books with the LLCs working groups of the factories involved
- Promote the role and relevance of a reading space among other factories through GMAC

Libraries in Prisons

- Continue and strengthen consultation and book lending services in the 28 prisons
- Introduce cultural and artistic activities in prisons
- Provide educational support for literacy classes
- Coordinate cooperation between Job Centers and prisons to strengthen the program aiming to help prepare prisoners for reintegration

- Set up digital laboratories (Nomad Lab) in 10 prisons and train guards and prisoners on their use
- Organize a seminar on the offline digital education program and the use of Nomad Labs



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

Project “Youth Employability and Civic Engagement”

- In Secondary Schools
 - Set up seven new Libraries and Vocational Orientation Corners with Nomad Labs
 - Organize training on library management and facilitation and professional orientation for librarians, guidance counselors, school management teams, and MoEYS executives concerned
 - Organize skill-exchange workshops between librarians
 - Organize career forums virtually or physically in the 16 high schools
- In Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)
 - Set up Nomad Labs in eight CBOs
 - Organize training on leadership, budget management, fundraising, reading, and mentoring for all CBO members
 - Organize workshops on study opportunities and scholarships for CBO members
 - Organize a pre-departure training for new volunteers of the NGO Youth Star
 - Cooperate with the members of the 11 CBOs for the management and promotion of the Library and Vocational Orientation
 - Monitor and support the educational and awareness campaign activities carried out in the villages by the members of the 23 CBOs
- Design of Printed Tools
 - Continue to analyze the needs of young people in orientation and personal development
 - Design and print five career and personal development guidebooks
 - Design and upload four digital tools in Nomad Labs
 - Distribute printed materials to schools



BOOK PUBLISHING PROGRAM

- Print 24 new titles and reprint 80 existing titles
- Publish some beautiful new books with an artistic focus (color and black&white)
- Develop the titles of the Montessori collection for the awakening of young readers
- Develop comic books for teenagers
- Develop books on personal development for young people

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