



>> TOP STORIES

ANZ Supports Water & Sanitation for Second Year

On April 19, Habitat for Humanity Cambodia received a check for \$5,000 USD from ANZ Royal Bank. The donated money will be used to support HFHC's water and sanitation programs.

ANZ has been a loyal donor to HFHC for years and has provided not only monetary donations but also volunteer builders, brick-makers and community supporters to our various projects in Phnom Penh. Additionally, ANZ staff will be volunteering in Oudong, 24 April to assist HFHC with soil block making.

All the staff at Habitat for Humanity Cambodia would like to give a special thanks to ANZ Royal Bank for their continued support and we look forward to continued partnership with our corporate donors.



ANZ Volunteers 2010

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EHOPHHS Begins Construction in Prey Veng

In April, Habitat for Humanity Cambodia began work in Prey Veng building homes for special needs families that qualify for the *Enhancing HIV/OVC Programs with Holistic Housing Solutions* program. Thus far, three houses have been repaired and construction on two homes has begun.

The first construction began on 7 April 2011. New houses that are being constructed are expected to take two weeks to build and are being built in the traditional style found in Prey Veng, which are wooden houses on concrete columns. Additionally, HFH Cambodia is also repairing beneficiary homes. These repairs include work on the roof, columns, walls, doors and windows which will increase housing stability and security.

Tha Sreymom (14) and her sister Srey Mao (15) are beneficiaries that are receiving a new home in April. The sisters are orphaned and have been adopted by a family friend, who raised them since they were 2 and 3 years old. Tha Sreymom is excited to finally have a home of her own and plans to take good care of it. Both girls currently attend school and plan to continue their studies into the future.

Sok Chanra is another beneficiary that had her house repaired this April. Sok Chanra is a single mother of two sons, 9 and 12 years. The walls on her home were replaced and part of the roof was repaired. In the past, due to poor construction, their house blew down because of high winds. Sok Chanra said, "I feel happy and excited to have a better home. I never dreamt that I would be able to live in a strong house that would be able to fight the wind, but now I have a strong home that I will be able to leave to my sons."

A total of 84 families have been selected for house repairs and new core houses in Prey Veng. HFH Cambodia plans on completing 10 new core houses by the end of April.

Beneficiaries and their homes



Beneficiary posing in front of their old house



Sok Chanra & her sons in front of their home

Soil Bricks Used to Construct Vocational School in Oudong



Dedication Ceremony in Sra Pou Village

At the end of March a vocational school in Sra Pou village was completed using HFH Cambodia's soil blocks. The vocational school was built by Finnish architects, Hilla Rudanko and Anssi Kankkunen. Construction took one month for the school and they bought 16,000 soil blocks from HFHC to build the school.

The vocational school is located near HFHC's New Life Community in Oudong. The training center was constructed to encourage and teach families to earn their own living.

The school will provide professional training that will help people start sustainable businesses together. In addition to providing training the school will also serve as a location for public gatherings and for local decision making. On the final day of construction a dedication ceremony was held with community members, HFHC staff and local authorities to welcome the new school into the community.

Sanitation Highlights March/April Work in Siem Reap

In order to increase the capacity and understanding of Sanitation Action Groups (SAG) and School Water Sanitation and Hygiene (S. WASH) groups in Siem Reap, HFH Cambodia staff conducted a Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) Training Workshop in Cha Chhuk commune on 22-23 March. During PHAST trainings, participants are educated on understanding and identifying health problems and how to perform evaluations on hand washing; latrine construction and use; and safe drinking water.



PHAST workshop in Siem Reap

The workshop had a total of 25 participants from 16 SAGs and 9 S. WASH groups representing 5 village and primary schools. By the end of the training, participants were able to identify health problems; good and bad health techniques; and best practices. After completing the training, participants are able to use their knowledge to apply PHAST targets in their local communities.

In addition to conducting the PHAST workshop, HFHC was able to construct 6 communal open ring wells that are able to serve 40 families; two communal rain tanks and 1 communal latrine that will serve 15 families in Siem Reap.

New Community Center Developed for Oudong



Community Center Design

A community center is in the planning process for the New Holistic of Hope community in Oudong. On 20 April a design meeting was held at the HFHC Phnom Penh office including HFHC construction staff, Asia/Pacific staff and two freelance architects. At the meeting the community centers design from top to bottom was discussed.

The community center will be constructed out of soil bricks, bamboo and zinc materials. The center will be multi-functional and will include areas for medical services, a library/computer center, a meeting/classroom and a playground.

HFHC plans to begin construction on the community center in June/July. Global village teams will be used to assist in the construction of the building and the center will be completed in November during the Khmer Harvest Build.



>> VOLUNTEER HAPPENINGS

"I wish I could help build houses with HFHC all the time instead of working!" Jameson US Embassy Volunteer

Global Village Wrap Up

From 30 March to 12 April a team of 11 volunteers from Interact from China visited Cambodia and volunteered in Siem Reap. During their stay they built one core brick house.

Along with working on the house the team was able to visit the local markets. On the final day of the build, the team attended a dedication ceremony with the home owners and skilled workers that they worked with during their time in Siem Reap.

On 26 March a team of 9 volunteers from the US Embassy in Phnom Penh volunteered at a build site in Phnom Penh to help with the construction of one fire brick home.

During the build, the team assisted with the filling and leveling of the homes floor by moving sand and dirt; assisted with concrete mixing for the floor; and with brick lying. In addition to volunteering their time, the US Embassy volunteer team also provided a small monetary donation to HFHC.

From 20-31 March HFHC hosted a GV team of 15 persons from the United States. The team worked on and completed one soil brick house in Oudong.

Global Village Teams in Pictures



Team Work!



Master Brick Layer



Working Hard!



Peace and brick laying



Taking time for a break



Team Interact



Taking time for song and dance



Maria stacking bricks



Building muscles while carrying bricks



Jameson mastering brick laying



Smiles

The GV team was also able to visit the Khmer Development of Freedom Organization orphanage during their stay in Cambodia. The team played with the children and they also provided plush bears for all the children at the orphanage.

The volunteers also visited the Steung Meanchey Dumpsite where the volunteers were able to visit families that currently live at the site.

On the final day a dedication ceremony was held with the volunteers, home owners and skilled workers. Volunteers and home owners were able to express their feelings about the build experience and the GV team also gave small gifts to the home owner.

If you would like to make a difference and volunteer with Habitat for Humanity Cambodia as a Global Village volunteer, visit this site for more information: <http://www.habitat.org/gv/>



Relaxing during an ox cart ride



US Embassy Team Work



Pounding Bricks



Team USA Smiles!



Painting the Shutters



Heather showing off her skills



US Team giving away the key to the house



US Team Photo

>> Volunteer Close-Up



Mike Rodique

What is your favorite construction activity? *I really like laying the bricks. Doing this work it is easy to see the progress you have made.*

What is your favorite part about volunteering with HFHC? *I must say the HFHC staff and skilled workers made my trip to Cambodia. They have been so organized and utilize us to our full capacity making it a real pleasurable experience.*

Why did you choose to travel to Cambodia? *Cambodia is a place that I have wanted to visit for years. Volunteering with HFHC allowed me to combine my interests of traveling and helping.*

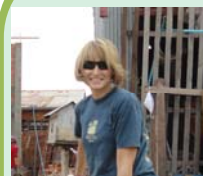


Maria Masini

What kind of Khmer food/snack do you like most? *I love the sticky rice and banana. They taste great!*

What is your favorite construction activity? *My favorite construction activity was stacking the bricks and brick laying. But overall I like all of the activities because they let me work with my friends and lead to the completion of the house.*

What do you like best about volunteering with HFHC? *Volunteering with HFHC is a wonderful experience. I get to meet and interact with the great staff and also get to help out those in need.*



Ingrid Gillette

At the end of the build the GV volunteers were able to express their feelings about their experience. This is what Ingrid had to say:

"I am honored and full of pride to have helped this family. This was my third build and I never get tired of it. I love the experience and I will continue to volunteer with Habitat again and again and again. Thank you so much for the experience."



A world where everyone has a decent place to live

>> UPCOMING EVENTS

2-6 May	Meet with SLC Community in Battambang
4-5 May	PHAST Workshop in Siem Reap with CLTS Villages
4-13 May	Global Village Team from Australia in Phnom Penh
9-10 & 19-20	Conduct FGD Hygiene Promotion in Siem Reap with SLTS Villages
9-12 May	Global Village Team from Singapore in Siem Reap
16-29 May	Global Village Team from United States in Oudong
18-22 May	Operations Manual Workshop in Battambang
22-28 May	Khmer Harvest Build Test Build
27-27 May	Hand Washing Ceremony in Siem Reap with CLTS Villages

>> Aerial Photo Taken to Aid Reblocking

On 8 April 2011, aerial photos were taken in Battambang of the social land concession (SLC), which is part of the Strengthening Civil Society-Government Partnership to Deliver Land Tenure Security Program (SCSGDLTSP). HFH Cambodia partnered with Phnom Penh Geo Information to take three photos of the houses and land in the SLC.

The aerial photos are important to the project because they allow HFHC to begin to start the land re-blocking of the SLC, which will finally lead to land demarcation. Once land demarcation has been completed and approved, the families partaking in the SCSGDLTSP program will then begin the resettlement process.

HFHC aims to have families resettle into their new plots of land after the rainy season in November or December 2011.



OR KUHN!

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donors.

Together, we will continue improving lives and building communities in
Cambodia.

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