



>> TOP STORIES

Grants for Cambodia from ADB & Munn Family

This January, Habitat for Humanity Cambodia received yet another generous donation from Paul and Aileen Munn. Paul and Aileen are veteran donors with HFH Cambodia and have contributed to buying land for 21 homes in the New Life Community in Oudong and contributed money to buy 21 solar panels for each of the homes to bring the villagers light. Paul and Aileen view Cambodians as part of their family and, they have now donated USD \$40,000 to HFH Cambodia to use where needed.

HFH Cambodia is also proud to announce that it is receiving support from the Asia Development Bank through their Water Financing Program. HFHC will develop a sanitation microfinance program with this new funding.



Paul and Aileen Munn

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Special Needs Family Receives New Home

This month, Kem Soeun, a single mother of four, was a recipient of a home from HFH Cambodia and EJAF. Prior to receiving her home, Kem Soeun lived in a rented one-room wooden house without sanitation facilities, running water or electricity for the past 12 years with her family. Each rainy season the house would leak badly and due to the leaks, the wood in their home rotted away, to the point that Kem Soeun was no longer able to cook in her home for fear that the kitchen area would break and they will fall into the dirty, smelly water below her home.

Along with living in a deteriorating home, Ms. Pang struggled to put food on the table and two of her children began to work to try to make ends meet. The neighborhood in which they resided was also overrun with gangsters making life unsafe. Kem Soeun had to worry constantly about her children's safety and they were especially vulnerable due to their homes poor condition.

Thanks to a 6-member team from EJAF and the funding they provided to HFH Cambodia for special needs housing, Kem Soeun was able to receive a home, in a new community where her and her sons health status is unknown, eliminating the possible discrimination that could occur. The family's new home includes electricity, water and sanitation facilities and is located in a much safer neighborhood, which is located closer to infrastructure, including schools, garment factories, and medical services. Kem Soeun's home was handed over to her during an emotional dedication ceremony, where she cried tears of joy.

EJAF has provided funding for the 2-year program, special housing program, which will provide decent housing to orphans & vulnerable children (OVC) and persons infected with HIV/AIDS. 320 families will receive either a new home or repairs to homes for some of the neediest families in Cambodia. Home construction for families selected for the EHOPPS program began January 2011.

The Dedication Ceremony



Traditional dancers in front of new house



Ms. Pang and her son

MIT Students Test New Technology in Siem Reap

In January, a group of students from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) visited Siem Reap on a 19 day mission to test newly developed technology and to build a double latrine for a local school. During their stay the group utilized 200 of HFHC hand-made stabilized soil blocks to build the double latrine. The group also tested how to utilize local, inexpensive materials to provide light and consistent access to water.

One of the technologies tested was a rice husk ash-concrete compound, which is used to create soil blocks. The purpose of using rice husk ash is to try to reduce the amount of cement that is used when making blocks.



MIT volunteers in Siem Reap

HFHC is excited to be working with MIT and is considering using the rice husk ash technology if it proves to be structurally sound. If the new technology proves to work, it will provide HFHC with yet another sustainable material that will be of high quality and cheaper to produce than certain traditional materials. The group from MIT hopes to return to Cambodia next year and bring more technology to share again.

Health Services Brought to Andong

Construction began on February 7, 2011 on a new health clinic in the village of Andong. Habitat for Humanity Cambodia is partnering with Sihanouk Hospital Center of Hope (SHCH) and the Urban Poor Development Fund (UPDF) to bring health services to Andong. Through funding from The Charitable Foundation (TCF), HFHC and UPDF are working together to construct the clinic out of sustainable technology. Compressed soil blocks are being produced by a UPDF machine for as little as \$0.25 USD per block. Construction aims to be completed 28 days from the start date.

The clinic is set to improve the health of villagers by providing basic health services and medication. All the services provided by the clinic are free of charge and in case of serious illness; patients will be transported to the nearest hospital, with transportation costs being covered as well. The clinic will be staffed with a doctor, nurse, TB specialist, driver and social worker. The clinic will have the capacity to serve about 20-30 patients a day, with most of the patients being women and children.

Along with medical services the clinic will also provide trainings to people in the community on topics related to first aid, hygiene and basic health education. Mr. Oum Vichet, a Sihanouk Hospital Center of Hope Community Organizer says, "The clinic will help increase educate villagers on illnesses, which will help reduce fear and prevent them from treating their illness based on the wrong belief. The clinic will also help increase the villagers' income by providing services for free, which they normally had to pay for in the past." HFH Cambodia has partnered with SHCH to build one other mobile clinic located in Oudong.

HFH Cambodia Staff Trained in Disaster Risk Reduction



Trainee group photo with H.E. Nhim Vanda

A three day workshop on Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction was held at local NGO Caritas, Phnom Penh from January 26 to 28 with fifty-one trainees taking part (fifteen participants were women). The training was held to help strengthen communities, staff, government officers and other NGO partners' capacities in managing disaster risks. One technique that was used at the workshop included, utilizing participants past experiences to teach all trainees on how to handle the situation.

Ms. Sary Phirum, Program Manager for Youth Development Program at Caritas said, "This training was really useful and helpful for the communities. After this workshop, we'll be able to bring it to share with people in the communities that then they will be able to help themselves with managing and preparing for the disasters." Mr. Ouk Sokha, Water and Sanitation Specialist for Habitat for Humanity Cambodia, added "This training is important for community disaster reduction. After sharing, villagers will be able to understand what the differences are between risk, hazard and disaster and how to help their villages and other people in case disasters occur."



>> VOLUNTEER HAPPENINGS

"I hope that Cambodians and the children are always able to have the same hope and smile to keep their country beautiful." Global Village Volunteer Sayo from Japan.

Global Village Wrap Up

Team Activate from Australia visited Oudong 15-17 January. The 7 member team assisted with brick making, laying, mixing and pouring cement. They were also able to visit the temple in Oudong.

17-26 January, 16 people from Australia visited Oudong and built 1 house. On the last day of the build the team held a house dedication party for the family and provided the new home owners with gifts.

22 January, 16 people from the US Embassy volunteered for the day in Phnom Penh. The team was highly energized and was able to lay bricks, mix & pour cement & tie rebar for two fire brick houses.

An 11 person team joined HFH Cambodia from Japan 2-11 February. The team worked in Phnom Penh and was able to complete 1 fire brick home during their stay.

The group was also able to visit Cooperation For Peace Organization, an orphanage, where the team was able to play with the children. The team kindly donated study materials to children near their build site in Russey Keo, Phnom Penh.

Global Village Teams in Pictures



Smiles!



Look what I did!



Linda helps skilled worker produce soil blocks



Team Activate!



Maria carrying stones



Craig leveling the floor



Mixing Cement



Carrying bricks



Japan team taking a break



Sayo laying bricks



Japan Team Group Photo



Anna at the dedication ceremony



ECA team



Time for play!

After 5 days of work, the team had a farewell party with the skilled workers and house owner. The group was also able to climb Phnom Oudong and explore the stupas of past kings.

7-11 February, a 16 member team from New Zealand worked on 2 brick houses in Siem Reap. They had a farewell party on the final day of the build and donated study materials to Tatork Primary School, a school located near the host community.

7-11 February, 6 members from the Elton John AIDS Foundation volunteered with HFH Cambodia. They completed one fire brick home and took part in a touching dedication ceremony at the end of the build.

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/>



Kevin and Annette



Delivery group



Handing over the key to the house



Spending time with the locals



Smiles while building walls



Enjoying a Ride in an Ox Cart



Team EJAF mixing cement



Success!

>> Volunteer Close-Up



Anna Kogler

What inspires you to volunteer with Habitat? *This is my 3rd Habitat trip. I really enjoyed my past work in the Phillipines and Romania and wanted to come to Cambodia.*

Tell us about your Cambodian experience. *Cambodia is amazing, especially the people and how happy and appreciative of the work we are doing. My favorite part was visiting the temple at Phnom Oudong, it was so beautiful and the details were amazing.*

Any plans to volunteer again soon? *I would like to go on another trip with my school next year.*



Justin Corsield

What inspires you to volunteer with Habitat? *This is my 2nd year volunteering with Habitat and was inspired by my students who found out about the opportunity on the internet.*

Tell us about your Cambodian experience. *Cambodians have been really great to us and I really enjoy the relaxed lifestyle. Working for Habitat has also been gratifying being able to build a nice house that makes a family happy. You do not always get that satisfaction with other organizations*

Any plans to volunteer again soon? *I would like to return and volunteer with Habitat every year if possible.*



Sayo Oduchi

What inspires you to volunteer with Habitat? *I wanted to volunteer with Habitat because you are able to do more than just donate money, you are able to use your own muscles to help build to make a community and country strong and beautiful.*

Tell us about your Cambodian experience. *Cambodia is both beautiful and friendly. The host community at our build location has been really great and even energize me when I am feeling tired.*

Any plans to volunteer again soon? *I hope to plan another trip for the end of this year.*



A world where everyone has a decent place to live

>> UPCOMING EVENTS

12 – 26 February	Global Village Team from United States in Phnom Penh
16 – 17 February	HFH Cambodia Finance team visits Battambang Garden Project
16 – 17 February	Leadership Training in Sen Sok Community by HFH Community Organizer
24 – 25 February	The Charitable Foundation (TCF) visits Phnom Penh and Siem Reap Projects
24 February	Meeting with Ministry of Economics and Finance about Affected Families by Railroad Project in Poy Pet
1 March	Global Village Team from United States in Oudong
11 – 27 March	Global Village Team from Canada in Phnom Penh-EHOPHHS

>> NEW FACES



Please join HFH Cambodia in welcoming John Zaidi our newest Finance and Admin Director. John brings with him years of experience working with HFH Asia Pacific in both Administration and Finance.

Please contact him at izaidi@habitatcambodia.org



Welcome to Leng Phalla who joins our Siem Reap Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion project as the Construction Supervisor Assistant.

Please contact him at phallaleng@yahoo.com



Habitat
for Humanity®
Cambodia

OR KUHN!

Habitat for Humanity Cambodia says thank you
to our corporate and international partners and our affiliate tithe
donors.

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

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