

អង្គការលើកស្ទួយប្រជាពលរដ្ឋ

People Improvement Organization

2018 Annual Report



At PIO we

- Help children find their dreams
- Give children hope through education
- Give children love they can depend upon
- Help children be happy and successful.
- Build the capacity of the local staff in order to nurture and develop future leaders in the community.

About PIO

The People Improvement Organization (PIO) was established in 2002 by Mrs. Phymean Noun. PIO is a non-political, non-religious, non-government organization. We provide education, and support to the poorest communities in Cambodia. For many of those families PIO is their only hope of obtaining a good education for their children.

PIO has a school near the site of the former Phnom Penh garbage dump. That school provides education for over 1000 children from Kindergarten through to Grade 10. There is a smaller school at Borey Keila, a slum area in the city. It provides English classes to over 200 children aged from 5 – 16.

Through education and training, we aim to equip the children and young people to access regular jobs and to become self-supporting, thereby improving their quality of life for them and their families.

Our target group

We support the poorest families and especially those who in spite of their harsh circumstances want their children to have a good education. If they can study and learn, those children will be able to access work opportunities and be empowered to support themselves and their families in the future, thus breaking the cycle of poverty.

We specifically target:

- ♦ Children who want to attend to school
- ♦ Children from poor families who can't afford school
- ♦ Children from large families
- ♦ Children who are orphans
- ♦ Children living on the street
- ♦ Children whose families are affected by AIDS/HIV
- ♦ Children who cannot go to a school near their homes



Message from
Phymean Noun
PIO Founder / Executive Director
CNN Hero
World's Children's Prize Laureate

2018 has been a year of challenges but also a year of exciting developments at PIO. While finding donors remains a problem we have still been able to provide a range of new educational activities for the children in co-operation with local and international groups. Details of those projects are included in the annual highlights section. Thank you to the many individuals and groups that visited and supported us in the past year. Your interest and encouragement is most valued.

A significant development this year was signing an agreement with Maybank (Cambodia) and the Sino Great Wall organization. The businesses have agreed to help fund a new building at Stung Mean Chey. The five floor building will accommodate a Shelter, high school classes and vocational training. I am very grateful to Maybank and SGW for their contribution to PIO, providing a facility that will provide benefit students for many years.

I am also very grateful to ConnectEd Cambodia and Temple Christian College who donated 60 iPads and laptops to the school. The donated equipment has allowed us to introduce computer technology to all classes.

The PIO High School continues to be a great success, ensuring that students remain at school to complete their education to the highest possible level. In our first year offering Grade 9 classes the pass rate in the national examination for admission to upper secondary school was 96%. A result that is a credit to both the students and their teachers.

The continuing expansion of our high school program means that more and more PIO students are able to continue to a higher level and gain qualifications that will help them find skill, well-paid employment when they leave school.

All the best to everybody,

Phymean Noun

Our Governing Body

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Executive Director – Ms Phymean Noun
Deputy Director – Ms Malyda Mean
Project Supervisor – Mr John Thompson
School Administrator – Mr Kimliang Mich
Assistant Administrator – Mr Duong Udom

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr Steve Christov (Canada)
Mr Frank Carney (Australia)
Dr Benny Widnyono (USA)
Mr Richard Teo (Malaysia)
Ms Evelina Fredrikssen (Sweden)

Retiring board members

In 2018 Mr Steve Christov and Dr Benny Widnyono have, after many years of service to PIO stepped down as active board members. They will be replaced by the following new members.

Incoming board members 2019.

The following have accepted appointment to the PIO Board from 2019.

Mr. Lee Sanders (United Kingdom)

Ms Reed Kessler (USA)

Ms Jessica Steindorff (USA)

Mr. Franz Kepati

Our Schools

PIO now has two campuses. The main school is at Stung Mean Chey where students from Kindergarten to Grade 10 are taught. Classes are spread between the old and new building with Grades 1 and 2 (6 classes in total) using the old building, all other classes are in the new building. The other school is at Borey Keila and at that school there are 4 English classes.

At Borey Keila English is taught in both morning and afternoon sessions. At Stung Mean Chey Kindergarten and Primary classes study the national curriculum in the morning and English in the afternoon. High school classes run all day and follow the national secondary school curriculum.

BOREY KEILA SCHOOL

The Borey Keila School has operated since 2005, providing English classes to children living in that very poor community. Each year approximately 350 students attended classes free of charge. In 2017 a foreign Christian school started in the community and attracted one third of the PIO students. Determined to keep going for the 200 students who wanted to remain with PIO we restructured the classes to provide a more streamlined program for Kindergarten to Level 3. The roll has now stabilised and the number of students is steady at 220.

The Borey Keila students are included in all of PIO activities and at least twice a year there is an English speech competition that is keenly contested by the students.

We are grateful to the staff and students who have worked so hard to make the Borey Keila school such a great success.

STUNG MEAN CHEY SCHOOLS

The Stung Mean Chey campus has the PIO primary school and Kindergarten together with the PIO high school. The high school was opened in 2017 with just two classes. It now has classes from Grade 7 – Grade 10 and there are 200 students enrolled. All schools operate in accordance with the terms of an MOU with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport. There are over 800 children enrolled in the primary school and kindergarten classes. Students who have attended PIO in the past are now enrolled at senior high school and university. Maybank sponsors 52 PIO students who attend public high school and the students attending university have, in nearly all cases, individual sponsors arranged for them by PIO.

Students at Stung Mean Chey sit public examination in Grade 6 and Grade 9 and have achieved great success with annual pass rates well over 90%.



PIO SHELTER

The Shelter provides food, accommodation and support for 46 children and youth, the younger children attend Stung Mean Chey School during the day and the older students attend Senior High School or University. Staff provide recreational activities, social support, food and clothing for all the children. The Shelter operates under the approval of the Ministry of Social Welfare

The Shelter has been is a small but important part of PIO since 2009, and continues to remain so. The children living there come from situations where the family structure has broken down, where parents can no longer adequately support their children. PIO provides a safe haven for those children and provides them with the opportunity to continue their education for as long as they want to. .A number have completed high school and are now at university.

In 2017 we had to relocate the children to dormitories in the old building at Stung Mean Chey. That is an interim measure while fundraising to purchase land for a new Shelter continues. In 2018 an MOU was signed with Maybank and the Sino Great Wall Company in which the three parties have agreed to work together to build a new Shelter in 2019.

The new Shelter will be located in a 5 floor building adjacent to the school at Stung Mean Chey. The building will incorporate high school classes and vocational training areas in addition to dormitories for the students.



2018 HIGHLIGHTS

2018 has been an exciting year for PIO with a number of new and interesting activities enjoyed by students and teacher

Health volunteers

Students at PIO continue to benefit from a number of visits from health professionals. The visits are arranged through the Healthy Kids Cambodia programme, the University of Puthisastra and Antipodeans Abroad.

In January all students at the Stung Mean Chey School underwent health assessment from nursing staff and students from the University of Newcastle (Australia.)

During the year there were a number of visits by oral hygienists, dentists, and dental students from several organisations. They treated a total of 927 students and provided 3088 separate treatments.

Teaching volunteers

PIO was fortunate to have some exceptionally good teaching volunteers. From Germany we had Tom 207 / 2018 and Linda 2018 / 2019. Each of them had a 10 month placement at PIO as part of a programme sponsored by the German government. Universities in the United States and France also sent volunteers who stayed at PIO for 2 months. In addition there were a number of shorter term volunteers from Hong Kong, the USA, China and Sweden.

Play around the World

This group from the University of Alberta continued their support of PIO with another 3 month visit, providing a range of sports and play activities for Kindergarten to Grade 4.

Visitors

Through the year there have been a number of visitors at PIO, many of whom support the school through the donation of goods and funds for the school.

Naga World - Visit to PIO +Lantern contest

As part of their corporate social responsibility Naga World provided two activities for PIO high school students. The first was a cooking demonstration at PIO, the second a lantern making competition and show held at Naga World. The latter saw PIO winning 4 prizes for the lanterns they made.

Speech competitions

English speech competitions are now an established part of the school calendar. They are held twice a year and the highlight is a competition between top students from the two PIO schools; Stung Mean Chey and Borey Keila.

Maths competition

In July students from Grade 2 to Grade 6 began preparing for an online calculation contest in which each team had a limited to do a number of calculations using only pen and paper. The top teams from each class competed in the grand final. Grade 6 took part in the same competition with the Canadian International School in Singapore it was a closely contested contest, greatly enjoyed by all contestants.

Temple of Learning - Library and IT centre.

In September PIO opened its Temple of Learning a room that combines the library and our collection of computers and iPads. The room is in use all day - reading classes in the morning, open sessions at lunchtime and using IT for maths and English the afternoon.

Coding club

From 4 - 5 each day grade 8, 9 and 10 students learn to code. The PIO coding club gives students the opportunity to learn the basics of coding and web design.

CIS visits and liaison

PIO continues to enjoy a good level of support from the Canadian International School (Singapore) with visits from students and teachers. This year one of the CIS staff worked as a volunteer at PIO assisting with our high school English classes.

US embassy visit

In October 20 PIO students were invited to the US Embassy. The purpose of the visit was to record videos for the Embassy's Facebook page and to provide students with information about study awards available from the US government.

Celebrations

Whenever there is a special occasion, festival, competition or honouring visitors to the school, PIO students perform songs, dances and comedy performances based on Khmer culture.

Temple Christian College and ConnectEd Cambodia

Temple Christian College (Australia) has supported PIO for 10 years. This year in partnership with ConnectEd Cambodia they donated 45 used iPads and 10 laptops. The devices are a great asset to the school providing a strong foundation for the use of IT in classes throughout the school

PIO student graduates from university

PIO is very proud of former student and now PIO teacher Yann Veasna who in February graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Northbridge University. Veasna was sponsored in his studies by Maybank.

Maybank

Maybank has supported PIO for 5 years. This year they extended their sponsorship of high school students to 52. They also brought the Money Tree programme to the students to teach them the importance of saving and to improve their financial literacy.

New Shelter

In partnership with the Sino Great Wall company and Maybank Cambodia. PIO will rebuild the Shelter incorporating into a new 5 floor building at Stung Mean Chey. Building will commence early in 2019.

JWI Executive director Mei Mei Newsome

Just World International (JWI) has supported PIO since 2004. In October we were delighted to host a visit from JWI Executive Director Mei Mei Newsome.

Bicycle donation

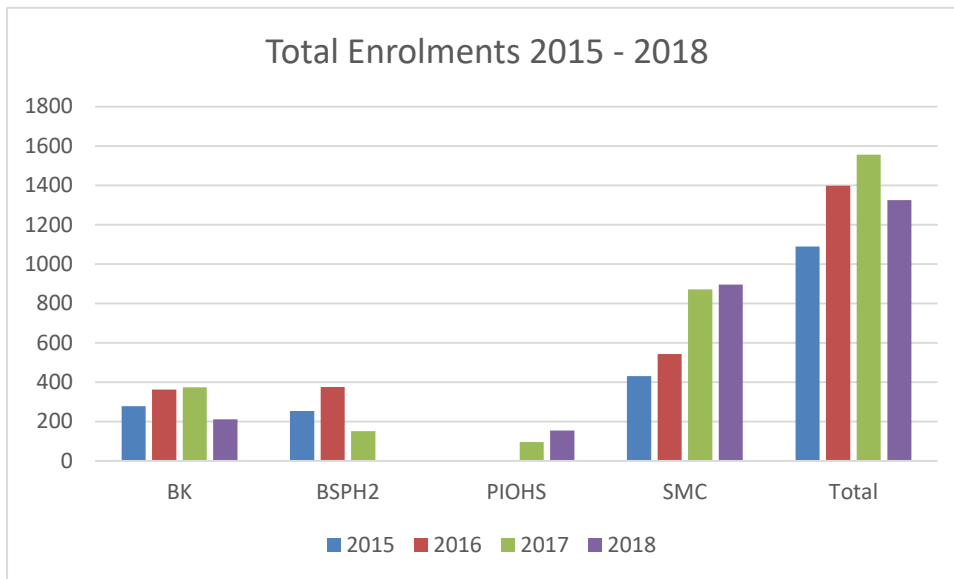
In February the Gravenhurst Rotary Club (Cambodia) donated 100 bicycles to PIO students.



REGISTRATIONS AND ENROLMENTS

At the end of December there were 1295 students attending PIO schools or supported by PIO in higher education. (G11-G12 or university).

School	Total	Female	Male
Borey Keila	219	113	106
Public High School	32	20	12
PIO High School	203	114	89
Stung Mean Chey	821	378	443
UNI	20	6	14
Total	1295	631	664



PRIMARY SCHOOL RESULTS

PIO is required to report regularly to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport on student attendance and achievement. Students sit monthly tests in all subjects as well as exams at the end of each semester. Grade 6 and Grade 9 students also sit a public examination at the end of the school year, they must pass that examination in order to proceed to the next level of schooling.

Education statistics for the 2017 / 2018 school year

- The overall pass rate for English classes is 74% at Stung Mean Chey and 95% at Borey Keila.
- The pass rate for national curriculum subjects is 82%.
- The promotion rate, the percentage of students who move to the next level of study at the Stung Mean Chey primary school is 95%.

The pass rate is the number percentage of students achieving 50% or better in the monthly tests.

- Nearly all Grade 6 students passed the entrance examination for high school.

PIO HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

A number of factors have come together to make the first two years of the PIO High School very successful. Those factors include

- Financial support from Maybank
- Maybank workshops teaching study skills and goal setting.
- Dedicated teachers who provide good teaching and an interesting range of activities for the students.
- Enthusiastic and committed students.
- Bringing in experienced specialist teachers to teach some subjects.

The achievement of the students has been impressive with a pass rate of 97% with an average score in the end of semester exams of 74%.The program has also been effective in keeping G7 and G8 students at high school. 93% of Grade 8 students from the previous school year have moved onto Grade 9 this year and 84%.of Grade 7 students have enrolled in Grade 8.

Education at this level is particularly important as admission to higher education is dependent upon students having passed the Grade 9 public examination. PIO students are now well placed to achieve that goal.

UNIFORMS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Children all received uniforms, school books and other necessary equipment for their learning. The provision of these essential items is achieved through a number of donors, principally our major donor Just World International (JWI) but also schools, individuals and businesses who have all contributed to ensure that the students of PIO are well-dressed and have everything they need in class.

WORKING WITH FAMILIES

PIO staff works with disadvantaged families and at-risk children. Experience has shown that effective education requires engagement with families and local communities. Staff meet with families at the time of enrolment and once enrolled staff will contact families if there is a problem. On the positive side, parents are invited to prize-giving and other celebrations where they can share in the success of their children.

NUTRITION REPORT

Under the nutrition program food is available to all PIO students and staff, All of whom have lunch provided by the school. In addition the students living at the Shelter receive three meals a day all year round.

In addition rice is provided to families in special need and to those whose children are PIO graduates supported by PIO in their studies.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL PROGRAM

In 2018 there were 3088 dental treatments.

Level 1 1753
Level 2 943
Level 3 392

Level 1 - Health check and a check for any obvious dental problems.

Level 2 - Basic dental treatment including the application of silver diamine fluoride, fissure sealant and minor restoration of a tooth.

Level 3 - Specialist treatment including fillings, extraction, and root canal treatment.

Teeth treated = 5100
Silver diamine fluoride (SDF) 2305
Fissure sealant 2226
Restoration 307
Extractions (mainly primary teeth) 246

The provision of medical care is crucial in ensuring that children have ready access to professional care. Where more specialized help is needed PIO continues to pay for medical or dental treatment as needed.

PIO has been fortunate to have the services of Dr. Vuthy, a recent medical school graduate specializing in pediatrics. Through his work at the three schools the quality of medical care has improved and he attends to over 300 patients (including some staff) each month.

Dr. Vuthy also provides valuable assistance in liaising with the various health professional groups that come to the school to treat the students. When a child presents with a serious illness Dr. Vuthy arranges treatment for them at a local clinic or hospital.

The medical program is supplemented by the work of Healthy Kids Cambodia. An initiative organized by the One2One Charitable Trust. Through that program we have nursing and dental students visit PIO every six months to assess and treat the children. We also have regular visits from the students and staff of the Puthisastra University Dental School.



COMPUTERS IN EDUCATION

. During 2018 and early 2019 PIO has received grants and donations enabling us to have 50 Pads , 40 Raspberry Pi computers and a number of laptops available for teaching. To make use of those devices we created the “Temple of Learning” and developed a number of apps for mathematics and English teaching. The Temple of Learning which is used as an IT room and library is in use from 8 to 5 each day with every student scheduled to use the room each week. The mornings are used for reading classes and the afternoons for Maths and English work using our apps. After school the coding club meets and learn to write their own apps. Every lunch break there are up to 100 students using the room for reading, playing Minecraft or using the Maths and English apps.

PIO is very grateful to ConnectEd Cambodia, Temple Christian College, Yours Humanly and the United Nations Women’s Guild for bringing educational technology to PIO.

SPONSORSHIP

There are currently 44 sponsors supporting 58 children. Most of the sponsored students live at the PIO Shelter. Maybank have increased their sponsorship and are now supporting 30 High School students. In addition some other students are supported in their secondary studies by individual sponsors. If you have questions about sponsoring a child at PIO please email PIO’s Public Relations and Sponsorship Officer at sponsorship@peopleimprovement.org

VOLUNTEERS

PIO continues to benefit from the work and support of volunteers. In 2016 there were 120 volunteers from 14 different countries.

The number of teaching volunteers has decreased but the number of health volunteers (nurses and dentists) has increased. Thank you to JWI, Cambodia Volunteer Foundation, Star Kampuchea, Antipodean’s Abroad, the University of Puthisastra and Pannasastra University for sending volunteers to PIO. The children of PIO benefit greatly from the help they receive from those committed helpers.

Volunteers for both teaching and health services are invited to apply to offer their services as a volunteer at PIO. The length of service is negotiable but for teaching it is best if volunteers stay for one to three months.

The children of PIO benefit greatly from the help they receive from volunteers. For more information about volunteering, contact John Thompson john@peopleimprovement.org

DONORS

Thank you to the many individuals and organizations who have contributed their time and money to supporting the children at PIO. Your efforts will ensure that the children face a better future through education

Our major donor continues to be **Just World International (JWI)**. JWI has supported PIO for the past 12 years and provides the majority of the funding for the Stung Mean Chey School and all of the funding for Borey Keila. JWI support specifically includes funding for education, nutrition, health, social work, cultural development and leadership.

Other donors (in alphabetical order)	
Cam-Paint	
Canadian International School (CIS)	
Ministry of Planning and Development	
ConnectEd Cambodia	
Frank Carney	
Gravenhurst Rotary Club	
Ground Asia / Antipodeans Abroad	
Hong Kong Pui Ching Middle School	
International School Of Phnom Penh	
Jasmine Charitable Trust	
Kerianne O'Rourke	
Lee Sanders	
Lingnam University (Hong Kong)	
Maybank	
Michael De Salvio	
Ministry of Information	
Naga World	
Peirce Secondary School	
PIF	
Reed Kessler	
Royal Palace of Cambodia	
Sarah Oxley	
Tang Gechlieng and friends	
Temple Christian College	
Ulrika Ohlin Alberti	
Yours Humanly	
CHILD SPONSORS	
Thank you to all those generous people who These people have helped PIO, some for a number of year, by making a regular donation to cover the costs of a child's education. Your contribution enables PIO to help children, especially those living at the Shelter to continue their education.	

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DONORS OF GOODS AND SERVICES

PIO thanks the following organizations for their donations of money, goods and services.

Just World International

Maybank

Jasmine Social Investment

CoonectEd Cambodia

Temple Christian College

Canadian International School (Singapore)

Check with Phymean for other donors.

Canadian International School (Singapore) - Teachers from the school have been supporting PIO for the past 10 years. This year 18 teachers donated used uniform and used school supplies

Temple Christian College

Donation of school supplies and used computers.

Maybank - In July at PIO, there are 65 people join from Maybank and media. Maybank expands sponsorship of our high school students to 52. They have also provided significant funding for the new building at Stung Mean Chey.

Antipodeans Abroad – For the past three years this organisation has been sending teaching and health care volunteers to PIO. Each time they donate medical and school supplies.

FINANCIALSUMMARY

In 2018 PIO had total income of **\$537,133 USD**. The sources of income and expenditure are as follows Donations to be used for the proposed new building **\$209,136.**

The operational expenditure for PIO schools **\$327,960.**