



About us

Wholistic Development Organisation (WDO)

VISION

Everyone in the Community is working together to achieve a secure livelihood and a healthy environment for each person.

MISSION

We are a Christian Cambodian organisation that works with the whole community to enable them to develop wholistically.

This is achieved by providing a wide range of training and resources that support people to identify and meet their own and others' needs

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Who we are

The Wholistic Development Organisation (WDO) was established as a local NGO in Dec 2005, continuing the work of the FAITH project (Food And Income Generation, Training and Health) which had been run by Southeast Asian Outreach (SAO) and International Cooperation Cambodia (ICC). It has two main program areas – a community development project that currently works across five provinces and a church based project that works with pastors and local church leaders to promote understanding of a wholistic ministry approach to communities and individuals. WDOs vision is a continuing focus on wholistic development for individuals and communities, building small groups in new areas that will meet needs for food security, better health and a greater understanding of men and women's rights and responsibilities to one another. WDO continues to encourage the local church to engage with and seek the transformation of its community. In all of this WDO pursues sustainability and the handing on of knowledge and experience to those who will be future leaders and agents of transformation in their own families and neighbourhoods.





Our Projects- An Overview

WDO operates with two project areas; **Cheas Ponleau/ Shining Light (CP) and Wholistic Community Development Project (WCDP)**. The organisation is committed to a multi-dimensional approach to its program that deliberately addresses the various dimensions of poverty in target communities.

WCDP works in poor rural communities throughout Cambodia to improve physical, social, spiritual and environmental situations mainly through facilitating training, education and awareness raising in the fields of agriculture, gender, rights, water and sanitation and income generation.

CP works with the pastors or christian leaders in provinces, to encourage them in completing wholistic ministry in their local communities. This is achieved through conducting training courses in spiritual, physical, emotional and social areas along with offering further wisdom to the leaders. The CP program also works with pastors and leaders in undertaking practical development initiatives in their village, so that the church becomes a useful resource for wholistic development.

Wholistic Community Development Project

The vision of WCDP is to see communities in Cambodia working together to achieve a secure livelihood and healthy environment for every person. WCDP works to develop communities wholistically, which is achieved by providing a wide range of training and resources that supports people to identify and meet their own and others needs. WCDP works with the community and local authorities, through the Christian Core Groups (CCGs). The CCG members are selected from the community and WCDP staff focus on building their community development capacity to achieve sustainable results in target areas. There are five provinces for WCDP implementation and the projects are separated into different components such as; agriculture, saving groups and loans, income generation projects, community development, and gender.

The strategic focus of the WCDP has 4 main objectives:

1. Establishing groups in each village that simulate and support wholistic development. These groups are called Christian Core Groups (CCGs)
2. Improving food security within villages, particularly for the poorest.
3. Gaining measurable improvements in health, particularly for the poorest within target communities.
4. Gaining better understanding of rights and responsibilities for each person within target villages- this is particularly in relation to gender.

Cheas Ponleau

The Cheas Ponleau project is currently implemented in 8 provinces, and is growing. The two main focus' of this project are; providing courses on Wholistic Ministry to pastors and church leaders, and encouraging these leaders to engage in seed projects for themselves and thier community. CP is passionate about seeing the Cambodian Christian church work alongside the community as an agent of transformation. The staff promote that church leaders and pastors support the local authority and people in community in achieving understanding and promoting sustainable wholistic ministry. The 'Training of Trainer' (TOT) cirriculum is taught by CP staff who select pastors and leaders of the church, depending on their availability and implementation time. The course has 12 lessons to be taught over a 12 month period, covering both theological and practical lessons about wholistic ministry. The course also encourages the leaders to develop a seed project plan, in which the beneficiaries will begin some pratical development initiatives in their own communties. They are supported by CP staff to undergo agriculture and income generating activites in thier villages and the staff train and support leaders in this process.

To achieve its objectives, WDO as an organisation is implementing various activities including training needs assessment, project introduction meetings, family and village baseline study, external and internal field visits, technical agriculture training and follow ups, and monitoring and evaluation.

Our People

WDO looks to work in areas with high poverty. Within a target area, a baseline survey will be done and available local and national data used to establish which districts, communes and villages are most appropriate for WDO to work in. The focus of the organisation is on the poor and poorest, and communities with high numbers of poorer people and few other means of support, will be chosen. At village level, the CCG once established will conduct a wealth ranking with support from field staff.

This looks at locally relevant factors to establish appropriate local conditions for ranking those families who most need help.

Many events and trainings are open to the whole community as this has been found to be effective in spreading knowledge widely; many technical support and rights issues are relevant to everyone.

Where material resources are provided, beneficiaries are encouraged to make a contribution where possible, to encourage independence and self reliance. Our experience has shown this can also lead to a more active use of resources. However where the wealth ranking shows a family to be extremely poor, minimal contributions are suggested in order to ensure the benefits can be accessed.

Our Progress

The last six years of WDOs work have been focused on building the villages they have been working in to the point that they no longer require support but continue working towards their own development. Remarkable changes have been seen over these years in WCDP – strong 'Christian Core groups' have been formed in each village, whose capacity has been built through a consistent focus on training and coaching; gender awareness has been increased, with notable reductions in domestic violence; communities have built roads, irrigation systems, latrines and wells. With support from WDO; rice banks, savings groups, more animal raising & home gardening and stronger agriculture practices have been established.

Meanwhile, the CP project has trained well over 1,500 pastors and local church leaders in wholistic development, who in turn have passed on this awareness to over half a million local church members. Many churches have been inspired to start 'seed projects', putting into practice what they have learnt by working with the poorest in their community to provide physical resources, social support, useful learning and spiritual awareness.

WDO is excited about the future and growth of the organisation and even more the future, growth, understanding and development of the communties they continue to work with.



Partnering with us

WDOs success so far and continued ongoing success relies not only on effective wholistic methods but undoubtedly through the partnership and support of organisations, churches and individuals across the globe. In planning and resourcing both the CP project and WCDP, the predicibility of financial and physical resources plays a key role in creating long term sustainable support. Currently WDO receives ongoing financial contributions from over ten international partners.

WDO periodically seeks professional expertise to strengthen different aspects of the organization. Technical assistance is normally arranged under a specified terms of reference and such support may be paid or voluntary depending on the nature of the input. Students and others wishing to learn from the project may arrange to visit the work. Exposure visits may be from one day to a month depending on the requirements of the individual or group. WDO has hosted international students researching for masters and Phd. thesis, donor support teams, locally based organizations and individuals wishing to know more about wholistic community development.

From time to time WDO accepts local volunteers, particularly those wishing to gain work experience and showing the potential to pursue a career in development work in Cambodia. In such cases specific terms and conditions of employment will be applied.

In expanding as an organisation and reaching more local Cambodian people WDO continues to seek more churches and organisations for partnership in its work, both locally and internationally.

If you would like to partner with WDO in any of the ways mentioned above, or seek further information, please contact us via phone or email, or see our website.

wdo.office@gmail.com (or) wdo.director@gmail.com

Tel: +855-23-885-243

www.wholisticdevelopment.org





House #81, Street 608, Beung Kak 2,

P.O. Box 85, Phnom Penh

Tel: 855-23-885-243

www.wholisticdevelopment.org