

HOW WE DO IT

Community involvement, education, and empowerment are the keys to the journey out of poverty. Every step we take, the communities are with us. We work directly with established grassroots, non-governmental rural organisations, schools, training centres, and commune and village chiefs. We provide them with technical advice, direction, training, and community development funding.

We also run numerous programs and projects of our own. Our educational and development programs are backed by experience and our research is thorough and constructive. We believe in creating future realities for Cambodia free of poverty, founded on experience and on community-level capacity, and human rights frameworks. In this respect we are innovative and creative. We have adopted the "Think Globally, Act Locally" mantra for all our projects.

A central component of community involvement is the identification and mobilisation of support committees. In order to become sustainable we have initiated the following sustainable development model, which is adapted for each project we undertake: (see diagram). The ultimate goal of all our development projects is to work with the community and to build capacity for long-term, sustainable self-sufficiency. In doing so our approach improves the ability of communities to respond to their own development needs.

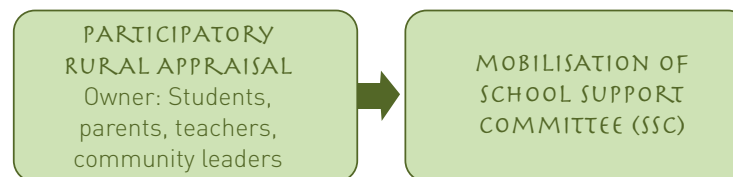
The implementation process is designed to provide for community engagement, ownership, capacity building, and mobilisation at all stages.

Key Areas of community involvement in the development process are:

- Participatory Rural Appraisals (the starting point of community involvement and ownership)
- Contribution to construction (financial, resources or labour)
- Involvement in construction bidding process, construction, and construction monitoring
- Improving the centres environment (cleaning, painting, maintenance, gardens, trees, etc)
- Selecting and organising programs
- Student Associations or "Youth Clubs"
- Awareness of importance and benefits of education, as well as basic rights (advocacy)

- Key actors promoting value of education within the community
- Community monitoring/reporting.

Key Project Activities to Promote Sustainable Development Outcomes



Community Development Workshops promote sustainability, community ownership and accountability, as well as monitoring key indicators to ensure that the development project is a success.

