

# Annual Report | 2016

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### **Message from the Chairman**

Water for Cambodia is now well into its second decade of providing clean water, health and hygiene education along with literacy classes to under served villagers in Cambodia. Our impact so far has reached 115,000 men, women and children primarily in Siem Reap Province which includes a population of over 1 million people. Reducing the burden of water borne diseases and improving the health and opportunity of its citizens has been the primary goal and achievement of our mission. The beauty, simplicity and durability of the Biosand filter has been the impetus behind our success but our impact goes far beyond a simple intervention.

Over these many years we have learned that there are many factors that ensure continued success, the most important of which is monitoring and evaluation. By testing the water that we filter and re-visiting our installations we are able to reinforce the value and benefit of clean water. In addition we survey our families to make certain that the health and hygiene education we provide continues to be implemented. There are many other clean water programs that have come and gone in Cambodia which have successfully installed filters but failed in their resolve to follow through to assure continued success.

Our model has evolved to engage several other cooperating organizations to provide wells and latrines thereby further reducing disease transmission. This is complemented by WASH (WAter, Sanitation and Hygiene) training which we are implementing going forward. These initiatives have been demonstrated to improve the health and livelihood of villages similarly affected around the world.

The continued success and expansion of our water testing lab services for commercial clients has provided a source of income to provide for new projects. In addition our literacy program and libraries continue to empower women and further enhance the reach of disease prevention.

Together with a dedicated local staff, our all-volunteer Board of Directors and YOU our generous donors Water for Cambodia will flourish in the next decade.

Chris Van Hemelrijck Chairman of the Board



# Clean Water A Human Right Not a Luxury

## **THE NEED**

Today, Cambodia continues to struggle as it works to recover from decades of war, genocide and political strife. The resulting poverty and under development leaves millions without adequate clean water, educational opportunities and infrastructure. Eighty percent of the population resides in rural Cambodia; there is almost no electricity, few paved roads and no clean water delivery systems. Although water sources are often abundant, they are unsafe to drink. Successfully addressing these problems has been largely left to non-governmental, donor-supported organizations. Water for Cambodia through YOUR generous support continues to play an internationally recognized role in addressing these very fundamental human needs.

#### The statistics:

- 6.3 million Cambodian people do not have access to clean drinking water
- 75 % of the rural population do not have access to adequate sanitation
- 20% of the deaths of children under 5 are due to waterborne diseases
- Levels of education and school attendance are deeply affected by children's health and their ability to attend school

## **OUR SOLUTION**

Water for Cambodia builds and installs biosand water filters, household units that produce clean drinking water directly from contaminated sources. With over **18,800** filters in place YOU are bringing clean water to more than **115,000** people. In addition to installing water filters, literacy classes are offered to young village women providing basic reading, writing and math skills. As the primary caregiver they also receive instruction in health, hygiene and the proper use and maintenance of water filters. Our water testing lab monitors filter performance. This holistic approach is helping to break the cycle of disease and poverty.



# **HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Installed 18,800 biosand filters, bringing clean water to more than 115,000 people over the life of the project.
- Partnered with Pursat Rotary in a Rotary Global Grant to build and install 900 biosand filters in two provinces.
- Partnered with Malteser International on two projects that included building wells and latrines, biosand water filters and health, hygiene and sanitation education on the village level.
- Built a library and reading room with over 1,000 books for a local orphanage. This is open to the local community children as well.
- Expanded our commercial lab services so that it now generates funds that not only support the lab in its entirety but also funds improved equipment and small village development projects.
- Completed our first five classes of our enhanced literacy program emphasizing life skills, childcare and health, hygiene and sanitation at both the personal and community levels. A woman graduating from the program can now read signs, has a diploma to show a potential employer, can fill out an application, understands basic hygiene and the importance and care of a biosand filter.

Our mission is to provide clean water, hygiene and literacy education to rural Cambodian families, improving their health and helping to break the cycle of poverty.

## **OUR BIOSAND FILTER PROJECT**

Water for Cambodia has been building and installing biosand water filters in the rural villages of Cambodia since 2006. These household filter units produce clean water directly from contaminated sources and are still functioning effectively after 10 years. Each filter produces enough clean water for a family of 6-8 people for years with very little maintenance. Families are trained on filter operation, maintenance and safe water storage as well as basic hygiene and sanitation techniques. Filters are manufactured at our Siem Reap facility by our in-country team using local materials. To learn more about biosand filter operation visit our website at www.waterforcambodia.org.

#### Water for Cambodia has installed over 18,800 filters.

## **OUR WATER TESTING LAB**

Water for Cambodia operates the only water-testing laboratory in the region. This unique capability allows WFC to ensure that the water provided by the filters is clean and safe to drink. Our lab also supports teaching and research, drawing students from Pannasastra University of Cambodia and Bridgewater State University in Massachusetts. Under the guidance of BSU educators and the WFC staff, students and volunteers have utilized our lab facilities to conduct research projects and gain hands on lab experience. The lab also serves as a community resource for other humanitarian organizations as well as local hotels and restaurants.



Our laboratory technician Sothyreak Chhun running tests on water filter samples.



#### **DISTRICTS WHERE OUR BIOSAND FILTER INSTALLATIONS ARE LOCATED**

<b>Location</b>	Filter #	Srei Snam 559
Prasat Bakong	4170	Battambang 340
Pouk	3772	Pursat 271
Sout Nikum	3346	Varin 229
Banteay Srey	1641	Angkor Thom 202
Chikraeg	987	Takeo 187
Kralanh	825	Odda Meanchey 54
Siem Reap	765	Svay Leu 39
Kampong Speu	739	Kampong Thom 4
Angkor Chum	661	Total 18,791

Thanks to YOUR support 18,800 biosand filters are providing clean water to more than 115,000 people.

For an interactive look check out the Google Map on our website homepage.



## **OUR LITERACY CLASSES AND LIBRARIES**

As part of the holistic approach envisioned from the beginning of Water for Cambodia, basic education of rural village women has been considered a cornerstone for success. Classes have been offered primarily to village women who never had the opportunity to learn to read, write or do simple arithmetic. To date nearly 3000 villagers have benefited from this initiative.

In 2015, WFC partnered with the Provincial Ministry of Education to enhance and strengthen the literacy program. The curriculum was expanded, new textbooks were introduced and class duration was increased from 6 to 10 months. Great emphasis has been placed on life skills, childcare and health, hygiene and sanitation at both the personal and community levels. We have completed the first 5 classes using the new curriculum and have scheduled 8 classes for 2017.

In 2010 at the request of a group of newly literate village women, we began to develop small village libraries. In 2015, an initiative to refurbish, restock and upgrade each library was also launched. The unique needs of each library were assessed and a plan tailored to address the needs created. Under utilized libraries were relocated, worn facilities refurbished and all collections updated with new publications. In 2016 a library with over 1000 books and a reading room was opened at the Children's Improvement Organization, an orphange in Siem Reap.

## **OUR PARTNERS**

Water for Cambodia has developed strategic partnerships with local organizations to help strengthen village capacity building and **WASH** (**WA**ter, **S**anitation and **H**ygiene) training. These partnerships allow WFC to leverage our capabilities by addressing latrine, water sources and community needs.

### **OUR CAMBODIAN TEAM**

**Director of Operations** Luigi Giani **Programs Assistant** Vantha Hem **Laboratory Manager** Sothyreak Chhun Laboratory Technical Advisor Massimo Maio **Admin and Finance** Sopheakdey Sang **Community Mobilizer** Sisovann Sin **Quality Control Officer** Sros Pan **Monitoring and Evaluation** Uon Bou **Filter Installers** Sophoan Chhe and Hun Kong **Filter Builders** Tao Sou and Ty Pan **Office Assistant Renn Sdueng Night Guard** Chhean Chab



### **OUR US BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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# **FAMILY STORY**

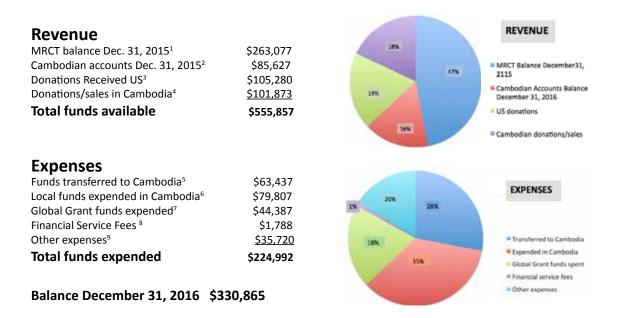


Mrs. Oeurm Vai's family

Mrs. Oeurm Vai, 30 years old, lives in Cham Bork village. She and her husband are farmers. They have a small farm to grow rice and other crops. They live in a home built out of bamboo and thatch. Before they got a biosand filter the family was often sick with diarrhea, stomach aches and fevers. They had to boil the water. Since they received the filter they are rarely sick. They no longer have to boil their water. The water also tastes much better because the filter removes the iron from the water. The children take the water to school. They use the filter for drinking, cooking and washing new clothes. They are very thankful for their filter.

## **FINANCIALS**

#### Statement of Revenue and Expenses 2016



#### Notes:

- 1. WFC a Middletown Rotary Charitable Trust (MRCT)
- 2. All funds deposited in WFC accounts in Cambodia
- 3. All donations received and held in MRCT account
- 4. Includes both discretionary and non discretionary donations but excludes transfers from MRCT account
- 5. Project funding from MRCT account
- 6. Project exenses not paid from US accounts
- 7. Global Grant funds expended in 2015
- 8. Banking, credit card, PayPal, Square, transfer and accountant fees
- 9. These costs cover miscellaneous expenses associated directly with fundraising and newsletters

## No member of the US or Cambodian Boards of Directors receives any compensation or allowance in their capacity.

Water for Cambodia a Middletown Rotary Charitable Trust is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.





#### YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

To DONATE visit us at: www.waterforcambodia.org Water for Cambodia P.O. Box 1121 Bristol, RI 02809