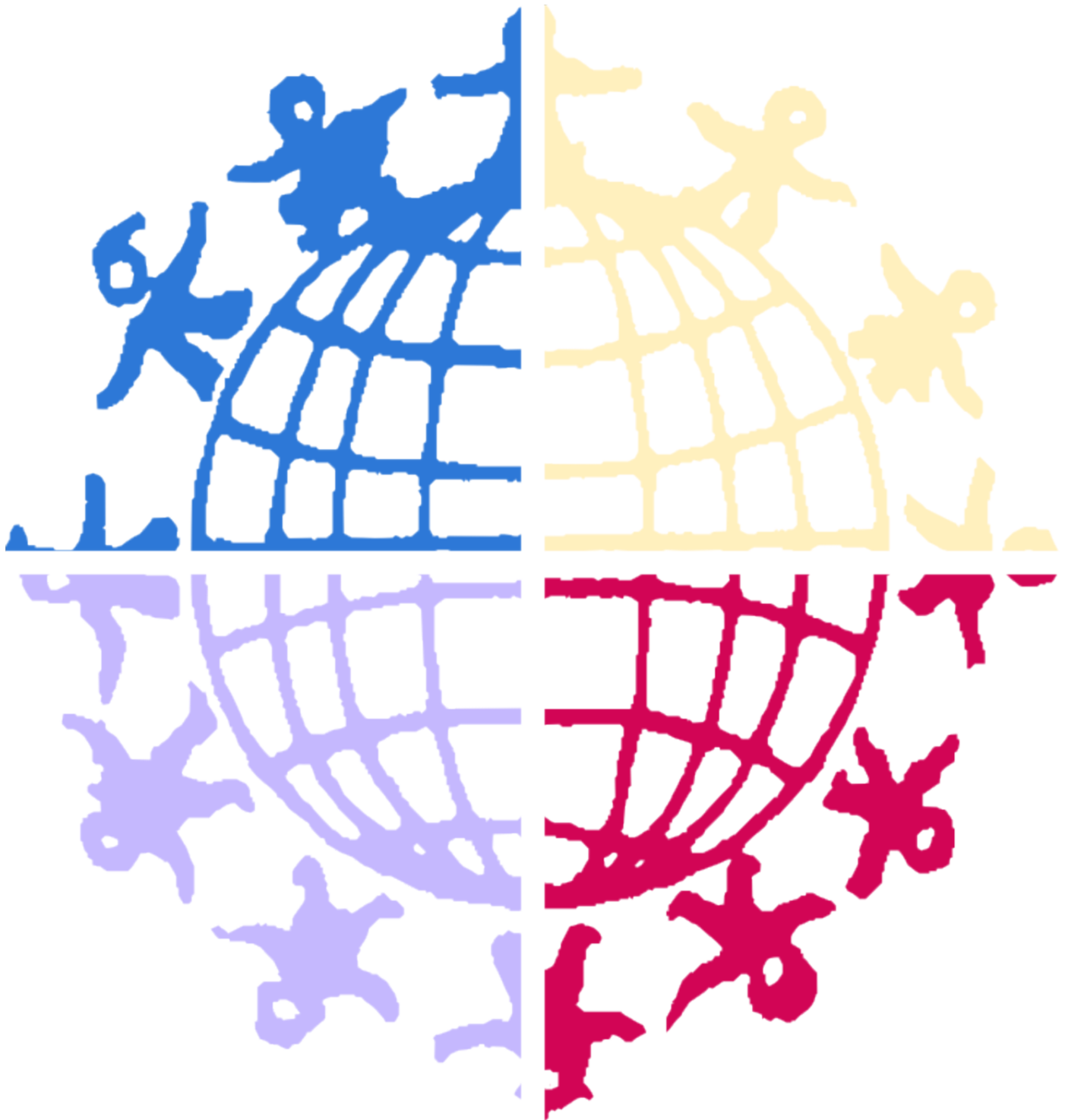


Dammok Toek

(Goutte d'eau)



To assist vulnerable children and their families

Annual Report 2012



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1.0 Message from the Director

Dear Donors, Partners, and Network,

2012 was an exciting year for Damnok Toek (Goutte d'eau) as we continued our work to assist and support vulnerable children.

We have made great strides towards meeting our goals of streamlining governance, management and fundraising efforts

I have been with DT since our story began – 16 years ago! – when we were established by Goutte d'eau Switzerland. As I write today, I recall the launch of DT's first project in Neak Loeung in 1997. After starting new projects according to needs that were identified in Poipet, in 1999, we

extended our reach to include Phnom Penh in 2003. Formerly operating as two distinct local NGOs, in 2012 we continued the development of our organisation by restructuring to merge these entities, with the expectation that this will better equip DT to carry out its mission.

This restructuring project began back in 2011 and over the time taken to achieve unification of DT I have thoroughly enjoyed the new challenges, and learning opportunities, faced. Today, I am proud to say that we have made great strides towards meeting our goals of streamlining our governance, management and fundraising efforts, in order to become an even stronger organisation, protecting children and youth in Cambodia.

2012 also saw the establishment of a new board for DT in Cambodia that regroups professionals from other child protection organisations, as well as former staff. I am grateful for this team that will continue to develop Damnok Toek for the years to come.

The important work we do isn't possible without the support of our donors, partners and networks

There were many quality candidates for the role of DT's Executive Director, both internally and externally, and the decision of the Board to promote me to this position was a great honour. I congratulate my colleague, Mr Long Sanrithy, who was appointed Deputy Director and know that he shares my gratitude to the Board for entrusting us with the responsibility to lead DT, an organisation



we both believe in and are committed to. We recognise that none of the important work we do is possible without the support of our donors, partners, network and especially the Board of Goutte d'eau-Switzerland. We are dedicated to working hard and doing our best to fulfil our duties with the collaboration of each of our valued colleagues.



Since January 2013 Damnok Toek is working as one unified organisation with three programs, located in three provinces of Cambodia. We are a dedicated team of 115 Cambodian staff supported by three expatriate technical advisors.

With the many exciting developments of 2012 and the continued efforts across our on going programs, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your participation and involvement. None of what we do every day at Damnok Toek, to improve the lives of children, could happen without you.

Sovannarith Sam
Executive Director

Phnom Penh
16 July 2013

2.0 Damnok Toek at a glance

2.1 Vision and mission

Damnok Toek, which translates to "drop of water" in English and "goutte d'eau" in French, is a Cambodian organisation working with vulnerable children and their families.

Vision

The organisation's **vision** is to assist vulnerable children, including but not limited to:

- trafficking victims
- street working or street living children
- children and youth living with a physical or mental disability and
- children who are victims of any kind of exploitation or abuse.

DT's aim is to enable each vulnerable or marginalised child to realise his or her rights, to have all of their basic needs met and an opportunity to develop individual capacity.



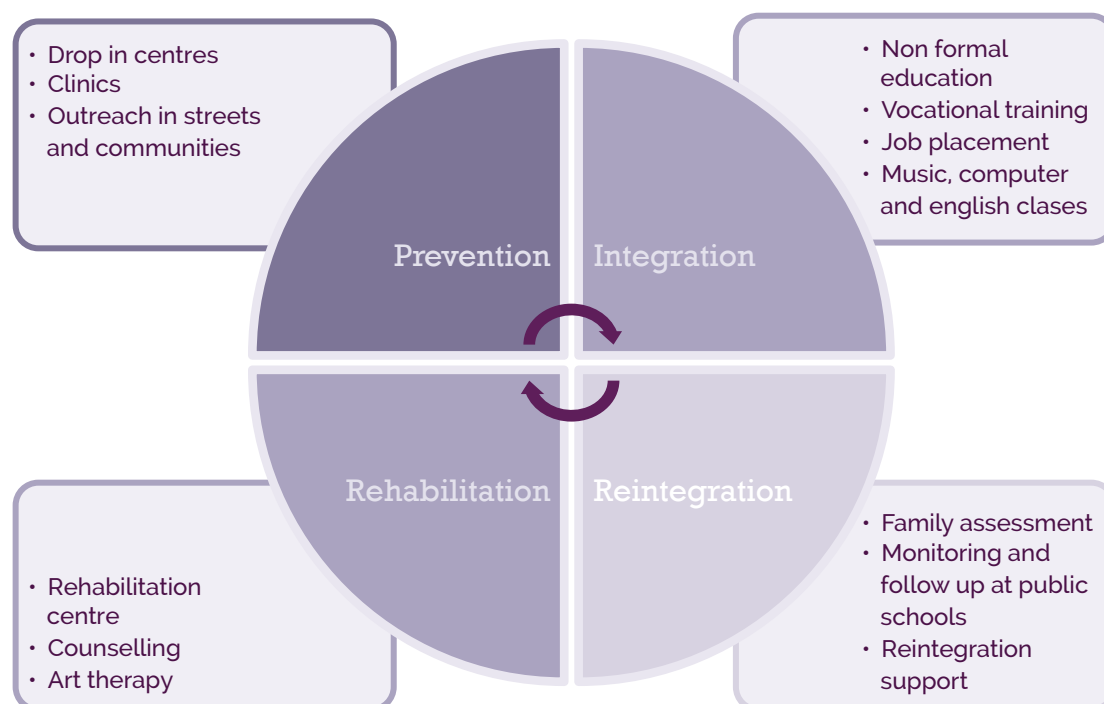


Mission

DT's **mission** aims at working with the most vulnerable and marginalised people in Cambodia. With the support of communities, government and civil society representatives, DT identifies and implements responses to enhance the access to a better future for the children most in need.

Our purpose is to ensure a sustainable reintegration of the children into their families and to prepare them for an independent life. To deliver on this commitment, in 2012 we have dedicated our resources to the following activities:

- **preventing** child abuse, substance abuse and child trafficking both internally within Cambodia and across borders
- **rehabilitating** young substance abusers and traumatised children
- **integrating** neglected children and street children into Cambodian society through informal education at DT's day care centre's and vocational training facilities and formal education at public schools
- **reintegrating** trafficked and runaway children into their communities, their villages and, when possible, their families of origin.





2.2 History

- 1997.** Goutte d'eau Switzerland started work in Cambodia under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth rehabilitation (MoSVY) and assisted in establishing a centre for vulnerable children in Neak Loeung.
- 1999.** Following a request from MoSVY, Goutte d'eau implemented a project to rehabilitate children using substances and reintegrate victims of trafficking in Poipet, a border town between Cambodia and Thailand.
- 2001.** The project in Neak Loeung was localised and ran independently as a local NGO registered with the Ministry of Interior under the name Damnok Toek Cambodia.
- 2003.** The project in Poipet is also registered as a Cambodian NGO, at the Ministry of Interior, with the local name Damnok Toek Poipet.
- 2003.** As part of Damnok Toek Cambodia, Goutte d'eau opened a new shelter in Phnom Penh to support children with physical or intellectual disabilities, and for young adults from other project locations who wanted to continue studying or work in the capital. Most of these children were referred from GE centres in Poipet and Neak Loeung as well as from other organisations.
- 2012.** Damnok Toek Cambodia and Damnok Toek Poipet began the process required to merge into a single organisation called Damnok Toek (Goutte d'eau). Officially operating under new entity as of January 2013.



2.3 Where we work

Damnok Toek (DT) works in three locations throughout Cambodia; Neak Loeung, Poipet and the capital, Phnom Penh. In partnership with the Cambodian government, DT has identified these locations as particularly high risk for children.

Neak Loeung

36 staff and carers
(15 are women)
371 children daily

Since 1997, Damnok Toek has been running a drop in centre and a residential shelter in Neak Loeung. These facilities provide vulnerable children both from communities and DT's residential centre with access to counselling, non-formal education, vocational training and medical care.

Neak Loeung is located on the eastern side of the Mekong River, about 70 km south east of Phnom Penh. It is the main Mekong crossing point between Vietnam and Cambodia and therefore a very busy town. Poverty, malnutrition, disease and a lack of education are widespread in the area. Many children en route to Phnom Penh or who are looking for additional daily income to support their families hang around the Neak Loeung ferry terminal.

In December 2011, a snapshot survey conducted by DT revealed that more than 154 children work daily in the streets of Neak Loeung. They work as street sellers and scavengers, in particular around the harbour. Because of their poor and unstable living conditions, many of these children are also at risk of being trafficked or exploited, becoming substance abusers or being affected by violence.





Poipet

57 staff and carers

(25 are women)

500 children daily

Beginning work in Poipet in 1999, DT has been assisting vulnerable children and their families through a range of targeted health, education and vocational programs.

Located in the north west of Cambodia at the main border crossing to Thailand, Poipet can be an exceptionally hazardous place for children. A small and quiet backwater barely a decade ago, Poipet's population has grown rapidly as trade with Thailand and cross border tourism has increased.

Poipet attracts people because it has a false reputation for offering a new start to the poor and desperate. In reality, economic opportunities for the uneducated and unskilled are scarce and the majority of Poipet residents are living at survival level, earning a dollar a day or less.



Extreme poverty has led Poipet to evolve into a centre of social problems at all imaginable levels: trafficking of persons, unsafe migration, commercial and sexual exploitation of children, substance abuse, prostitution, domestic violence, HIV and AIDS, land-grabbing and encroachment, smuggling, and corruption. Each of these is part of everyday life in Poipet. Consequently and



inevitably the most at risk members of society - children - are bearing the brunt of these issues.

Phnom Penh

20 staff and carers
(8 are women)

24 children daily

In Cambodia caring for a child with an intellectual and/or physical disability, especially when severe, is very challenging due to the lack of appropriate services and the economic burden it represents for the parents. Often mothers stop working to become full-time caretakers of the child, losing a crucial income for the household. Therefore, children with disabilities are highly exposed to being victims of abuse, neglect, abandonment, and trafficking, and even malnourishment.

An observation throughout our work in Poipet and Neak Loeung was that there were a significant proportion of children living with a disability (CWD) amongst the children benefiting from our services. CWD are particularly vulnerable to trafficking and unsafe migration due to the fact that they can generate significant income begging on the streets. This observation, combined with the lack of specialised structures in Cambodia led us to open a centre in Phnom Penh in August 2003 for children and teenagers with physical and/or intellectual disabilities. It can accommodate a maximum of 30 children.



3.0 Highlights of 2012

Milestones.

- ❖ Began merging process of Damnok Toek Cambodia and Damnok Toek Poipet into one organisation, Damnok Toek (Goutte d'eau)
- ❖ Appointment of a new board and leadership team
- ❖ New project launched to improve youth access to sexual and reproductive health information
- ❖ Piloted a program supporting Damnok Toek students to continue their studies at the tertiary level
- ❖ Continued a partnership program strengthening child protection in Cambodia

3.1 Merge

Background

Damnok Toek (Goutte d'eau) was established in **1997**, by Goutte d'eau-Switzerland and became a local Cambodian NGO in **2001**.

From the start, Damnok Toek was registered with the Ministry of Interior as two local NGOs - one consisting of both Phnom Penh and Neak Loeung, and the other Poipet. Each had a separate MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the Ministry of Social Affairs, and there were two distinct Boards of Directors.

New direction

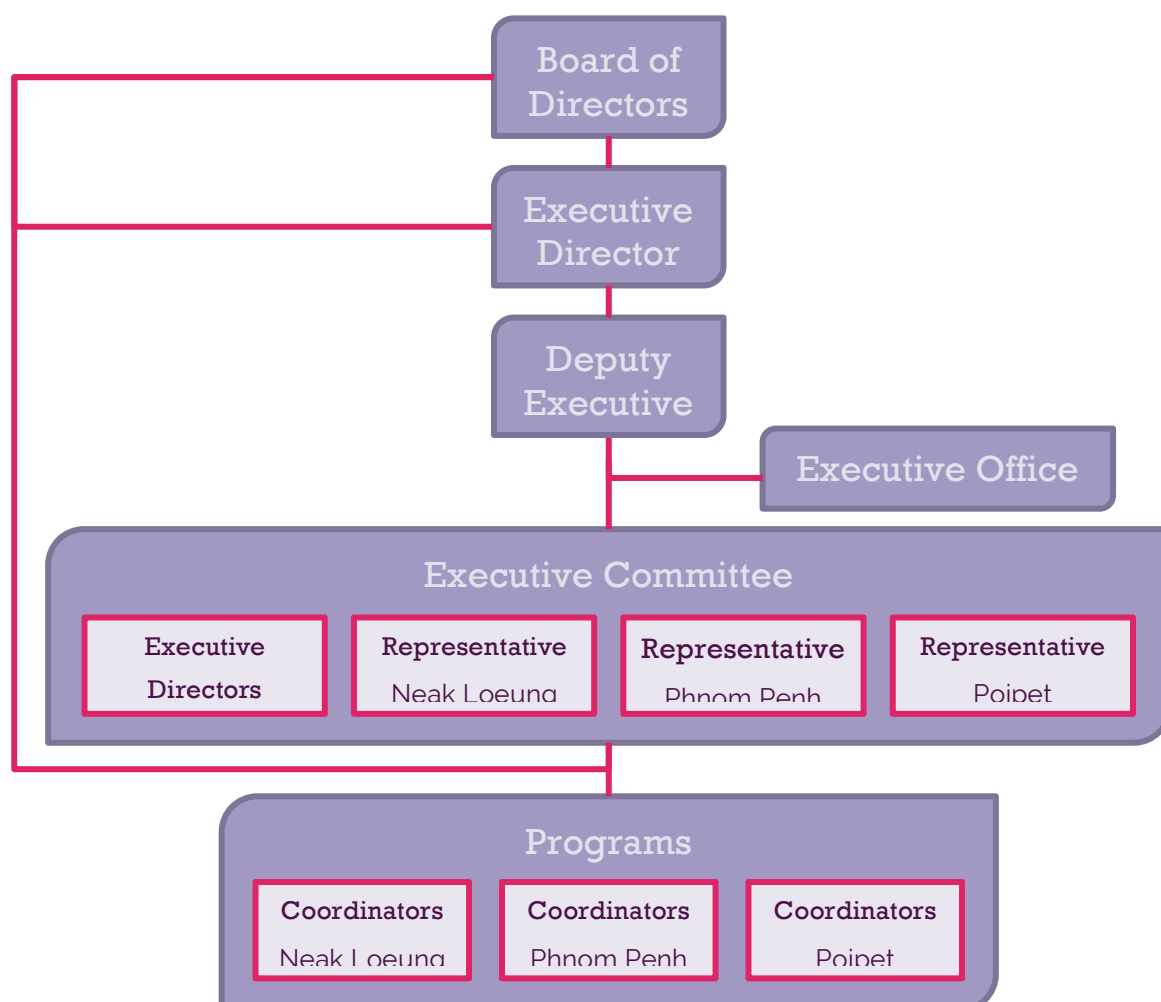
In **2011** it was decided to merge the two parts of Damnok Toek into one individual organisation. There were many reasons for this including better facilitation of fundraising, along with improving and standardising the governing board and organisational management. To see this vision become reality much preparation was required – from designing and recruiting the new



management team to well reviewing and unifying existing guidelines and policies.

Of course, the merge did come with a set of challenges: harmonising statutes, financial procedures, human resource management, increasing communication between programs, and ensuring consistent quality of programs – but it also brought many new opportunities for learning from each other and developing into one strong and healthy organisation protecting children and youth in Cambodia.

New Damnok Toek organisational structure





3.2 Launch of a new project

In October 2012, DT piloted a new project in Neak Loeung, supported by ACTED-PSF and funded by Agence Francaise de Development. The project is focused on improving access for youth to quality information and services in the areas of sexual and reproductive health in the provinces of Phnom Penh and Prey Veng. Using a peer educator approach, Damnok Toek is implementing prevention and education sessions in schools and communities specifically in relation to family planning, STIs, HIV/AIDS, nutrition, domestic violence, drugs, alcohol etc. DT's clinic also started providing family planning sessions to young couples in December 2012.

3.3 University student program



DT believes in the importance of education and strives to support young adults to attend university when possible. In order to facilitate this the Phnom Penh centre welcomes adolescents from the provinces who want to develop their professional skills or education in Phnom Penh, including non-disabled youths who may reside at the centre during their studies.

DT helps them to arrange and organise their personal and financial situation so that they can successfully lead an independent life. In addition to their education and

training activities they are encouraged to help the other residents living with disabilities at the centre.

In 2012, two young men from other Damnok Toek projects in NL and Poipet began their studies in IT and Management at the National University of



Management. They are joined by one young physically disabled man, already living in the centre, who also attends the same university and is studying IT.

3.4 Partnership program for the protection of children

Damnok Toek is one of nine civil society organisations (CSOs) in Cambodia that form the Partnership Program for the Protection of Children (3PC). The program is supported by UNICEF through our partner **Friends International**. The goal is to strengthen child protection mechanisms in Cambodia and improve cooperation with authorities as well as promoting and increasing collaboration and knowledge sharing amongst member CSOs.



4.0 Overview of projects

Our focus.

- ❖ Residential centres providing shelter and assistance to vulnerable children and youth
- ❖ Drop in centres focused on prevention and emergency
- ❖ Non-formal education and vocational training programs
- ❖ Clinics and access to health information
- ❖ Rehabilitation centre for drug users
- ❖ Home based production supporting families
- ❖ Participation in child protection networks and Childsafe Hotline

4.1 Residential Centres

Damnok Toek's Residential Centres provide mid to long-term shelter for vulnerable girls and boys aged from 5 to 18 years old. These children and youth have formerly lived on the streets, have been trafficked, or were drug users and are not presently able to be reintegrated within their families. DT's residential centres aim to provide to the children and youth a safe and family like environment whilst aiming for their autonomy.

One of the main goals of DT is to reintegrate children into their families or to enable them to lead an autonomous life

We believe that institutionalisation of children should occur as a last resort solution and in situations where another option could not be found. One of the main goals of Damnok Toek is to reintegrate the children into their families or to enable them to lead an autonomous life whenever

possible. However, since children living in our Residential Centres come from extremely difficult environments, the reintegration process sometimes takes longer than anticipated – and is sometimes not possible. Many of the children come from very poor families, and reintegrating them presents a risk of the child being put again in a position to beg and/or live on the street.



Damnok Toek closely monitors and assesses each family's situation through regular visits to conduct further assessment and if possible, reintegration of the child into its family environment. In order for this restoration to take place a joint assessment is done by Damnok Toek's social



workers and MOSVY (Ministry of Social Affairs) - both must confirm that the family is stable and ready to properly take care of the child.

In DT's residential centres, children live in a safe, family-like environment and have access to education and/or vocational training while awaiting reintegration into their family and society. They follow a structured schedule that includes activities such as cooking, cleaning, gardening or animal feeding. During the day the children attend public school or vocational training. They also benefit from regular counselling. Children's meetings and awareness activities are included so as to sensitise young people on topics such as hygiene, drugs and sexual and reproductive health.

Neak Loeung

1 project coordinator, 8 educators

33 resident children

12 new residents

5 children reintegrated

28 family visits

In Neak Loeung, Damnok Toek's traditional music band, Pin Pead, consists of 16 children currently living at the Residential Centre or attending other DT programmes. It performs several times a month at weddings or Buddhist ceremonies. Given

the increase in the number of participants, there are now two levels, beginners and advanced. In 2012, the group conducted six performances.



Poipet

1 project coordinator, 6 educators

46 resident children

21 new residents

**12 children
reintegrated**

143 family visits

In 2012, we focused on processing birth certificates for orphan children as well as encouraging and assisting families to obtain the certificates.

Community visits are regularly organised for the children to enable them to see the different atmosphere of people in community make their living through cultivation, animal raising and undertaking small business. This is also an opportunity for youths to learn more about their culture, tradition and religion.

4.2 Phnom Penh: Damnok Toek Handicap

2 team leaders, 1 occupational therapist, 1 physiotherapist, 1 driver

The Phnom Penh centre welcomes children and young people with physical and/or intellectual disabilities. It can accommodate a maximum of 30 children. The project aims to improve the individual care of each child as well as to develop their learning and skills, according to their special needs, with the purpose of assisting them to live independently. The project offers comprehensive care – medical, social and residential – to marginalised children. These include former street children, as well as children who were abandoned or trafficked.





Adapted support and medical care

All children have access to routine and episodic health care and medical follow-up in Phnom Penh hospitals and clinics, as well as the support of a foreign primary care clinician working full time at the Phnom Penh centre.

Education

All children and youths receive educational support adapted to their needs and capacities as determined on a case-by-case basis. When possible, children staying at the centre go to a public school or to a specialised school. From 15 years of age, children can join a vocational training program that will potentially enable them to find a job and become more independent.



Partnership and staff capacity building in disability

An 18 month partnership with the French NGO **Kinesithérapeutes du Monde** (KDM) continued throughout 2012. An expatriate occupational therapist worked at DT for 6 months, followed by an expatriate physiotherapist who worked at DT for 4 months. These colleagues provided weekly training to the staff with the goal of developing an individual plan for each child. They also helped to provide supervision and support to improve the daily functioning of the centre and better facilitate the interactions between staff and children. All staff received a certificate of training completion at a formal graduation ceremony.

Recreational and creative activities

All children at DT participate in recreational activities including swimming and art classes. Our major recreational event of the year is the annual retreat.



involving all staff and children. This took place in Sihanoukville, a seaside town, for 3 days.

A new partnership was initiated with the NGO **Skateistan**, which teaches skateboarding – 12 children participate every week.

3 children also participate in a weekly program learning how to DJ, the result of a new partnership with the NGO **Turning Tables**.



No children were reintegrated back into their families this year, however family assessments and visits continue to take place in order to best facilitate this when possible.

Supporting other organisations and families

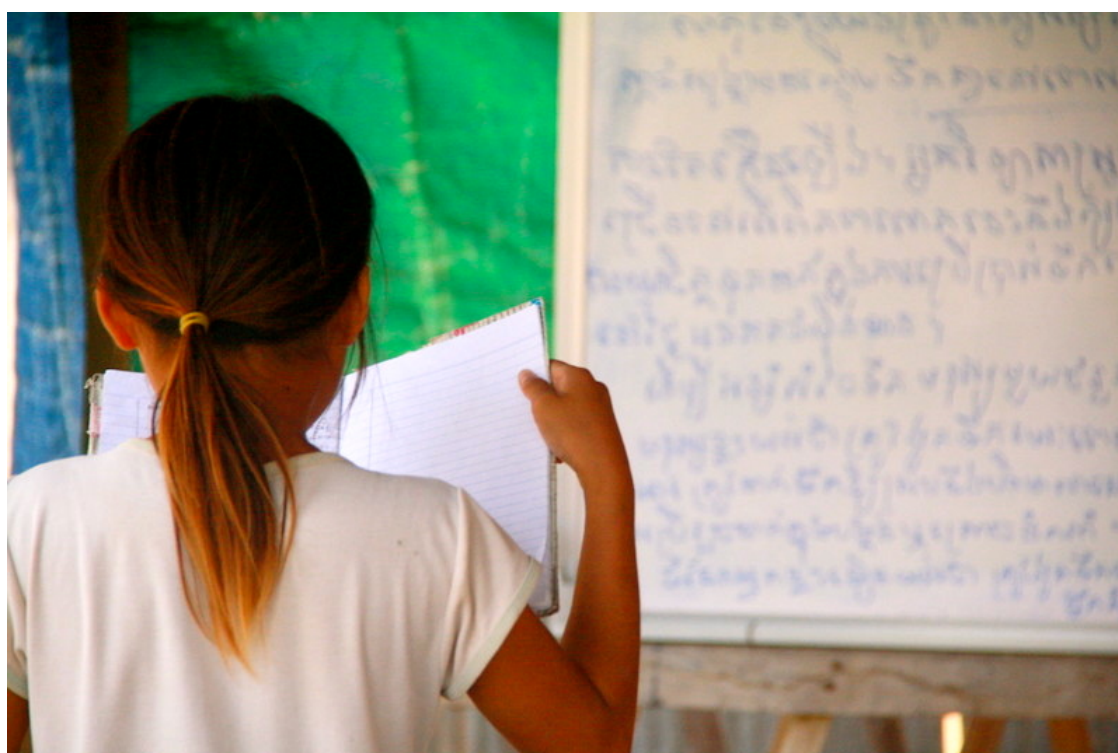
In 2012, Damnok Toek received ten requests from parents and other NGOs to refer their children to the centre in Phnom Penh. Consequently, the team



began conducting family visits to assess the situation of each child and provide advice and/or direct care for the child at home.

4.3 Non-formal education

The Non-Formal Education (NFE) program provides access to education to a variety of at risk children that will eventually allow them to reintegrate into public school. The children also have one nutritious meal per day and free medical care.



In addition to the children who live in DT centres, the majority of children we work with are from poor communities and live with their families. Many families are unable to pay the unofficial school fees often demanded by teachers. Damnok Toek NFE programs offer an important alternative and provide access to basic education.

The Damnok Toek program consists of half day attendance at the centre and works with two groups each day; one in the morning and the other

Providing access to education for at-risk children and youth



in the afternoon. This enables the children to have time to continue supporting their families – and favours their families' support for them to attend school.

To facilitate reintegration into regular schooling the NFE program follows the public school curriculum. DT social workers closely monitor absences and follow up children reintegrated into public school to prevent drop outs.

In addition to formal teaching teachers play an important role in initiating discussion on topics directly relating to issues of concern for vulnerable families. For example, awareness raising and information sessions are held on preventing unsafe migration, trafficking, domestic violence and improving hygiene.

Working closely with the families ensures a holistic approach to the NFE program. Our social workers work daily in Neak Loeung and Poipet communities explaining the benefits of education and encouraging parents to send their children to school.



On a case-by-case basis Damnok Toek contributes to the costs of school materials and school uniforms according to the needs of the child. This



contribution is gradually reduced until the family is able to cover the costs. If necessary, Damnok Toek will continue to provide support.

Neak Loeung

1 project coordinator, 3 teachers, 1 teaching assistant, 3 cooks

144 children attending
52 new attendees
42 reintegrated into public school

A survey carried out by Damnok Toek in 2011 in Neak Loeung showed that among the 154 street children interviewed, 54% were not attending school.

The NFE program consists of three classes (kindergarten class, grade 1, grade 2) and one library. As with public school, children attend school for a half day either in the morning or in the afternoon. Depending on their needs and capacities, children may stay in the program from one to three years before being reintegrated into public school. Each year in August an exam, compliant with the Office of Education, Youth, and Sports criteria, takes place to assess which children meet the required standard to be transferred into public school.

Poipet

1 project coordinator, 1 social worker, 8 teachers, 2 cooks, 3 guards, 1 driver

272 children attending
126 new attendees
79 left the program

The NFE in Poipet is spread across two locations – Wat Thmey and Samarkhum. There are ten classes and six different levels (grades 1 to 6), following the public school curriculum.

Due to the specific context of Poipet and the high dropout rate, reintegration into public school takes place at the end of grade 6 rather than on a yearly basis as in Neak Loeung. This approach ensures that the children benefit from greater stability and knowledge before joining a larger class in public school.

This year DT expanded the scope of the English teaching program to enable children from NFE in grades 4 to 6 to join classes together with children from the Residential Centre.



In January 2012, a the Belgian NGO **Clowns Without Borders** toured with their clown group and performed for children at the Samarkhum centre.

4.4 Clinic

Damnok Toek's clinic was created, and functions, to treat all children attending DT projects as well as poor children from surrounding communities. Despite the fact that health care in Neak Loeng and Poipet is available through government health centres and referral hospitals, people are often unable to afford these services and/or the transportation costs to reach them. Therefore, Damnok Toek provides basic care and refers serious cases to specialised health care centres if needed, covering all necessary costs. The main health concerns treated by our clinics are non-existent or unhygienic sanitary facilities, poor quality drinking water, malnutrition and little or no awareness on illness and disease.



Prevention is the backbone of the clinics' activities. Many people in Cambodia live with very little knowledge of issues related to hygiene, family planning or prevention of disease. Poor communities are often uneducated in simple precautions that can prevent serious illnesses such as malaria, dengue fever,



tuberculosis, typhoid fever or HIV/AIDS. DT clinicians provide education about hygiene, nutrition, diseases and HIV/AIDS with practical information.

Consultations for children from the community are provided for a nominal cost of 500 riel in Poipet and 1,000 riel (0.12 and 0.25 USD respectively) including medication. By contributing this symbolic amount to their children's health, DT expects parents to become more aware of the financial and moral responsibility they have to take of their children.

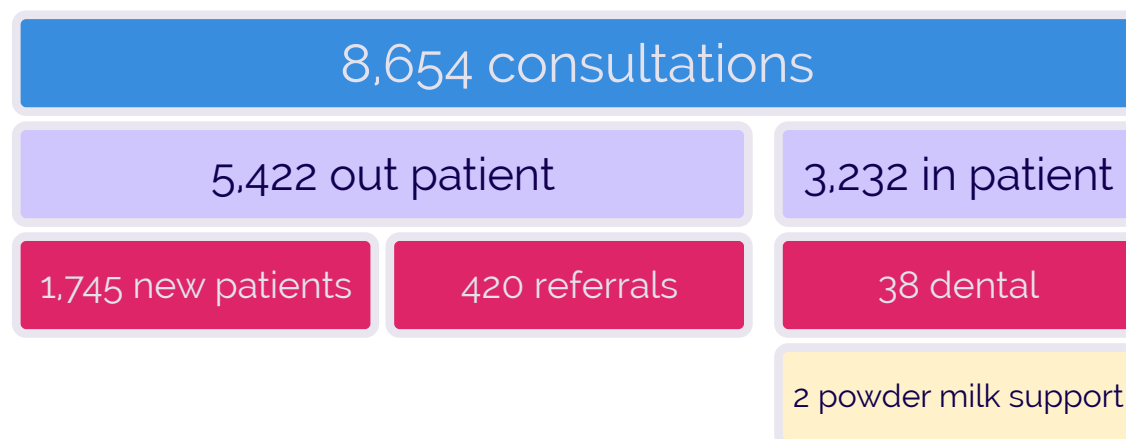
For serious cases children are referred to a hospital in Phnom Penh or Siem Reap.

Neak Loeung

1 medical assistant

The clinic in Neak Loeung has started to provide family planning sessions for young couples as well as counselling and referrals specifically related to sexual and reproductive health. The aim for 2013 is to pursue and reinforce these activities as well as training staff in sexual and reproductive health.

The most common diseases treated were: upper respiratory infections, stomach disorders (gastritis and intestinal worms), dermatological problems (skin infections, mycosis) and chickenpox.

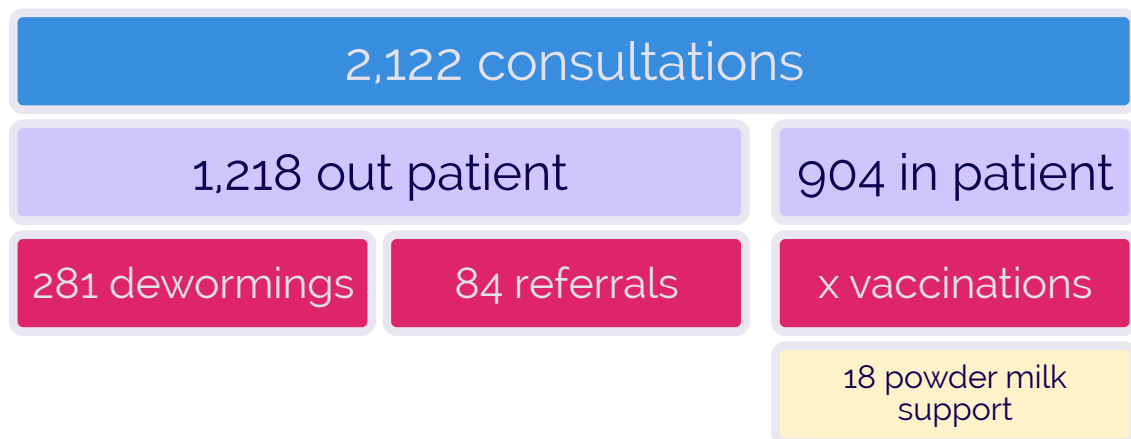




Poipet

1 doctor

The DT doctor in Poipet provides individual consultations and also joins in with social workers during outreach and awareness raising activities. In 2012, she provided regular education sessions for teenagers on sexual and reproductive health.



4.5 Drop-in centres

DT's Drop-In Centres (DIC) focus on prevention and protection and offer a wide range of services to street living, street working, substance abusing and vulnerable children who are at-risk of any form of exploitation or abuse. At the DI centre as well as during outreach activities, street and vulnerable children have access to basic non-formal education, medical care and hygiene facilities. They can also simply take a break from their daily work, or come in to play or chat with the social workers.

The DICs are generally the first point of contact a child has with Damnok Toek. A key part of the social workers' activities is to assess children's situations and refer to other services (within DT or external) when needed.

Outreach

Through outreach (street social work), social workers stay in close contact with children and their communities. This enables DT's workers to rapidly respond to any needs and prevent child abuse. Social workers carry a first aid kit and



communication materials. They work to sensitise children to issues related to unsafe migration/trafficking, substance abuse and inform them about Damnok Toek's services.

Reaching out to the communities: mobile training for children and adults

Every month mobile library events (community workshops) take place for children working on the street. These sessions aim to raise awareness about the importance of education, the risks and consequences of child trafficking and unsafe migration, domestic violence, HIV and AIDS as well as other issues affecting the community. Workshops with adults are also organised.

Educational activities

A 2 hour per day basic class (mathematics, reading, games) is held at the Drop-in every day for children that are mostly out of school as a result of their work in the streets.

Working in collaboration with local stakeholders

Damnok Toek and its activities are well known in the area. Close communication is kept with local authorities, police and other organisations. There is a well established referral system in place for children who need support in both locations.

Neak Loeung

5 social workers, including 1 project coordinator

The DIC is a safe shelter for vulnerable children who mainly work or beg around the ferry terminal. It is open every day and can also operate at night when required (there are few children living on the streets nowadays in Neak Loeung). To facilitate ease of access for the DIC is located a mere 100 metres from the ferry terminal.

These statistics demonstrate DT's impact:

- 26 children, on average, were attending the Drop-In basic education class
- 9 children were directly reintegrated into their families



- 30 family tracings and family assessments (in different parts of Cambodia) took place
- 861 follow up visits to public schools were conducted to monitor childrens' progress and absences
- 3,202 meals were prepared for poor community children reintegrated into public school
- 81 childrens' families on average supported every month with rice scholarship
- 12 mobile library events took place with an average participation of 18 children
- 12 parent workshops with an average participation of 33 parents

The new project launched on sexual and reproductive health has mainly focused in 2012 on identifying and training peers in sexual and reproductive health and providing them with communication skills. An initial KAP (knowledge, attitudes, and practice) survey was undertaken in October 2012 in Neak Loeung to determine the level of knowledge of youth. 2013 will focus on providing educational sessions in the communities, establishing youth clubs and facilitating dialogues on sexual and reproductive health

Poipet

1 project coordinator, 6 social workers, 1 day educator, 2 night educators

91 children in classes

21 sheltered

126 referred to NFE

**175 mobile library
monthly visitors**

**360 attended
workshops**

A survey conducted in December 2011 by Damnok Toek showed that around 300 children are working on a daily basis on the streets in the border area of Poipet and the market on the Thai side. The DIC, located close to the border with Thailand, is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and provides a safe space for children. It offers hygiene facilities including toilets and showers. In

addition, educators and social workers provide recreational activities as well as counselling and awareness raising for children as needed and at any time of the day. They also provide a basic education class.



Night shelter

The DT is also a safe night shelter for street living children or other children in need, with a maximum capacity of 20 children per night. Many of the street living children are substance abusing (using mainly glue and Yama, an amphetamine replacement) teenaged boys. If they return on a regular basis at night they are encouraged to join Damnok Toek's rehabilitation program.

Outreach

Social workers conduct outreach activities four times per day in the border area, slums and streets of Poipet. Through outreach, Damnok Toek stays in contact with over 300 children who are working or living on the streets.

4.6 Vocational training

DT's vocational training (VT) program aims to provide skills to both vulnerable teenagers from communities and young people that live in Damnok Toek's residential centres. Young people attending public school are also welcome to attend VT on a part time basis to begin to build skills they can use after completing their studies.





Aiming for independence: job placement and reintegration support

Following their graduation, we aim to find students internships or job placements. This can be quite challenging, due to the poor socio-economic situation in both Poipet and Neak Loeung. Another challenge is the drop out rate – due to young people simply choosing to stop attending classes to work as well as the migration of their families. A high degree of flexibility is required to enable DT to adapt to the rapidly changing context and turnover of students. DT also assists students in setting up their own business after evaluating feasibility and supporting with a business plan.

Neak Loeung

1 project coordinator, 5 teachers: tailoring, mechanics, hairdresser/barber, carpentry, beauty

77 attended VT
35 VT graduates
8 apprenticeships
32 found employment
2 received business support

The 5 areas of study currently offered are tailoring, mechanics, hairdresser/barber, beauty and carpentry. Depending on the student's chosen area, the curriculum lasts between 6 and 18 months. Classes are held on a part time basis in order to encourage those who attend public school to complete their formal studies.

Our vocational training teachers develop links between trainees and people in the community to create a realistic work environment. Trainees learn and put into practice customer management and budgeting skills. Additionally they take part in English and computer classes.

In 2012 special focus was placed on opening the VT program to the outside world and increasing practical skills. Barbering class is now held once a week at a public primary school to cut children's hair. DT opened a beauty shop above the drop-in centre in April 2012 where students practice whilst gaining a small income.

Students also go out into communities and provide beauty services directly in the villages.

Opening up activities to communities and beyond



Poipet

1 teacher: tailoring, 1 water producer, 1 vocational training coordinator

**8 trainee water
processors**

7 trainee tailors

4 apprenticeships

Two areas of study are offered in Poipet: Water Purification Business and tailoring.

Water business

The water business is an opportunity for adolescents from the Residential Centre to gain experience in a business like environment. They learn about the water purification process, cleaning and filling the recycled bottles and selling and distributing bottled water in the community. As a reward and incentive for their efforts they receive weekly pocket money and earn a small percentage of the total sales.

In 2012 the water produced by students was provided to the community around Samarkhum through 3 small shops. Each day the water business provided clean water to over 500 children participating in Damnok Toek projects.

Tailoring

All participants in the tailoring class must be at least 15 years old and combine the class with NFE or public school. Damnok Toek also cooperates with private shops to find internships or professional training for the students.

4.7 ChildSafe network

The **ChildSafe** network is an international body that consists of local and international people, businesses and groups who protect children from abuse and prevent them from being placed in abusive situations (www.childsafe-international.org).

The ChildSafe network aims to reduce the number of children living and working on the streets, improve the protection of children from

ChildSafe[®]





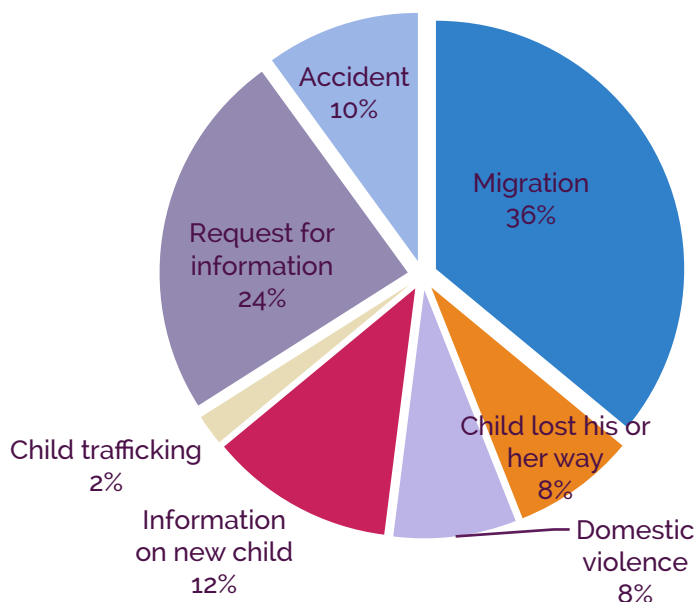
all forms of abuse and increase society's involvement in the protection of children. This is achieved by training people in the community who become *ChildSafe Members* and enabling them to distinguish children who are at risk and take action by contacting DT when appropriate. This takes place in strategic locations like the border area in Poipet or the ferry terminal in Neak Loeung. Trained members are street sellers, mototaxi drivers, policemen or security guards. They are monitored by the Drop-In's social workers and have refresher trainings and meetings.

The ChildSafe Hotline is an important tool of ChildSafe: members, partners, travellers – everyone can call the hotline 24 hours/7 days a week to report if a child is seen in an at risk situation. Damnok Toek is implementing the network and hotline in Neak Loeung and Poipet.

Neak Loeung

In 2012, there were 20 ChildSafe network members (16 female, 4 male). Six additional members relocated to Phnom Penh.

ChildSafe hotline calls in Neak Loeung (50 calls)





Poipet

In 2012, there were 24 ChildSafe network members (3 female, 21 male). One additional member relocated to Thailand.

4.8 Rehabilitation centre

1 project coordinator, 4 educators, 1 social worker and 1 cook

18 resident children

19 new residents

12 referred to other programs

5 reintegrated

5 left the program

The Rehabilitation Centre opened in Poipet in 1999 and is specifically designed to rehabilitate substance abusing and street living boys. The most popular substances are glue and "yama" (amphetamine replacement). Poipet hardly knows any substance abusing or street living girls. The program aims to deliver full services for psychological, social and physical recovery and development. Every year up to 30 children between 10 and 18 years old follow a 6 to 12 months long re-socialisation program before being reintegrated into their families or being referred to other adapted services.

With support from DT's educators, children follow a structured schedule during this period in order to re-adjust to life away from the streets. This includes daily tasks such as cooking, cleaning, gardening, helping with the maintenance at the centre, workshops in woodcarving or carpentry.





Counselling

Counselling is key to helping children overcome traumatic experiences and rebuilding their self-esteem and trust in others. They also need support to be able to envisage a life free of substances. Through group and one-to-one psychosocial counselling, the educators adapt services to each child's needs and prepare them to plan for their future.

Creative art therapy and drama tour

Drama therapy enables children to learn to express their emotions in a safe way. Students practise their ability to express negative feelings openly, deal with anger and anxiety and heal their traumas in a playful manner, whilst building their self-esteem and self-confidence. The children develop characters and scenarios themselves to tell their stories and to express their



emotions. This is also a powerful tool for socialisation and the development of valuable life skills. As children work in a group, they develop relationships and learn to deal with conflicts. Role play, making masks, writing stories and expression through body gesture and face mime are the main techniques used. During the year, participants worked on their very own theatre show about substance abuse, violence, trafficking and other issues related to their life on the streets and individual experiences.

Self-produced shows are performed to other children attending Damnok Toek projects and to remote villages and communities in and around the province. These performances are a valuable tool to directly raise awareness of issues such as child rights, the dangers of street life and the importance of education. The children performed from 10-12 December in Preah Vihear Province, reaching over 300 spectators.



In May 2012, two weeks of training in hip hop and break dancing with the NGO **Tiny Toones** for both staff and children took place to diversify creative techniques and self expression.

4.9 Reception centre

1 project coordinator, 4 educators, 1 cook, 3 guards

34 resident children

12 new residents

19 referred to other programs

11 reintegrated

1 left the program

The Reception Centre was set up in Poipet in 2001 as part of the *Return and Reintegration of children trafficked to Thailand-Project*, supported by **IOM**, which focused on repatriating Cambodian children from Thailand and referring these children to different Childcare organisations through the government-run Transit Centre in

Poipet. This structure was set up to prevent the immediate re-trafficking of children who are repatriated by Thai Authorities to Cambodian Authorities.

DT's Reception Centre in Poipet aims to ensure a safe repatriation process for trafficked children and to provide direct tailored assistance to deported/repatriated and at-risk children until a safe reintegration with the family of origin can be ensured.

The Reception Centre is the only institution of its kind for trafficked children in Poipet. Children stay in the Reception Centre for a period of 6 to 12 months. Meanwhile, DT social workers conduct family tracing and assess whether the family's social and financial situation is stable enough for the reintegration of the child without risk of re-trafficking or child abuse. Children that cannot be reintegrated with their families or whose families are untraceable are referred to DT's longer term Residential Centre or to an appropriate child welfare partner organisation.

The Centre also welcomes children at high risk of being trafficked, who are identified through DT's Drop-in Centre in Poipet and by the police.



Recreational and creative activities, psycho-social support and Non Formal Education

The children follow a schedule in which there is a focus on counselling and recreational and creative activities. With help from their educators, the children participate in storytelling, drawing/art, singing and dancing, making handicrafts and awareness-raising sessions. Because of their traumatic experiences, special attention is paid to childrens' psychological well being. Both younger children and those at high risk of being re-trafficked attend non formal education activities at the Reception Centre itself. Others attend one of the two Damnok Toek Non Formal Education Centres.



After reintegration, families are encouraged to let their child continue his/her education at Damnok Toek's Non Formal Education program to ensure safe reintegration and prevent re-trafficking. The children continue to receive free medical care as well as one meal per day from the Centre. Upon reintegration, social workers do regular follow up visits for up to one year to keep track of the child's situation, maintain awareness on various topics (like trafficking, children's rights and reproductive health) and to prevent re-trafficking.



Lina's story: a case study

Lina is 11 years old. After two years of being forced to sell flowers on the streets of Bangkok, she was provided with a safe haven in Damnok Toek's Reception Centre in Poipet, a border town near Thailand. She arrived in the centre in August 2012.

Two years ago, when Lina was only 9 years old, a trafficker approached her mother, a woman named Dung. Dung and her son were well known to the family as they lived in a nearby village. At the time Lina was living in Poipet with her parents, her older brother, and two sisters. Her family was poor; they washed clothes and sold cakes to make a living. Lina's father, disabled, was in a wheelchair and a heavy drinker. Her mother would often gamble away the little money that the household made.

Dung proposed to take Lina to Thailand where she would then sell flowers and candy and supposedly make a lot of money. Dung assured Lina's mother that she would take good care of her daughter and she offered to pay the family 2000 Baht a month (approximately 67 USD). Lina's mother, despite her husband's protests, agreed and sent Lina away with Dung to Thailand.

Once in Thailand Lina was made by Dung to work in Sukhumvit, the red-light district of Bangkok, selling candy and flowers to mostly tourists – both foreign and Thai. She worked long

hours, often more than 12 per day, and many times throughout the night. The area she worked was around many nightclubs and she found it frightening as she was constantly subjected to seeing exotic dancing as well as other forms of sexual displays.

“Normally I started working at 1:00 pm until late night, sometimes even until the next morning. When I felt sleepy I hid myself under a snooker table in some bar so I could take a nap. I was threatened and told that if I didn't sell all the flowers I would be throw to the crocodiles in the river”

Lina was forced to relinquish the entirety of any earnings to Dung. On a 'good' night, this could be between 2000-3000 baht, at a rate of 100 baht per flower. If, however, she had a bad night, and perhaps only made 500 baht, Lina was badly beaten by Dung, frequently with a wooden stick or hanger and at rare times, electricity cables. The two attempts Lina made to escape and find refuge on the streets, she was found by Dung, again beaten and then returned to the home of Dung, where she lived with her son. Lina had few opportunities to speak with her parents, who would call to see how she was, but because of threats from Dung, she never shared with them what the situation really was like; she told them she was happy.



Two years passed and Dung returned to Cambodia to visit Lina's parents. She convinced them to let her bring Lina's little sister, Sopheak, who was 8 years old, back to Bangkok, so she could earn some money for her family as well. With the parents not knowing the danger, and daughter being obedient, Sopheak travelled back to Bangkok with Dung, not having any insight into the danger that awaited her. Lina was very disturbed by the arrival of her sister and knew that she could not allow her to face the same horrors she herself had.

After one month of Sopheak struggling to communicate with clients, not selling many flowers, and being beaten continually; Lina and Sopheak made a plan to escape.

“At the beginning I could not even realise my sister was also in my same situation. It was horrible just thinking that she would suffer as much as I had. My fear of being punished was increasingly doubled”

Once night during work, the girls sought protection in a nightclub. Lina, who at this point spoke a bit of Thai, pleaded with a cleaner to help her and her sister. The cleaner agreed, hiding both girls and arranging with a motorcycle taxi driver for help. He rescued the girls, instructing them to hide their faces with their long hair as

they travelled by motorcycle to his home, where they stayed for one night. The next day the local police and journalists were contacted in order that the girls could not only tell their story, but also receive further assistance.

They were then brought to the Ban Kretakan Girl Centre for Children in Bangkok. They were delighted to be in a safe place, to be together, to have enough food to eat, to no longer be forced to work and to not receive any more beatings. Regardless of the immense improvement of their situation, the girls missed their family, and Cambodia. After 3 or 4 months they were sent back to Cambodia, to the Poipet Transit Centre, and that same day to Damnok Toek's Reception Centre.

At Damnok Toek they participate in many activities such as general education, traditional dance, English lessons, and social and morality studies, and benefit from individual counselling. They have had the opportunity to learn a wide range of things from issues related to exploitation and trafficking, to maintaining good relationships with others and to basic hygiene for self and home and respecting elders/caregivers. Lina enjoys most studying general education whereas Sopheak likes more to practice traditional dancing.



When asked the ways in which Damnok Toek helped them, each girl can list many reasons; among them: a safe place to live, feeling protected, three meals every day, a chance to learn many good and new things, new clothing, outside excursions and activities, and family tracing and regular contact.

“I am very happy living in the centre. I am able to receive education, food, to be relaxed and to receive caring.

“I also have time to participate in activities I like and be with my friends”

Their general plans for the future are to continue learning, to be good individual persons and to better respect all persons, especially their elders. Specifically, Lina would like to be a teacher, and Sopheak a nurse. All of this, and so much more, is now truly within their grasp. They are now each free, with a hope, and with a good, and safe, future.

4.10 Home based production

1 coordinator, 1 production officer, 1 skills trainer

8 families
31 beneficiaries
127 family visits
3 families left the program

Since commencing in 2009, this project aims to create opportunities for vulnerable mothers in Poipet to gain a regular income. This will ultimately reduce the risk of children working on the streets or migrating to Thailand illegally. The families sign a contract with Damnok Toek where they

commit to send their children to school, to take good care of them and to prevent them from working on the streets.

In return, a two-week training program is conducted to teach the women the basic skills of making Damnok Toek products. They are then provided with materials to produce these home-based products. They are followed up each week in order to check the production and their social situation.

A challenge faced this year was the selection of the mothers to participate in the project. The vulnerable situations of families combined with numerous social and health problems meant that some mothers dropped out of the project after only a few months. One solution was to enable the women to work directly at Damnok Toek's Home Based workshop instead of at home,



accompanied by their children when necessary. Increased social support and making sure that the family is stable enough to participate in the project was shown to reduce the drop out rate.



In 2012 DT focused on developing some new products with the technical assistance of Friends International, as well as strengthening the quality of existing products and stabilising the incomes of participating families.

Damnok Toek opened a new shop in the Angkor Night Market in Siem Reap in January 2012. The sales have increased in comparison to the previous shop, due to the prime location and a renewed focus on communication and marketing. Leaflets, posters and other information materials about the project and Damnok Toek were designed and are displayed at the shop in addition to strategic spots around Siem Reap. A catalogue of products was also produced.

Damnok Toek continued its collaboration with Friends International by selling through their shop **Friends 'n Stuff** in Phnom Penh. In addition, since October 2012, DT has sold its products in the fair trade shop **Poom Products** in the city of Battambang.

Each producer received an average monthly income of 109 USD per month.

5.0 Networks

Damnok Toek (Goutte d'eau) is a member of the following networks:

- **Goutte d'eau** a child support network
- **Border Issue Group on Children** NGOs, Thai and Cambodian authorities working for the protection of children in the border
- **Border Victims Support Team** a cross-border joint outreach team consisting of Cambodian and Thai NGOs.
- **Disability Action Council**
- **COSECAM** NGO Coalition to Address (the sexual) Exploitation of Children in Cambodia
- **Cambodia's Street Children Network**
- **NEP** for non government education
- **Child Safe Network**
- **CYTI Alliance**



6.0 Financial report

Damnok Toek has undergone an audit for the year ended 31 December 2012. You can review the organisation's financial position below.

DAMNOK TOEK (GOUTTE D'EAU)

Statement of receipts, disbursements and fund balance year ended 31 December 2012

All figures are in US dollars.

| | Neak Loeung | | Poipet | | Phnom Penh | |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2012 | change on 2011 | 2012 | change on 2011 | 2012 | change on 2011 |
| Grant receipts | 181,464 | 6% | 262,339 | -14% | 101,255 | -9% |
| Other donations | - | - | 6,360 | 100% | 2,535 | 100% |
| Other income | 3,814 | 8% | 940 | 44% | 4,179 | 1222% |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | 185,278 | 6% | 269,639 | -12% | 107,969 | -3% |
| General Costs | 102,818 | 12% | 150,966 | 6% | 36,036 | -22% |
| Project Costs | 64,347 | -7% | 133,747 | 1% | 81,301 | 48% |
| DISBURSEMENTS | 167,165 | 4% | 284,713 | 4% | 117,337 | 16% |
| NET RECEIPTS | 18,113 | 37% | (15,074) | -150% | (9,368) | -189% |
| Opening balance | 53,190 | 33% | 67,711 | 80% | 28,124 | 60% |
| END BALANCE | 71,303 | 34% | 52,637 | -22% | 18,756 | -33% |

If you have any questions regarding these figures please contact DT using the details provided in section 9 of this report.

7.0 Looking ahead: 2013 and beyond

Damnok Toek will continue to implement its existing programs and deliver services to children and young people in need through 2013 and into the future.

We have plans to expand our services to reach more disabled children, both through full-time care in the centre, as well as by initiating a new day-care program. This will allow families respite from care giving and ensure that they are supported in order to be able to work and provide income for their families.

DT has also launched a project for opening NFE kindergarten classes directly within communities, in order to enable more children, currently not in school, to access basic education. This will also allow us to work even closer with families in challenging circumstances.

After further realising the needs and demand of the older youth living in the residential centres we are currently exploring the possibility of developing new alternative care possibilities and creating independent homes for independent living.



8.0 Thank you

Damnok Toek is grateful for the generous support of the following organisations.



We also appreciate financial support given by **To Holding As** and private donors.



We look forward to continuing these fruitful partnerships in 2013 and into the future.



DT would like to thank **Jenny Holligan, Amy Fellows** and **Sasha Sicurella** for photographs included in this report and **Kristin O'Connell** for editing contributions and layout.

Please see the next page for details regarding how you can support Damnok Toek.

9.0 Contact and donation details

At Damnok Toek we are able to continue our important work thanks to the generous support of both large and small donors. Every dollar makes a difference to a child's life. If you would like to contribute you can deposit directly to our bank account using the details provided below. Please email us to advise of your donation so that we may confirm receipt.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Account holder | Damnok Toek |
| Account number | 09 00 306 000 160 |
| Bank name | Canadia Bank Ltd. |
| Bank address | No. 265 – 26, Ang Duong Street, Phnom Penh, Cambodia |
| Bank SWIFT code | CADIKHPP |

If you have questions regarding the contents of this report or the work of Damnok Toek please get in touch with us at one of the addresses below.

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