

## GENERAL STATISTICS



“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.”

*Harriet Tubman*



## FINANCE



## Quarter Overview

It has been a busy quarter of the new Academic Year, 2016 – 2017. After finishing a long student selection process, we are so excited to welcome 30 new, bright and committed [students](#) from Kralanh and Srei Snom Districts of Siem Reap to the PEPY Empowering Youth Scholarship Project! In their first week in Siem Reap, students spent a lot of time learning about and getting to know each other and exploring the town and its hospital, library, university, market and other important places. [Read more.](#)

In early November 2016, PEPY Empowering Youth team members Colm, Konnitha, Sithong, and Khanya had the pleasure of visiting Vietnam to represent Cambodia and meet Ireland's President, Michael D. Higgins in Ho Chi Minh where they met with the people from the LIN Center for Community Development and the Irish Embassy. Read about their amazing experience, having the opportunity to meet with the people working with different NGOs in Vietnam, widening their network for learning, sharing best practices and receiving such great support from Irish Aid in Vietnam [here.](#)

We are also very excited to share with you that four of our scholarship students from Promotion 2, 3 and 4 who would like to be government teachers passed their test in October 2016. They will spend two years learning about Teaching Pedagogy at the Battambang Regional Teacher Training Center. We, at PEPY Empowering Youth, feel very confident that our four students will make a lot of positive impact in people's lives. Having experienced a lot challenging situations in the pass, they don't want others to face the same challenges as they did. More of the story [here.](#)

PEPY Empowering Youth Scholarship students from Promotion two decided to form a group called Big Dream Cambodia to organize events to be able to raise fund to support PEPY's Projects. On 22nd October, they organized a 120km-cycling from Siem Reap to Kralanh with two main goals, the first was to encourage the participants to learn more about how people in Kralanh district live their lives by staying with a host family overnight and second was to raise funds for PEPY. From this cycling event, they were able to raise 700 USD which is very amazing! For them, this fund is very big but for us their kindness and their hearts are much bigger than the money they raised. All these were inspired by PEPY's donors and supporters who provided them the opportunities to chase their dreams.

We are still looking for more funding to support our Dream Management Project in Kralanh and we wish to expand to Srei Snom District next year. Please join us to make more positive impact to our community.

## COMMUNICATIONS





## Scholarship Program

PEPY Empowering Youth provides university and vocational training scholarships for students from Kralanh. Recipients are supported with tuition fees, study supplies, a bicycle, use of a computer, a living allowance, and access to health care. Scholarship students also attend the Learning Center for additional training.

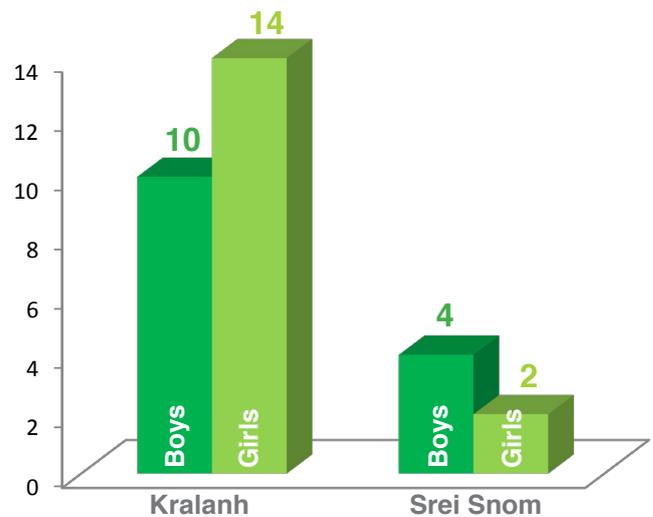
## Quarterly Overview

This quarter has been one full of great news and outstanding achievements for the Scholarship Project. First and foremost we were extremely happy to welcome [30 new students](#) -16 of whom are girls - from Kralanh and Srei Snom districts. All of these students have accepted scholarships to continue on into higher education. In October, PEPY Empowering Youth organised a meeting for the 68 parents and teachers of the new intake to discuss how they could all work together to ensure their success at the school, enabling them to achieve their ambitions and future careers. It was a great meeting with all parties showing enthusiasm and commitment in supporting the students in their endeavours.

For our new students, the first week of their new lives in Siem Reap can be a difficult and daunting experience, as it's the first time leaving home and family for many of them. To ease them in and help them to settle, the students attended a 5 day integration workshop during which they got to know one another better whilst learning the rules and

considerations of living together in a shared house [here](#). They also had the opportunity to learn more about their new home town of Siem Reap. There were also talks from previous students who discussed their personal experiences, providing motivation and inspiration to work hard and make the very best of the opportunities ahead.

## Scholarship Students 2016





## Quarterly Overview

The second noteworthy event of this quarter for the Scholarship Programme has been the success of four of our scholarship students who all passed their teaching exams, meaning they are now qualified secondary school teachers. The 4 students all came through the PEPY Scholarship programme in Promotions 2, 3, 4 & 5: Choeum Chhorliheang is a Promotion 2 student and has proven himself to be a very hardworking young man who applies himself diligently both in school and in work. He plans to major in English and Khmer Literature at Regional Teacher Training College. Theorn Chorm of Promotion 3 developed a real passion for IT and will go on to major in IT and English, and Nhoeun Sakkra of Promotion 4 will major in English and Khmer Literature [here](#). The youngest of the four and a graduate of Promotion 5, Hom Suk, also plans to major in English and Khmer Literature. We are very proud of the achievements of these 4 students and are sure they will continue to work hard and to pass on their knowledge to the next Cambodian generation. We wish them all well.

We would also like to congratulate 6 students from Promotion 2 who have just graduated from the Vanda institute with Bachelor degrees in Accounting and Finance. "PEPY was helpful supporting me because I have learned skills through joined PEPY program such as Youth Empowerment (soft skills), English and computer. Moreover, bring us to see different and big society. Especially, having visitors and exchange program which helped us to learn and

experience. We really appreciate to be a member of PEPY Family", Said Thor Sina, Chhim Serey, Chorm Lek, Thy Sopheakra, Chek Mara and Huy Bunty." Finally, this year saw the introduction of music, sports and drawing into the PEPY Empowering Youth Scholarship programme. All 30 students are scheduled to receive 2 hours' tuition per week from the '[Music for everyone school](#)' in which they will learn to play the guitar or another instrument. Students will also be taught how to draw by young professional artists and there are sports classes once a week to build self-confidence and team work. The students love this new addition to the curriculum!





## Learning Center Project

With more and more employers highlighting the need for soft skills, PEPY’s Learning Center aims to increase the employability skills of scholarship students through provision of English, Information & Communications Technology, and soft skills training (Youth Empowerment classes). Students are also connected to new ideas and potential career opportunities by means of inspirational speakers, career mentorship, internships, and volunteers.

## Quarterly Overview Youth Empowerment Class

When they first arrive at PEPY Empowering Youth, most students have little or no experience of life in Siem Reap -its history, rules, regulations, values etc. so the first quarter is spent focussing on these aspects of their new life, as well as introducing them to the basis of the learning processes involved in the programme. All 30 students have cycled to Angkor Wat Temple and Prasat Chrung Temple to absorb the Angkorean history and they have also taken part in team building exercises designed to help them get to know one another better. The students visited Build Bright University where they were given a presentation about the University programme, as well as spending time learning about and discussing “7 Habits of Highly Effective People”, an introduction to the ASEAN Community and the “Black Cat

Cross Culture”. This took the form of role playing, presentations and group discussions which was initially very challenging for the students who are not used to speaking in public; however, this is a skill that will improve with practice.

The YE class encourages students to expand their learning by increasing their reading and participation in library activities. For most students, reading is not a popular pastime – their parents may not be keen readers, so the students have never had the inclination to read for leisure and pleasure. However, at PEPY Empowering Youth we are keen for them to develop the habit and to join discussion groups for film or book clubs so that they have access to the wide range of ideas and information available through reading a broad spectrum of authors.





## English Class

43 students attended English classes this quarter, a number which we expect to increase in the next quarter as some previous Scholarship students return to the Learning Center. It is a difficult class to teach as the basic level of English taught at high school is very low, with poor grammar and very limited vocabulary. Of the 43 students attending this quarter, only 15 are above beginners level so lessons have been focussing on basics like the alphabet, phonetics, vocabulary and block writing.

According to the teacher assessment and attendance records, class attendance is 78.76%. However, it should be noted that this reflects the fact that some students were absent because they had to sit their teaching exams in Battambang. Over 95% of all homework was completed and submitted on time.

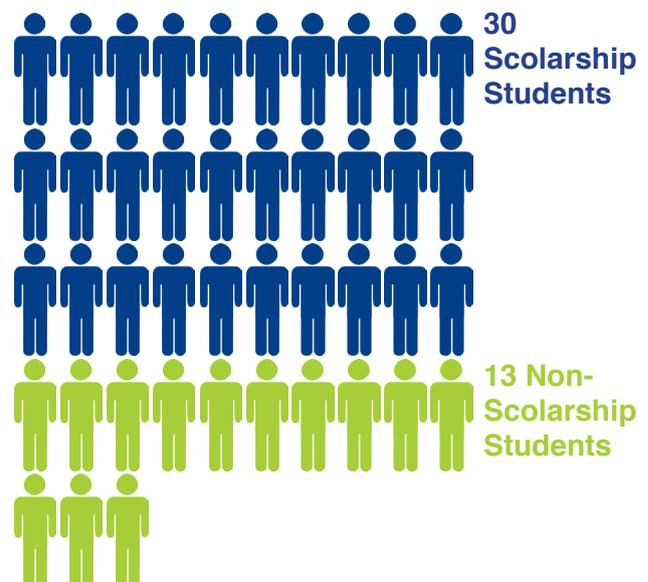
The English teacher reported that students are well disciplined and show great teamwork skills. They look after the classroom, are mindful of power and resource usage and are good timekeepers. They also ensure that all assignments are completed on time. Of particular note, the teacher is delighted with the huge amount of help and support that the students give to their classmates if one of them is struggling with comprehension or translation.

## Information & Communication Technology Class

Computers are a very new concept to all 43 of the students who attended ICT this quarter. They were unable to recognise any part of the computer so lessons began at a very basic level. They were focused on introducing students to the computer, typing skills, Windows Explorer, the internet and email. However, despite this lack of basic knowledge, the students have made great progress and are now able to email, attach files to email and save files, allocating them to the right folders. Three students, Khann Phearith, Srey Oun and Hab Lyhoun, have been particularly impressive in their grasp of all things computer-related.

The attendance figures for the ICT classes are correspondingly very good, with regular and punctual attendance at 94%. The enthusiasm for his classes has rubbed off on the IT co-ordinator who loves to pass on his knowledge to such keen students. The ICT project is such a success that a past student has decided to return to PEPY Empowering Youth to intern in the IT department as he found it so useful and inspiring. High praise indeed!

### 43 attend Learning Center





## Dream Management Project

Dreams are very important to us at PEPY Empowering Youth. Many of the students we work with are only exposed to a limited range of opportunities. We believe it's important for young people to dream big and see how they can make their dreams a reality. Through our Dream Classes, we aim to nurture those big ambitions for their future and give them the resources and connections to take the necessary steps to make their dreams a reality. In the PEPY Empowering Youth Dream Classes, young people are given a forum to identify and discuss their ambitions for the future, and any challenges they may need to overcome. The classes provide career resources, mentorship, and group workshops. Successful Cambodian professionals present to our students, thereby giving them exposure to different ideas and aspirations.

## Quarterly Overview

This year we were delighted to see the number of students applying for the Dream Management Project rise from 250 last year to 350 this year. Of these 350, 216 of these students regularly attend sessions within the project and this number is expected to rise during the next quarter as the students become more organised.

The main focus of the classes this quarter has been the history of PEPY Empowering Youth and the Dream Management Project. Students received lessons in recognising and consequently reviewing their dreams. They were asked to write down at least 3 of their personal dreams which were then shared with their friends in a small group, and then with the whole class. The students were also asked to set their own short term goals with a target end date of 3 months. Although many of the students were able to share their hopes and ambitions with their peers, for some it was the first time they had been publicly voiced and openly discussed with other people. This was a challenge to most but the students agreed that

it was a liberating experience to discuss their hopes in such a way and also enabled them to look to the future ,finding ways in which these aspirations could be met.



At PEPY Empowering Youth, not only do we want to help our own students achieve their goals and provide a better future for themselves and future Cambodian generations, but where and when possible, we hope to help other organisations achieve the same for their students. To this end, PEPY Empowering Youth and the DMP were pleased to host visits from 2 NGO's this quarter -Infants del Mon-Cambodia Ong from Banteay Meanchey province and LEOT from Laos- and we were able to demonstrate how the programme is implemented and the benefits it brings to the students in terms of confidence, problem solving and work ethic to name but a few. The visitors were able to take these principles back to their own organisations and enhance the future of their own students in a similar way.

### Next Quarter:

- We are looking forward to supporting PEPY scholarship students in Promotion 3 to organize a community tree planting project along the National Road No 68 in Kralanh District.
- All new scholarship students will join a team and confidence building training at Chom Bok Hos, Preah Vihear Province.
- We will continue to support students who wish to be primary school government teachers in taking the teacher's admission exam.
- PEPY will organize a book writing workshop to help students improve their creativity, and imagination.