



## Quarter Overview

PEPY team is very enthusiastic about the changes that have taken place this quarter! We have moved back to working with our community and students in person following the government’s social distancing guidelines during the month of November and it has increased everyone’s morale and energy. PEPY has also expanded to add on two more initiatives: **The Future is Bright Lab and Library** in the Learning Center and the **Youth Innovators’ Space and Incubator (YISI) Program**. This has enabled us to bring in two new team members, Phalla, our Incubator Manager, and SreyPov, our Incubator Officer. We also want to acknowledge our research partners from Hannover University who fundraised on our behalf in September on GlobalGiving, helping support our running costs this year!

## PEPY Program Updates

### Community Student Outreach Programs



#### Dream Management Project

The Dream Management team worked hard to stay in touch with our partner schools and students over this quarter. Although social distance learning is still ongoing, the team held group discussions and feedback sessions through Facebook Messenger groups after sending students 6 video lessons reviewing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in addition to 2 Dream Talks to help students stay motivated in their studies and future goals. The team has stayed in regular contact with our teacher partners and discussed plans for January when Dream Class Officers are able to return to the school.

Vandinn is a Dream Management Project Teacher Volunteer in Kralanh High School. He helped provide the orientation session to Dream Class students. Recently, he was promoted to be the 1st Deputy Director of Kralanh High School. He received his degree in Agriculture from Mean Chey University. In 2013, he went to Israel to pursue his Masters Degree in the same subject. He is very



### Scholarship for Higher Education (SHE) Project



This quarter, PEPY team has continued to support scholarship students and alumni grappling with high unemployment and online classes. Through our partnership with iHerb Charitable Foundation, first year students were equipped with tablets to keep up with both their university and Learning Center studies. Our team ensured that 107 of the scholars taking online classes had access to either a smartphone, computer, or tablet to complete assignments. Students surpassed the team’s expectations with **87% maintaining at least a 3.0 GPA** so far. Through the scholarship teams support, PEPY students’ unemployment rate has consistently declined since September with a **decrease in 9%** from the last quarter.

### Food Response Initiative

In an effort to support our scholars and our target communities through both the COVID-19 and flooding crises, we appointed our scholar, Lada, to be PEPY’s Food Response Intern. Lada worked in partnership with local government officials and community leaders to address families’ immediate needs. So far, we have provided monthly stipends to scholars who have lost their jobs to allow them to stay in the city and continue their studies, and we have started chicken coop and garden projects in our communities.



passionate about teaching and sharing and has been involved with Dream Class for one year so far. Vandin said the reason he joined Dream Class is that he wants to motivate students to reach their goals and support them in building their confidence and commitment, and to be a good role model to students so that they can seek support from him anytime.

## PEPY Program Updates

### Learning Center Program



Usually, Learning Center students begin classes in November and graduate in October of the following



year to coincide with students' school year. Due to COVID-19, the school time table has shifted with exams being postponed for several months. For these reasons, the Learning Center did not

recruit new students in November of this quarter. Instead, the team took this opportunity to continue supporting the 51 students from the 2019-2020 class and pushed their graduation back to December 2020. The students were thrilled to be back in class, and the teachers were happy to cover content and workshops that could not be done as effectively online.

### English Learning Project (ELP)

With-in class learning permissible during November, the English class students and team took full advantage of class time by covering 5 key lessons with presentations and reading sessions. Students were introduced to new vocabulary and grammar sections that they utilized in their presentations. In addition, the team was also able to hold 10 counseling sessions with students addressing any of their lingering academic concerns or ongoing challenges in their personal life. This helped youth increase their confidence and focus in class. Lastly, despite most of the year's classes being held online, students' English test scores increased by an **average of 32%** from 51% on their pretest to 83% this quarter!

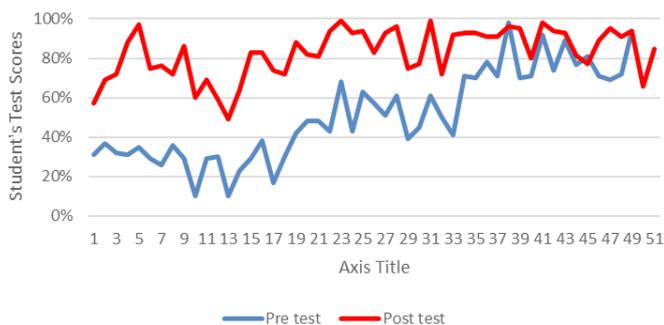


Figure 3: Students' pre-test vs Quarter III progress test in English Class

### Information Communication Technologies (ICT) Project

This quarter, our Learning Center Program Manager and Dream Management Program Officer covered the ICT class, while PEPY is in the process of recruiting new ICT staff. The classes were held in person for the month of November covering video editing on smartphones, Microsoft Office (Word and Excel), specific email tools, and Google Forms. The students greatly benefitted from being back in the classroom. Although it was a challenge to be understaffed, the team stepped up to support each other whenever possible so the students were not impacted.

### Youth Empowerment (YE) Project

The YE courses were held online this quarter covering 3 main topics: Globalization and Economic Growth in Cambodia, Environmental Issues, and a Socio-Economic Rights training. Youth showed great interest in these topics with an average pretest comprehension score of 31% and **exit score of 80%**. With the Youth Leaders in Action initiative, some students' business and community development projects made considerable progress this quarter. A small group of 18 students were able to participate in a business pitching competition in Phnom Penh put together by the Ministry of Education Youth and Sports at the National University of Management.

#### Student Story: Soeut Set



Set is a student originally from Varin District, which is over 110 km from the city. He is studying ICT in South East Asia University. He enjoys creating videos but also recognizes the importance of gaining soft skills. He believes attitude is one of the key components to determine his success. After one year of attending the Youth Empowerment Project, there is a significant change that he has observed in himself. Set shared, "I have the confidence to communicate effectively with my surrounding people and gained a bunch of friends. This project has helped me to create my achievable 5-year plan to start my career in technology. I will use the knowledge that I absorbed from the project to solve every problem I have, to generate creativity, interact with other people as well as apply it to my daily life. I am standing for education and in the next five years I will manifest the eyes in my community that knowledge is a treasure and education can change everything."

### Future is Bright Lab and Library



Through in kind donations and many generous donors, we were able to purchase 10 KOOMPI computers and begin renting them to our scholarship students. We received additional funds to purchase more computers and accessories this month through our partnership with Irish Aid in Vietnam and have received over 10 refurbished computers from REVIVN that are in transit from the United States. We look forward to reaching out to additional scholars and alumni to help them have continued IT access during their studies and professional development.

### Youth Innovators' Space and Incubator (YISI) Program



PEPY began the process of launching our new program and new office this quarter! YISI is for young leaders and entrepreneurs to get the training and resources they need to launch successful start-ups by the end of 2021. The program has brought in new team members Phalla and Sreyppov, who are both experienced in the business sector, to manage the course modules and new office. We are so excited to be providing one of the first start-up incubators in Siem Reap to help diversify the economy and support our communities on the ground.

