Dream Management Project
This quarter, there were 20 Dream Classes and speaker sessions, 2 study tours, and mentorship sessions with 29 students (24 female). The Dream Classes covered topics from Gender and Culture to Networking and Communication Skills Development. The students reported that they were most affected by sessions that allowed them to reflect on their lives and plan where they would like themselves to be in the future. 271 students, 8 teachers, and 3 PEPY staff attended the study tours which included school visits to learn about available majors and resources, a Silk Farm to learn about industry trades, and temple visits to experience Khmer culture. Since starting the application process last quarter, 17 grade 12 students have been accepted into 4 different scholarship programs.

Learning Center
English
The students were able to partake in 10 workshops and projects that helped them to expand their global exposure, critical thinking, and creativity this quarter. Students took part in class presentations where they played ambassadors from different countries and shared facts and information to each other. In addition, foreign teachers and professionals introduced new places and explored creative expression with the students. As a result of these programs and their regular lessons, students’ English post-test scores improved by 28% from their pre-tests scores from the beginning of the year.

ICT
During this quarter, the ICT students moved on from Microsoft Office programs to study Photoshop and Sony Vegas video editing. The students had fun in the Photoshop classes making advertisements, book covers, banners, and even birthday cards! By the end of the classes, 41 out of 47 students received at least 70% on the Photoshop project assignments. The Sony Vegas video editing classes incorporated teaching students how to operate a camera, building up their general technology skills in addition to computers.

Scholarship Project
This quarter, the scholarship recruitment process was almost completed. 30 of the 40 students have been selected pending exams, and so far, over 60% of the candidates are female. The current students had house visits with the Scholarship Coordinator. The 2 house leaders (peer elected students from the male and female houses) reported that students are living together well but anxious to start pursuing jobs. PEPY staff also met with 3 scholars’ families to see how they are feeling about their child’s work and studies. The parents and guardians expressed that they are grateful and proud to see the progress of their child. Scholarship alumni are staying connected to PEPY through monthly meetings where they share career and personal advice with current scholarship students.

Youth Empowerment
The Youth Empowerment program had over 18 dynamic and fun activities where students were engaged in creative thinking, problem solving, public speaking, and career preparation this quarter. Students participated in the Career and Productivity Fair put on by the National Employment Agency which allowed them to network in a massive event. The students demonstrated great improvements in public speaking and confidence, leading their own sports activities and competing with other groups. The students got involved in multiple entrepreneurship programs to understand business development at different levels like PEPY’s Introduction to Business course.

Student Quote: Leb Posy- I really enjoy[ed] engaging in [the] Youth Empowerment Program. Within a year, I have improved my skills in leading, solving problems, communicating effectively, critical and strategic thinking, teamwork and managing project. These skills help me in living together with other scholarship students and studying at university. For job hunting, I believe that I will be an outstanding candidate and employee. Reaching for dreams aren’t easy but that doesn’t mean impossible.