



REPORT

Access to clean water for a poor rural community in North-Western Cambodia



Project Funded by

Private donors in Australia

Reported by Dr. ENG Samnang
Director Cambodia Family Support

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INTRODUCTION:

In March 2025, Dr. Eng Samnang, Director of Cambodia Family Support (CFS), and his colleague, Luc Payant, visited Okanteangva Village in Stoeuntrang Commune, Salakrao District, Pailin Province. This rural community, where CFS had previously built a school for poor children, faces significant challenges accessing clean water. During the visit, villagers expressed their urgent need for a water well, as the existing pond in the village often dried up during the hot season, leaving them without sufficient water.

Dr. Samnang and Luc Payant witnessed firsthand the community's struggles and the necessity for improved access to clean water.



Villagers meeting with Dr Samnang and CFS staff



Village pond during rainy season



The same pond at end of dry season



Raising money for this mini-project

Luc Payant initiated a fundraising effort among the Khmer community in Sydney, Australia successfully raising USD\$1,215 to support the drilling of a water bore.



OUTCOMES:

Thanks to the generous contributions from donors the village now has a bore and pump providing clean water. Below are the key steps and outcomes of the project:

1. Pre-Drilling Activities:

- We identified a suitable location for the bore well.
- Research was conducted to ensure the underground water source would be sufficient.
- Traditional and cultural rituals were performed before drilling, as advised by local elders.

2. Drilling Process:

- Heavy machinery was used to drill the bore (by a contractor from Pailin).
- Dr. Samnang and his team inspected the bore & pump to confirm the water quantity was adequate before finalizing payment.

3. Completion:

- The bore was completed at a total cost of \$1,350 USD, which included constructing a cement base (2.5m x 3m) around the well.
- The well is now fully operational and being used by the villagers.

Photos of the process





Traditional ceremonies before drilling, as advised by local elders living around that village



Drilling started



We visited after completion to check water quantity will be sufficient before paying the drilling contractors.

Villagers and CFS staff completed the cement base and fencing around the pump.





On behalf of CFS and the villagers who are now benefiting from your generosity, thank you!
Your financial support creates impact, making a big difference in the lives of some of Cambodia's poorest rural families.

