



Empowering families and children to effect lasting change... community by community

SC International Office • 101SE 2<sup>nd</sup> Place • Suite 201 B • Gainesville, FL 32601 • United States  
usoffice@sustainablecambodia.org | [www.SustainableCambodia.org](http://www.SustainableCambodia.org)

## Children Smile with Their New Bikes!

Dear Supporters,

Sustainable Cambodia, with the help of supporters like you and Sustainable Cambodia Australia, is improving the quality of children's lives through education and community development. There are more than 1,900 students currently studying in our education programs!

One challenge for many students from poor families in our target areas is that they cannot travel from their distant homes to their local school because of lack of transportation. Their families are unable to afford to buy the children a bicycle so that they can get to school in a timely fashion. The result is often that they miss lessons, subsequently get low marks, and may even drop out of school.

With your support, Sustainable Cambodia can help them now!



## Giving A Bike Can Change A Child's Life!



The purpose of the Bike Sponsorship project is to help our children whose homes are in distant villages get to school on time and regularly. With a bicycle, the student is given the opportunity to attend all of their classes, earn good grades, and to graduate high school.

More than 15% of the children from our remote outreach schools - SC and Sustainable Cambodia Australia schools - drop out of school before they graduate. This is often because they are late for their classes or cannot attend their classes due to the lack of transportation. By providing these students with bicycles, we reduce their drop-out rates and help them succeed.

88 students are receiving bikes through the Bike Sponsorship program this year. These children are now able to attend school regularly and get better grades in their classes, both in our education program and in the state schools.

Students are also using their new bicycles to help friends and relatives, by sharing or riding in pairs, so one bike can benefit more than one child.

*Sustainable Cambodia is a nonprofit organization working to help the residents of Cambodian villages create a sustainable quality of life. We do not simply give aid to the villagers. Instead, we help them build wells, irrigation systems and schools, and train them in agriculture and vocations, empowering and enabling them to create positive and measurable change in their villages. Sustainable Cambodia is registered in Cambodia as a Non-Governmental Organization with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in the United States as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization. TIN# 20-0175973 Please visit our website at [www.SustainableCambodia.org](http://www.SustainableCambodia.org)*



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Last year 13 Sustainable Cambodia students received a scholarship to study at University in Cambodia. By providing bicycles, we can give the poorest students the same opportunities! Please consider helping us with this important work, by contributing the SC Education Program.

### A Change In His Life!

Kong Chivey, 11 years old, has been studying at Sustainable Cambodia since 2007. He is in grade five. Chivey and his sister had been struggling to attend school as they needed to help support their mother after the death of their father three years ago.

Chivey and his older sister spent their mornings helping their mother sell dried shellfish door to door, and helped her in the nearby market to support their family.





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Chivey was arriving to school late and missing classes because he helped his mother in the morning and then had a long walk to school. Their family could not afford a bike, so he couldn't get to school on time.

His sister received a bike from Sustainable Cambodia, and riding together, they have been able to attend class consistently on time. Because of this, Chivey began receiving good marks. He is a role model for other children in his village, and he recently received his own bike from Sustainable Cambodia to get to school.

After receiving his bike Chivey was overjoyed: "Thank you for helping me in my study and giving me a new bike!" He

also said, "In the future I want to be a teacher, an English teacher, and come to teach in my community." Providing Chivey and children like him with a bike will help them achieve their dreams.

### Thanks To Supporters!

Many thanks to all of our supporters! You make Sustainable Cambodia what it is today!



Special thanks to our community development support from Sustainable Cambodia Australia and Rotarians from all over the world. Without you, this would not be possible!

**Sustainable Cambodia (SC) is an internationally supported grass-roots not-for-profit organization, led by dedicated Cambodian staff with help from international volunteers, and with support from child sponsors and Rotary Clubs from all over the world.**

SC works with rural Cambodian villages to help them achieve sustainability and self-sufficiency. Sustainable Cambodia was co-founded by Rotarians, and active Rotarians make up a majority of Sustainable Cambodia's governing Board of Directors. SC aligns its values with those of Rotary International, including RI's ideals of empowerment, peace through understanding, world service and community service. We apply Rotary's effective "Four-Way Test" to ethical issues. Our model is unique in several ways:

- Only native Cambodians are employed as paid staff, and all international officers, directors and consultants are unpaid volunteers, ensuring that 100% of funding goes directly into the rural village programs.
- We are an empowerment organization rather than an "Aid" organization. We provide resources, assistance, training and education to the community, empowering families to revitalize their community and economy.
- Our approach is broad-based, including schooling for children, safe village drinking water, irrigation systems, alternative agriculture, vocational education, micro-business and healthcare.
- In return for the assistance, each family commits to helping surrounding villages: We not only "teach them how to fish," but teach them to teach others how to fish.

While we currently work in central Cambodia, our vision is for this empowerment model to spread across Cambodia, and ultimately to grow into other countries.