



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

## September 2015

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**Dear All Supporters,**

This month we want to share with you an exciting story about one of our volunteers who created a fundraising campaign to make a huge change for the children in our preschools.

**Read this inspiring story below!**

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### October Inspiration - Success story for our Preschools

This month we would like to share a success story from the field. Begoña Iturregui was one of our on-site volunteers in Pursat for 7 months. During her time with us, she participated in different projects, mainly related to education and during her visits to different preschools, she realized that small children were having some urgent needs.

Preschools' budgets are really tight so they run very short on educational materials and toys needed to develop motor skills, language skills, counting skills and spatial awareness.

Begoña wanted to do something to change this so she created a campaign to raise money to provide our four Pursat preschools with these much needed toys and educational materials. In one month she raised enough money to buy toys for the four preschools in the Pursat district.

**READ FULL STORY**

## Thanks to All of You!!!

We are grateful for all our supporters around the world, including YOU, and Dragonfly Transitions, Youthlinc, Starquest Expeditions, AES and the many Rotarians who are working through Sustainable Cambodia and Sustainable Cambodia Australia to help village families and children. With everyone's help, nearly 400 wells are providing safe water, more than 4,500 students are currently enrolled in our schools, and nearly 25,000 Cambodians have been able to change their lives for the better. None of this would be happening without supporters like all of you!

## Thanks to Our Major Partners...



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**Sustainable Cambodia (SC) is an internationally supported grass-roots nonprofit 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 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.

[www.sustainablecambodia.org](http://www.sustainablecambodia.org)

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