CONSTRUCTED READING ROOM
APPLICATION REPORT
Prepared for: GT (Ellen Young) College

Overview

Project ID #: KH-CRR-10-0009
Name of School or Community: Tom Puong Primary School

Location

Village/City: Tom Puong
District/Zone: Angkor Chum
State/Province: Siem Reap
Country: Cambodia

Description: Tom Puong Primary School is located in Tom Puong Village in Siem Reap Province. The village is located in a remote area along a rural road, approximately 57 km from Siem Reap Town. Siem Reap Town is 314 km northwest of Phnom Penh. It takes about 5 hours by car or 5.5 hours by boat to reach the school from Phnom Penh.

Map of Cambodia. Siem Reap Province is indicated in green.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student/Teacher Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NUMBER OF STUDENTS/CHILDREN</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female: 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male: 265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL: 475</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRADE/LEVEL OF STUDENTS:** Grades Kindergarten through 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community / School Profile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Siem Reap Town is a popular tourist destination in Siem Reap Province. It is the fourth largest city in Cambodia. The city is well known because of its ancient temples, including Angkor Wat. The ancient temples are popular among international and domestic tourists. Boeung Tonle Sab Lake is also a popular destination. Siem Reap Province has a tropical climate, with heavy rains from June to September and drier weather from November to May. Because of the fertile soil, agriculture is the main economic activity in the region, particularly paddy cultivation.

Tom Puong Primary School is located in Tom Puong Village. The village is in a remote area along a rural road. Most of the villagers make a living from paddy cultivation, with some working in the tourist industry as well. Despite the booming tourist industry, this province is still the poorest in Cambodia, and most of the villagers live in poverty.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Situation and Reason for Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Tom Puong Primary School is a government school for students located in a poor agricultural community. The school has 2 buildings with a total of 5 rooms that serve students in kindergarten through grade 6.

As a poor government school, Tom Puong Primary School does not have enough space and furniture to operate a library for the students, and they definitely do not have funds and resources to build a dedicated library on their own. Students do not have access to reading materials outside of their regular classes. Constructing a new library will provide students with greater opportunities to access books as well as a chance to increase their reading skills. Lack of materials and space contribute to the high rate of dropouts in this community. The new library will provide an incentive for parents to keep children in school and encourage the students to attend classes. The village hopes that the CRR will help to reduce the dropout rate at this school.

The school principal, teachers, and local community are excited to establish a CRR in their community. The community plans to contribute at least 15% of the total budget of the project and form a construction committee to help oversee the project. Once construction is complete, Room to Read will donate books and other library materials.
Proposed Plan

Room to Read plans to partner with the local community in the construction of a single-room library. The Constructed Reading Room (CRR) will measure 7 m x 9 m and will be constructed with brick walls, a concrete floor, and a roof made of cement tiles and steel beams. The new building will also include a veranda. The building will follow traditional Khmer style.

The building will be elevated 0.5 m above the ground on a concrete support. The exterior and interior will be painted with durable paint. The floor will be covered with ceramic tiles. A ramp will be placed at the front door for disabled students. Room to Read will provide books, shelves, reading tables, and chairs after the construction is completed.

PROPOSED COMMUNITY/SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROJECT:
- Formation of a School Construction Committee
- Funds for construction, including donations from the community
- Project management, including supervision and monitoring of project progress
- Staff for the library
- 15% of the total project cost

PROPOSED ROOM TO READ CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROJECT:
- Funds for construction materials and labor
- Technical assistance for construction
- Planning and organization of project
- Construction training
- Monitoring of construction quality and progress
- Books and furniture for the library
- Library management training for the school librarian
- 85% of the total project cost
Photos

Tom Puong Primary School.

Proposed location of the Constructed Reading Room.
One of the classrooms at Tom Puong Primary School.