



# DAC NEWSLETTER

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The Disability Action Council would like to gratefully acknowledge United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Leahy War Victim's Fund (LWVF) for their core funding support from 1998 to 2005.

## General Information of the DAC Secretariat

By Ouk Sisovann & Ngy San

### UNDP Trust Fund:

From initial discussions with UNDP, there is an interest to channel funds through the DAC for the disability sector and/or related mine victims assistance programs. However, an appropriate mechanism, guidelines, criteria and process as well as an agreement between UNDP and DAC are still needed. DAC and UNDP have proposed to submit a concept paper concerning this idea for further discussion and consideration by the DAC Advisory Committee and Governing Board. This effort would contribute to achieving one of the DAC objectives, diversify and secure funds for the disability sector and DAC secretariat in the future.

### Mine Victim Assistance:

Mr. Navuth Ya has been engaged as the National Co-ordinator for Victim Assistance, with the primary task of implementing in Cambodia the regional victim assistance project initiated by Handicap International with the assistance of the French, German, Norwegian and Swiss governments. Mr. Navuth Ya will work closely with Mr.

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## News from DAC Affiliated Members

Translated and edited

By Punya Droz

### How the Development Technology Workshop (DTW) can help you!

DTW is a member of DAC, and has been operating in Cambodia since 1997. The NGO started by producing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for deminers and then moved on to developing, manufacturing and exporting the Tempest, a sophisticated remote controlled vegetation and trip-wire clearance machine to make mine clearance faster and safer. Nearly half of the DTW's workforce are themselves mine victims.

DTW is an international NGO affiliated to the Engineering Department of the University of Warwick in the UK. DTW has been operating in Cambodia since 1997 and has a staff of 24 Cambodians and 5 expatriates with more than 50 years of combined experience in the design and transfer of technology to developing countries. DTW specializes in the sectors of medical equipment, disability aids, mine clearance, energy and power,

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## Khmer Sign Language Committee

By Punya Droz & Charles Dittmeier

The Khmer Sign Language Committee was set up at DAC to promote the development of Khmer Sign Language and the working together of the different groups that use sign language. The KSLC gives direction to the sign language work while a subgroup, the Development Team, does actual research about what signs should be used. During the past three months, the committee members participated in a workshop explaining what is sign language;

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## Physical Rehab Committee (PRC)

By Oung Tivea

◆ MOSALVY has requested that all Provincial Physical Rehabilitation Centers submit a budget proposal to DOSALVY (provincial office) by May of each year. This submission has to follow the format that MOSALVY has given to all organizations. The budget proposal has to be sent at provincial and national level. At national level, it has to be sent to Finance Dept. (with a copy to Rehabilitation Department).

◆ Based on the new UNESCAP Decade (2003-2012), DAC Secretariat

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## Disability Database Working Group (DDWG)

By Men Sinoeun

◆ **What effort has been made by the DDWG?** The initiative of the DDWG to create a one-year project called "The Pilot Disability Socio-Economic/Demographic/Service Accessible Disability Database Survey in Kampong Speu province" was aimed at defining the type of disability and developing and testing data gathering tools and methods, possible ways for data analysis, interpretation and updating. It has been conducted in Kampong Speu province in

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**General Information**

Philip Coggan who is the Regional Co-ordinator on Mine Victim Assistance. He will assume the position on the 2 January 2003.

The Regional Victim Assistance project is aimed at enhancing the ability of governments and other groups in the countries of Southeast Asia (Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam) to identify, plan for, and meet the needs of landmine/UXO victims and similarly disabled peoples. The project is based on the following

- ◆ Transfer of program ownership by enhancing the skills and self-sufficiency of national staff, and by developing national plans of action through workshops and networking.

- ◆ Developing networking between groups, both nationally and regionally, in order that information developed in one sector or country can be shared with others.

In its first phase (2001) the project organized a series of workshops in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand. It concluded with a regional conference in Bangkok in November of that year. The conference identified a number of common needs in the region, including enhanced attention to coordination and planning, public education, empowerment of PWD, enforcement of existing laws, increased technical skills, and the development and maintenance of national databases

The second or implementation phase of the project began in July 2002 and is proceeding according to the following plan:

- ◆ Confirmation of focal organizations in each of the four regional countries (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand). In Cambodia, this organization is the Disability Action Council, and the overall project coordinator for the region, Mr Philip Coggan, has established his office in DAC.

- ◆ Assisting these focal organizations to organize sectoral workshops aimed at refining the outcomes of the earlier national workshops (i.e., workshops on strengthening national capacity in data collection, pre-hospital care, hospital care, etc.)

- ◆ Assisting in the drawing up of national plans of action on victim assistance for each of the four countries.

A final report on the project will be presented to the Fifth Meeting of State

Parties to the Ottawa treaty in Bangkok in September 2003. This will mark the conclusion of the project.

**Support and Strengthen Capacity of Local Organizations:**

**Assist UCC to settle internal issue:** A field visit was conducted in co-operation with senior staff of MOSALVY to UCC Development Foundation in Kampot Province. There was a meeting with key players including Ms. Linda McKinney, Former Country director; Mr. Bunika San, Country Director; laid off staff; Heads of DOSALVY Kep and Kampot. The positive outcomes were the following:

- ◆ Minister of MOSALVY approved the selling of a generator and an excavator to get money for severance payment to the staff

- ◆ Ms. Linda had confirmed that she has not done and does not intend to offer any interference with what ever UCC is doing. She stated she would find a new way to continue to assist Cambodian people with disabilities. A project proposal will be submitted to MOSALVY for comments and feedback.

- ◆ A letter of support from MOSALVY will be issued to convey the support for renewing the UCC project. The letter will be submitted to donors for funding and support.

**Support CDPO Reforming Committee to Organize a General Assembly:**

By April 2002, Cambodian Disabled People's Organization was almost out of its funds as donors changed their funding priorities. Fortunately, some NGOs such as Handicap International (Belgium and France), Action for Disability and Development (ADD) and FIDIDA committed to continue their financial support. They strongly proposed to reform/restructure both the Management Board and Executive Body for its effective implementation in the future. To achieve this, a CDPO Reform Committee was established and an AESOP Volunteer has been engaged to advise on the restructure. DAC was also involved as a member of the Reforming Committee in order to assist organizing a General Assembly to review and adopt CDPO constitution and to elect the members of Governing Board. The proposed date of 14-15 January 2003 will be postponed until mid February 2003.

**Request for formal approval on priority areas base on the Biwako Millennium Framework (2003-2012)**

Following the DAC Semi-Annual General Meeting conducted in August 2002, the 8 priority selected were: 1)

Legislation, 2) Physical Rehabilitation, 3) Training and Employment, 4) Education, 5) Public Awareness, 6) Women with Disabilities, 7) Community Based Work with Disabled Persons, 8) Accessibility, Information and Communication. A five-year National Plan of Action for the Disability Sector in Cambodia will be developed based on these priority areas. An official letter was submitted to the Minister of MOSALVY for consideration and approval on these priority areas before further action is taken.

**Efforts to development of long-term strategic plan for the sector:**

**Follow up activities meetings between 6 NGOs and MOSALVY's senior officials:**

With coordination from DAC, meetings were held between MOSALVY's senior officials and 6 key NGOs including VI, HI-B, HI-F, AmCross, CT, and ICRC. The idea was to arrange regular meetings with the top officials of MOSALVY. There is a need for the development of long-term strategic plan for the disability sector while the country and the sector are in the position to bridge from the "emergency assistance period towards the long-term development phase". Some donors are starting to cut down their financial assistance and at the same time institutions like ADB and the World Bank seem to be paying more attention to disability issues.

This meeting was conducted with the following purposes:

- ◆ Availability of funds and withdrawal plans of some NGOs

- ◆ Difficulty to develop projects without long term plan

- ◆ Current PRAKAS of MOSALVY relating to physical rehabilitation is not relevant

The Minister acknowledged the importance of a long-term development plan while realizing the lack of skills and resources. As a result from the meeting, it was agreed to meet on a 3 monthly basis with the Minister and 6 NGOs. It was also agreed that a task force with 5 senior staff of MOSALVY be established to co-ordinate the work with DAC and NGOs (by Prakas of MOSALVY dated 21 November 2002) in order to develop a long-term strategic plan.

**Two draft Discussion Papers:**

Draft Discussion Papers regarding: 1-) Scope and roles of DAC-government partners, IOs/NGOs members and DAC Secretariat; and 2-) Concept and Strategy for DAC

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Coordination Services and Co-implementation of Partnership Projects were developed and circulated by the DAC Secretariat for feedback and comments in an effort to bring about the better understanding and operation as well as mutual benefits between the key players in the sector.

#### **Organizational Development (OD):**

Discussions and negotiations with Mr. Jeremy Condor, the recommended Consultant for DAC OD, consultancies were conducted. An official proposal has been submitted to USAID through HI-B for consideration and approval. It is expected to get the Consultant on board as soon as the approval from USAID is received based on the agreed dates and terms identified in the TOR.

#### **DAC Adhoc Committee and Advisory Committee:**

For the period from October to December 2002, two separate meetings of the DAC Adhoc Committee and Advisory Committee were held to discuss and comment on the following issues:

◆ **Revised terms of reference (TOR) for Advisory Committee and Governing Board.** It was agreed that the revised TOR for these bodies should be reviewed again and adopted based on the key recommendations of OD Consultancy, which should take place in the near future.

◆ **Review process of DAC Executive Board and progress of Consultant's engagement for DAC Organizational Development.** Draft initial conceptual paper on the review process of DAC Executive Board was developed and circulated by DAC Secretariat. However, to put into an effective practice, this paper should be reviewed with the OD Consultant. Mr. Jeremy Condor was recommended to take the OD Consultancy assignment.

#### **Overseas Workshop/Meetings outcomes:**

**The International Seminar on Social Welfare in Asia and the Pacific:** It was 14th seminar hosted by Japan College of Social Work and was held 12-15 November 2002. It is the second in a series of the three Seminars entitled International Comparative Study on Disability Policies and Programmes in Asia and the Pacific in the 21st century. It is focused on education and employment policies and programs

for persons with disabilities. The 2002 Seminar brought together representatives from Cambodia, China (Hong Kong), ESCAP, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and USA. The lively discussions and discourses highlighted the current status of education and employment for people with disabilities in respective countries as well as the role of ESCAP in propagating these two issues. The Biwako Millennium Framework set the pace for the continuation of the Asian Pacific Decade from 2003 to 2012 toward Inclusive, Barrier Free and Right-based Approach for people with disabilities. The discussions also centred on differential levels of progress, shortfalls, difficulties and challenges experienced by most countries in the region in implementing various educational programmes as well as in providing gainful employment for this segment of the population. As the great contributor to the Asia and Pacific Decade of the Disabled Persons (1993-2002), the Japanese government supported the extension of the decade Biwako Millennium Framework for Action Towards Inclusion of People with Disabilities in the Asian and the Pacific Region 2003-2012.

**ADB Regional Workshop on Disability and Development.** The workshop was held from 2-4 October 2002 in Manila, Philippines. From participation in the event and forum organized by Asian Development Bank (ADB) and World Bank (WB), it was presented that ADB and WB are now in the position to include the disability needs into their policy that will benefit people with disabilities in the future and will influence the Government while using loans and or technical assistance from these institutions.

**Outcome on the High Level Intergovernmental Meeting of the Asian and Pacific region, 25-28 October 2002, Otsu City, Shiga, Japan.** The meeting reviewed and concluded the current ESCAP Decade for Disabled Persons (1993-2002). It identified the areas and level of achievements as well gaps for future struggle. The extension of the ESCAP Decade under the theme: "Biwako Millennium Framework for Action Towards an Inclusive, Barrier Free and Rights Based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific" was officially declared and adopted by the meeting in which Government of

## **Women with Disability Committee**

**By Korm Chanthan**

*In this quarter the Women with Disability Committee has completed its activities, which were proposed and agreed between AusAID (DAP) and Disability Action Council to promote Skill Training and Mainstreaming of Income Generation opportunities for women with disabilities in a period of one year (November 2001-October 2002).*

*As a result, the Women with Disability Committee has produced a considerable amount of work through a range of skills training, workshop, meetings etc.... The women with disabilities gained self-respect, confidence and were able to fulfill a facilitator role as well as learn to work as a team with people from different levels / backgrounds.*

*However, advocacy is one of the critical objectives, which women with disability need to work harder to protect their rights through practice the existing policy and legislation. They have a hard time in developing themselves at the level of advocacy due to their limitation in skills/ education.*

*As recommended the committee members should have an opportunity to receive training on Advocacy Skills. (Detail information existed in the final report of Women with Disability committee to AusAID). Within advocacy issue the Committee is preparing themselves to participate in International Women's Day (March 8, 2003) with the Ministry of Women's and Veteran's Affairs.*



*Recently, the committee had actively involved in raising public awareness through the Protocol Working Group of the 20<sup>th</sup> International Day of Disabled Persons (December 3, 2002). One of the committee's members was selected to be a representative of Disabled Persons in Cambodia to deliver a speech in this important event.*

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General information ...



*Theme for 2002: Independent Living and Sustainable Lively Hoods*

Cambodia has been supporting. All the papers are available at DAC Secretariat.

#### **Staff Policy Reviewing Committee:**

The DAC Secretariat formed this committee in order review staff policies and staff appraisals. This is one way that DAC is strengthening and developing itself as an institution.

#### **International Day of Disabled Persons, 03 December 2002:**

It was the 4<sup>th</sup> time for Cambodia to join the world in celebrating International Day of the Disabled Persons on 3 December. The 20<sup>th</sup> International Day of the Disabled Persons 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2002, was organized at Samdach Hun Sen Park, in Phnom Penh. The event was also celebrated in 5 provinces in Cambodia. The DAC facilitated and co-ordinated the organization of the event with the main aim to promote public awareness on disability issues. MoSALVY, DAC affiliated organizations, and other organizations, private companies and individuals contributed, support and participated in the historical event to promote equal opportunities and full participation of people with disabilities in socio-economic activities at all levels. This year event marked the conclusion of the UNESCAP Decade of the Disabled Persons (1993-2002). It was the first time that the World Bank joined the world towards promoting an inclusive,

barrier-free and rights-based society for people with disabilities.

His Royal Highness the King and Samdach Hun Sen, Prime Minister strongly supported the event by issuing the Royal Message and Support Letter. The parade of about 400 people with disabilities marched from the Cambodiana Hotel to Hun Sen Park before the Opening Ceremony. They held 50 banners/slogans along with a loudspeaker to announce the meaning and promote the rights and public awareness on disabilities issues. Two thousands three hundred and eighty five (2,385) T- Shirts were distributed and worn to celebrate the event.

An Opening ceremony was organized at Samdach Hun Sen Park, in Phnom Penh, from 07:45 to 10:30, presided over by H.E Ith Sam Heng, Minister of MoSALVY and High-ranking government officials, Director general of CMAC, Country Representative of the World Bank, and Heads of local/international NGOs and IOs.

The exhibition involving around 20 (twenty) organizations displaying products made by people with disabilities as well as activities being implemented to promote the skills of people with disabilities in Cambodia.

There were more than 2,000 (two thousands) people with around 600 (six hundred) registered athletes including men, women, children with disabilities who part in 18 competitions of sport activities and 4 competitions of popular games played.

H.E Nim Thot, Secretary of State of MoSALVY and high ranking officials of MoSALVY presented prizes and gifts to the 15 Cambodian Disabled athletes who won Gold Silver, and Bronze Medals at the FESPIC games in South Korea, in October 2002. A summary report was presented by the representative of the event organizer at the closing ceremony.

Slogans and banners with contents to promote the integration of people with disabilities in socio-economic activities were also hanging on the main streets and surrounding the park. A concert with musicians who are blind and visual impaired performance with artists/singers with disabilities and popular singers performed from 10:30 to 22:30. The performance created a lot of fun for all disabled and non-disabled people.

Special acknowledgement to the following donors of the International Day of Disabled Persons 03/12/2002: MOSALVY, ADD, EC-Cambodia, DAC/

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News from affiliated ...

*infrastructure and machinery within the overall priorities of:*

- ◆ *Local development and production of practical, cost-effective products.*

- ◆ *Creation of sustainable jobs through technology transfer.*

- ◆ *Improvement of technical skills through high quality training.*

- ◆ *Inclusion of less physically able people in the country's workforce.*

- ◆ *Development of Cambodian small-scale industry.*

*If you need some assistance, please feel free to contact us by phone 023-430-677 or 012-732-139 or Email: dtw@dtworks.org*

***A Made-In-Cambodia low-cost mechanical Brailler for the visually impaired:***

*If you are interested in this project, please feel free to contact DTW on: triskel@everyday.com.kh*

***Cambodian Disabled Independent Living Organization (CDILO):***

*CDILO is one of the DAC members, which began in 2000 and is now able to contribute the annual membership fee for 2002 and beyond. This organization promotes income generation to improve the standard of living of people with disabilities by implementing agricultural schemes such as raising chicken, pigs and home gardening. They also have implemented the Printing House Business with the following activities: Publish and design annual report, newsletter, invitations, T-shirts, banners with good quality and at reasonable prices. CDILO has been quite active in promoting disability awareness activities and also provided discount on printing T-shirts for the special event organized by DAC.*

*Please contact Mr. Ngin Saorath for more detail on their Printing House. The address is House #25, Street 237, Psar Depo I, Toul Kok in Phnom Penh. P.O. Box: 624. Tel/Fax: 023-881-353 or Tel: 016-851-841. or E-mail: cdilo@hotmail.com*

USAID, CWARS, UNICEF, NPA, Maryknoll, UNESCO, MMA/Lavalla School, AmCross, TOTAL Company, CMAC, NCDP, WVI, SSC, AAR-Japan, TPO, CT, International Printing House, IIC School, Save Children Norway, RBC/Caritas, ABC, World Bank, JS/JRS, Kim Long Copy shop, Smile Tech-Art Shop, CDILO, CD World, Eurotech Water, Servants, and Help Age International.

## The Children with Disability Committee

By Dave Jones & Kong Vichetra

The Committee members continue to meet on a monthly basis to share concerns and raise issues related to children with disabilities. Most members feel comfortable with role of coordination provided by DAC.

Educating people in the community about the causes of disabilities is seen as a key part of the work to be done by the Committee. Therefore a Working Group for the Prevention of Disabilities has been formed with people from relevant NGOs working in community education.

We would like to thank Mr. Kol Vanna from CABDIC/Hi who was a former Chairperson and used his efforts to steer the committee and its process towards improving the lives of children with disabilities.

Committee members selected Mr. Hun Touch as Chairperson. We hope that the efforts made by members will improve the well being of children with disabilities in coming years

## Inclusive Education Project for Children with Disabilities

By Dave Jones & Kong Vichetra



The development of the education of children with disabilities continues apace. The last three months has seen some exciting developments and some successes.

Early in October, a representative of VSO London came to Cambodia to look at how our experiences here can help with the training of new Volunteers in England. He came with us to Svay Rieng to see the training in progress and was very impressed with the materials that have been prepared. So impressed, in fact, that he took copies back to London to use in the extensive library that VSO has there. Lessons learned here will also be fed back to trainers in England.

The final session of teacher training in Kampong Som took place in October, sponsored by UNESCO. Overall, the teachers reported that they found the training interesting and useful. This means that the DAC and MOEYS Inclusive Education Pilot Project have now trained over 250 teachers in 6 provinces. One of our next jobs is to collect information on the children in our Pilot Schools and make sure that level of enthusiasm is carried into the classroom so that the education of children with disabilities is improved

In November, Kong Vichetra, IE Program Co-ordinator went to Bangkok with Mrs. Sieng Sovattanna to attend the "Regional Meeting on

Lessons Learned and Initiatives for Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities". The meeting was a great success and many useful ideas came from it. We are now looking at ways of putting those ideas into practice here in Cambodia.

There have been several visits to the clusters in Svay Rieng in the last few months. In November, the Program Team visited several schools to observe teachers in action. We were welcomed into the classrooms by the teachers and enjoyed watching the teachers teach and the children learn. We are now in the process of turning our observations into useful suggestions to further improve classroom practice. We work on the principle that improvements are always possible.

The latest Provincial Implementation Team Training on Project Management was held on 11-13<sup>th</sup> December for PIT members from the provinces where NGOs are working on promoting education for children with disabilities.

Kong Vichetra also went to Svay Rieng in December to coordinate the organization of awareness shows with the following scenarios: schooling of children with disabilities, discrimination, community mobilizing, and accessibility. These took place around K'Cheay and Kampong Chak cluster schools, Svay Rieng.

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### Disability Database ...

cooperation between DAC, MOSALVY and under relevant NGOs under the financial support of AmCross and UNICEF and has now come to the final stage.

This project has been put in place in an effort to get better and more reliable data/information on disability issues for better planning, action, resource allocation, monitoring and evaluation of the disability sector in the future.

◆ **What is the achievement within the third quarter?** A meeting among the members of DAC Secretariat DDWG to present the Draft Report of survey project took place on 21st November 2002 aimed at ensuring there is sufficient and relevant data and getting further input. Draft Reports had been sent to all stakeholders.

Based on comments and feedback from members at the meeting the project team was able to finalize the report and develop a sustainable and functional computerized database system with ways to update in the future.

◆ **What happens to the final report?** A general meeting for the DAC affiliated NGO members and potential donors will be organized on Monday 06th January 2003 to disseminate the final results of the survey and the perspectives of the project.

◆ **Availability and Accessibility to the data:** The final report will be available at the DAC Secretariat library in both Khmer and English. A CD-Rom of the Disability Data System will also be available for relevant stakeholders and on sale to other interested users.

There will be free access to the computerized Disability Data System including Resource by advanced users, and other individuals during working hours at the DAC Secretariat, Phnom Penh and DOSALVY, Kampong Speu province.

◆ **When does Household Socio-Economic Survey (HSES) 2002-03, MOP/NIS begin?** With the coordination of the DAC Secretariat a package of comments and suggestion on the HSES 2002-03, MOP/NIS Questionnaires were compiled and a discussion with the MOP/NIS was made. A letter to incorporate the disability questionnaires into HSES 2002-03 MOP/NIS Questionnaires has been signed by H.E. Ith Sam Heng, Minister of MOSALVY and has been submitted to the Minister of MOP/NIS. A DAC Secretariat Technical Coordinator will follow this up.

## Medical / Rehab Services

By Liz Cross

Although we had plans to regenerate the Medical Working Group this did not take place due to various commitments by the MOH and MOSALVY for visits to the provinces, cover for the ASEAN Conference and other constraints. We hope to develop this for 2003.

As part of the Medical Rehabilitation Program there were many visiting teams who came to liaise, and in turn were able to meet the various relevant persons in the MOH, visit many hospitals and NGO's to enable them to get an overall view of the services already existing in Cambodia and in what way they can help in the future.

### Possibilities for Orthopedic Program Development

CBM sent an orthopedic surgeon (Prof Chris Lavy) to assess the needs of the orthopedic services in Cambodia and draw up a possible plan for training in some Provincial Centers in the future. We visited Kossamak Hospital and the Russian Hospital as well as the National Pediatric and HOPE. Some consultations were made at The VI Center in Ken Klang as well as a visit to the VI Workshop in Kratie.

The boat trip was very eventful as we arrived 3 hours late going up and had various unexpected stops on the riverbank to pick up passengers. Chris having come from the UK but working in Malawi was more concerned about the possibility of Crocodiles!!!!

We talked about the possibility of providing training next year in the new technique for correction of Club Feet, and the possibility of training in some provincial centers for simple orthopedic techniques which could then not necessitate patients to travel vast distances for relatively simple surgery. Our aim is to get services out to the provinces where there are limited opportunities at the moment.

The COTCAM Project from Spain also came to assess the possibilities of providing surgery for children with clubfeet next year and also training for Cambodian Doctors (this is a different technique to that of Prof Lavy.)

Again consultations were arranged with VI and a meeting was held with all the NGO's working in the area of Physiotherapy for discussions on the best way to follow up patients and refer.

It was decided that no patient would be referred who could not be followed up by a center for Rehabilita-

tion or who the NGO was sure would adhere to the strict regime necessary to provide successful rehab services.

These are interesting developments and we have been working closely together with the Dept of Preventative Medicine and the MOH.

We feel it is vital for teams intending to work in Cambodia get a good overview of the services in existence and the service gaps so that there will be no overlap or duplication as the needs are still very great here.

### World Sight Day:

Many NGO's working in the field of Eye Care joined together to celebrate World Sight Day. This was organized by Dr Yutho of the PBL Sub-Committee for the prevention of Blindness and consisted of talks, printing of T Shirts to explain the importance of basic eye care measures to prevent the spread of eye diseases. Free operations were given in the provinces. I joined as the representative for CBM/DAC

### Ear Care:

A visit from an Ear, Nose and Throat team from France enabled us to visit the hospitals providing Ear Care in Phnom Penh as well as general surgery and again to consult with the MOH as to where services would be most appropriate. We visited the Russian Hospital, Municipal Hospital, National Pediatric, Hope and Ang Doung Hospital. The team then joined an Australian Team in Battambang to look at the work they are doing with Emergency Hospital and the Provincial Hospital. It is again hoped that some training will be given and a continuous service can be provided in the provinces covered in the north by the Jesuit Services Ear Care Program that has set up small satellite units to identify persons with Ear problems and then be able to provide basic ear toilet and then refer to the appropriate hospital facility for service.

*We are concerned that we are not able to provide strong links between the MEDICAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES to provide a good team approach for selection of patients for Pre op services, Operations and good post op care in all sectors. Priority should where possible be given to the provinces.*

### CBM Visit to Australia:

As part of my work with CBM I was asked to go to Melbourne to visit our office, to meet the staff working there but to also give some insight into my work in Cambodia and the situation in the country for Persons with

Disabilities

CBM is helping to support several projects in Cambodia and therefore it was felt important to let donors know what there funds were being used for and the needs still to be met. It was a successful visit and I gave my biggest talk to an audience of around 250 persons.

### ABC General Assembly:

I helped as an election monitor for the recent elections for the President, Vice President and Board Members. It was an interesting experience and I can be assured that with the team of Australian Youth Ambassadors and Caritas CBR program there were no disputes over the counting and everyone felt it had been a fair election process.

### Eye Care Meeting for NGO's involved in Eye Care Services in Cambodia

All the NGO's working in Eye Care in Cambodia came to a 2-day workshop to discuss strategies for the development and continuity of services for Eye Care in Cambodia. I was the Vice Chair with Roger Biggs from IRIS being the Chairperson. Some useful recommendations were made and plans to present a report with the conclusions and recommendations. The representative for the PBL Committee was Dr Meng who stood in at very short notice for Dr Yutho. We hope to hold such meetings on an annual basis.

### Equity Fund Working Group:

I am part of the working group taking part in discussions with major donors in collaboration with MEDICAM to draw up some guidelines and assess the impact the funding for Equity Schemes due to be set up by major donors in various provinces to enable the poor to access medical services.

### The Year Draws to an End:

At the end of the year we have achieved a lot in the collaboration of medical and Rehabilitation Services but there is still so much to do that we must assess the impact of what we have achieved rather than what we have yet to do otherwise the situation would be too daunting to face. We can do our utmost to try to all work together and commit ourselves to empower those who have no power and to improve the status of the poor and marginalized people in Cambodia. This should be our priority for 2003 with even a greater effort than we have put in this year.

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Physical rehab ...

has instructed all DAC committees and sub-committees to develop a National 5 Year Plan of Action. For this, the PRC will first approve standards (PT, PO and Wheelchair) and then follow discussions between relevant agencies and MOSALVY on the National Plan of Action.

◆ A meeting regrouping all directors of NGOs working in the physical rehabilitation sector and MOSALVY was held on 30/09/02. From that meeting, a point regarding the structure/administrative level of the Physical Rehabilitation Centers still has to be defined. The Minister requested the DAC-PRC look at the current system (Prakas from 92) as a technical forum and draw up some recommendations.

**Prosthetic & Orthotic Sub-Committee**

◆ The P&O sub committee continues to review the P&O standards of practice according to

PRC concept. This will be done under the same format as PT and Wheelchairs standards.

◆ The 2nd P&O congress was conducted on the 26th to 27th December 2002. The congress was aimed to define KHAPO objectives for next year, to elect a new P&O board, to validate members association and to identify training needs for PO upgrading.

◆ The continuous education course for PO Category 2 was held on 28 and 29 of October, in Battambang.

**Physiotherapy Sub-Committee**

◆ The standards have been approved by the PT Sub committee and are now awaiting approval by PRC then for adoption at MOLSAVY (It is expected P&O, Physio & Wheelchair standards will all be accepted at the same time). Once the standards are in place the responsibility for implementation is to be shared by the PT Subcommittee, PRC and MOLSAVY.

◆ Based on Objective 1, Output 1.4 of DAC-PRC Sector plan, the PT sub committee is now continuing to

review the PT Sector Action Plan.

◆ Training on Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) was arranged on December 2002. This training was done in two groups, in SCI Center (Battambang province), the 1st group from 10 to 12/12/02 and 2nd group from 16 to 18/12/02.

◆ TSMC plans to upgrade the PT courses to a bachelor degree and teachers are currently working on the curriculum. They will like to receive curriculum from other countries to be able to compare them. TSMC is requesting support to all NGOs supporting PRC for the internship of PT students (which will be done in February 2003).

**Wheelchair Sub-Committee**

The definition of the different competency levels was done which was the last part to be discussed. Standards are now finalized and under English revision. It will be approved by all organizations during the next meeting. The last step will be the submission to PRC and this still has to be translated in Khmer.

... Continue from Page 1  
Khmer sign ...

discussed the use of Khmer and American signs in textbooks used by Krousar Thmey; and have been developing Terms of Reference for the Committee.

Important outcomes of the committee: The Committee worked out a plan in which Krousar Thmey will continue the current process for producing textbooks for Grade One, which contain a mixture of American and Khmer signs, while the Committee's efforts will be directed toward producing other books for Grades 2 and above which will have Khmer signs. Part of the discussion involved opinions and recommendations given by some

sign language experts. A workshop will be held on January 10th to discuss these ideas in more detail and to plan the future direction of the Committee's work.

The Maryknoll Deaf Development Program is continuing its restructuring and the strengthening of its programs. Della Goswell, a deaf education specialist, helped train the DDP teachers, and Adam Schambri, a sign

language linguist, is advising the sign language researchers. Both are from Australia.

The DDP also celebrated an Open House and the blessing of its new office on Street 113 on 28 December 2002. Krousar Thmey has opened new schools for blind and deaf students in Kompong Cham. Their fourth deaf school has 260 students and the blind school has 46 children from that area.

សូក្លុះ: ពាត ស៊ី CONSONANTS 33 ភាសាសញ្ញាខ្មែរ KHMER SIGN LANGUAGE											
សូក្លុះពេញ INDEPENDENT VOWELS 12 សូក្លុះ ពាត ស៊ី VOWELS 23 លេខ NUMBERS											

## Alternative Care Project: The Rabbit School Clean Up!

By Rachel Smith



Finally, after receiving a grant from London, we have been able to start improvements to the Rabbit School. Teachers and volunteers came together on November 31<sup>st</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup> in order to give the Rabbit School a new look. The volunteers came from VSO and Maryknoll and even some people who were on holiday from Scotland. They worked alongside the teachers of the Rabbit School cleaning and painting. During the first day, toys and equipment of the school were cleaned. The next day was spent painting the inside of the building including the doors and shutters.

Would the children of the Rabbit School notice the changes? When Ms. Rachel Smith (DAC) asked one of the students if he saw anything different about the school, he happily replied, "Very beautiful!"

A special thank you to the many volunteers who helped with cleaning and painting. A very big thanks you for the teachers of the Rabbit School who worked on their days off



## Vocational Training, Job Placement, and Income Generation (VT/JP/IC) Committee, and Proposal Assessment Team (PAT)

By Chhay Phally

Three VT / JP / IG Committee meetings were conducted to discuss the Terms of Reference for the research on Quality Training Curriculum Development and Certificate Setting. The TOR for the consultant for the research is being discussed.

### Job placement:

Up to November 2002 according to the database at NCDP, the total of 1996 are job seekers. From that among 1441 (72.19%) are skilled and 495 (24.80%) are others. From the total number of skilled, 124 were placed and 14 of the others were placed. So the total was placed for this year up to November is 143.

### Job Opportunity:

DDD is looking to hire 40 disabled people by March 2003. They only need to be able to type 30 words per minute and have rudimentary English. Interested candidates, please forward your CV to



**Maryknoll Wat Than Skills Training Program:** provides Cambodian landmine and polio victims with skills training for employment so they can live with dignity and participate in the social development of the country. This is a picture of a computer class.

sophary@digitaldividedata.com. Or contact this address Mr. Tim Keller, President of Digital Divide Data. Street 360, House Number 119, Toul Svayprey I, Chamkarmorn, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Phone-855-12-735-930 and fax -801-991-6542.

### Job seeking:

Mr. Leu Kimkong was born in 1980 in Kg. Cham. He was affected by polio in the right arm and leg at the age of 9 months. He finishes high school 1998.

Training completed:

- ◆ Completed computer course on Ms Window 98, Ms office 97, advanced Ms Excel, Ms office XP, Ms Publisher XP, QuickBooks 2002, Upper intermediate English, Basic accountant, Human development, Office skill.

Work experience:

- ◆ Computer Assistant with KUNYF, 1999-2000
- ◆ Computer Assistant with Sinwa American Institute, 2000-2001
- ◆ Voluntarily computer teacher at home, 2001-Now.

I deeply appreciate your consideration and any offers of a job. Contact persons: Ms Kim Mom, 023-216-321 or Mrs. Shoba Alfred, 023-361-986.

### Proposal Assessment Team:

Following the establishment of the Proposal Assessment Team (PAT) of the DAC Secretariat, 3 meetings were held to discuss and finalize its TOR, process, procedures and criteria/guidelines for reviewing proposals. This effort has been put in place in order to assist and support the appropriate proposals submitted from the DAC affiliated members for funding based on DAC objectives of mobilizing and diversifying funds for the disability sector. Papers are available for those who are interested. As a result of this reporting period, the proposals from the following organizations were reviewed and supported: Association of Fisheries and Agricultural Development for the Poor and Disabled People Families (FFS) from Takeo; Save Cambodian Disabled People Association (SCDPA) from Kampong Speu; and Cambodian Mine Victims Assistance Association (MAA). The following two proposals of DAC Secretariat were resubmitted to World Rehabilitation Funds based in New York (WRF-NY):

## Community Work with Disabled People (CWDP)

By Pen Mony

The committee conducted three meetings from October to December 2002. The main topics of discussion were the Standard of CBR, research study on CBR and updated information. In order to get information on CBR in Cambodia, members of the committee planned to visit some relevant NGOs that are working within CBR Programs.

We planned to visit SCDA (The Save Cambodian Disabled People Association) on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2002. It is located in Veal Thom Village, Treng Trayeng Commune, Phnom Srouch District, and Kampong Speu Province. The purposes of visit is to exchange experiences between the organizations that works with disabled people at community level, to conduct research on the activities of CBR in Cambodia and to strengthen the co-operation between CWD-NGOs.