

Training in Pedagogy methods for OOO's English language teachers

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Historique

Our Objective Organization (O.O.O) was founded in 2006 by Mr. Hoeun Houn, who is currently Executive Director. OOO is a Khmer managed and operated NGO.

Its objective is to reduce the poverty in Takeo Province (Cambodia) by providing an English language program to poor rural children, youth, supplemented by programs focusing on motivation and self worth, self confidence and discipline. In the short term, this provides opportunities for children and youth to improve their own situation in life

The program was developed in reaction to the impact of the political and social events of Cambodia's recent history. Indeed, Cambodia's social and ethical values of centuries were systematically destroyed, resulting in the majority of people living in poverty with very few opportunities to improve their situation.

This is particularly evident in the rural areas of Cambodia. Children, Youth, and especially girls, often suffer from the effects of lack of education, low self esteem and self confidence which can often lead to alienation from families and social networks, crime, violence and perpetuation of the poverty cycle.

O.O.O has a Main Centre located in Takeo Town in Takeo Province, (approximately 75 Km from Phnom Penh) where the centre is able to accommodate live-in students from the provinces, non-live in part time training, and an administration headquarters. O.O.O. also operates several smaller school branches in other rural areas.

From 2006 to 2012, about 1192 children and young adults benefited from O.O.O's education project.

This project offers two courses: one 18 month course and one 3 month course, targeting children and young adults from 13 to 24 years old, who are either school dropouts or vulnerable.

The topics are English, computer, administration and accounting.

Students follow the schedule of subject level. First O.O.O provides them with English skills, computer skills and other skills such as administration and accounting course. They stay weekday in the training centre. They study 30 hours per week.

The courses are provided by three part time teachers, four full time teachers, and fifteen computers are available.

The registration for the 18 month course is organised every 6 months and about 50 students attend it, divided in 3 classes.

The 3 months course is for students who have been studying at public school or university students who want to know more about English and computer skills. The course registration starts when public school students are on vacation (3 months from June to August) and about 60 students attend this course every year.

About 2400 people, families and relatives of the students, also benefit from the program as it can help those youth to

find a job and help sustain their families.

O.O.O's national and international partners are UNDP Cambodia, Cambodia Communities Based Adaptation Programme (CCBAP), Sida (financial) and Our Home Organization (OHO, technical and material).

O.O.O employs 11 people, including 8 teachers, and is helped by 2 volunteers with a Board of director, an Executive committee and Colleague and field-workers.

O.O.O is also a member of the NGOs Association for Takeo (NAT) that regroups the 35 NGOs in Takeo province.

Objectif

To improve the students' general level in English by providing new pedagogy methods to the volunteer teachers.

The teachers (and therefore students) don't have access to Foreign Language specific pedagogy. They don't know efficient pedagogy tools to improve the general level in English by providing more opportunities of conversation through games and other participatory activities rather than simple repetition.

Therefore the volunteers should help improve the students' language proficiencies, conversation skills, and pronunciation (conversation courses) by working along with the teachers and providing them with efficient pedagogy methods (Foreign Language Pedagogy Methods).

Intervention du volontaire

The volunteers will assist the teachers in their class to help them improve their pedagogy methods during the classes in addition to providing specific training to the teachers after class.

While the local Cambodian teachers are very skilled in English, volunteers will bring additional experiences and possibly a better pronunciation. Mostly, the teachers need to learn new techniques of teaching a foreign language to ensure improved learning by the students.

There are currently 150 students studying in the centre, 100 students are part time student that attend one hour a day classes and other 50 students are boarding students who study full time and stay in the centre.

There are three classes in which students are distributed according to their level (10, 18 and 22 students for the highest level). There is no hard construction building to provide the classes, which are organised outdoors in a space covered by a wooden roof.

The different volunteers would be divided between the classes to eventually benefit to all the teachers and students.

The classes are from 8 to 12am. During the classes the volunteers will be in class, observe the teachers and help them apply the new learnings. After the classes, the volunteers will have specific time to train the teachers (2-3h /day).

The overall objective can be achieved after several missions led by various volunteers. We would recommend that volunteers work in pair.

Expected results:

Efficient pedagogic approach and methods for teachers, ability to speak English in an easier way for students

La mission

Aéroport Phnom Penh [Pochentong]

Transfert sur le lieu de mission

One of organizational staff will meet and pick-up the volunteer at the airport and accompany them to the centre of Our Objective Organization with the NGO's car (approx. 2 hours).

Condition d'hébergement et d'intendance

The volunteers will be accommodated in the school in a separate building with basic amenities (individual room, mosquito net, shower, toilet, internet connection).

Moyens mis en oeuvre

<u>Available Premise:</u> Rented head office and one rented residential property but classes are taught outside in an open space covered by a wooden roof.

<u>Available Equipment:</u> fifteen computers. White-boards, markers, paper, clip chart paper.
Volunteers can provide any extra teaching materials they desire.

Organisation

The volunteers will stay at the school so there is daily travel. However OOO can provide a bicycle if the volunteer wishes to travel around the center.

<i>Warning: road safety rules are almost not in use so it is necessary to travel around with extra care.</i>

Meals are organised at the school.

Remarques

The volunteers should have English fluency, teaching experience, flexibility, ESL experience, Pedagogy Knowledge, good character.

Les bénéficiaires

Nombre de participants 4

Niveau des participants

All the teachers (1 male, 3 females from 18 to 27) are volunteers that speak Khmer and English and are teaching English in OOO's center.

Formation des participants

They all have a university level in science of education and language.

Motivation des participants

Teachers want to learn more English, conversation skills, and pronunciation (conversation courses) and efficient pedagogy methods (Foreign Language Pedagogy Methods)