



Controlling Sex Tourism

Cambodia's Ministry of Tourism is stepping up its attempts to attract foreign tourists as the worldwide economic downturn continues to hit numbers of recreational travellers. They aim to increase the numbers of tourists visiting by 15% over the last year figures of 2.9 million. Tourism is a major contributor to the Cambodian economy, generating income, alleviating poverty and providing work.

The down side has been that some tourists come to Cambodia for the wrong reasons. The weak judicial system and lack of police resources led to a reputation as an easy location for sexual exploitation of children and the country became

a haven for paedophiles. The government has been trying to tighten the implementation of laws to prevent their activities. In recent years, since the 2003 anti-paedophilia push, dozens of foreigners have either been imprisoned or deported for trial in their own country by the government

In August 2012, Hor Sarun, undersecretary of state at the Ministry of Tourism and Jason Evans, World Vision's Cambodia Director, signed a Memorandum of Understanding over work to address the problem of child sex tourism. This agreement strengthens the collaboration already taking place since 2011. The partnership will work to build capacity and skills for relevant government officials and strengthen

mechanisms at national level so as to prevent child sex abuse in the tourism sector. World Vision will work with officials to raise awareness of the vulnerability of at-risk children and promote responsible tourism practices through education, training, and public campaigns.

Child sexual exploitation is not just an issue for foreign tourists, so it is hoped that the training and awareness raising will have an impact on wider Cambodian society too.

The partnership forms part of a U.S. \$7.5 million initiative sponsored by the Australian Agency for International Development to prevent the sexual exploitation of children in tourism in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam.



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Sowing the seeds of a new tomorrow for Cambodia

>> HELPING MEN TO BE GOOD ROLE MODELS. READ ABOUT OUR NEW MEN'S MINISTRY PROJECT Pg.5



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Cambodia Action

Registered Name:
Southeast Asian Outreach
UK Charity Number: 293382

GENERAL INFORMATION

Cambodia Action is an evangelical inter-denominational mission and development agency, founded in 1973 by Major Taing Chhirc of the Cambodian Evangelical Church. The object is to promote the Christian faith and relieve poverty and distress among the peoples of Southeast Asia. Work is now solely amongst Cambodians.

Cambodia Action is a member of International Co-operation Cambodia (ICC), Global Connections, the Evangelical Fellowship of Cambodia (EFC) and British NGO's for Development (BOND).

DONATIONS

We rely on God to meet our needs through gifts. All donations are acknowledged unless otherwise requested. General gifts may be allocated to the greatest need, although donors can indicate a preference. Funds given for a specific appeal will be used for that purpose.

Cheques should be made payable to "Cambodia Action" and sent to the Bawtry Office.

BANKERS

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Cambodia Action is working in partnership in Cambodia with five other missions as part of International Co-operation Cambodia (ICC)

>> CA-CVM new partnership

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>> EDITORIAL - Politicians

Dear Friends,

It is common to criticise those who serve us as politicians. We usually highlight their failed policies and their personal faults while neglecting to notice those who serve the public faithfully and with a deep commitment to improving the lot of the British public.

In Cambodia politicians are emerging from a long period of time in which a small elite held absolute power over the lives of all their countrymen. While nominally a democracy since the elections in the early 90's, politicians and the civil service are taking time to adjust to the new concepts of accountability, ethical governance and

equality for all.

While Cambodia has become much more stable under the strong control exerted by the current ruling elite, there is a growing awareness of the injustice that still exists. This magazine has reported on the land rights issues and the recent death of an environmental activist. Some commentators see that the stability that has been created is now being threatened by the need for electoral reform and improved governance.

In this magazine you will read about the work we are initiating to try to expose men to the concepts of good, responsible, fair

leadership as heads of households with integrity and respect for the rights of others.

Although this initiative will be with just a few men open to the Christian principles behind our work, we should pray that God uses this to start a nationwide change in the hearts of men and women in leadership in a country which struggles so much with selfish and ego-centric attitudes.



>> Congratulations!

to Heather and Phalla Korm:

On the birth of baby Nathaniel.

Heather is a team member working in Hope International School where her husband Phalla works too. Pray for them as they prepare to return to Cambodia in November after 6 months in the UK.



Heather and Phalla Korm with baby Nathaniel

>>CVM - Cambodia Action, a new partnership

Cambodia Action has joined forces with **Christian Vision for Men** in an initiative to reach out to the men of Cambodia.

CVM has a vision to serve the local church to engage with men in the UK. They have a growing international arm which is working in Canada and South Africa and as they are working with Asians in the UK it seemed natural to explore the opportunities to work in Asia. Read below some information about their UK calling and the way they encourage evangelism in the UK and then read about the vision for Cambodia on the following pages.

CVM is a movement. It is made up of thousands of men who believe the

message of Jesus is true, relevant and much needed in the UK today. CVM

exists to serve the local church to engage with men in every village, town and city in this country. The movement is a faithful reaction to the significant number of men who have walked away from the Christian church during the last 30 years.

CVM supports and equips anyone who believes the Christian message can still radically change people's lives today. The movement is accessible to men from every background, church and culture. CVM employs specialist Christian communicators operating in sport, the work place, Asian culture, sub-cultures, minority groups and beyond.

CVM's Four-Level Evangelism Explained ...

Level 1:

The starting point for engaging with men should be events or activities with zero 'Christian'

content. At these events/activities, believing and not-yet-believing men should meet together for a fun, friendship and banter. For instance, 5-a-side football, fishing, go-karting, paintballing, DIY projects, skittles nights, pub quiz...or how about hiring a coach to go and watch a big match together? Use your imagination and cram in the laughter!

'zero Christian content?'

Level 2:

Progressing from the first stage should be natural. We suggest hosting an event with a good Christian speaker. Think breakfast, dinner, fish 'n' chip supper or whatever is available in



your area. Tap into CVM's Speakers List for a pick of



over 180 speakers for men.

Level 3:

The next phase should be a course for men to chew the fat and debate the Gospel. We don't recommend any particular course ...

there are some excellent ones out there from Alpha to Christianity Explored. We'd advise making this a men only course for the blokes who have already been sharing life together at level one and two events. Don't be too strict on meeting on exactly the same day every week, but make allowances for busy schedules and personal commitments.

Level 4:

The aim of all our efforts is



to see men disciplined in the ways of Jesus. Men need to be integrated into a church that can support, challenge and encourage men in their faith. The aim is to see men plugged into a community that keeps them gripped and excited with the message of Jesus.

Read more at:- <http://www.cvm.org.uk>



Some of you will remember that I came out to Cambodia with my wife, Jen, just over a year ago. Initially I was working with a social enterprise project but with the added desire to look at men's ministry in my spare time. However God has other plans and He has made it clear that the focus on men should be my priority.



So in January I started the transition to working on the men's ministry full time. The plan that is being developed is to set up a satellite project of Christian Vision for Men. The focus is on equipping and encouraging guys in the church to be men of God in all aspects of their lives and to start a grass roots revolution of men reaching out to men – you can grasp the idea by visiting www.codelife.org for a video explaining how it is being applied in the UK.

Mark Ainsworth



Men in Cambodia have a bad reputation, but at the end of the

'good fathers and husbands'

day they struggle with sex, power & money like most men in the world! The plan is to work with the men here in a similar way to CVM

in the UK. We want to come alongside the Khmer church to help them build up and equip the average Khmer Christian man to live the life he has been



called to. We want to assist these men to be good fathers and husbands; to be men of integrity in the community

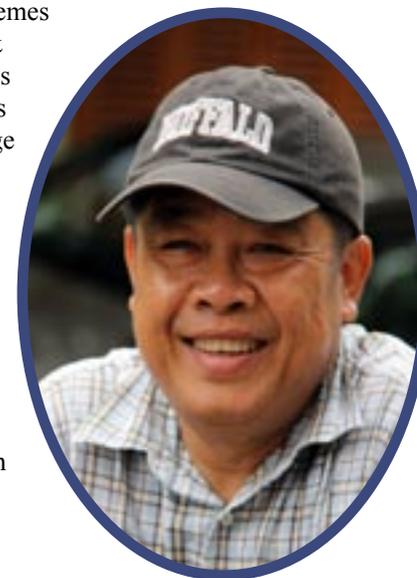
and role models in the church. We want to see them reaching



out on a grass roots level to family, friends and colleagues. Of course we will need to tailor the approach and materials we use to the culture and context of Cambodia.

We are basing our initial projects around 'Broh La-or Put', which if you don't speak Khmer means 'Good Real Men'. We are partnering with women's group from the Evangelical Fellowship of Cambodia to produce six radio shows about men for broadcast starting in October. Secondly we are developing plans for a pilot project to work with

ten men over ten weeks looking at ten themes of Masculinity & Christianity. This work will help us to start the change in the hearts of these men to motivate them to initiate men's work in their own churches. This will also give us insight into the best approach to use with Cambodian men.



Please pray with us that we will see change in the hearts of men. Join us and give financially if you can – we need this mainly to employ Khmer staff but also to create resources, travel to see churches etc.



Let us know...

...if you want to receive Mark and Jen's newsletter, to be able to pray for them and this project. Maybe you would like to support this new outreach financially. We need funds for both the project and to keep Mark and Jen in Cambodia. Contact

g.collett@cambodiaaction.org

for more information.

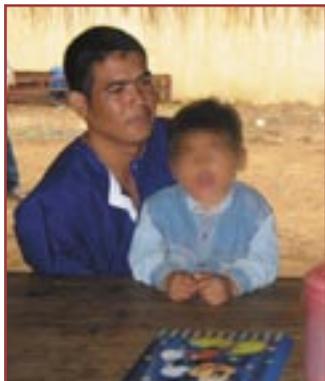


In our last Action magazine we looked back at some of the projects and people that have been a part of Cambodia Action in the past 21 years. So much has happened and changed in Cambodia (as indeed it has in the UK as well!). We want to take some time and celebrate what God has done, as well as

look to the future and the new projects and team members that He is providing.

How are we doing this? Well we want to hold some mini conferences around the country to be able to share together, to give thanks and to pray for Cambodia and the things that are happening there. So, how does that involve you? We are looking for some venues around the country to hold day conferences in. If you know that there

Part of my role working for Cambodia Action is to raise funds for the different projects that we work with or partner in. **A special thanks to St Paul's and St George's church in Edinburgh** for giving us a grant to use with Prison Fellowship Cambodia for this years Christmas events in the



are a number of other people in your area that would be interested in coming to a conference and you can help us by providing a church or other building that we could use, then please contact Steve Millard s.millard@cambodiaaction.org or 01787 370234.

We want to share with you more of the things that you read in this Action magazine, how God is moving in Cambodia and the difference your prayer and support is really making!

prisons.

If you know of any other grant making organisations in your area that might be interested in some of the projects that we work and partner with, please let me know!
Steve Millard

s.millard@cambodiaaction.org

>> Cambodia News

Cambodia may descend into violence

again if the Government doesn't address electoral reform, says UN Human Rights officer Surya Subedi addressing the press earlier this summer. He said there are major flaws in the administration of elections and called for urgent reform.

He also called for a political solution to enable exiled politician, Sam Rainsy, the opportunity to return and participate in politics.

Sambor Hydroelectric dam

to be built in Kratie is a threat to the ecosystems, water quality and fish stocks as well as increase the effects of extreme weather events, according to the World Wildlife Foundation. They suggest alternatives to better manage the natural resources of the area and to improve land use in the area to prevent the loss of livelihoods that would accompany the building of the dam.

Dengue fever killed 124 children

in the first 8 months of this year. This was an increase of 158% over last year's figures. Apparently there were more deaths because parents are taking their children to private clinics that are less able to treat them. When they don't recover they are brought to the public hospitals, often too late for good treatment. Dengue fever is transmitted by the Aedes mosquito and chemicals are being made available to put in water storage pots to kill the larvae.

Mine detectors

powered by smartphone technology are readied for field tests in Cambodia. The system connects the smartphone to acoustic sensors which produce an image of what lies under the ground. The research project has paired the readily available processing power of smartphone technology with existing mine sensors to produce a low cost, easy use detection system.

Dear Beloved Friends,

Hope you enjoy seeing these pictures. Please note that all of us (on the pictures) have a big smile and send our GREETINGS to you!

Please pray for Mr. Sambath (A Lyn's husband) as he is unwell because of his high blood pressure and A Lyn is very busy taking care of him and her children plus earning money from her weaving to help living for the whole family.

Please pray for one of the youth group as her father has trouble with his kidney and she was in tears as she shared testimony to the Church. She said her father nearly died but she prayed to God and He did save him. So, she is so thankful to The Lord. We did help the family with a small amount of money as he could not work but please pray that the Lord will increase that amount to help her father over this difficult time.

May God bless you!

Kim San (and team)



The Church members outside the Island Church building on Koh Dach



A Lyn busy weaving silk



>> Mekong Island Ministry - Kim San

Supporting the church

Cambodia Action is funding Kim San to be involved in the ministry team serving the community that lives on an island in the Mekong for one day a week. The islanders are well known for their silk weaving to supply the markets in nearby Phnom Penh.

We hear regularly from the church and commit to supporting them in prayer. One church in Scotland has developed a relationship with the junior church and several folks from the UK have visited to encourage them over the years.

Contact g.collett@cambodiaaction.org for more information.



>> Christmas is coming!

It may seem a long way

off with autumn still not quite here, but we don't want you early shoppers to forget that we will be running our 'Not Just for Christmas'

catalogue again this year (next Action issue and on our web site).

There will again be opportunities to give gifts that really count by helping Cambodian prisoners turn their lives around and

sponsorship for some more children in education, as well as some new possibilities.

So in your rush to be prepared this year, don't jump the gun and lose the opportunity to support what God is doing in this way!