

### Quarter Overview

This quarter, we have had some exciting activities and developments! First, we have a new Communications Officer, Somnang Phalla, supporting our bilingual communications and taking on our social media! Next, we were able to conduct a handful of activities in person so our youth could celebrate their end-of-year achievements together. We have also been conducting monthly panel events on our Facebook live called our *Raise Your Voice!* series. Each panel highlights a different industry and the empowered individuals who work in those industries who are striving to better the world through their work. The first session was focused on writers and **we gained over 2000+ followers on Facebook from the first event!** We then hosted a panel of performing artists and next month we will be focusing on IT professionals. We look forward to conducting 2 more sessions this year, engaging youth in these lively networking events.



*Meet Somnang, our new Communications Officer!*

### PEPY Program Updates



#### Community Student Outreach Program

##### Dream Management Project



The Dream team is getting ready to welcome students back for the new year! In preparation, they cleaned up the Dream classrooms so they will be in good condition in January. The team welcomed **3 new Dream Teacher Partners who will help support Dream Class and receive facilitation training and workshops with PEPY.** During this quarter, the Dream team and teacher partners had virtual meetings discussing and planning the syllabus as well as workshops for Lesson Design and Facilitation Skills.

**The PEPY team and stakeholders decided to close the partnership with 28 Makara High School in Srei Snam District.** We have supported the school since 2016 with our Dream Class and Scholarship Project and had the pleasure of meeting many exceptional youths in our time at Srei Snam. We believe the school has many clubs and resources already in place and believe it would be best to identify another school with fewer resources for youth. We will be considering new partner schools that fit our criteria and look forward to sharing more updates in the future.

##### Scholarship for Higher Education (SHE) Project

Our scholars and alumni are getting back to work and they are feeling more motivated than ever! After a tumultuous year or lockdowns and school closures, the team has helped our scholars maintain their focus. The team's mentoring network and Tutoring Corner, connecting older scholars and alumni to the new intake students, have helped so many of them stay motivated and positive throughout the pandemic. Now, not only did they perform well academically, **their employment rate is the highest it has been since our first lockdown at 89%!** In addition, more of our scholars are receiving full pay again with only 18 working on a reduced salary. We congratulate the team and the scholars for their incredible efforts and support system that they have established.

##### Figure 1: Samean Ngan, Future Accounting Star

Samean Ngan is a 2019 scholar from Srei Snam District. She has 3 siblings and is the oldest child in her family. While studying in high school, she had to live with her relatives after her family moved to find more job opportunities. After receiving a PEPY scholarship, Samean decided to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting at Vanda Institute, and she is now in her third year. She has been an outstanding student,



receiving straight A's for the last two semesters. Besides her studies, she has been working as an Accountant at the Asiana Shop for almost one year. She enjoys her work and has learned a lot from her job, improving her accounting skills. In the future, she wants to work in the bank to become an Accounting Instructor at Vanda Institute.

## PEPY Program Updates



### Learning Center Program

The team was very excited for restrictions to lift just in time for Graduation Day! We are so proud to share that **100% of Learning Center students graduated this year, compared to 89% in 2020**. The event attendees included USAID Cambodia's PACT We Act Project partners, local government officials, our Board Chairman, and other distinguished individuals to give encouragement to the graduates. We are proud of their commitment and that we improved our ability to connect with youth online and teach them effectively. Now that they can work in their communities, our recent graduates look forward to doing their community research projects and helping identify solutions to environmental, economic, and education challenges they observe in their communities.



### English Learning Project (ELP)

**3 English language topics and technical lessons were provided** to the Learning Center students this quarter. Now, the students are also utilizing English in their research and presentations and incorporated their expanding vocabulary while presenting on a topic of their choice. This quarter, the students' confidence and command of the English language has improved significantly with **youth achieving a post exam score of 84%, which is a 10% increase from just a few months ago!** We are so proud of how much there are studying and practicing and it is really paying off.

### Information Communication Technologies (ICT) Project

The students in ICT class, finished the online courses with Canva (media/graphic design application), Weebly Blogs (website building), and a review and comprehension check of Microsoft Office. Our ICT Teacher has gone above and beyond to keep the students engaged and provides extra classes and video lessons to youth who are in need of additional support. Through his efforts, **the attendance rate was 95% this quarter, even with online classes**. The students also did exceptionally well in the course this year, with **an average post-test score of 86%**. When they joined the ICT class the pre-test average was 42%, so the **youth improved an average of 44% this year!**

Students' pre-test vs quarter Post test in ICT Class

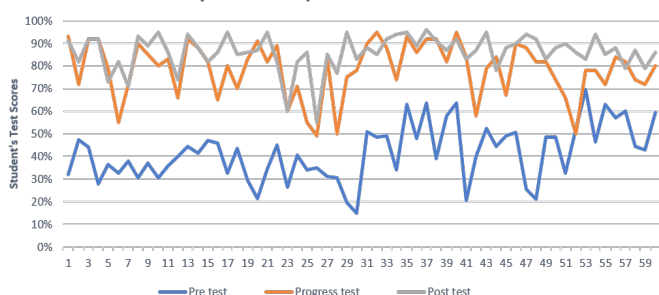


Figure 2: ICT Project Pre, Progress, and Post test scores

### >> Future is Bright Lab and Library

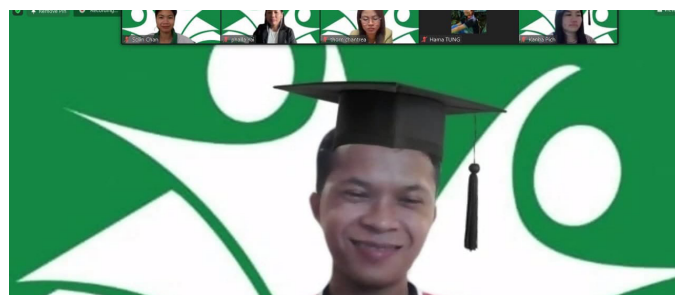
The PEPY team and students are really excited to see the progress of the Bright Lab. This quarter, the team finished their project with Team4Tech to complete the setup of the Librarika Application. Now, we can track the IT rentals more effectively and help youth by notifying when an item is available more quickly. **At the end of November there were 16 individuals borrowing at IT item, helping provide some small fund to PEPY to maintain IT and purchase supplies.** With the rental tracking app, our team will be able to see which items are most requested by our students and alumni and help us better support them by focusing our funding on their needs.

### Youth Empowerment (YE) Project

**The Youth Empowerment Project had 3 powerful workshops and sessions this quarter.** 2 youth panels were organized and the first was 'Youth Involvement to Promote the Progress and Quality of Distance Learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.' Over 70 youth joined together to discuss with local leadership about current IT education and distance learning standards and how they be improved to ensure that youth are not falling behind in their studies. The 2nd panel was "How Can Freshmen with No Experience Prepare for A Job?" This topic had two key speakers who offered their perspectives on how a young person can prepare mentally and professionally for their next steps. Lastly, **Mr. Kuy Thida from Love is Diversity returned to provide youth a talk covering LGBTQ awareness and common misconceptions about the community.**



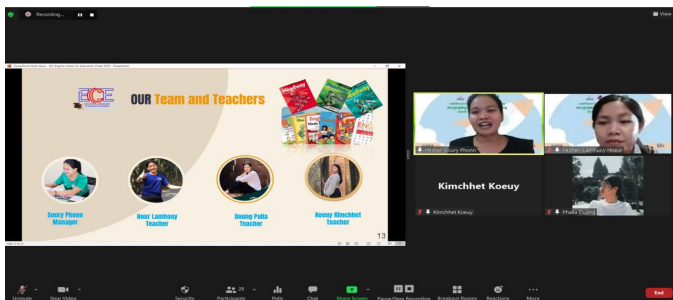
### Youth Innovators' Space and Incubator (YISI) Program



### Social Enterprise Incubator Course

After completing the proposal and presentation preparation, the Youth Innovators were given the opportunity to pitch for micro grants to help get a jump start on their business concept. The YISI team put together a panel of judges experienced in startup development who asked the presenters challenging and thought-provoking questions about their business community impact and strategy. **3 business concepts were awarded funds: \$1,000 for English Center for Education, "Student" café received \$700, and the 3rd place winner, G4G Doodle Art, received \$500.**

## PEPY Program Updates



### IT For Business Course

The classes for the course were completed in the previous quarter, so the only relevant activity was the graduation ceremony. While we had 21 Youth Innovators, the YISI team had the privilege to provide support 10 additional youth in the IT for Business class. Now the team is planning on expanding the course to reach 60 youth next year with one long course and two short courses with 20 participants each.