

### Quarter Overview

PEPY organization had some big news this quarter! We officially announced our **6 month Executive Director transition** from Sarakk Rith to Khouth Sochampawad (Bong Watd) in February. Sarakk will be pursuing his dream of continuing his studies in the United States and we are in awe of him. Bong Watd, who has worked for and in support of PEPY for over a decade, will be an amazing addition to the team and we are thrilled to have her back onboard. This quarter, the team is also feeling very thankful to have successfully completed the recruitment for all of our programs and to continue holding classes and workshops in person! While we are planning our lessons for potential school closures in advance, we are enjoying our time engaging with youth both in the class and through our mentorship sessions.



*Introducing PEPY's new Executive Director: Khouth Sochampawad*

### PEPY Program Updates



#### Community Student Outreach Program

##### Dream Management Project

**1,110 students registered** for Dream Class! Despite facing many challenges like school delays from COVID-19 and losing participants to other school programs, the team is very excited by students' interest. So far, the team has provided the students over **9 Dream Class Topics** with **3 Dream Talks with 3 fantastic speakers**. The team has been working alongside the teacher partners to provide classes and mentorship to the students. Furthermore, the team was able to successfully provide teachers with a facilitation training in 1 high school.

When Sokhary was in Grade 8, she faced many difficulties in Mathematics and ended up failing the exam. Her parents blamed her and were not supportive. She became quiet and isolated. Despite this, Sokhary wanted to be a doctor and after hearing her idea, her parents responded, "You are weak and not smart, so you cannot do that." It hurt her but she had a voice inside that believed that she could change her situation. In 2019, she heard about Dream Class and two weeks later, the teachers and Dream Officer came and introduced the class to the project. Then, she decided to

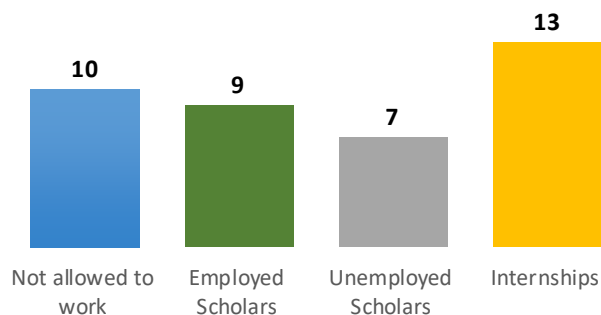


register for the weekly sessions. In the class, she built up confidence, developing a schedule and presentation skills. She now encourages other students to dream and motivate themselves to deal with difficult situations in life. Sokhary said "I firmly believe that I will reach my desired dream."

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

This quarter, the scholarship team held Parent Meetings to explain the scholarship opportunity to the **28 new scholars and their families**. Soon after, the scholars moved to Siem Reap and enjoyed the Integration Day where they were introduced to the Learning Center, their housing, and got the chance to learn about each other. In addition, **85 scholars and alumni came together** for a monthly meeting and alumni Pisith and Phearith shared their stories and lessons learned to the group. This was a fantastic networking event and helped build the scholars' sense of community. The scholarship team is also excited to report that of the 40 scholars who graduated from the Learning Center in December, **22 already have jobs or internship opportunities**. Overall, **scholarship/alumni employment rate has increased by 9% since last quarter**.

2019 Scholars' Employment Status



*Figure 1: 2019 Scholars' employment status*

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## PEPY Program Updates

### Food Response Initiative

The outreach team is thrilled to report that through partnerships with local leaders, the PEPY team has been able to reduce our emergency outreach by connecting families to government services. Now, the team is focusing our resources on providing sustainable nutrition initiatives by partnering with **5 teachers in Varin High School** to run a garden project. So far, **150 students from grades 7-9** have been growing vegetables to support their families and are learning more about agriculture in the process.



### Learning Center Program



This quarter, the Learning Center team successfully recruited **60 new students!** This was not an easy task, with many students not being able to accept the full time commitment. As a result, finding the participants took almost the whole quarter. In the end, the team is thrilled with the chosen participants and enjoys their infectious enthusiasm. The team and students were also grateful to finally celebrate the 2019-2020 students' graduation with a ceremony joined by our high school partners, NGO partners, and government officials. After several delays due to COVID-19, it was wonderful to be able to honor the students in person!

### English Learning Project (ELP)

The team was happy to have Vansy, a recent Learning Center graduate and S.E. Asia Foundation scholar join the ELP this quarter as a volunteer. With her support and the work of our English Teacher Soury, the students have already covered **5 lessons in English including common verbs, introductions, grammar, and vocabulary through reading and dialogue.** The team is very pleased with students' enthusiasm for the class, especially the students in the lowest level class who are consistently participating and sharing their ideas.

### Information Communication Technologies (ICT) Project



In the beginning of the quarter, the team welcomed Seha, our new ICT Teacher to the team. Since arriving, Seha has taken training through our Team4Tech partners to introduce stronger cyber security measures for our team and for the students. He is joined by PEPY volunteer Cheuth, a recent Learning Center graduate and S.E. Asia Foundation scholar, to support students' ICT learning in the class. So far **students have had 6 lessons** covering Internet Security, Introduction to Computer (OS), Mobile Operating Systems, English and Khmer Typing, and Google Drive.

### >> Future is Bright Lab and Library

Through in kind donations and many generous donors, we were able to purchase **10 KOOMPI computers and begin renting them to our scholarship students.** We received additional funds to purchase more computers and accessories this month through our partnership with Irish Aid in Vietnam and have received computers from REVIVN that are in transit from the United States! We look forward to reaching out to additional scholars and alumni to help them have continued IT access during their studies and professional development.

### Youth Empowerment (YE) Project

So far, the YE students have been gaining experience in giving presentations and conducting research through their group projects focused on Cambodia's Sustainable Development Goals. Teams of 3 are presenting their work over the next few weeks! They also covered two major business topics: The Foundation of Business and Understanding the Basic Concepts of Entrepreneurship as well as a First Aid and Reproductive Health workshop. **Average attendance for the quarter is an impressive 97%** and the team is pleased to see so many youth enthusiastic about the course.

The Average Attendance of Youth Empowerment Project's 3 classes in Quarter II 2020-2021

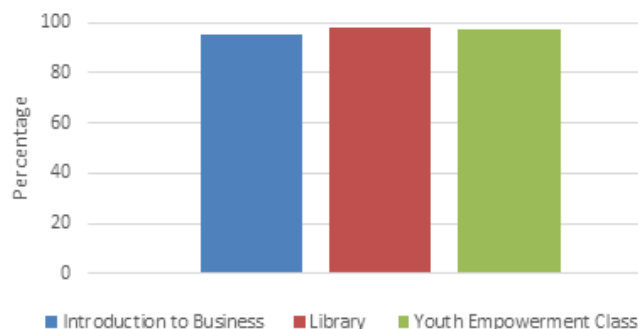


Figure 2: Students' average attendance in YE classes.



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

PEPY's newest program is running smoothly this quarter! The team opened the new YISI office in downtown Siem Reap with a launching party joined by **44 NGO, business, and community partners.** In addition, the Incubator Program recruited **20 fantastic Youth Innovators** who have been working on their business concepts in PEPY's Saturday workshops since January 2021. So far, the team is working to connect youth to mentors while developing their investor network. During the first few weeks of the program, the Youth Innovators got to visit Babel Guesthouse, which is run by sustainable business role model, Katrine. They learned so much from her and are looking forward to conducting more research in other businesses.