

Quarterly Overview



The PEPY Championship Season VII tournament winners and participants

Spring is here, bringing fresh beginnings and new opportunities! Just as the season brings growth and renewal, PEPY Empowering Youth are excited to nurture the potential of young learners and create brighter futures together.

This quarter, we celebrated **new student enrollments** in the Dream Management and Learning Center Programs. We also had exciting **exposure visits** for students and teachers across all of our programs. Students got to learn up-close about different **university and vocational options**, as well as several kinds of businesses and workplaces to better guide their career preparation.

Teachers and trainers joined **workshops and capacity-building visits** to improve and further develop effective teaching methodologies and practices.

Lastly, we saw some **marked improvements in student academic performance**. With extra support from mentors, volunteers and program leaders, students in all PEPY programs improved their classroom engagement, confidence levels, test scores and attendance rates.

In April we will celebrate the traditional Cambodian New Year Celebrations or Sangkran, one of the most important holidays in the Khmer calendar. Our Learning Center and office will be closed from April 14th through 18th.

PEPY Program Updates



Dream Management Program

From December 3rd through 6th 2024, PEPY's Dream Team conducted the Dream Management Opening Ceremony across 12 target schools to launch the new Dream Class enrollment. The event, attended by 1835 students (1207 females), along with key stakeholders including PEPY's Executive Director, Program Manager, District Office of Education, Youth, and Sport (DoEYs), school principals, and teachers, aimed to introduce the program and inspire students to pursue their aspirations. Activities included an overview of the Dream Class program, motivational speeches, and student interaction sessions, all of which generated high engagement and enthusiasm among participants.

We also conducted a five-day exposure visit to Monduliri and Ratanakiri provinces with 40 participants,



with 40 participants, including the Province Department of Education, Youth and Sports, School Directors, Dream teachers, and PEPY staff. The exposure visit aimed to enhance collaboration, strengthen leadership skills, and inspire innovative teaching practices. Participants visited natural and cultural sites, and engaged in team-building activities with local organizations (photo above).

PEPY Program Updates



Dream Management Program *(continued)*

The Dream Management Team also held **Dream Talks** and **Sharing Sessions** throughout this quarter.

Dream Talks featured 37 speakers and saw the participation of 986 individuals, including students, teachers, and PEPY staff; connecting them with the real-life experiences of senior students, highlighting both failures and successes to inspire and educate.

The Sharing Session provided our high school students the opportunity to connect with and learn from inspiring speakers and Cambodian leaders about finding success in their academic lives and careers. There were 463 participants at the event including speakers, the Office of District of Education, PEPY's Executive Director, the school principal, teachers, PEPY staff, and students from Varin High School.



Dr. Chiv Ratha a professor from Paññāsāstra University shared the topic "The Elements of Life" at Varin High School.



Mr. Pich Sophaktra, Head of the General Secondary Education Office, recently participated in a study tour organized by PEPY Empowering Youth. His experience on this tour left a profound impact, highlighting the significance of engaging learning experiences and the power of youth leadership.

Reflecting on the tour, Mr. Sophaktra expressed his heartfelt appreciation

for PEPY's efforts in organizing such an enriching and enjoyable event. He described how the study tour provided a refreshing atmosphere, allowing participants to step outside their daily routines, experience something new, and gain additional knowledge in an interactive and enjoyable way. The study tour was not just about learning but also about creating lasting memories and strengthening professional relationships. Through these carefully crafted games and exercises, participants found themselves immersed in new learning experiences without feeling the pressure of formal training.



Scholarship for Higher Education (SHE) Program

Between December 2024 and February 2025, PEPY conducted several major activities to support program scholars and their communities. The **Student Quarterly Meeting** was held on December 15th with 94 attendees, including students, alumni, and PEPY staff. The meeting included a team building update and sharing relatable experiences by a guest speaker. **Student Counselling and Enrolments** were held from December 18th to 21st and consisted of one-on-one meetings to counsel with students about their interested majors and dream universities to continue their higher education.

A particular highlight for the Scholarship team was organizing the **PEPY Championship Season VII Tournament** with 10 teams, including 6 men's division and 4 women's division teams joining. The games were held every Sunday evening, starting on February 2nd, 2025 at Palm Container Football Field and there were one hundred seventy participants joining every week. The final match will take place on March 02nd.

Lastly, student assistants, alumni and volunteers provided SHE students with mentoring, counselling and extra tutoring support for homework, class assignments and other challenges related to academic study issues during weekends this quarter.



Grand Opening of the PEPY Championship Season VII at Palm Container Football Field on February 02nd, 2025



The scholarship team conducted the Major selection counselling with students before enrolling at university

PEPY Program Updates



Learning Center Program

This quarter, there were 60 students attending the Learning Center Program and all of its illuminating activities. Across each part of the program, students practiced new skills and growth opportunities. **English class** was divided into three levels based on fluency, and extra support was given to those students in the lowest levels, or having difficulty keeping up with lessons.

Youth Empowerment Class organized two youth **Leadership Talks**, and **four workshops** about Dental Health Training, Body Hygiene and Reproductive Health Training, First Aid Training, and Financial Literacy. Three **Business learning visits** were completed at Satcha Handicraft Center, Beautiful Life Organization (LGBTQ+ NGO) and Courtyard by Marriott Siem Reap Resort. One session on “Job Refresher Training” was held by Manulife Cambodia on the topic of “How to Have Effective Interpersonal Communication” with 23 alumni students.

Computer class has finished seven modules which introduced very important **basic computer skills**. These lessons provide foundational digital literacy skills essential for students' academic and job-hunting success.

Lastly, the Learning Center team finished **student counselling sessions** with support from the Scholarship Program team. One-on-one counselling was conducted to guide the students in properly choosing which schools and majors suit them best.



Above: A Youth Empowerment activity at the Learning Center

Below: Computer students practicing new skills in class



English Learning Project volunteer Mark working with students

English Learning Project (ELP)

English Learning class is divided into three levels named after animals. White Shark (beginner level), Puma (pre-elementary level) and Giant Panda (Elementary level). The main content covered the foundations of English for communication and building fundamental vocabulary. Although most of our students are progressing well, extra English class sessions are being held on Friday mornings by the English teacher and the English Class volunteer to help students who feel they are falling behind. These extra classes include demonstrations on grammar usage so that the students can produce sentences correctly and speak more smoothly. They studied the basic English and grammar, the verb “to be”, Present Simple, Past simple, and Present Continuous tenses. Students demonstrated new skills with presentations and speaking drills.

English Learning Club volunteers, Amy and Phalla covered 9 different topics this quarter. Most of the students were not very confident or comfortable the first time they came to the club because most of them had never studied too much English. We have tried our best to teach them from the foundational lessons to make it easier for them to excel in these lessons. We are certain that these approaches will help all students find confidence and increase their listening, speaking and overall comprehension.



Tutoring and extra support to ensure no student is left behind.

PEPY Program Updates

Information Communications Technology (ICT) Project



Above and below: ICT Teacher Channarun providing students with their latest lessons.

This quarter, seven modules were taught to the new Learning Center students in ICT Class. They were "Introduction to Windows 10/11", "Browsers", "Gmail", "Telegram", "PowerPoint", "Google Slides" and "MS Word". Many students who came to the Learning Center this year have had little to no experience using a computer before. It was difficult in the beginning for them because they are afraid of making mistakes and breaking the computer in the learning process. It took some time for many of them to grow comfortable.

Narin, a 21 year old ICT student, expressed excitement and hope about what she is learning in class. She shared, *"Before coming to the Learning Center, I never used a computer. I questioned myself 'how I am going to be good at computer if I never used it and know very little English?' But now, I can see that I can use computer to create slides and type documents."*

The Future is Bright Lab is continuing to loan out computers and electronic devices to new Learning Center students and alumni. This quarter, there was a total of 1,091,500 Riel from 29 alumni and 45 current students. Providing the computer to practice at home does help support the student's work, assignment, and learning computer skills.



Youth Empowerment (YE) Project

The Youth Empowerment Class covered six topics related to personal and professional development: "What it means to be a strong young person", "Getting to know your team", "Understanding yourself", "Setting goals", "Learning about different personalities", and "How to make any team work well". After training and discussion, the students knew what "youth empowerment" really means – that they can make good choices and help change the world.

YE also organized two youth **Leadership Talks** on the theme "How to Cultivate Resilience and Adaptability in Work and Life" and 'Life and Leadership During the Reign of King Jayavarman VII'. Students learned about effective leadership qualities such as sharing your vision and focusing on public works in both talks. Students also joined **Four workshops** about Dental Health Training, Body Hygiene and Reproductive Health Training, First Aid Training, and Financial Literacy. These sessions have equipped our 60 students with essential knowledge and skills, enhancing their confidence in managing health emergencies and making informed decisions about their well-being together.

Three Business learning visits were completed at Satcha Handicraft Center, Beautiful Life Organization (LGBTQ+ NGO) and Courtyard by Marriott Siem Reap Resort. Each workplace they visited was quite unique in its purpose and organizational model, and students learned about the similarities and differences between them.

Lastly, we hosted a training session for alumni we called "Job Refresher Training". a specialist from Manulife Cambodia spoke on the topic of "How to Have Effective Interpersonal Communication" with 23 alumni students. The main topic was "Interpersonal Communication Dialogue." During this session, the alumni learned basics of communication, focusing on the key principle of "2 S's and 1 C": Simple, Short, and Clear. This principle helped the alumni review and practice important communication skills, such as active listening, clear speaking, and providing constructive feedback. They also participated in role-playing activities to improve their communication skills in different situations.



Students visiting Build Bright University (BBU) in Siem Reap