



2025 Cambodia-Ireland Exchange Program session. Students working on a project focusing on growth mindsets, teamwork, values, creativity, well-being, perseverance and determination.

## PEPY Program Updates

Dear PEPY friends and family,

This quarter, our students have been busy learning, competing, and connecting through dynamic events across all programs. Their enthusiasm and determination continue to inspire us all.

The **Dream Management Program** took 183 students to tour local universities and technical training centers to broaden students' understanding of academic and career pathways.

The **Scholarship for Higher Education Program** brought together parents, students, and alumni for meaningful exchanges and community-building. Scholarship announcements reached 350 high school students, sparking motivation for higher education.

**Learning Center Program** hosted three successful international exchanges from Ireland, Australia and Switzerland. The first ICT Typing Competition also encouraged students to improve their digital skills in a fun way. Each event this quarter has strengthened our students' confidence and dreams for the future.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Stay connected at [pepyempoweringyouth.org/subscribe](https://pepyempoweringyouth.org/subscribe) and full reports at [pepyempoweringyouth.org/our-reports](https://pepyempoweringyouth.org/our-reports).



## Dream Management Program

In July, the Dream Management team organized a study tour for Grade 12 students from Kralanh, Sen Sok, and Varin High Schools to explore higher education and vocational training opportunities in Siem Reap Province.

A total of 183 students (124 females) participated in the tour, visiting four institutions, including universities and technical training centers. The purpose of the tour was to broaden students' understanding of academic and career pathways, support informed decision-making about future studies, and encourage scholarship applications. Students engaged in presentations from university staff and vocational instructors, gaining insights into available majors, skill development, and career options. A notable session was led by Bayon Education and Development, where students learned about agricultural practices such as planting, pruning, *(continued on next page)*



Students from Kralanh High School listened to a presentation by RPITSSR on learning electrical skills.

## PEPY Program Updates



### Dream Management Program (continued)

(continued from previous page) animal husbandry, and livestock management. This practical knowledge not only inspired students to consider vocational careers but also enabled them to share valuable information with their families and communities. Overall, the tour increased students' confidence, motivation, and readiness to pursue further education or skill-based training after high school.



Above: A group photo of Dream Management Program teachers, school principals, students and PEPY staff joined students' study tour visit to [Build Bright University](#), [RPITSSR \(Techo Sen Regional Polytechnic Institute Siem Reap\)](#), [Bayon Education and Development](#), and [Spoons Cambodia](#).



Dalen, the first-place winner of the student Speaking Contest receiving her certificate from the Provincial Department of Education, Youth and Sport representative at Reul High School.

**Meet Dalen.** A grade 11 student from Reul High School, living with her older sister in Tumrueng Village, Siem Reap. She joined the Dream Program in grade 10 after being encouraged by her teacher, Soheat. Initially unsure, she soon discovered that the program helped her learn new things, understand herself and her community, and set clear life goals. "It helped me build confidence, courage, and the ability to face and overcome challenges," she shared.

Dalen also joined PEPY's Public Speaking Competition, where she proudly won first place. "With the right guidance and practice," she said, "I could shine and achieve great things." That success continues to motivate her toward her dreams. After university, she plans to major in Information Technology and one day open her own bakery.



### Scholarship for Higher Education (SHE) Program



Students and parents engaging in the Parents meeting event at Somadevy Angkor Hotel Resort and Spa

The Annual Parent Meeting was successfully held on 15th June 2025, with a total of 195 participants, including parents, students, and PEPY staff.

The event aimed to strengthen the connection between families, students, and the Scholarship Team; encourage student motivation; provide updates on student progress; and celebrate academic achievements.

During the meeting, participants engaged in interactive sessions that allowed parents and students to share their thoughts on family support, their children's educational journeys, and personal experiences—helping to build stronger relationships. One of the main highlights was the presentation of certificates to 26 outstanding students in recognition of their academic performance at university and exemplary behavior. The atmosphere was warm and engaging, with parents expressing appreciation for the opportunity to connect with their children's educational journey. The event successfully met its objectives by promoting open communication, boosting student morale, and reinforcing the value of education within families.



The scholarship team conducting the announcement of 2025-2026 scholarship opportunity to grade 12 students at Varin high school on 30th July 2025.

## PEPY Program Updates



### Learning Center Program



Above: Youths practicing determination through reflection activities.

June and July 2025 were filled with unforgettable cross-cultural learning at PEPY!

On June 16, 2025, we were delighted to welcome 18 students and 4 teachers from TESIS (The American School in Switzerland) to our Learning Center for a cultural exchange with 22 PEPY youths and 5 teachers. Together, they enjoyed Khmer dancing, kite making, learning basic Khmer phrases, and sharing local meals—creating lasting friendships and a deeper appreciation for one another's cultures.

From July 17 to 31, the Cambodia-Ireland Exchange Program brought together 3 Irish teachers from Broombridge Educate Together National School, PEPY staff, and 58 youths for three weeks of learning and collaboration. The Irish teachers shared lessons on creativity, perseverance, and well-being, while Cambodian students practiced English through fun activities and community visits to Angkor Wat and the floating village. "I've improved my confidence in English and learned in fun ways," said one youth. An Irish teacher added, "The warm welcome from Cambodian teachers and students was wonderful for us. It exceeded our expectations."

These programs highlighted the joy of connection, collaboration, and shared learning across cultures.

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Students and staff welcoming Ashley, our dedicated virtual English volunteer from Australia for a 10-day in-person visit.

In August, the third counseling session was conducted and our team met with 17 students to discuss career planning. The goal was for students to become better prepared and gain a more comprehensive sense of their life goals after graduating from the Learning Center. Most students shared valuable insights about their plans, as they could articulate a clear picture of their life goals and the steps they will take to achieve them. This indicates that, they are able to keep pace with the lessons delivered by the teachers and integrate new knowledge into practical plans.

The Youth Empowerment Officer will stay closely involved to ensure that students receive sufficient support to pursue their goals and reach their dreams. Counseling has proven to help both students and counselors develop a deeper connection and better understand the students' needs. It encourages students to push themselves toward continuous improvement, helping them become more capable individuals so they can secure jobs more confidently.



Dena, from the LC team, with a student during their third counselling session to prepare them for career planning after completing their Learning Center courses in September.

### English Learning Project (ELP)

As teachers, we observed significant improvement in students' English abilities. They are now more confident speaking in class, communicating with teachers, giving presentations, and practicing reading in English. Let's hear from our Learning Center student, Choun said that "I am so grateful to PEPY. Spending several months with PEPY, I have learned so many things; especially, English class. The teacher taught me the keys to learn English, starting with learning Grammar, new words, Phrase, and short texts. I feel like I really like English than more than I was in high school."

Ashley's virtual and in-person classes were especially helpful for students to practice their listening, conversational and practical skills.



Students joining Ashley's lessons on stress management.

## PEPY Program Updates

### Information Communications Technology (ICT) Project



*Computer class lesson focusing on Excel formulas.*

During this quarter, the ICT class placed strong emphasis on strengthening both technical and creative digital skills through Excel and Canva modules. The Excel module guided youths from basic navigation and worksheet management to more advanced applications such as formulas, functions and data sorting for professional presentations. In parallel, the Canva module empowered students to express creativity and collaboration by using templates, text tools, graphics, and layering techniques to design posters, advertisement videos, and professional CVs with confidence.

Youth performance reflected steady progress and commitment. The Progress Test average increased 145% compared to the baseline score. Attendance across Quarter 3 remained high at 98%, demonstrating youths' dedication. These results highlight significant growth in both digital literacy and self-confidence.



*PEPY alumnus, Sokhit, shared with students during an ICT Talk.*

In July, ICT class organized a 2nd ICT Talk on the topic of "Practical Applications of Excel/Google Sheets for Educators". Mr. Kan Sokhit, a 2019 PEPY alumnus, not only shared his particular expertise; before the event ended he also described his journey and learning experience as a PEPY Scholar. He explained how he navigated his university learning and personal time in Siem Reap during the Q&A session. One of our Learning Center students, Nary, let us know that the sharing session was very useful because she plans to become an English teacher. She was happy to learn what it takes to manage a classroom well.



*English teacher Sokvoeun (left) working on reading aloud with an excited student (right).*

### Youth Empowerment (YE) Project

The Youth Empowerment Project conducted weekly sessions for 59 youths, delivering four core topics such as Decision-Making Tips and Best Practices, Achieving Motivation, Group/Individual Conflict Management, and Mock Interviews were conducted throughout this quarter. Through these lessons, youths looked at their options, thought about consequences, and chose what fits their values and goals. They learned to break down big decisions into small steps, so they could move from thinking to doing. This helped them feel more in control of their futures.



*Youth Empowerment Class on the topic of Conflict Management*

As a result of these integrated learning experiences, a pattern of meaningful change emerged across attitudes, behaviors, and daily life. Many youths felt more confident when they looked at options and decided what to do. They began to think about goals. They could set short-term goals and long-term goals and plan steps to reach them, with clear times and needed resources. The Mock Interview practice helped students speak clearly, use effective body language, and present themselves better. This made them ready for real chances like internships or entry-level jobs. The Mock Interview practice also helped them tell their stories clearly, answer questions better, and act more professionally.

Chon, 19, from Sra Knav High School, said: *"I now know how to decide what is right, and I will keep working hard even when it is difficult at some points."*

Our youths have shown great progress by manifesting better confidence, becoming great team players. They got to know themselves more deeply, work as a team, and use persuasion in a very professional way.

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