



# NEP NEWSLETTER

## July 2008 – Issue #8

NEP is the voice of education NGOs in sector policy formation and has provided input to the development of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy Plan and the National Education for All Plan. NEP represents education NGOs in discussions related to the Education Strategic Plan (ESP) and the Education Sector Support Program (ESSP). We also support our members’ interests through workshops and training and bi-monthly meetings which promote discussion on issues and opportunities for organizations working in Cambodia’s education sector.

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide both members and non-member NGOs working in education sector with current information about NEP and the activities that address education issues in Cambodia.

### NEP Secretariat News and Updates

#### NEP Networking & Discussions

On June 2, 35 local and international members and several guests participated in a membership meeting which included an update on NEP activities, a FTI update and a briefing by an NEP member organization.

Over half of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of issues and opportunities involving member organizations. All participants showed their great interest and contribute a lot in the group discussion. These notes were recorded and have been shared with members. **The next membership meeting is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2008.**

#### NEP Website & Member Info Sharing

Our web site [www.nepcambodia.org](http://www.nepcambodia.org) offers NEP member with an opportunity to access and share information. If you have information you would like to share with other members, please send it to Mr. Phan Chanhoeurn at [chanhoeurn@nepcambodia.org](mailto:chanhoeurn@nepcambodia.org).

#### Global Action Week

Global Action Week (GAW) succeeded in generating significant media attention which continued well after the week-long event this

year. NEP’s Leng Theavy was one of the leads on the implementation of GAW activities, and was supported by NEP staff and the GCE Advisor.



Global Action Week launch in Siem Reap province with His Excellencies Im sethy, Nath Bunroeun and Mao Vuthy

Over 10,000 individuals and 20 organizations throughout Cambodia were involved with key activities, which included the back to school events in the 10 provinces, roundtable discussion, my day for education at Olympic stadium etc. Planning for next year’s GAW will begin in September. If your organization would like to participate in next year’s GAW, please contact Ms. Leng Theavy at [theavy@nepcambodia.org](mailto:theavy@nepcambodia.org).

### **Valuing Teachers**

The *Valuing Teachers* report is a research-based advocacy project that has been produced in collaboration with the NGO Education Partnership (NEP) network. It is part of VSO's Mainstreaming Inclusive Education programme in Cambodia.

The purpose of this report is to examine the realities of teachers' experiences in Cambodia at a time when the stated aim of the Royal Government of Cambodia is to provide free basic education to all by the year 2015. This is an ambitious aim and one which places great demands on all involved in the education process.

The *Valuing Teachers* Report will be released in September 2008.

### **British Member of Parliament**

As part of its global advocacy initiatives, VSO is recruiting British Members of Parliament (MP) to serve as short-term advocacy volunteers with partner organizations in countries served by VSO. NEP has been asked to host a MP from Scotland in late September. This individual will work from NEP offices during his two weeks in Cambodia and will give a workshop on best practices in advocacy to which NEP, GCE and DAC members will be invited. He will also provide input on the dissemination of the *Valuing Teachers* research report.

### **Member Capacity Building**

Senior staff of NEP NGOs member organizations are invited to join in a three-day workshop of monitoring/evaluation training and tool development. **The workshop will be held from 11 to 13 August 2008.** This is an opportunity for NEP members to strengthen their capacity in program monitoring/evaluation and tool development.

### **NEP Mid-Term Review**

Thanks to support from Action Aid, VSO and the World Bank, NEP is now conducting a **Mid-Term Review** of its Strategic Plan 2006-2010 and a **Membership Survey**. NEP and its membership are reflecting on the organization's work over the past two years and exploring ways in which NEP can improve its work on behalf of its members and the broader education sector in Cambodia. This

review is being facilitated by Andrew Jones, an independent consultant and the final report will be produced in August 2008 and highlights will be shared with members at the August 22 membership meeting.

### **Pre School Research**

NEP is undertaking research on "Experiences of Preschool in Promoting Child Education in Cambodia".



Preschool children of New Humanity in Kg Chhnang

The purpose of this research is to share with government, development partners and the education community information on best practices and challenges of NGO-operated preschools.

This research also explores ways in which NGOs and government can support each other in the area of preschool education.

### **2008 NGO Report**

Some initial thinking has been done around this report. A meeting will be held with key development partners to review the potential structure of this report so that it aligns effectively with the 2008 Donor Effectiveness Report and satisfies the information needs of government. Research for the 2008 report will begin in August and a draft will be produced by mid-November.

### **ESP/ESSP Mid-Term Review**

NEP has committed to support the Department of Planning during the remainder of the ESP/ESSP Mid-Term Review process. NEP will continue to participate in ESWG discussions concerning the MTR process when ESWG meetings recommence after the election.

### ***Education Policy Discussions***

NEP continues to participate in meetings of the Education Sector Working Group (ESWG), and the Joint Technical Working Group on Education (JTWG-ED).

We encourage NEP members to share with us:

- What NEP can do for you in the areas of capacity building (workshops, training), research on specific issues and information needs.
- What you can do to help NEP build its knowledge base and networks, its membership, and help NEP raise awareness of key issues.

### ***Member Profile***

NEP has received useful updates on member activity as part of the Mid-Term Review. We will category all member projects and publish in the next newsletter and will also post updated member profiles on the NEP web site!

### ***Member News***

This is an opportunity to learn more about your fellow NEP member organizations!

This is your newsletter! If you have any news items or story ideas you would like to see in our November newsletter, please send them to Leng Theavy at [theavy@nepcambodia.org](mailto:theavy@nepcambodia.org).

### ***Contact Us!***

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