



## Build Your Future Today Newsletter January - December 2021

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### Message From Sedtha Long

Dear Compassionate Friends and Supporters of BFT Locally and Around the Globe,

The struggles throughout 2021 all of us have dealt with COVID have been a major challenge for us here at BFT, the people of Cambodia and our friends everywhere. I truly hope that you have all made it through the year safely and in good health.

Despite the hardship COVID has brought on us, I am delighted to be able to report on the successes the team at BFT have had through the past year. While much effort has gone into supporting villagers who have seen additional hardship from COVID, we have been proud of the work done to continue supporting schools and allowing village children to attend free of hunger. Local and international donations have allowed us to provide support for emergency food relief and hygiene supplies for the poorest of our villagers.



Through the generous support of Bob and Indu Shah and our friends at P.O.E.M. in France, we have built more classrooms and other facilities at secondary schools in villages. Other donors have made it possible to improve food security through programs to create more school and home gardens, including the planting of thousands of fruit trees provided through the Trees of Love initiative. Income generation has improved through training and supporting villagers to raise chickens and other livestock and creating sewing businesses.

With last year's funding from a Rotary Grant and ongoing support from other friends, we have greatly increased year-round access to clean water and WASH education for many villagers and continue to work to improve this further.

To build better skills for the future, we have continued supporting training and higher education for some BFT team members and community youth as well as providing English language and computer skills to local children at our Learning Centre in Siem Reap. This has included helping improve football skills through our association with our partner at HFCA.

Please continue to be safe in 2022 and may the New Year bring all people Happiness, Health, Prosperity and Peace! We look forward to welcoming you back to Cambodia soon!

**Founder & Director, Prof. Long Sedtha**

### Message From John Hayward



I am truly in awe of the work the incredible team at BFT has continued to do in the face of the added personal hardships COVID has brought on them and the sacrifices they have made so willingly to continue meeting the needs of the villagers in areas BFT works. I'm pleased that all of the team has been able to get vaccinated so they can continue their great work as safely as they can.

Their difficulties have been compounded by travel restrictions that have seen a virtual halt in on-the-ground support from international volunteers. It is a reflection of the strong impact the work and values of Sedtha and the team have had on friends and supporters locally and from around the world that donors have continued to make the work BFT does possible even when they can't visit. I have directly seen the immediate effect it has on people when they see the positive impact BFT's work is having to improve the lives of the desperately poor villagers and the way it encourages them to offer financial support to BFT. The fact that, with the pandemic and lack of face-to-face contact, that support continues to be offered by donors shows that the impressions are deep and lasting ones.

I want to thank all donors and supporters for your kind generosity and encourage you to continue supporting the valuable work of BFT. Without your ongoing support, particularly while the world continues to come to grips with COVID, the future for many of our villagers may not be so bright.

All my best wishes for a happy and prosperous 2022.

**Chairman, John Hayward**



## 2nd Project for secondary schools funded by Bob & Indu Shah together with Polio Children in Need Charity in the UK

### - Secondary school building

Another place of exciting news, we were so happy to receive funds to build more classrooms use for the secondary school in Prey Chhkar Village, Pong Ro Lue Commune, and Chi Kreang District. In the past few years, many



children finished their primary school and they could not afford to go to the secondary school as it is located too far from their villages.



These days, the four new classrooms will make a big difference to all primary graduate students who live in the village and surrounding areas for their studies and we believe that in the future, we will have more educated people in these areas helping develop their communities.



### - Teacher accommodation

A building of 2 room for teachers' accommodation also funded by Bob & Indu Shah and Polio Children in Need Charity in UK. This facility will help teachers to stay, have more times on teaching and planning where in the past they spent so many hours travelling back and forth from their village.



### - Toilets blocks

We also received funding to build 3 toilet blocks, this facility will help to provide a service as well as improve sanitation in this school.



We would like to THANK YOU our great supporters, Bob & Indu Shah together with Polio Children in Need Charity in the UK for their kind donation to make this meaningful project possible for our communities.



## Another Project of Secondary School Funded by POEM, Friends of BFT France

We are honored to share that our partner, POEM Foundation from France has donated funds to BFT for four classrooms which we will be used as the teacher's office, classrooms and libraries for the secondary school in Svay Lue and Chi Kreng Districts.

These 4 classrooms were split between the two locations, 2 classrooms were built in , Svay Lue District, and the other two were built in Chi Kreang District.

We are so excited to see this project happening and we would like to give a huge THANK YOU to our partners, POEM Foundation from France, and Friends of BFT France for their kind donations and continued support for the work we do in Cambodia.





## Project Singha Sponsored by FoBFT Hong Kong

We would like to give a THANK YOU to Megan's family and all supporters at FoBFT Hong Kong for continuing to support our feeding programs, school demonstration gardens, and the teaching material during the distance learning program.



The nutritious food feeding provided 6 days a week to 70 children every morning before they start their lessons. Besides the feeding program, the Singha school teacher also did great work on the school demonstration garden.



They grow different kinds of vegetables and all of these veggies are used for their daily breakfast program.



## Emergency food, hygiene and school supplies supported by local and International partners and supporters

Many poor villages and schools in Siem Reap and Banteay Meanchey have received emergency food and hygiene supplies donated by our local and international partners.

### - Emergency food supplies

The food supplies were mainly distributed to disadvantaged families who suffered during the lockdown and the community outbreaks.



### - Hygiene supplies

Many of the schools in remote rural areas do not have hygiene supplies to use for prevention of Covid-19 spreading in their community but through the donations and funds raised from both local and international donors, we have managed to provide hygiene supplies such as face masks, hand sanitizers, hundred of liters of alcohol hand sanitizers, and thousands of bars of soap to primary and secondary schools along with education on how to practice safety procedures to prevent the possible spread of the COVID19 Virus.



Furthermore, some funds we raised locally with the help of our volunteers and friends enabled us to buy some school stationery for children.



On behalf of the people helped by BFT, we would like to express our sincere admiration and appreciation to our group medical partners, **Project Botrong, Project Sangkuem** and to **Bryanwellness, Omhealth Charity** in Singapore and FoBFT Cambodia for all their love, kindness and support.





## BFT Child Support and Learning Center by FoBFT Germany

### - ENGLISH and Computer Program

Since the end of 2019, our English and Computer programs have operated for small groups of children at BFT. Some English lessons have been conducted online by our International English teachers.

A big thank you to our donors in Germany for their continued support for their children's education, family adoption, and community life skills training.

The children and the villagers are so grateful for their compassionate commitment and contributions to making changes in their lives.



## Friends of BFT Belgium sponsor two ring wells and house renovation

In early June this year, we have received kind donation from our supporter, who has been working hard to raise funds by doing photography work. Through her donation we have manage to build two cement ring wells in a village and these two wells provide enough water for 25 families living surrounding these well.



### - House renovation

Aké's funds also helped renovate the house of a poor family in Siem Reap



Our thanks to Fischer Aurélie for her generosity, love and support. If you are interested in seeing more of her work see the link: <https://www.facebook.com/akeasbl>

## Village school Demonstration Gardens Project

We are so happy to see our school demonstration gardens in Oroong, Kromom Bol, La'ak as well as in Singha primary schools continue to provide nutrients from various vegetables grown by the teachers and students.





## Livestock's for food security and income generation

During the difficult time of Covid-19 in Cambodia, BFT worked enthusiastically to promote homemade food production and income generation. The livestock's farming has provided emergency nutritious food to many hundreds of poor families in rural areas to combat hunger. The villagers especially the children were so grateful for the assistance.

## Community Peace Building Project

While combating community hunger and the Covid-19 outbreaks, BFT and village volunteers (monks, village key people) continues to work to reduce families crisis, helping them to understand how to work together to resolve all problems happening in their families and their community as well encouraging and empowering women, especially mothers ( through the mother's clubs ) to play their important role in resolving problems with a peaceful solution.

On behalf of impoverished villagers, we would like to thank the Rotary Club of Sangke Battambang, and all Rotary Clubs in Australia and International Clubs as well as Friends of BFT Australia for making such a big difference.



## Global Grant Rotary Project — Hand Over Ceremony

Official Handover ceremony was conducted for 3 clean water systems, 28 giant bore wells and 25 toilets which provide benefit to thousands of villagers and children in Sre Robong, Oroong and Kromom Bol villages in Svay Leu District.





## A Big THANK YOU! to Our Supporters, Sue Furguson

On behalf of the BFT team as well as the villagers we support, we would like to extend our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Sue Furguson and her family for kindly supporting the BFT to help disadvantaged people.



## To our Friends and Supporter at Friends of BFT Australia

We would like to express our THANK YOU to all the directors Friends of BFT Australia for working tirelessly with unconditional love and care to support the BFT.



## Village football by Happy Football Cambodia Australia and BFT

Early this year our football training program partnered with Happy Football Cambodia Australia (HFCA) was on and off based on the conditions of the virus spread in Cambodia.

However, these days our training sessions are back on, Sovatha Long our football coach has provided the football training to young players in the city and in other 3 different villages in

remote areas.

Thank you to our partner, Happy Football Cambodia Australia for continuing working with us enthusiastically to help children to learning football skills.



## A huge THANK YOU to Gillian Cappelletto and Michael Jones

Everyone at BFT would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to Gillian Cappelletto and Dr. Michael Jones for their generous donations to support the salaries of key staff members through the current difficult period with Covid. Their kind support has helped BFT continue its missions to improve the lives of the poor people in the remote rural areas of Siem Reap and Banteay Meanchey Province.



## Sponsoring BFT's Young Girl to Nursing University in Siem Reap by John and Katrina Hayward

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Katrina and John for their love and kind support of Sononty Nhim with her studies to become a nurse at University. Sononty is one of the kids who grew up at BFT. Her dream is to

become a nurse, once she graduates from nursing university she would like to help poor people in the rural communities received proper health care education as much as she can in the future.



## School Stationery & Hygiene Donated by SE Asia Foundation

On behalf of the staff and the villagers helping by BFT we would like extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Bill Taylor, the founder of the SE Asia Foundation and his colleague, Mrs. Nguon Rothsopha for their compassionate donations of 100 packages of school stationery and hygiene supplies to poor children in remote rural areas.

Their generosity will help us to provide opportunity to improve the education and hygiene & sanitation of the impoverished people especially to empower the women to make their lives difference.





## Tree of Love: Tree planting project in Cambodia

Celebrating 203 fruit-tree saplings "Trees of Love" planted in 18 months! Thank to everyone who has been supporting us, and to the hard workers - growing and planting these trees. So many good reasons to plant trees, but one is to create self-sufficiency in poor communities in Siem Reap.



## The Benefits of Growing Fruit Trees

The saplings are planted in villages in the poorest parts of Cambodia. As they grow it will enable these villagers to be more self-sufficient. It will give them precious fruit to eat and surplus to sell – as well as providing precious wood to build shelters and furniture. The branches of these trees will provide shade, and the leaves will eventually drop and put nutrients back into the soil.



Thank you to Jo Reynolds and Georgia's Children of the World for their compassion commitment and contribution to make this project happen.



## School Water Reservoir Sponsored by The PARKINSON Family

We would like to THANK our friends and supporters, the Parkinson Family for their kind donation for the school reservoir in Dang Rek Secondary school in Banteay Meanchey Province. This reservoir will provide the source of water for teachers and students.



## Thank you to Dr. Matte Muldoon

We would like to say thanks to our supporter, Dr. Matte Muldoon for his continual donations to support staff educations. Through his donations we are able to give our colleagues more skills to help BFT team to deliver their duties to help others effectively.



## Congratulation to Yothin our Chairman of Board Directors of Friends of BFT Cambodia

Yothin and his local volunteer team will help take the lead to build more awareness, connection and fund raising in and out Cambodia for the future sustainability of BFT.



## School Uniforms Donated by Roni Sivan

We would like to express our thank you to Roni and Krama Wheel for their continual support of the school uniforms to our children in the remote rural areas.

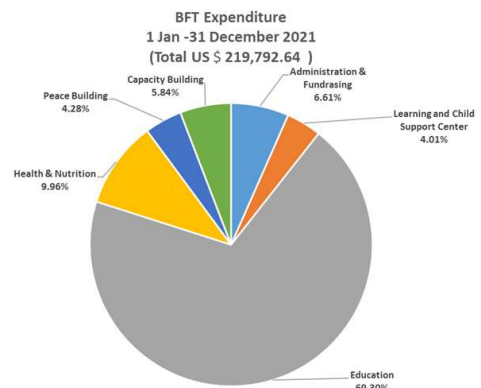
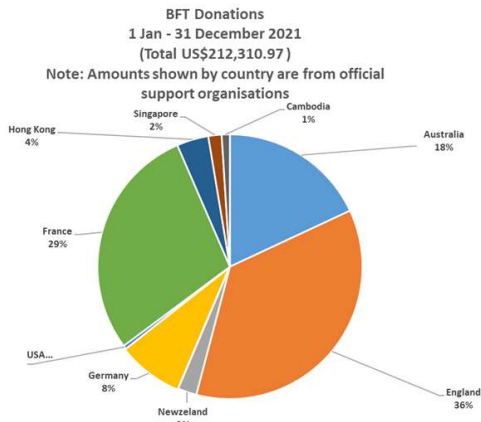






# Financials and Recognition

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With an income of \$212,310.97, and expenditures of \$219,792.64 , we had a slight deficit for the year. The overall income was, however, significantly lower than the previous year and, while we are able to deliver services to support villagers, expanding to new villages will requires additional donations; something many of our supporters are actively working to secure.

It should be noted that, while the graph shows that 6.61% of expenditure was on Administration and fundraising, a significant portion of this was for costs of project work in the villages that is general in nature and difficult to allocate.

"Expenses for the 2021 financial year exceeded income by (\$7,481,67) . This resulted in a reduction of the surplus carried forward from \$11,096,15 at the end of the 2020 year to \$3,656,20 at the end if 2021



## International BFT Friends

BFT Friends from Australia, America, Germany, Singapore, Norway, England, France, & Hong Kong

Special thanks to our valued local private sector, local and International volunteers and individual supporters from around the globe.

## OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS



**Omhealth**

**Bob & Indu Shah Family Foundation**



**Allianz**



**GIVE ASIA**



BFT would like to thank all our other friends who have donated over the last six months and all BFT Friends around the world who are working tirelessly to raise awareness and funds to support our valued mission. We are very grateful for all your support and passion. It is amazing to see so many people and organizations committed to the BFT cause. We are humbled and grateful to see—people from Cambodia and people from all over the world—engaging in a network to improve the quality of life and opportunities for the Cambodian people who need our help most.

**THANK YOU!**