On 16th September 2014, CDMD organized a one-day workshop on “Reflection on Disability Inclusion into Community Investment Plan” at Meeting Hall of Kandal Municipality. This workshop aims to promote disability inclusion into Community Investment Plan; to strengthen cooperation with PoSVY Kandal, Department of Treasury, Kandal Planning Department, Kandal Planning and Investment Office, and Commune Councils to promote the implementation of the Law on the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This workshop was conducted with participation of 28 stakeholders from PoSVY Kandal, Kandal Planning Department, Kandal Planning and Investment Office, Commune Councils, persons with disabilities, CDMD staff and CDMD advocates.

Through this workshop, CDMD hopes that the needs of persons with disabilities in communities will be fulfilled and included into their Community Investment Plan; ensures effective cooperation among stakeholders on developing Community Investment Plan; and the awareness and implementation of the Law on the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by those stakeholders.

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On 15-16th July & 08-09th September 2014, CDMD in collaboration with 03 trainers from ChildWise Cambodia organized a training to all CDMD staff on “Child Protection and Child Safe Organization” consecutively at CDMD Phnom Penh Office and Phnom Penh Diakonia Center. The objective of the training is to increase the knowledge of all CDMD staff including the board members on Child protection in ensuring safe environment for children at CDMD workplace. The topics of this training mainly focused on the key points related with children including 04 forms of child rights, the 04 forms of child abuses, child abuse report format and procedure, the UN convention on the rights of children and other Cambodia legal documents, assignation of CDMD focal persons for CSO, and standardization of CDMD’s current child protection policy into CSO standard policy. It is worth to note that after the training completed, CDMD will apply for CSO certificate under facilitation from ChildWise Cambodia to assess the knowledge of CDMD staff and its beneficiaries on child protection and the upgrading of CDMD child protection policy.

CBR AND EAR CARE AND DEAF

CDMD facilitated with 01 trainer from JSC and 02 trainers from Krousar Thmey NGO to provide training on “CBR and Ear Care and Deaf” to 13 (F: 04) Community volunteers at CDMD Phnom Penh Office from 4-5th September 2014. The objective of this training is to enable capacity of community volunteers on CBR and Ear Care and referral services for persons with hearing impaired & communication skills with persons with hearing loss. Through this training, trainees will increase their understanding on how to prevent ear disease, ear care and how to follow up clients after receiving medical treatment and the key sign language to provide rehabilitation for clients with hearing impairment to promote their involvement with Self-Help Groups and community activities.
VILLAGE MEETINGS FOR DISABILITY AND EDUCATION AWARENESS

CDMD has been implementing a project called “Social Care and Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities” in collaboration with CRS since August 2013. CDMD is mainly responsible for the related community activities while CRS is responsible for in school activities. In order to respond to these roles and to reach our project goal, CDMD facilitated with school principals and School Support Committees (SSCs) to conduct village meetings with community people in our target areas.

The objective of these village meetings is to increase awareness and participation of communities to support the educations of children with disabilities and to strengthen home-based care and CWDs referral to appropriate social services. For the period of August, CDMD conducted 07 villages meetings with 240 (F:133) participants such as 14 (F:01) SSCs, 07 (F:02) school principals, 29 (F:15) parents of children with disabilities, 07 (F:03) CWDs, 156 (F:110) community people, 15 (F:01) authorities, 02 (F:0) religion representatives, 02 (F:01) people with disability, and 08 (F:0) teachers. It is worth to note that CDMD will facilitate with principals and SSCs to conduct other 21 village meetings in the remaining target schools for the period of October.

CDMD is a Cambodian NGO working towards an inclusive, barrier free, and right-based society for persons with disabilities. CDMD, formerly called Rehabilitation for Blind Cambodians- Community Based Rehabilitation (RBC-CBR) started its activities by Maryknoll NGO. In 2000, RBC was handed over to Caritas NGO until the end of 2006. RBR-CBR was localized under the name of "Cambodian Development Mission for Disability” so-called “CDMD”.

Vision of CDMD
“A Society for All where people with disabilities live with dignity and prosperity”

Mission of CDMD
“To coordinate and build capacity of people with disabilities, communities, and stakeholders to provide equal opportunity for people with disabilities to fully participate in all development efforts”

Goal of CDMD
“People with disabilities have equal rights and opportunities to participate fully in their communities”
A NEW LIFE WITH HOPES!

Mrs. Ban Chantha is a 32-year old woman living in a poor family with a 07-year old son and a single mother in Prek Touch Village, Saang Phnom Commune, Saang District, Kandal Province. Mrs. Chantha is an unfortunate woman because her husband run away from home when he he knew that Mrs. Chantha became blind due to glaucoma in 2008. She also has mental illnesses which caused her lose memories. She also encountered discrimination and inappropriate words from her neighbors.

Through observation of her strange behavior, CDMD staff visited her home every week in order to provide skill trainings on daily communication, household chores, OM and how to use walking stick. Then, Mrs. Chantha was referred to have mental health consultations at Psar Deumthkov Health Center in Phnom Penh every month. After undergoing above training and ongoing consultation, she started to change from day to day and her health started improving. She came up with an idea of selling sugarcane juice in front of her house. Therefore, CDMD lent her a revolving fund with an amount of 600,000 Riels to buy a sugarcane squeezing machine for starting her business. One year later, Mrs. Chantha started to become a person with a smiling face, good health and friendly welcomed. In 2012, Mrs. Chantha learnt massage skills in Phnom Penh for 01 month and in Battambong Province for 02 months. Then she come back her hometown with an aim to start a massage parlor in order to support her family and her son’s education. Therefore, CDMD lent her the 2nd revolving fund of 800, 000 Riels for purchasing massage materials in her massage parlor located in Prek Touch Village, Roka Khpous Commune, Saang District, Kandal Province. Through this business, she can earn approximately 15, 000 Riels/day ($3.75/day).

Mrs. Chantha expressed her optimistic ideas that “I am so satisfied with this job. Even though, I can earn more or less incomes, it can help support myself and family; it is much better not to beg money from others”.

Her hard-work and her positive thinking foster her to have an unexpectedly successful life that everyone admires, loves and keeps good relationships with her.

Other News:

- On 17-19 September 2014, Mr. Nhip Thy, Executive Director, Mr. San Sothorn, Admin/Finance Coordinator and Mr. Phorn Paul, Assistant to ED attended 1st ASEAN CBR Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- On Tuesday 19th August 2014, CDMD was very honorable to host Her Excellency Amanda Vanstone, Chair-person and Mrs. Jennifer Gersbeck, CEO of Vision 2020 with accompanying by Mrs. Nicole Joseland and Mr. Ngy San, CBM officers and Mr. Nhip Thy, Executive Director of CDMD for a home visit to Mrs. Men Sopheary, CDMD client with visual impairments who is living in Prek Takong Village, Sangkat Prek Leab, Khan Chroy Chongvar, Phnom Penh.