Chan Neardey is 20 years old. She is a second year scholarship student studying at the Kratie Provincial Teacher Training College in 2010-2011. Neardey lives with her parents and her six siblings three of whom are sisters. Her parents are both farmers in DamRe Village of Sambor District in Kratie Province, which is very, very far away from the college in Kratie Town where Neardey has to study. Right now, Neardey has to board at her school because she has no relatives living in the town where she studies. She finds it very difficult living so far away from home but because her family is poor, she doesn’t have much choice.

She has little money for paying her direct educational costs such as clothes, food, and other learning materials. All such issues would nearly push her to drop out of college. Fortunately, she gets support from USAID through the IBEC Project, which provides a stipend of 80,000 CR or about $20 per month. Neardey said that, ‘if there weren’t support from USAID, I would stop learning but now I am very happy that I can continue my studying and get success like today.” She said she would commit to work hard until finishing PTTC and go back to teach in the local community and become a good teacher. She hopes she can be a role model for other girls in her village so that she can encourage them to work hard in learning.