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# Improved Basic Education in Cambodia (IBEC) Project SUCCESS STORY

## Child Help Networks and Scholarships Make a Difference



LON SOKNA GIVES A SMILE AND HAS HIGH HOPES FOR THE FUTURE

*The IBEC Project seeks to promote better-educated youth with increased access to a quality and relevant basic education through an approach that emphasizes holistic programming, stakeholder-driven development, and improved educational relevance and management.*

To learn more, visit

[www.ibec.worlded.org](http://www.ibec.worlded.org)

Chan Lonh Sokna is 18 years old. She lives in RomPok village, Snuol District of Kratie Province. She is the third among the seven children in the family. She has no father. All her brothers and sisters stopped studying at Grade 3 and 4 in order to help their family in farming. This year, Lonh Sokna studies in Grade 9 at Svay Chreas Lower Secondary School. She has been receiving a scholarship since Grade 7 from *Schools for Life Program* (2008-2009) and has been getting a scholarship since she was in Grade 8 from IBEC.

Lonh Sokna expressed that she is fortunate to receive a scholarship and help from her peers, which has encouraged her to stay in school and study hard. She is very happy that she is not discriminated against because of her disability and has the ambition to study until she has completed Grade 12. However, she worries that she will not be able to receive scholarship support beyond Grade 9 and then her mother will expect her to stop learning in order to help the family. But she still hopes that her commitment to continue her studies will be rewarded so that she can create a better future for her and her family.