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CASE STUDY

Improvements in SSC Capacity Promote Effective School Development



Mr. Gnuon at his desk at Hann Chey Jr. High School (above); the wooden bridge built by the community to keep the school open (below)



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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

Telling Our Story

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Mr Nuon Gnuon is 58 years old. He lives in Sram Lech Village in Cheung Prey District, Kampong Cham Province. In 2008, Mr. Gnuon was chosen by his peers to lead the School Support Committee for his local school. He said he was happy to take on this job because there are few people with high levels of education in his community. Since 2009 when the IBEC project started, Mr. Gnuon describes the many workshops he has attended to build the capacity of his committee. These workshops included roles and duties of the SSC and concrete examples of how the SSC could get involved in the school. Mr. Gnuon has been an important catalyst for getting local people more involved in what is going at the school. The SSC now has its own small office at Sramor Junior High School in the district, which makes it easier for him and others from his committee to visit and work at the school in a more official capacity. He and his committee have actively worked with the director to make many improvements in the school including improving the safety and attractiveness of the school yard as well as making classrooms pleasant places for students to learn. Mr. Gnuon feels that his local school has improved markedly since the IBEC Project began. Mr. Ngnuon said that the most important factor to help engage the local community in the school is 'transparency.' He can report honestly about what is happening at the school at pagoda events, which both stimulates and sustains community interest in supporting the school.