

INFORMATION FOR SPONSORS AND MENTORS



The **STUDAID program** supports underprivileged students in Cambodia in achieving their bachelor's and master's study goals. The supported young talents live in Cambodia during and after the training and shall act as multipliers for others in their country after finishing the professional education. The sponsorship should lead to additional jobs and to bringing economy ahead.

STUDAID was launched in December 2017 by Christoph Ramseier and Norbert Lanter and is still growing. It provides support to a maximum of 20 students at a time. Vacant places will be filled again. Thus, over the next ten years, around **40-50 students** should be supported. Female students are still severely disadvantaged in Cambo-

Why support students?

In Cambodia, many NGOs and government organizations focus on basic education and low-level vocational training. Qualified high school graduates from underprivileged families, barely get support, although they have a significant impact on the future of the country. Those who stop studying, due to lack of financial resources or for overload by work and studying at the same time, do not get out of the poverty circle. While those students, who successfully complete their studies, can positively influence the future of their country, by taking responsibility as entrepreneurs, executives or professionals.

dia. Parents support, if they have the means at all, predominantly their sons. Therefore, the ma-

jority of STUDAID supported students are/will be female. Currently (as of August 2018) 12 students are sponsored by **STUDAID**.

The selection of students is based on **transparent criteria**. Most importantly:

- The students must pursue a clear study objective
- they earn their living expenses through paid work themselves and
- they receive no additional financial support from anyone in their network or 3rd party.

Students enrolled in the program receive the following **support-benefits**:

- **Sponsorship:** Acquisition of tuition fees and the costs of English courses, books and uniform.
- **Mentoring:** Regular personal exchange between students and mentors to mentally and emotionally accompany students through their studies.
- **Seminars:** Participation in regular STUDAID seminars, which strengthen the students on various topics: soft and social skills, responsible behavior as well as preparation for the professional activity after graduation.

Students commit, by signing an agreement, to working to the best of their ability to achieve the goal of the study. If necessary, STUDAID supports the students in finding a suitable job - according to their field of study, in order to already gain relevant work experience. The universities in Phnom Penh offer the opportunity to study in the morning or afternoon as well as on Saturday and Sunday. As a rule, STUDAID-sponsored young people work and study up to seven days a week, with only a few vacation days per year, mostly during national holidays.

Students report regularly on their progress. Unfunded noncompliance may lead to the termination of the contract and sponsorship.

The selection process and the supervision of the students are coordinated on site by the **STUDAID Program Manager**. He also supervises compliance with the agreements with the students and organizes the regular **STUDAID seminars** and moderates the **STUDAID Community**, in which students are networking and encouraged to support each other. If needed, STUDAID students also receive some support regarding the transition into the professional life.

For **sustainability** of the sponsoring, STUDAID puts great importance on students returning the support they receive to other people in their country. Be it by creating jobs in their later work or, for example, by helping younger students financially or as mentors. For this, the supported students stay connected beyond the end of their studies through the STUDAID community.

As a **STUDAID sponsor** you select a person from the preselected students who you would like to support in achieving his study goal - usually 2-4 years. In the selection we help with our experience. Ideally, you will support your student as a sponsor and mentor.

As a **sponsor** you pay for the annual costs of the support (see above).

How does a typical annual budget look like?

University: USD 400-600 plus books USD 100

English class: USD 500-700

3-4 STUDAID seminars: USD 200-400

Contribution to local trustee: 100

The budget is set-up annually by the STUDAID Program Manager, who knows the local conditions well, and billed in detail. The exact amount may vary depending on the academic year, English level and the STUDAID seminars. The expected amount is between \$ 130 and \$ 160 per month. Your annual donation is based on the budget.

STUDAID is a program of the **Swiss non-profit organization PGH**. Donations paid to PGH are transferred to the fiduciary account of the STUDAID appointed **lawyer/fiduciary** in Phnom Penh, in favor of the individual students. Payments to students are made upon presentation of receipts to the lawyer/fiduciary.

As sponsor, you will get a **donation card** every year for your donations. Your donation is thus

deductible from income tax.

Who is PGH Charity?

PGH, People for Global Humanity, is a Swiss non-profit organization, active in Cambodia since 2009. Over the past few years, 140 children and teenagers have been able to find a home in the PGH-sponsored SCD Children's Home and receive support for nutrition, education and medical care. For more information see www.pgh-charity.org. The STUDAID program is handled as part of the PGH organization. High school graduates from the SCD Children's Home can, assuming appropriate suitability, be included in the STUDAID program.

In the role of a **mentor** you are in regular contact with your student, be it by e-mail, chat or video call. Any appreciative and moral support that you can give to the student is of great benefit.

Through direct personal exchange you will be able to experience the effectiveness of your support even better. You will experience a lot of gratitude and appreciation and in this sense get back a lot of positives for your commitment. We from STUDAID will accompany you (video call), in setting up the initial personal contact with your student. After that you can define the frequency of the contact yourself. Ideally, it will be once or twice a month. A personal visit to your student in Cambodia is possible. The STUDAID Program Manager on site can assist you.

If you cannot or do not want to fill the mentoring role, e.g. because you do not speak English very well, this role can also be assumed by another person. We will find solutions for this case by case.

STUDAID seminars offer students – in addition to networking – an ideal framework to deal with themselves, among other things: What is my professional goal? How can I get closer to my career goal while studying? What steps are necessary after graduation? How can I give something back in my country? The first seminars shall be organized by the STUDAID Program Manager. Carefully selected speakers from the Cambodian economy and Switzerland will do the moderation for free.

Currently, we are still looking for one to three **STUDAID program sponsors**, who will contribute to the STUDAID platform for several years. This contribution shall take care of the cost of the local STUDAID Program Manager and the organiza-

tion of the STUDAID seminars.

What is unique about STUDAID?

STUDAID wants to donate more than "just" money. With your work as a sponsor and mentor, you support a student you personally meet, directly from person to person. This will give you the confidence that your donation really "arrives" where it is supposed to be. In addition, you facilitate "your" student to attend STUDAID's seminars, which empower the participants to their future professional life. This is important for the long-term effectiveness of your donation of money and time, after successfully completing graduation of the students.

Further information about the program and the students are available on the **STUDAID homepage**.

For any further questions or concerns don't hesitate to contact the STUDAID initiators Chris Ramseier and Norbert Lanter at any time. You find the contact details below.

We appreciate your interest and thank you - also on behalf of "our" students - for your support.



www.studaid.org

Christoph Ramseier
christoph.ramseier@gmail.com
Mobile: +41 79 514 00 71



Norbert Lanter
norbert.lanter@doubleview.ch
Mobile: +41 79 322 00 25



Kosal Nhek
STUDAID Program Manager in
Phnom Penh
kosal_cam@yahoo.com
Mobile : +855 89 512 513

