

Cambodia Rik Reay School Project

Background

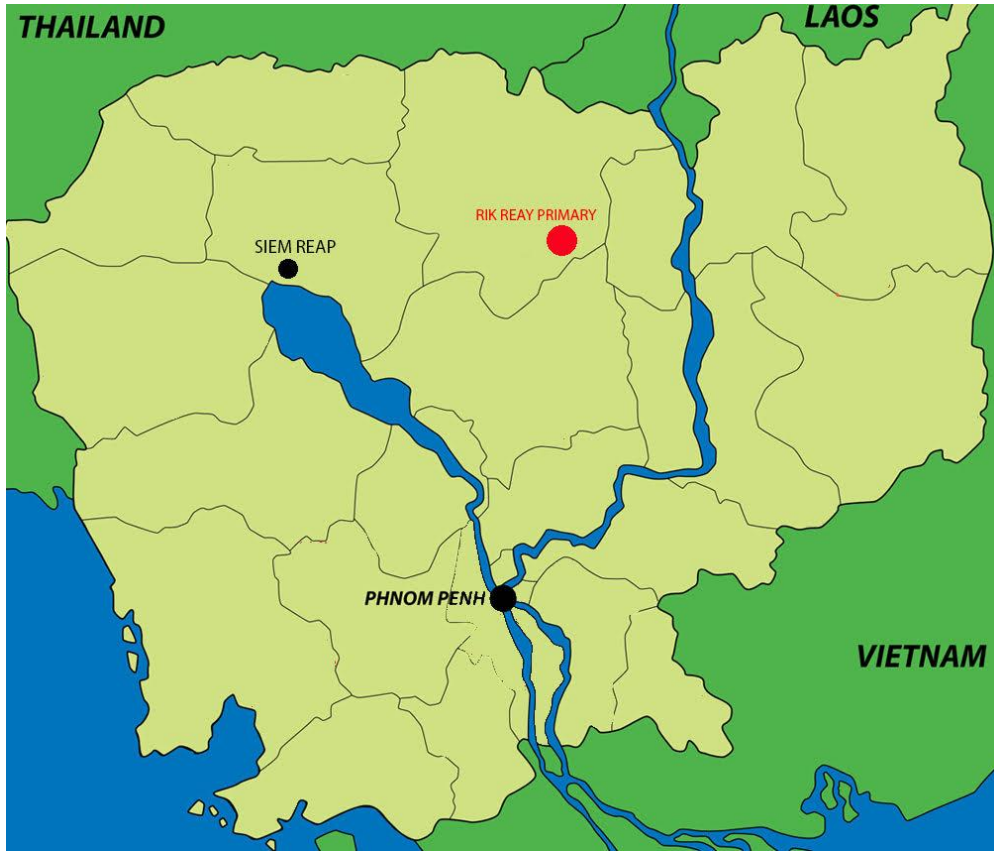
Let's Build a School (LBS <https://letsbuildaschool.com.au/>) is a project run under the local Cambodian NGO, **Our Future Organization**. The project runs various programs for children in grades 4-6 at the Rik Reay Primary School, a small rural primary school located in the Rovieng District, Preah Vihear Province in Cambodia.

The LBS program is an extension of the government school curriculum. Children attend LBS classes for a half day, while attending government classes for the other half. Lessons are privately funded and free for children to attend. Around 360 children attend K-6. LBS programs target grades 4-6 and about 120 children attend English/computer/library classes.

Let's Build a School provides three full time teachers, computer equipment (desktops, laptops and XOs), Digital Libraries, headphones, speakers, digital projectors, electricity, basic Internet access, classroom teaching/art/music supplies, and whiteboards. LBS also supports teacher training by funding opportunities to study at Australian Centre for English (ACE) in Phnom Penh or Siem Reap during the annual school break from August through October.

Having our teachers at the schools provides the opportunity for the children to learn to speak English and basic computer skills, both essential skills for Cambodians seeking higher education and professional employment. Acquiring these skills connects them to a global community full of opportunities for education and communication.

Our teachers oversee and direct all of our school based programs and projects, as well as liaising with the wider community to ensure high standards of quality can be achieved. The core programs LBS operates are Computer classes and English Language classes, as well as establishing a school Library.



Rik Reay Location



Rik Reay School

Digital Libraries

Through generous donations, the school now has a number of laptops and XO computers that are primarily used in the children's Computer classes, but are also used to supplement both English and Library classes.

Our library classes are the main venue for using the Digital Libraries, as the children can practice reading, access reference materials, and study English in their own time, but they are also used in guided lessons with our teacher.

Our classes are divided into groups according to grade and experience/English proficiency levels. Each class has up to 25 children attending.

Working in collaboration with our teachers at the school, LBS has been able to set up a curated Digital-Library (DL), creating menus with links to books, lessons, tutorials, reference materials, games, and more. The Digital Libraries currently in use are basic Version 1 devices based on TP Link WR703 and MR3020 travel routers.

Starting with the material available from the RACHEL project OER2GO library, we have worked with the teachers and students to fine-tune the menus and include content that is relevant to the specific needs of the classes, without including excess material on the device that the school is not as interested in using.

Localised lessons have also been created, added and shared via the Digital Library device to multiple computers in the class. This type of content creation results in lessons that cater to specific readings and/or lessons that our teachers have organised.

Children can also engage in self-guided learning on the computers using the DL, without teachers worrying about them accessing online content that is not appropriate for young children.

The use of the DL has expanded the possibilities of what can be achieved in the classrooms, and provides easy access to high value content to both teachers and students to use in lessons.



