LEAD

TECHNICAL

COORDINATOR
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Executive Summary

In 2019, the Partnership Program for the Protection of Children (3PC) reached a total of 51,652 beneficiaries across seven provinces in Cambodia (Phnom Penh, Kandal, Siem Reap, Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, Prey Veng, and Sihanoukville). Throughout the year, coordination was strengthened through various platforms including three Directors Meetings and 14 Specialist Group Meetings where participants shared achievements, addressed challenges, and innovated together. Partners’ capacity was developed and knowledge was shared through 16 targeted trainings, 17 coaching sessions and five exchange visits. Ten new partners were assessed and brought into the ChildSafe Alliance (of which 3PC is a sub program). In 2019, 3PC focused on four priority areas and made the following key achievements in each:

Reintegration and Family Preservation
- reintegrated 347 children and youth back into family-based care
- collaborated with 21 RCIs to close or transition to community-based care programs.

Drugs and Alcohol
- provided 7,512 people with drug and alcohol prevention and support activities
- reached 2,926 people through HIV/AIDS prevention activities

Violence Against Children (VAC)
- protected 2,012 child victims of violence from significant harm with case management
- provided training to 190 local authorities on how to identify cases of Violence Against Children (VAC)
- trained 336 caregivers on Positive Parenting

Safe Migration
- reached 897 people through safe migration activities

In 2019, 3PC continued to save lives and build the futures of children, youth and their families in Cambodia. This could not have been possible without the close collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY) and the technical support of UNICEF. In 2020, 3PC will continue building on the progress made in the four focus areas of work, adding a new model of collaboration with District Authorities on child protection cases. In this way, the partnership will continue to work alongside the government, supporting a strong, sustainable national child protection system.
## Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>3PC</td>
<td>Partnership Program for the Protection of Children</td>
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<td>CCT</td>
<td>Cambodian Children’s Trust</td>
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<td>CFI</td>
<td>Children’s Future International</td>
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<td>CNCC</td>
<td>Cambodia National Council for Children</td>
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<td>CSA</td>
<td>ChildSafe Alliance</td>
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<td>DoSVY</td>
<td>Department of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation</td>
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<td>DT</td>
<td>Damnok Toek (Goutte d’Eau)</td>
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<td>FCF</td>
<td>Family Care First</td>
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<tr>
<td>FI</td>
<td>Friends-International</td>
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<tr>
<td>KMR</td>
<td>Komar Rikreay</td>
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<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Kaliyan Mith</td>
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<tr>
<td>MoSVY</td>
<td>Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation</td>
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<td>MoWA</td>
<td>Ministry of Women’s Affairs</td>
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<td>MS</td>
<td>Mith Samlanh</td>
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<tr>
<td>MT</td>
<td>M’Lop Tapang</td>
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<tr>
<td>PWID</td>
<td>People Who Inject Drugs</td>
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<td>SKO</td>
<td>Samatapheap Khnom Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>TH</td>
<td>Transitional Home</td>
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<td>TPO</td>
<td>Transcultural Psychosocial Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations Children’s Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>VAC</td>
<td>Violence Against Children</td>
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ChildSafe Alliance (CSA) - Global

Powered by Friends-International, the ChildSafe Alliance (CSA) is a global partnership program that gathers organizations with a desire to build futures for marginalized children and youth, their families and their communities with high standards of direct services to beneficiaries, administration and transparency. CSA certification guarantees quality service provision and operation and is monitored and evaluated on a regular basis. Currently, the CSA connects 58 partners from Cambodia, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Switzerland, Thailand and Vietnam.

All CSA partners access specific training/coaching and enjoy increased collaboration with other partners within their country of operation and beyond. Furthermore, they can participate in ChildSafe awareness campaigns and/or can be involved in the implementation of common projects.
ChildSafe Alliance (CSA) - Cambodia

In 2019, Friends-International focused on improving the quality of the ChildSafe Alliance partnership. A new seven standard assessment tool was developed and all current 3PC and CSA onboarding partners were assessed accordingly. As part of the process, all partners were interviewed, received a field visit from 3PC’s Child Protection Specialist, submitted all operational documents for review and underwent a financial assessment.

Consequentially, by the end of 2019, all ten 3PC partners were reassessed and strong, quality partnerships were formalized with ten new ChildSafe Alliance partners which enabled expansion of the partnership to Kampot Province. The results of the new CSA partners will be reported on in 2020 and the network looks to add an additional ten partners in the year.

**Partnership Program for the Protection of Children (3PC)**

3PC is the Cambodian subprogram of CSA and is powered by Friends-International (FI), with the technical support of UNICEF and under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY). Launched in 2011, its development, and expansion is based upon a thorough assessment of gaps and existing responses at the sub-national level. In order to protect Cambodia’s children and strengthen the system, 3PC works to:

1. Improve coordination among NGOs
2. Strengthen collaboration between stakeholders
3. Raise the quality of services, and
4. Facilitate engagement between the government and NGOs

Ultimately, with a stronger system for child protection, services of improved quality, and more collaboration among stakeholders, 3PC is making long-lasting positive impacts to children and their families in Cambodia.

MoSVY, UNICEF, and FI collaborated on the design of the program, including the selection and monitoring of NGO partners. 3PC is currently operational in seven provinces across Cambodia and has a network of 10 implementing partners working collaboratively with a growing network of ChildSafe Alliance (CSA) partners. All 3PC partners work alongside local government units.
In order to improve the situation for marginalized children and youth in Cambodia, 3PC and CSA partners are committed to providing children, youth and their families with protection, support, and opportunities to thrive together.

Although the main target group of 3PC is children and youth, we understand that issues of protection are often rooted in families, communities and society and thus a holistic approach is necessary.

3PC’s work aligns with three main thrusts: 1. “Saving Lives” encompasses all services that directly protect children, their families and their communities; 2. “Building Futures” supports beneficiaries to build a better future and dream beyond tomorrow; and 3. “Quality” supports 3PC NGO partners to improve their operations on all levels ensuring they are running effectively and efficiently. This creates a network of quality partners contributing to a strong child protection system across the country. Each of these categories contains 7 areas of focus as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saving Lives</th>
<th>Building Futures</th>
<th>Quality</th>
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<tr>
<td>3. HIV / AIDS</td>
<td>3. Family + (Family-Based Care / Alternative Care)</td>
<td>3. Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. CSEC / Sex Work / Entertainment</td>
<td>5. Education / NFE / School Reintegration</td>
<td>5. Board / Management</td>
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What We Do?
3PC’s added value lies in its implementing strength on the ground. This, combined with the strong commitment and collaboration of MoSVY, UNICEF, FI and partners, makes the network an important part, and a driver of, the child protection system in Cambodia.

The below table highlights activities undertaken in 2019 to improve coordination, collaboration, quality, and engagement among the network:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coordination</th>
<th>Collaboration</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Engagement</th>
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<td><strong>14 Specialist Group meetings</strong> took place around the following themes: Violence Against Children, Child Protection Officers, Disability, Alcohol/Drugs, Outreach, Safe Migration, Alternative Care, ChildSafe and Employment/Vocational Training</td>
<td><strong>Conducted collaborative assessment</strong> of Transitional Homes across 3PC partners to improve operation of these emergency response centers</td>
<td><strong>16 trainings facilitated by 3PC for the network,</strong> with topics covered including: Case Management, Domestic Violence, How to Work with Youth, Approach to People Using Drugs, Basic Drug Training, Keeping Families Together, Child Protection, Violence Against Children and Running Effective Support Groups</td>
<td><strong>Engaged in the development of guidelines with MoSVY</strong> (kinship care/foster care/domestic adoption guidelines as well as reintegration guidelines)</td>
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<td><strong>3 Directors meetings</strong> were held bringing directors from 3PC and CSA partners together to share achievements, challenges, support one another and innovate together</td>
<td><strong>Facilitated two provincial monitoring visits</strong> in collaboration with MoSVY and UNICEF to ensure needs are well understood</td>
<td><strong>5 exchange visits</strong> took place between 3PC partners to learn from one another about Employment (Futures), HR, Non-formal Education, Community Support Classes and formation of a Gatekeeping Mechanism</td>
<td><strong>Served as a member of MoSVY’s technical working group on Violence Against Children</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Conducted collaborative assessment of Transitional Homes across 3PC partners to improve operation of these emergency response centers</strong></td>
<td><strong>Supported the development and roll-out of MOSVY’s Safe Migration Manual</strong></td>
<td><strong>17 coaching sessions</strong> conducted with partners around M&amp;E, Child Protection Officer responsibilities, Hotline Operation, Transitional Home Operation, Case Management, etc.</td>
<td><strong>Engaged with other networks like Family Care First (FCF), GHR, etc.</strong></td>
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3PC and CSA partners operate across eight provinces in Cambodia. In 2019, the partnership expanded to Kampot province with new partners - Epic Arts and Khmer Cultural Dance Institute. In 2020, the network intends to develop new partnerships in Ratanakiri.
3PC impact in numbers 2019

NUMBER OF UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2019

CHILDREN (0-18 Years Old) 26,548
- 11,108

YOUTH (19-24 Years Old) 62,75
- 23,36

ADULTS/ CAREGIVERS (Over 24 Years Old) 18,829
- 8,779

CHILDREN (0-18 Years Old)
- 6,630
- Children identified as in need of support from partners through Hotline, ChildSafe Agents, outreach or other channels

YOUTH (19-24 Years Old)
- 964
- People working in the entertainment sector or sex industry reached and provided with safety and support services

ADULTS/ CAREGIVERS (Over 24 Years Old)
- 76
- Children who are affected by child labor provided with services (e.g. school reintegration, vocational training, materials)

21,593
- People received direct health services or were referred to specialist health providers

7,512
- People reached through drug and alcohol prevention and support activities

2,926
- People reached through HIV/AIDS prevention programs

2,012
- Child victims of violence protected from significant harm with case management

445
- Children who are in conflict with the law/prison reached and provided with services

897
- People reached through safe migration activities

347
- Children and youth reintegrated into family-based care

21
- RCIs collaborated with to transition to family-based care programs or to close

3,681
- Children provided with education services (e.g. non-formal education, remedial education, after school support)

596
- Children supported to reintegrate into public school

4,682
- Children supported to remain in public school

1,631
- Adolescents, youth, and caregivers enrolled in vocational training or supported for employment

154
- Children with disabilities cared for and supported
Among the 21 areas of intervention that 3PC partners have been contributing to, there were four key areas of strategic focus in 2019, namely:

- Reintegration and Keeping Families Together
- Safe Migration
- Violence Against Children
- Drugs and Alcohol

3PC partners prioritized resources and efforts in supporting programs and conducting activities that contributed to the progress and impacts in these four areas. The following highlight achievements of 3PC partners in these areas:

## Reintegration and Keeping Families Together

According to the National Action Plan 2016 - 2018, the Royal Government of Cambodia committed to reintegrate 30% of children living in residential care institutions (RCIs). In parallel, the Government aimed to reduce the number of RCIs operating by supporting the transition of these institutions to community and/or family-based programs or closing them if they were not meeting minimum standards.

3PC partners have been supporting this action plan since its inception and continued working with DoSVY to reintegrate children and engage RCIs to transition in 2019. Over the year, 3PC partners, together with provincial government units, supported 347 children and youth to reintegrate back into family-based care and collaborated with 21 RCIs to transition to family or community-based care programs or close.

Going forward, 3PC partners will continue supporting the Government on this important area of work. 3PC will actively participate in the development process of the National Guidelines for Adoption, Foster Care, and Kinship Care, Reintegration guidelines and other relevant SoPs. 3PC will also continue working with MoSVY and DoSVY (Department of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth) on identifying RCIs to engage with and support in the transition process. The 3PC Foster Care/RCI Specialist Group will continue to meet regularly throughout 2020, completing 3PC Foster Care Guidelines and SoP’s on case referrals across provinces (especially where no 3PC partner is present) as well as supporting each other technically.

To ensure RCIs are an absolute last resort going forward and families feel more empowered and capable to care for their children at home, partners have invested a lot of time and resources into their programming. For example, partners provide family preservation services as well as run local campaigns and education sessions to help communities and key stakeholders understand the impacts of RCIs on children’s well-being. The following case study from Cambodian Children’s Trust (CCT) shows how 3PC works on keeping families together by providing support to both the parents and their young children.

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Chan, 32, and her husband Chhat, 41, recently migrated to Battambang from Kampong Thom Province with their two young children. In their hometown, Chan and Chhat didn’t have jobs or anywhere to live, so they left their family, friends and support system in search of work.

After arriving in Battambang four months ago, they found a room to rent for $50 a month. Chan got a job at a neighbor’s laundry service, but because she had to look after Vichhai, 6, and Narak, 4, she could not work full-time. Chhat got a job in construction but was forced to reduce his work hours after recently breaking his arm.

Last month, Chan saw CCT staff walking children from the Youth Centre to public preschool. She approached them and asked for help. Chan said her family was in a vulnerable situation and the children did not go to school as she didn’t know how to enroll them in the public school system. Given the family was in a position of vulnerability and had multiple needs, CCT staff gave her the Hotline number for further support and Chan called. CCT’s Hotline team responded to the call and went out to assess the family and then referred them to CCT for support and services.

CCT social workers identified that Vichhai and Narak needed support to access their basic needs and enrolled the siblings into CCT’s Youth Centre preschool program. Here, they can access nutrition, clean water, hygiene facilities, healthcare and counselling services. Children enrolled at the Youth Centre are also supported to access education at public school. Vichhai and Narak were enrolled into public preschool, which is also what Chan wanted. Now they are waiting to attend public preschool meanwhile going to the Youth Centre preschool every day. CCT covered all their school-related costs, including uniforms, bags, shoes and books.

CCT is also temporarily supporting their monthly rent, which will help Chan and Chhat afford food and other daily expenses. Now that Vichhai and Narak are attending the Youth Centre, Chan is able to work more, which has alleviated some of the family’s financial pressure. Soon, CCT’s Family Finance team will begin working with the family to coach them in financial literacy skills and support them to start budgeting and saving. CCT will work with the family to co-create plans and set goals to achieve financial independence, ensuring the family is equipped to meet the challenges in their lives and Vichhai and Narak have the opportunity to thrive.

(2) The Hotline number has been promoted in the communities in which CCT provides support and services upon assessment. Hotline social workers will refer cases to CCT social workers if the family needs longer term support and assistance.
3PC partners run harm reduction programs, detox centers, support groups, and conduct individual case work to promote behavior change among drug and/or alcohol users and help them build a better future. In 2019, 3PC reached 7,512 people through drug and alcohol prevention and support activities and 2,926 through HIV/AIDS prevention activities. Particularly, thanks to Global Fund’s support, in 2019 3PC partners were able to provide targeted services to more than 1500 People Who Inject Drugs (PWIDs). Services included: delivery of nearly 400,000 clean needles/syringes, 400 PWIDs tested for HIV and referred to antiretroviral therapy (ART) if positive, and referral of more than 100 PWIDs to methadone treatment/services.(3)

For alcohol misuse, 3PC partners supported beneficiaries to access services in local rehabilitation centers, conducted community education and awareness raising sessions, engaged the community in alcohol support groups, and provided direct social services to individuals and families affected by alcohol. To mention, thanks to support from UNICEF, by the end of 2019, 3PC operated 10 alcohol support groups with 297 active group members (177F). In a qualitative assessment conducted in early 2020, 85% of participants had reduced their drinking thereby improving family relationships, including with children, since joining the alcohol support group. This demonstrated the effectiveness of alcohol support groups in supporting community members to change their behavior which in turn created positive impact on their families.

The following case study from Kaliyan Mith (KM) exemplifies the holistic approach 3PC partners use to support beneficiaries affected by drugs and alcohol.

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(3) Data source: data from 3PC partners in the annual report 2019 submitted to Global Fund
Selua Rong* is a 40 year old male, living in Phnom Krom village, Siem Reap commune. He married his wife Nary when he was 20 years old. The couple and their four children live in a small mobile house and he works as a fisherman. Selua Rong and Nary both struggle with addiction; Selua Rong consumes alcohol every day and Nary gambles. This leads to regular incidents of violence including verbal and physical abuse. There is often not enough money for food, nor is there money to enroll the two oldest children in school.

Selua Rong’s brother visited the family and witnessed the violence and neglect of the children. In response, he gave Nary a job selling fish to help increase the family’s income. However Nary used the money to gamble saying ‘if my husband keeps drinking, I’ll keep gambling’.

A KM social worker came across the situation during outreach, being able to hear the yelling from outside the house. The social worker successfully engaged with the family and started counselling both parents. Selua Rong also started attending KM’s alcohol support group in the area. With ongoing counselling and follow up, Selua Rong reduced his drinking and Nary reduced her gambling. This led to reduced incidents of violence within the home.

KM also provided support for the children to reintegrate to school including enrollment in support classes and providing school materials and a bike. The social worker supports with regular school follow-up and as a result, the children’s studies have improved. Through counselling with the KM social worker, the parents have committed to support their children, working to ensure there is enough income for food and school support.

The social worker also referred the family to KM’s employment service: Futures Office. Following an assessment, the family was provided with micro-enterprise support to set up a motorbike washing business in front of their home. The combination of the business and parent’s incomes can now sustainably support the family.

With the support of KM, the lives of Selua Rong, Nary and their children have improved dramatically. The children are happy to go to school and no longer live in a house of violence. As a reflection of the change, Selua Rong was selected to be one of KM’s ChildSafe Agents. In this role, he actively motivates people in the community abusing drugs and alcohol to attend the alcohol support group. He uses his personal experience with addiction, and engagement with KM’s services, to help support others and make a difference in his community.

*Name and identifying details changed to maintain beneficiary’s privacy. Individuals pictured do not include the subject of the case study.
VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

Violence Against Children (VAC) training

VAC was identified as a key area of focus for 2019 in line with UNICEF’s country strategy and MOSVY’s Action Plan to End Violence Against Children. In 2019, the goal was to build capacity of 3PC partners to identify and respond to cases of VAC. The expertise would then be used to train key stakeholders in each province as well as later, support the government to be the primary response mechanism. One 3PC partner, Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO), who has expertise in VAC, was called upon to provide training to other 3PC partners so that they would be better equipped to identify and respond to children affected by violence.

With funding support from UNICEF, TPO held three trainings for 3PC partners in the second half of 2019, which covered a wide range of important topics. For example, during the training, partners learned how to define and identify different types of VAC, how to provide psychosocial support (e.g. counselling) to VAC cases, the developmental stages of children and youth etc. Overall, the trainings were well received by 3PC partners as many expressed a high level of satisfaction of the training.

Trainings were delivered to 3PC by TPO through a series of lectures, group discussions, reflection sessions, and role play activities (Photo credit: TPO Cambodia)

As 3PCs’ social workers gained VAC-related knowledge and skills, they subsequently took on the role of training relevant duty bearers at the local level on identifying and referring children who are affected by violence. With the continuous support from TPO during the training rollout phase in the last quarter of 2019, 3PC partners’ staff successfully provided training to at least 190 (124F) local duty bearers and government staff and built capacity for them in identifying and referring children at-risk or affected by violence.

Going forward, TPO will continue providing technical support (e.g. on-job coaching, individual supervision) to 3PC partners in areas such as providing individual counseling to VAC affected children, conducting joint home visit of VAC cases, providing (refresher) training on VAC cases identification, etc.

(4) Based on the evaluation assessment, the majority of participants expressed the VAC training had met their expectation in VAC identification (81%), children’s need during development stages (71%), and better prepared to conduct ToT (74%).
(5) - Data source: data from quarterly reports in 2019 submitted to UNICEF by 3PC partners.
Positive Parenting Training

Besides training provided to duty bearers who can keep communities safe from violence, it is also crucial to prevent such occurrence at the household level, which parents/grandparents play a large role in achieving this goal. In 2019, 3PC piloted the Universal Parenting Toolkit (Level 1) published by Ministry of Women’s Affairs (MoWA) through a series of training that aligned with 3PC’s Positive Parenting Strategy. Through the training, communities were supported to (1) provide parenting conducive to healthy childhood development and (2) reduce violence against children in their own homes.

In late 2019, staff from seven 3PC partners attended the Training of Trainers (ToT) conducted by MoWA and subsequently, these trained staff rolled out the Level 1 training course with caregivers in 3PC target communities. In December 2019, five 3PC partners started conducting positive parenting sessions in communities. By the end of the month, 336 (258F) community members had participated. In early 2020, 3PC will continue providing training on more topics from the positive parenting toolkit in the targeted communities and later in the year, 3PC partners will also deliver training to more communities within the target provinces.

Other than VAC and positive parenting training, there were also many interventions on the ground to prevent and respond to VAC cases. Examples of these interventions are ChildSafe Agents, hotlines, and case management, which are detailed below:

Data source: data from quarterly reports in 2019 submitted to UNICEF by 3PC partners.
ChildSafe Agents

3PC partners support ChildSafe Agents, who are key people in the community strategically chosen to perform a child protection role in their communities. ChildSafe Agents can be parents, teachers, tuk tuk drivers, street sellers, travelers or another community members depending on strategic reason for selection (e.g. safe migration, positioning with sex workers, etc.). Upon being trained on child protection, they become the eyes and ears in the community as well as responsible members of society dedicated to the rights of children. They are best tasked to identify any children at risk and call the relevant ChildSafe hotline to respond. They are also able to take proper action such as providing immediate support and protection to children and youth troubled by sex work, drug addiction, school drop-out and migrant issues. There are over 5,000 certified ChildSafe Agents who volunteer their time to keep communities safe and protect children across Cambodia.

Hotline

3PC partners operate 24/7 hotlines where VAC cases are reported to social workers for immediate intervention and emergency support. In 2019, one new ChildSafe hotline was initiated by CCT in Battambang, making a total of 7 ChildSafe hotlines operating in 7 different provinces in Cambodia. Throughout 2019, 3,191 calls were received from the hotline teams. 1,544 interventions were carried out and the needs of 1,194 children (540F) were responded to.

Long term case management and targeted support

3PC social workers provide support to VAC victims through long term case management. The long-term support from social workers is to not only to ensure that beneficiaries are free from the immediate harm of VAC, but also to support their needs with long term planning so that they can move forward in life and create a better future for themselves. In the following case study, Mith Samlanh (MS) shows how it supported a beneficiary who was previously a victim of VAC by empowering her through vocational training.
Chantrea* is a 22-year-old woman who was born in Kandal Province. She has four siblings - two sisters and two brothers. She is the youngest daughter in the family. When Chantrea was 16-years old, both her parents passed away from illness. After this, Chantrea had to stay with her sister and brother-in-law, and they worked on the rice fields to earn an income to get by. Living with her brother-in-law was not easy for Chantrea, as sometimes she didn’t get along with him and he could get violent towards her. Chantrea says, “I dropped from school during Grade Seven because I got angry with my brother-in-law. I was hurt and punished most of the time. I could not stand such a situation anymore, so I decided to move to stay with my uncle at Koh Kong province”. She added that “after living with my uncle for a few months, I started to know his wife’s nephew and we got into a relationship. My uncle and aunt then organized a marriage for us.” Although Chantrea got married, she still faced challenges. Her relationship with her husband started to become difficult, and the marriage broke up. “I moved to Phnom Penh to find a job after I broke up with my husband.” she said. “I worked as a seller in a bakery shop for three months, where I was only paid $35 per month.” She added that “I had a relationship with one guy and started using drugs with him while I was working for the bakery. I did that for around one year.” Everything changed after Chantrea and her boyfriend had lived together for a year, when he left her for another girl. Having no job, money, and feeling as though she had no other choice, Chantrea found herself involved in sex work. Six months later, she was arrested during a police “clean-up” and sent to a government center. After detention in this center for eight months, a local Department of Social Affairs officer referred her to MS. As a victim of multiple VAC incidents, Chantrea was supported with long term case management from MS. Meanwhile, she was offered to live in MS’s Transitional Home (TH) and to study cooking skills at the Vocational Training Center. She said, “I am very happy to stay in the TH and study cooking skills, which are my favorite subject. The teachers are skillful and friendly. Not only did I study cooking skills, I studied life skills, computer, and English. More interestingly, I was elected as a child representative at MS”. After four months, MS supported Chantrea to move into a group home with some of her peers, where she could live more independently but still be supervised and supported by MS’s social workers. In 2019, Chantrea graduated from the vocational training and with the support of the Futures team, was placed into a job at a local café as a cook. She is doing very well there and her manager sees a lot of potential for her. The Futures team continue to follow up with her, and she is considering further options for her future, such as eventually starting up her own restaurant business. At the moment, she is earning just under $370 per month at her job. “Mith Samlah has changed my life”, Chantrea said, just before she was due to graduate from her training. “I am very thankful for what Mith Samlah has done for me. Thanks for providing such a good opportunity!”

*Name and identifying details changed to maintain beneficiary’s privacy. Individuals pictured do not include the subject of the case study.
SAFE MIGRATION

Located on the border between Cambodia and Thailand, the city of Poipet in Banteay Meanchey Province is one of many places where a high volume of migration takes place every day. From the Cambodian side, individuals, and sometimes entire families, including children migrate to seek opportunities on the wealthier side. However, often times, the migration can be unsafe, irregular and informal, which puts the migrants, especially children and youth at risk of exploitation, abuses, and trafficking.

3PC, especially partners who work near the border in Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap, and Battambang Province, are committed to helping beneficiaries practice safe migration should they choose to relocate. 3PC partners like KM in Siem Reap regularly conduct awareness campaigns and information sessions on safe migration to the local communities so that they understand the risks posed by unsafe and illegal migration. 3PC also provides support to those who get repatriated/deported back from Thailand to Cambodia. 3PC partners Krousar Thmey, Damnok Toek (DT), and Friends-International (FI) work in the city of Poipet providing targeted support to deported children and youth. In 2019, 160 children (92F) were interviewed and assessed and more than 100 deported children were provided with support such as counselling, food, and materials by Krousar Thmey, DT, FI and other 3PC partners.

Another focus of 3PC partners is to deal with the aftermath of migrated families such as taking care of children who are deported back to Cambodia alone or left alone by their migrated parents. The following case study shows how Krousar Thmey’s operation in Poipet supported two abandoned children to come out from the negative impact of unsafe migration.
Naet (15 years old) and Maikheur (10 years old) arrived at Krousar Thmey’s temporary protection center in Poipet in June 2018. Prior to living in Krousar Thmey’s alternative care center, the brother and sister were living with their grand-mother and their aunt in a landfill site located 5 km from Krousar Thmey’s center. After their father died, their mother, who is a drug user, decided to cross the border illegally to go to work in Thailand, hoping to get a better life in the neighboring country. She took with her Neat and Maikheur’s two youngest siblings.

As Naet and Maikheur were left behind in Cambodia, they needed to be taken care of urgently. Although some of their extended family members were still in Cambodia, unfortunately they were living in dire poverty as Krousar Thmey’s social workers later found out when they met the family during an outreach session. For example, the children’s aunt earns a little money by collecting and reselling waste in a landfill site and often travels far away looking for temporary work. The children’s grandmother is the only adult permanently at home but she has health issues that prevent her from taking care of the children.

Although Krousar Thmey had considered the possibility of kinship care for the children, it was clear that the family would not have the ability and resources to take care of the children on a daily basis. As such, Krousar Thmey suggested to the grandmother that the children could be welcomed in the Krousar Thmey’s center in Siem Reap where they would receive educational, emotional and material support. The family agreed that this would be a better solution for them as the children could live in a safe and caring environment, while going back to school. The village chief also approved Krousar Thmey’s intervention to take care of these children. Yet in the meantime, Krousar Thmey continued to empower the family so that they would be in a good position for the children to reintegrate in the future; for example, Krousar Thmey helped her create a plan to open a small business so that she could generate more income to improve the living conditions for the family. Krousar Thmey also tried providing support to the children’s mother; however, it was difficult as she seldom returns home and even when she does, it is only for a very short time which left no opportunity for Krousar Thmey’s social worker to work with her. It was also unfortunate that the mother was not receptive to any support offered by Krousar Thmey and did not show much interest to have discussions with social workers. As of the time of writing, Krousar Thmey’s team in Poipet is still working with the children’s family while keeping close contact with the team in Siem Reap for any updates of the situation.

When asked how being welcomed in the temporary protection center has impacted their lives, Naet and Maikheur’s first reply was: “here there are no more bad smells or flies. We live with fresh air”. Before meeting Krousar Thmey, Naet had stopped going to school in grade 4 while Maikheur never attended school. At the center, they benefited from informal education, which prepared them to enroll in public school. In early 2019, they were both transferred to Krousar Thmey’s long-term protection center in Siem Reap while Krousar Thmey continues to follow up with the children’s family and reassesses the situation regularly. In the meantime, the children resumed their education at a nearby school. They are hopeful for their future. Naet would like to become a teacher, while her brother Malikheur would like to become a soldier.

Krousar Thmey supports children affected by migration

Photo: Naet and Maikheur along other children playing games in Krousar Thmey’s center in Siem Reap

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Disability

There are more than 300,000 people with disabilities in Cambodia, which equals to about 2 percent of the population. This population is among the most vulnerable groups of people due to their dependence on others for care and support and yet, they are also at a much higher risk of being socially isolated. As such, 3PC partners are committed to supporting people with disabilities with special services that they need. The following case study shows how Children’s Future International (CFI) supports a young child with disability. The encouraging result from this case highlights the importance of 3PC partners’ disability programs, which have significant impact to families and communities.

Sokha is a 2 year old boy who has Cerebral Palsy. CFI first met him and his family at a Community Harm Prevention Workshop in July 2019. Sokha was with his mother in the workshop, she requested support as she was uncertain how to improve Sokha’s situation. Social workers assessed the family’s needs, using a tool from our partner, Safe Heaven. The gathered information was then presented to CFI’s Intake/Exit panel. The child used to go to Korona organization and required some ongoing support. CFI contacted the Rehabilitation center in Battambang for further intervention. The center provides services for free and even provides transportation support to the family.

After discussion in the panel, CFI agreed to provide health care support, support to attend public school and social work service for a set period of time. Social workers informed the family about the available services at the Rehabilitation center.

CFI supported the family to attend the Rehabilitation center, where the parents learned new techniques to improve Sokha’s posture, while they waited for a Specialist appointment later in the year. Until now, CFI continues to support the family, including provision of materials to improve the family’s home as this property is not secure and leaks badly during the rain. Living safely under the same roof will help keep the family together. Sokha has an older brother who also has Cerebral Palsy, his mobility is good and CFI has supported him to attend school, with school materials.

CFI has noted good progress with Sokha, he is now able to support himself when sitting and displays improved ability to interact and play. The family also feels progress is being made and are happy with the level of intervention. This is an example of community-based prevention work, ensuring this child remains well, continues to progress and remains in his family.

2019 was arguably the most challenging year M’Lop Tapang (MT) has faced since the organization began 16 years ago. The unprecedented scale and rapidity of development in Sihanoukville impacted the programs MT runs as well as the lives of the children and families MT works with. Land and rental prices skyrocketed, leaving many longtime residents unable to afford to live in the city, as well as several ‘land-grabbing’ incidences leaving poor families displaced; filling in lands to make way for construction drastically decreased natural drainage systems, one of the factors in the city’s worst flooding ever; increased trash and rubbish on the streets; increased traffic, including heavy construction vehicles, leading to massively worsened roads and increased traffic accidents and fatalities; and dangerous living conditions for many, particularly those laborers and their families living at construction sites.

In response to the situation in Sihanoukville, MT’s teams have increased effort and resources to work with the families and children living in and around the rapidly changing city. For example, MT’s social workers are working more and more with the families living at construction sites. The parents are provided with information on services offered by MT that are readily accessible to them and their children. MT’s social workers also increase their awareness of the 24/7 Hotline so that they could get immediate support when needed. The parents are also encouraged to join various programs and activities with their children. As a result of this increased effort, MT has seen children originally hanging out at construction sites now attending programs at the Education Center.

They have also seen families joining meetings organized in the evening after they had finished their work, which allowed MT help them raise awareness on a wide range of topics, including child protection. MT has also seen a huge success in its Mobile Library Program which not only brings books and games to local neighborhoods, but more importantly creates an entry to help those who live far from town and ensures a constant presence in each of the communities MT works with.
SPECIALIST GROUPS

Specialist Groups provide a platform for thematic experts from across the network to come together to share knowledge, build capacity, advocate for change, develop shared IEC materials, guidelines, and SOPs etc. Specialist Group meetings are scheduled quarterly. Members design their own objectives and Terms of Reference for the group based on national trends, members’ needs and thematic priorities. In 2019, 14 Specialist Groups were operational covering a variety of topics. Some of the key achievements from these groups are highlighted below:

Safe Migration Specialist Group

- Facilitated 2 consultation meetings on safe migration and prevention of human trafficking involving local authorities, the government of Cambodia and Thailand
- Provided technical support to Caritas to facilitate workshop on reintegration services for migrants at risk and victims of human trafficking
- Co-facilitated Safe Migration workshop with MoSVY in Prey Veng
- Supported MoSVY to update Safe Migration national training curriculum
- Conducted night outreach with MoSVY and the Thai Government
- Facilitated in the creation of child friendly space in Poipet Transition Center
Disability Specialist Group
- Organized exposure visit to NGO partners Pour un Sourire d’Enfant and Damnok Toek
- Reviewed and updated Disability Service Referral Directory

Drugs and Alcohol Specialist Group
- Drafted guidebook for conducting support groups (both open and closed)
- Drafted IEC materials for drug and alcohol support groups
- Organized exposure visits to Green House (detox center), community alcohol support group, and drug outreach activities in Phnom Penh

Outreach Specialist Group
- Attended consultation meeting on Street Manual with MoSVY and provided technical input
- Coordinated night outreach
- Shared and developed common IEC materials for outreach social workers

Foster Care/RCI Specialist Group
- Drafted of Standards of Procedure for case referrals
- Conducted field visit to foster care families and RCI in Siem Reap
- Conducted reintegration case review with partners (MT and KM) and provided technical input
- Engaged Department of Child Welfare to update nationwide progress on foster care and reintegration programs in 2019
Voices From 3PC

“...It was a productive year in 2019 working with 3PC. It is in our spirit of solidarity between partners to support each other. Besides funding opportunity, we work hand in hand to ensure the quality of services for vulnerable children, youth and their family. We greatly appreciate for the tremendous support from 3PC to improve our activities in different areas such as Child Protection, Migration, and Disability. It was also great to be working with 3PC throughout 2019 to improve case management systems as we had received many trainings from partners. Damnok Toek is very proud to be a part of 3PC as we are all on the same path to achieve our goals of building a stronger child protection system in Cambodia. We hope that we will continue to be working together in the years to come.”

KHIEU Chetra
Operational Director, Damnok Toek (Goutte d’Eau)

“...Komar Rikreay is grateful to see that our team has improved through capacity building targeted at the needs of staff with the help of 3PC. During the project implementation phase, we keep in touch with 3PC as we always receive support when we face difficulties and challenges. All in all, Komar Rikreay is glad to be a part of 3PC and happy to see its members are always supporting each other and we are all becoming better organizations.”

PROM Kimchheng
Executive Director, Komar Rikreay

“...M’Lop Tapang is grateful to have had the continued support of our 3PC partners during 2019. Being part of this network of professionals and colleagues helped us get through the challenges we faced during these turbulent times in Sihanoukville. Understanding the dynamic shifts taking place in the local area where we work, our 3PC partners generously provided their encouragement during difficult times, their patience when work was unavoidably delayed, and their advice on moving forward in working in a city that has morphed from a sleepy beach town to a mecca of under-construction casinos and hotels. Our work together with 3PC partners has ensured that no matter how much the city changes, the commitment to keep children safe and protected remains a priority.”

Maggie ENO
Co-Director, M’Lop Tapang
Going forward, 3PC will continue to work across all 21 thematic areas under Saving Lives, Building Futures and Quality Assurance.

In 2020 partners will continue to build on the progress made in 2019 on the four focus areas of work and continue to maximize 3PC’s impact with strategic planning and programming, specifically:
| Reintegration | • Work with Residential Care Institutions (RCI) to close or transition to community-based care  
• Reintegration and family-based placement of children from RCI’s, transitional home’s and other sources in collaboration with DoSVY  
• Support gatekeeping mechanisms in each province, family preservation services and campaigns to keep families together  
• Finalize and roll out training video and program for RCIs considering to transition  

| Drugs and Alcohol | • Run harm reduction programs with intravenous drug users to prevent the spread of HIV and promote behavior change  
• Strengthen detox centers, support groups and individualized case work to help people using drugs or alcohol to reduce/stop and build a future  

| Violence Against Children | • Prevention: raise awareness of VAC and provide families with support that help alleviate pressure  
• Work towards better identifying children who are victims of violence through hotline, ChildSafe Agents, and outreach  
• Improve capacity to respond – emergency support, referrals and long-term case management for victims  
• Build capacity of district focal points to manage child protection cases through co-case management  
• Conduct a nationwide street population survey with MoSVY, UNICEF, and 3PC/CSA partners  

| Safe Migration | • Train communities on safe migration  
• Strengthen the role of 3PC as gatekeepers for informal migration  
• Protect children who are deported at the Poipet border and support children left behind  
• Conduct Vocational Training mapping  
• Implement a Safe Migration Campaign and roll out Safe Migration training with MoSVY  
• Develop an app to promote Safe Migration  

| Expansion and Strengthening of 3PC/CSA network | • Add ten new quality partners to the ChildSafe Alliance Partnership  
• Expand the partnership to Ratanakiri  
• Support the partnership to prepare for a potential COVID outbreak in Cambodia  