

Last News from *Agir pour le Cambodge*
September 2011

With education and vocational training programs, *Agir pour le Cambodge* contributes to the poverty reduction and to the fight against human trafficking in Cambodia.

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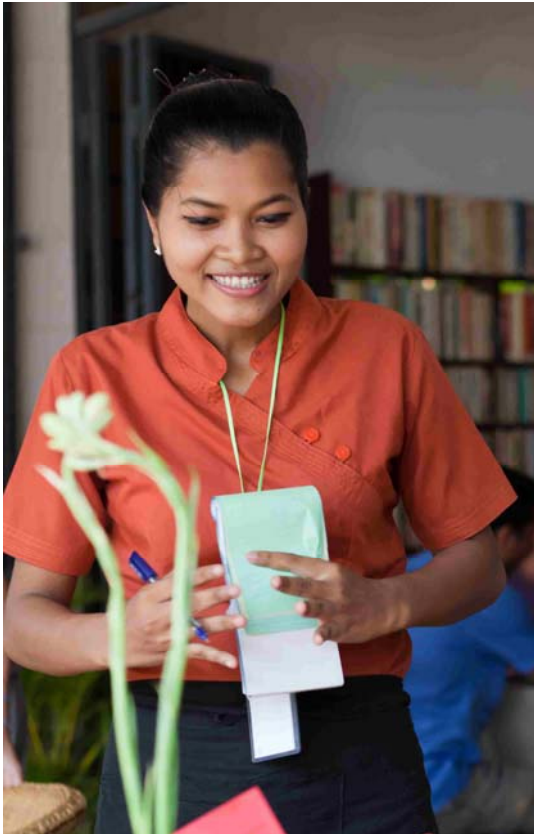
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Interview "Sala Bai, the way to help my family" Sok Sara

"I applied at Sala Bai on Enfants du Mékong's recommendation. I had heard of this school through friends. I absolutely wanted to be selected as I knew it would be the best way to help my mother and finance my youngest brothers' school fees." Sok Sara OUN, promotion 2010-2011, Restaurant waitress.



Sok Sara is 20. She comes from Oddar Meanchey Province. Number six of a family of eight, she had to go and live with her grand-mother when she was 16. Her mother could not support her anymore and when she was a child; her father had left to Thailand hoping to find a job but had never come back.

"Enfants du Mékong supported my school fees from grade 7 to 11. It is this NGO that advised me to apply to Sala Bai", recalls Sok Sara. Each year, some NGO partners of Sala Bai, among which CIAI, Egbok Mission, Enfants du Mékong, RDA, Pour un Sourire d'Enfant, Sourire Angkor, Aspeca, send their sponsored young people to Sala Bai. They were 26 in the 9th intake.

"I had heard of Sala Bai through friends", stresses the young lady. "I absolutely wanted to study there." To find a job, to help her family, to finance her two youngest brothers school fees. "I want to support my mother and my brothers", explains Sok

Sara. Lacking money, this young lady even though she is so attached to her family, went to visit her family for the first time only in April, seven months after the beginning of the school year.

Today, she has a job at the Heritage Suites Hotel, the only Relais et Château in Cambodia. Her skill and her work attitude got her to have the sign "trainee" removed from her jacket two months before the end of her probation period. A splendid recognition at such a prestigious Hotel.

Thanks to your support, we are able to change Sok Sara and many young Cambodians' life. We need your help to keep offering a free and recognised training.



News from Sala Bai

100% of the 9th intake students are placed

After eleven months of training, all the Sala Bai students of the 9th intake were graduated on July 27th. At the diploma ceremony, the Director of the school insisted on congratulating the students "for their track records, their spirit, as well as the work achieved during this year". These former students have broken all record in having all found a job in less than two months after their graduation !

Representatives of the Siem Reap Province, of the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training, of the Ministry of Tourism, of NGOs together with professionals from the local hotels and restaurants partners attended that paramount moment for the whole school. Two months later, all the promotion has a job.

News from Sala Bai

The success of Sala Bai

"We want to tell you how happy we are to be here in Sihanoukville. It is the first time we see the sea. We would like to thank you for all that we've learnt this year, thank you to the trainers and to the social workers that make the success of Sala Bai," declared Soeurn in the name of the 9th intake during the end of the year trip from August 1st to the 3rd.

Each year, this trip is the opportunity for the newly graduated Sala Bai students to discover Phnom Penh the capital, the sea and to get even closer to each other. Sala Bai has very often become a second family for these young people and, once working, many decide to become roommates with students of their intake or of previous intakes.

News from Sala Bai

Andrée Rosier, the chef patron of the 10th intake



"When Agir pour le Cambodge proposed to me to become the patron of this new intake at Sala Bai and to mobilize for these newly-arrived students, I accepted right away. To get engaged with these young women who through Hotel and Restaurant skills, will find a place in the professional world and will get out of poverty, really makes sense for me. Regularly and by concrete actions, I will support Sala Bai".

The new promotion started on September 5th. The 100 students will be trained from September 2011 till July 2012. They were selected after a six month process. 527 candidates had applied.

The first Andrée Rosier's initiative to support these young people is to organize a fund-raising dinner with Régis Marcon, on next November 17th at Ferrandi School, Paris VIth. Andrée Rosier is the first woman to be awarded meilleur ouvrier de France, a qualification highly sought after. She opened her own restaurant in Biarritz named Les Rosiers. To know more: <http://www.restaurant-lesrosiers.fr/>

News from Sala Bai

The 10th intake profile

The 10th Intake started School on September 5th, 2010. Their profil is as follows:

- 70% are girls. Priority is given to female students due to their vulnerability and to the lack of opportunities for them in Cambodia.
- 41% are fatherless, motherless or full orphans,
- 15% are sponsored by one of the 10 NGO partners of Sala Bai,
- 4% have been out of school for more than ten years not by choice but out of poverty. Sala Bai School is happy to welcome them all and wish them a good school year that will fulfill their hope for a new life, like the students of the 9th intake students who have broken all records in having all found a job in less than two months after their graduation!

News from Sre Ampil

Just painted

A group of students from Notre Dame du Grandchamp in Versailles, France, spent two weeks in Sre Ampil last July with the mission to paint the children dorms. These young volunteers also took time to play games and sports with the 65 children that currently stay at Sre Ampil. Agir pour le Cambodge wants to thank these students for the serious preparation of their trip, for their good spirit and for their efficiency once there.



Give us a hand

New bicycles wanted

All Sala Bai students need a bicycle to go to school, to go to work, to visit their families. However 30 of these are out of use. We need \$50 to buy one bicycle \$1500 to buy all of them

- If you want to support us, it's possible to
- make an online donation on Sala Bai website : www.salabai.com
 - send your contribution to *Agir Pour le Cambodge*: 120, avenue de Suffren 75015

They support Sala Bai

Régis Marcon and Andrée Rosier : fund-raising dinner on November 17th

On next November 17th at Ferrandi School, Régis Marcon, the famous three-star chef from Régis et Jacques Marcon, together with Andrée Rosier, first woman ever to be awarded « meilleur ouvrier de France », owner and chef of Les Rosiers restaurant, will hold a fund-raising dinner for the Sala Bai students at the Grégoire Ferrandi School, 28 rue de l'abbé Grégoire, Paris 6th, on Thursday November 17th, at 7:30pm.

All the profits of this event will be entirely given to Agir pour le Cambodge. The price of the dinner, drinks included, is from 150 euros (\$204). 100 euros (\$135) will be considered as a donation to APLC and will thus be tax deductible. A "special Company formula" with 8-seat tables to be purchased is proposed as well for this dinner. More information : [contact\(at\)agirpourlecambodge.org](mailto:contact(at)agirpourlecambodge.org)

They support Sala Bai

Creation of the Singapore hub of Touch



From June 9th to 12th, nineteen people (sixteen adults and three children) accepted Sam McGoun's invitation. Sam is Vice-President and General Manager at American Express in Singapore and has been a great support of Sala Bai through his own network Touch for three years now.

During that week-end, they discovered Sala Bai and understood the importance of such a vocational training for young school drop-outs coming from extreme poverty. Convinced of the cause and of the efficiency of the development program, they decided to mobilize for these young Sala Bai students by calling on their professional and own networks.

On next October 2nd, Touch Cambodia will meet again in Singapore to re-connect and further empower their action. With financial supports, diverse actions have already been launched with Travel & Leisure, the magazine of the American Express card members.

Moreover, with the success of the June week-end, a partnership between the Touch Network, Sala Bai and the Héritage, the Relais et Château in Cambodia, the experience will be renewed. To the great expectations of the students, needless to say.

They support Sala Bai

News from our sportmen



The swim across the Saint-Jean de Luz Bay, the trip around the world on horizontal bicycles, the Berlin Marathon, the Paris-Versailles, such initiatives to support Sala Bai at sports events are more and more numerous and varied. Thanks to these personal actions, 12200 euros(\$16500) have been raised since April 2011, enabling to finance the training of four students. APLC is very grateful for these inspiring all-out efforts.

Meet these sportsmen that

mobilize for Sala Bai on: <http://www.alvarum.fr/agirpourleCambodge>

Your donation in action

With \$8, you support one training day per student;
With \$55, you support one training week per student;
With \$240, you support one training month per student;

Thanks to your support, young Cambodians will continue to receive a free and high standard training.