

## **Attachment to support D9600 District Grants Application**

### **Project Description:**

Harvest Cambodia is an Australian non-profit charity organisation that works with Cambodian communities to provide growth through education. Harvest Cambodia supports Cambodian teachers in the development of their vocational skills in order to provide Cambodian children with access to quality education. Harvest is in partnership with Stepping Stones Cambodia to assist them in training the teachers at First Steps School; providing the school with resources and establishing a Teacher Sponsorship Program.

The project is to upgrade the school facilities which will include the:

- Repair existing roof for classrooms
- Provision of some interactive learning material (educational CD's/DVD's and art supplies)
- Provision of some cupboard, desk, chairs and bed for school health centre

All labour is provided by local village volunteers co-ordinated by:

- Stepping Stones Cambodia <http://steppingstonescambodia.org/> Director - Rachel Merchant; and
- Harvest Cambodia [http://www.harvestcambodia.com/Harvest\\_Cambodia/Welcome\\_-\\_Harvest\\_Cambodia\\_-\\_Volunteer\\_in\\_Cambodia\\_-\\_Teacher\\_Training\\_-\\_Teaching\\_English.html](http://www.harvestcambodia.com/Harvest_Cambodia/Welcome_-_Harvest_Cambodia_-_Volunteer_in_Cambodia_-_Teacher_Training_-_Teaching_English.html) Directors - Elizabeth and Doug Shobbrook, Brisbane

Note: There is an established relationship with the R.C. of Angkor, Siem Reap, Cambodia who have provided donations for a water supply project to 'Stepping Stones Cambodia' school.

### **Project Benefits:**

- Repair Existing Roof for Classrooms - to add an additional grass layer on all of our building structures to minimise noise and heat to make it easier for our students to learn in a more comfortable environment.
- Materials for Office and Health Centre – a recently added small health room on the school property needs supplies and furniture - cupboards, desk, chairs, bed etc. to make it easier to use. The office needs some furniture that can be used for each of the teachers to have their own space to store their teaching materials and a filing cabinet for administration purposes.
- Educational Resources - to expand class resources and teaching materials for teachers to be able to give more interactive and engaging lessons. Games, educational CDs/DVDs are always appreciated. Art materials are also in high demand!

## **Project Contributions (Financial, Resources and Labour)**

### Financial:

R.C. of Kippa Ring -	AUD\$1,500
District Grant -	<u>AUD\$1,500</u>
Total:	AUD\$3,000

### Labour:

Local voluntary labour (Siem Reap, Cambodia).

Note: The whole school complex was built by local volunteer labour under the co-ordination and management of 'Stepping Stones Cambodia' and 'Harvest Cambodia'.

## **Recommendation**

I recommend District 9600 approve this 'District Grants' application as it aligns with The Rotary International Grants Program's following areas of focus:

- Basic education and literacy – 'Stepping Stones Cambodia' school.
- Disease prevention and treatment – 'Stepping Stones Cambodia' school's Health Centre.
- Economic and community development – local village development in Seim Reap, Cambodia.
- Peace and conflict prevention/resolution – Khmer Rouge (1975 – 1979) went on a path of destruction, demolishing educational institutions, and a large proportion of the country's educational material. Only since 1998 has some measure of peace prevailed. To this day Cambodia still struggles to provide basic education to its people.

Yours in Rotary,

Bernard van den Bergen  
International and TRF Director 2012 – 2013  
R.C. of Kippa Ring

