

## **End Project Report**

# **“BKSN 2013 KTPR: Brother/Sisterhood Visit”**

Reported on 13 June 2556/2013

## Introduction

This report presents about the BKSJN 2013 KTPR: Brother/Sisterhood Visit which has been done in collaboration in general with Rural Friends Association and Associate Expert of MlupPreahThor based in Thailand from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 15 May 2013 as proposed.

The objective of the activity was to build more intensive relationship between Khmer and Thai people through the brother and sisterhood visit which includes cultural and arts exchanges during the New Year, home stay/visit activities, social visits/meetings, livelihood learning and spreading brother and sister hood message to the public.

The visit consists of two activities mainly: Joint Khmer and Thai New Year/Sankran celebration and home stay/visit.

## Achievements

### Expected Outputs:

20 Khmer people excluding their children from the border and other parts of the country, especially those who know the popular Khmer New Year Traditional games and arts, will visit a community in Surin province for 1 time which is equal to 1 week. The participants are consists of adults, youths and children. They are from BKSNGO members, individual members, peace activists and grassroots representatives.

The participants will join to play traditional pop games/plays with Thai people; participate in Buddhist ceremonies and peace talks; involve in Thai family daily life livelihood and social activities; exchange livelihood experiences/skills; and serve patients and elderly. Besides, the Khmer participants will be able to spread the KTPR activities to the key local authorities at the border and inside Thailand by provide information kit including KTPR DVD & posters. Finally, the information of the activities of the event will be shared to reporters of possible news agencies.

### Achieved Outputs:

16 Khmer people (7 women and 1 monk) including one child from 3 provinces: Phnom Penh, Kompong Cham and Oddarmeanchey who know the Khmer popular Khmer New Year traditional plays and arts joined the community visit in Surin province for one week: 1 to 6 May 2013 excluding the traveling days. The participants were adults, youths and children; from BKSNGO members, individual members, peace activists and grassroots representatives.

The Khmer participants joined in participating in the traditional popular plays with the Thai villagers; participated in Buddhist ceremonies, involved in daily life livelihood and social activities including livelihood skills exchanges. We also spread the KTPR activities through DVD distribution and a video show and media. The event was reported to public through media: Radio Australia, and Khmer Academics network (CAN) which consists of over 300 scholars and key people and KTPT website.

Success Indicators	Achievement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- (1) 90% of the Khmer participants participated in the visit and joined/exchanged with the Thai villagers in happy activities of Sangkran tradition and New Year.</li> </ul>	<p>100% achieved. All people participated in all organized possible activities in general. Those activities including Sangran, helping each other, Dhammhaietra, skills exchange, community visit, family visit, NGO partner visit, Buddhist ceremony, and sightseeing.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- (2) 90% of the Khmer participants involved with Thai villagers on family, social and business activities through home stays/visits in order to show serious intention to have good relationship with the visited Thai villagers.</li> </ul>	<p>60% achieved. This indicator has been achieved lower than the plan due to we shortened the visit duration, and we changed the visit schedule a few times which is difficult in organizing due to the political tension while both countries, especially at the Thai side (they, government, directed their people to focus on the report of the International Court of Justice on the present Preah Vihear case). The activities that we were able to participate including house</p>

	repairing, community visit, individual family visits, livelihood visit and helping/exchange skills and Sangran activities.
- (3) 80% of the participants assisted Thai family in daily livelihood works including serving elderly and patients physically and spiritually through Buddhist practices.	Please find it in report of indicator, n. 2, above. We visited one patient who visited during the last visit, assisted a livelihood work of a family who got elderly parents, and assisted several old people in organizing Buddhist ceremony for them during the Seila day at where we staying.
- (4) A few senior local authorities: district governors, police and military are met to introduce them about the KTPR, its senior leaders and distributed the information kit of the KTPR.	60% achieved: We distribute the KTPR DVD to the director of the Community Friend organization, introduced about the KTPR activities to about 100 people in Ampil village through our meeting with them, show a KTPR activity to about 40 people in Trom village where we staying, and gave a DVD of the KTPR activities to a senior official of the migration police and introduced the KTPR purpose and activities to 3 people of the Khmer International Public Relation. Additionally, we shared several CDs/DVD about the Cambodian and its culture to Ampil community and local authorities. Several DVD copies about the last KTPR were distributed to the village officials and several key people in Trom village.
- (5) BKSJ senior leaders met with the Santi-Asok senior leaders and exchanged peace symbolic materials, exchanged Dhamma talks and agreed on one to two mutual and peace activities in the future.	This was not achieved due to the time constraint.
- (6) A few media agencies both in Cambodia and Thailand reported about our activities to the public.	50% achieved. The event was able to report through an international professional radio: Radio Australia. The event was also reported by BKSJ to over 300 Khmer world Academics through Mr. Sotha's network, the network work that consists of different people with different fields of skills/knowledge and different political backgrounds and live in different countries mostly in Cambodia, and through the BKSJ mass media: KTPR.

**Detail of the Process:**

**Day 1 (Later of 30 May):** Travel from Phnom Penh and Komong Cham to stay over-night in Kompong Thom.

**Day 2 (1 May):** Travel from Kompong Thom to the border of Orsmach. The team wasted 4 hours along the road due to the engine of the van broken. It resulted staying overnight at Orsmach.



**Day 3 (2 May):**

Morning: Traveling from the Orsmach border to Trom village and rest.

Afternoon: We made short Dhammayietra around the village to show up our arrival. During the Dhammayiet, we visited patients, elderly and some individual family.

Night: At night time, the musician group practiced their performance until 10pm.

**Day 4 (3 May):**

First in the early morning, we assisted several elderly people to receive the Seila and blessing from the Cambodian monk. Then, the team members were divided into two groups. One group joined a Thai family to make charcoal stove in Thmey village, Thmey district, Surin. Second group go to visit the Elephant village. At the night time, all team members joined in closing Sangran in Phum Trom village where they jointly played New Years pop plays and traditional dances. At the beginning, the video on the last year KTPR activities was shown.





A Cambodian team involved with the Thai villagers to make charcoal



How a Thai villager takes care of a Khmer child



Joint New Year Play: Chabkonkhleung





Joint New Year Play: Beh trolach



**Day 5 (4 May):**

All of the team members visited the Ampil community, the target group of Rural Friends Association.

Before reaching the community, the team visited the office of Rural Friends, where we listened to the presentation of the Community Friend on its work, and we also present our BKSJ and KTPR's work to them in return. A few classic songs were played to show to the Rural Friends staff. The organization offered one lunch at the organization before we left to its target village.



Presentation meeting



Khmer classic and modern music show

In the afternoon, we visited a target village of the Rural Friends where we were warmly welcomed by village chief, women' organizations. About 100 people came to welcome and participate in neighboring and ASEAN spirit. This event consists of different activities:

- Welcomed talks;
- KTPR presentation;
- Visit several livelihoods of the Thai people in Ampil village around the community: pig raising, flower planting, and fish raising;
- Solidarity and blessing ceremony; and
- Sangran activities.





Welcome floor of Ampil community

The visit seemed make a very happy atmosphere and opening relationship between the two peoples.



Welcoming Thai Children Arts





Joint New Year Play: Chabkonkhleung



Joint New Year Play: traditional dance



**Day 6 (5 May):**

In the morning, all participants visited the local market in Surin and then visited Khmer Surin Association where we enabled the participants to learn about its work, introduced ourselves and works to the organization.



After the visit to the Khmer Surin Association, we went straight and stay overnight in Siem Reap, arriving at 9pm.

**Day 7 (5 May):** Traveling from Siem Reap to the different homes.

#### **Media coverage**

1. Radio Australia and its website: 2 May 2013, 16:40  
<http://www.radioaustralia.net.au/khmer/radio/onairhighlights/1125062>  
(see its text in Annex 1)
2. KTPR website



## **Challenges/Lessons Learned**

We faced two challenges during the trip:

- 1) One, we couldn't go as originally scheduled due mainly to the partners and local authorities in Thailand were busy with following up with the news on the decision of the International Court of Justice, especially on 17 May) and many traditional ceremonies taking places during the Sangran. Besides, the political atmosphere had been difficult and the security at the border in red alarm – high alert. Second, it is new experience for our partner in arranging our trip administratively (seeking permission from the government) in Thai side. This resulted us to delay the trip again and again. To address this we re-scheduled the trip but not to make it too far from the Sangran occasion. We also learned that to improve this, a daily follow up and encouragement to the partner is also helpful to make it more on time; and
- 2) As explained also, the engine of our van for traveling from Phnom Penh to the border was broken near Siem Reap accidentally and resulted 4 hour late. To address this we had to find a replacement.

## **Conclusion**

The humble trip contributed to strengthening the relationship between the visitors and the Trom villagers and it also expanded new relationship and positive image with another community in Surin: Ampil village. The people know each other more and more and the trust has been built among them including the local authorities both at the border of Cambodia and in Surin in Thailand. This will confidently make the future life of the KTPR is easier. All people agreed that this second visit created more happiness to the participants of both peoples.

Thought the financial resource was difficult, but the participants were willing to contribute their own resources and staying economically, especially those who participated last year. The positive image that the participants gained from every trip passing on to other peoples and make them desired to join the group as well. Now, more and more people are confident and would like to join the group unlike before they were afraid of one another.

We acknowledge that the main objective of the visit was achieved and one or two small sub-activities were not achieved well to the reported constraints.

Reported by Sotha Ros,  
Voluntary Representative/Founder  
13 June 2556/2013



**Appendixes**

**1) Reported News by Australian Radio:**

# កម្មវិធីសប្តាហ៍ពង្រឹងពង្រីកចំណងមិត្តភាពរវាង ប្រជាពលរដ្ឋខ្មែរ និងបងប្អូនខ្មែរសុរិន្ទ

ដាក់បញ្ចូលថ្ងៃ 2 May 2013, 16:40 AEST

ចាប់ ល្ងាចថ្ងៃទី១ ដល់ថ្ងៃទី៥ ខែឧសភា ឆ្នាំ២០១៣នេះ អង្គការបណ្តាញពុទ្ធសាសនិក និងសង្គមខ្មែរ (Buddhism and Khmer Society Network-BKSM) និងអង្គការម្លប់ព្រះធម៌ នៅកម្ពុជាសហការជាមួយនឹងអង្គការមិត្តជន បទ សមាគមភាសាខ្មែរ និងបងប្អូន សហគមន៍ខ្មែរសុរិន្ទនៅក្នុងប្រទេសថៃបានរៀបចំឡើងនូវ កម្មវិធីសប្តាហ៍ពង្រឹងពង្រីក ចំណងមិត្តភាពលើកទី២ ដោយមានកម្មវិធីបិទសង្ក្រាន, ការលេងល្បែងប្រជាប្រិយ, តន្ត្រីបុរាណ និងសម័យ, ការរស់នៅក្នុងសហគមន៍ជាមួយគ្នា, ការផ្លាស់ប្តូរជំនាញមាន និរន្តរភាព និងការស្វែងយល់ព្រះពុទ្ធសាសនាជាមួយគ្នា។



រូបភាពឯកសារ៖ រាំត្រុដី។ ដោយ យុន អាឡិច (Credit: ABC)  
សំឡេង៖ កម្មវិធីសប្តាហ៍ពង្រឹងពង្រីកចំណងមិត្តភាពរវាងប្រជាពលរដ្ឋខ្មែរ និងបងប្អូន ខ្មែរសុរិន្ទ  
កម្មវិធីសប្តាហ៍ពង្រឹងពង្រីកចំណងមិត្តភាពរវាងប្រជាពលរដ្ឋខ្មែរ និងបងប្អូនខ្មែរសុរិន្ទ (Credit: ABC)



កាលពីថ្ងៃម្សិលមិញនេះ លោក រស់ សុដ្ឋា ស្ថាបនិកនៃបណ្តាញពុទ្ធសាសនិក និងសង្គមខ្មែរ និងអង្គការម្តប់ព្រះធម៌ មានប្រសាសន៍ប្រាប់ Radio Australia ឲ្យដឹងកម្មវិធីនេះមានរយៈពេលប្រាំថ្ងៃ។

(សំឡេងលោក រស់ សុដ្ឋា)

លោក រស់ សុដ្ឋា មានប្រសាសន៍ឲ្យដឹងថា ពីគោលបំណងកម្មវិធីនេះក្នុងការពង្រឹងវប្បធម៌ និងចំណងមិត្តភាព។

(សំឡេងលោក រស់ សុដ្ឋា)

ពីប្រទេសថៃ លោកសាស្ត្រាចារ្យ សម្តេច សែនភុន បានមានប្រសាសន៍ឲ្យដឹងពីការមកលេងកំសាន្តចង់ដឹងពីរបាំខ្មែរលើ និងសមាគមមិត្តជនបទរបស់បងប្អូនខ្មែរសុរិន្ទ។

(សំឡេងលោកបណ្ឌិត សម្តេច សែនភុន)

លោក រស់ សុដ្ឋា បានមានប្រសាសន៍ឲ្យដឹងថា កម្មវិធីនេះគឺជាកម្មវិធីលើកទីពីរ។

(សំឡេងលោក រស់ សុដ្ឋា)

លោក រស់ សុដ្ឋា មានប្រសាសន៍ឲ្យដឹងបន្ថែមពីកម្មវិធីពុទ្ធសាសនាផងដែរ។

(សំឡេងលោក រស់ សុដ្ឋា)

លោក សាស្ត្រាចារ្យ សម្តេច សែនភុន បានឲ្យដឹងពីការរីករាយរបស់បងប្អូនខ្មែរសុរិន្ទក្នុងការរីកចំណង់ ទំនាក់ទំនងជាមួយពលរដ្ឋខ្មែរ។

(សំឡេងលោកបណ្ឌិត សម្តេច សែនភុន)

លោកសាស្ត្រាចារ្យ សម្តេច សែនភុន បានឲ្យដឹងប្រពៃណីខ្មែរសុរិន្ទដែលចិញ្ចឹមជំរី និងជិះជំរីនៅក្នុងពិធីហែនាគ។

(សំឡេងលោកបណ្ឌិត សម្តេច សែនភុន)

លោក សាស្ត្រាចារ្យ សម្តេច សែនភុន មានសំណូមពរដល់រដ្ឋាភិបាលកម្ពុជាគួរមានស្ថានីយ៍ទូរទស្សន៍ផ្សាយ បន្តផ្ទាល់នៅតំបន់ព្រំដែនដើម្បីឲ្យបងប្អូនខ្មែរនៅសុរិន្ទអាចទស្សនាទូរទស្សន៍ខ្មែរផង។

(សំឡេងលោកបណ្ឌិត សម្តេច សែនភុន)

នៅឆ្នាំនេះ មានមនុស្សចំនួន ១៦នាក់ពីកម្ពុជាដែលមានព្រះសង្ឃមួយអង្គ, ស្រ្តីចំនួន ៧  
រូប, យុវជនចំនួន ៣រូប, អ្នកភ្លេងចំនួន ២រូប និងមនុស្សវ័យចំណាស់ចំនួន ៣នាក់ បាន  
អញ្ជើញទៅចូលរួមកម្មវិធីនៅភូមិស្វាយ ចំងាយប្រមាណ២០គីឡូម៉ែត្រពីទីរួមខេត្ត  
សុរិន្ទ ។

<http://www.radioaustralia.net.au/khmer/radio/onairhighlights/1125062>

## 2) Tentative Schedule

No.	Activity	Location
30 April	Travel from Phnom Penh to the border	On the way
1 May AM: PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel from the border to Surin</li> <li>• Joint New Year Celebration in Surin Cultural Center (Trom Village)</li> </ul>	On the way Trom, Surin
2 May AM:  PM:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit Mith Chunboth community: Otop village &amp; joint lunch</li> <li>• Happy activities Continue the Joint New Year Celebration in Surin Cultural Center in other village (in Mitt Chunboth target village)</li> <li>• Tesna</li> <li>• Dhamma talk/Tessna at night time</li> <li>• Happy and cultural activities</li> </ul>	Surin NET Foundation
3 May AM:  PM:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arms round</li> <li>• Visit to the community of NET Foundation to learn about their livelihood activities and culture</li> <li>• Joint home and cultural activities</li> <li>• Happy &amp; cultural activities</li> </ul>	Surin Mitr Chunboth
4 May AM:  PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sight seeing – cultural and home products areas</li> <li>• Tesna</li> <li>• Happy an cultural activities</li> </ul>	Surin NET F.
5 May AM: PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Buddhist ceremony/robath</li> <li>• Traveling back</li> </ul>	Surin to Ormsmach

### 3) List of the Participants

No.	Name in Khmer	Organization/Function	Sex	Age	No passport	Has passport	From
1	Ms Keo Maly	Traditional artist	F	68	No		Kompong Cham
2	Ms Nov Vandy	Traditional artist	F	50	No		Kompong Cham
3	Ms Prum Saroeun	Traditional artist	F	76	No		Kompong Cham
4	Ms Prum Vanthan	Traditional artist	F	64	No		Kompong Cham
5	Ms Nao Vantha	Traditional artist	F	66	No		Kompong Cham
6	Ms Kung Ambok	Traditional artist	F	77	No		Kompong Cham
7	Ms Yun Son	Traditional artist	M	70	No		Kompong Cham
8	Mr Sarat Sarorn	Villager: youth – BKSN Volunteer	M	23	No		Oddarmeanchey
9	Mr Sem Sier	Classic musician	M	56	No		Kompong Cham
10	Mr Soeun Sun	Classic musician	M	46	No		Kompong Cham
11	Mr Ros Soly	Classic musician	M	34	No		Kompong Cham
12	Mr. Vanh Lidy	Villager: Youth	M	20	No		Oddarmeanchey
13	Ven Huy Phem	MlupPreahThor: Director	M	50		Yes	Kompong Cham
14	Ms Ol Eliny	Senior Agronomist of MAFF/government	F	40		Yes	Phnom Penh
15	Mr Ros Sotha	BKSN: Representative	M	41		Yes	Phnom Penh.
16	Sotha Therayu	Student: Child	M	7		Yes	Phnom Penh