

Lotus Pedals Report **for** **Forix Foundation**

Introduction:

Lotus Pedals (LP) works to increase access to education for economically vulnerable girls, especially where distances between their places of residence and the nearest primary or secondary school causes a severe hindrance to school attendance. The program seeks to improve attendance, academic performance and increase transition rates from primary to lower secondary school for girl children.

Lotus Outreach Cambodia (LOCAM) collaborates with local NGO partners to identify girls in their target areas to be Lotus Pedals recipients following guideline and criteria provided by LOCAM, so all of the recipients are means tested as coming from poor families. They will be followed up for 2 years to ensure expected outcomes. Parents also sign a contractual commitment, specifying that their daughters are to stay in school for at least two years, or else return their bicycle to be recycled into the program for use by another current student.

LOCAM has stickers of Lotus Pedals and partners printed to give to partners to stick on the bikes while the partners contribute in terms of time and labor in identifying the girls, buying, arranging giveaway ceremony in an informal way which doesn't need to spend, monitoring and reporting on attendance and school performance of the recipients in a simple format provided by LOCAM. Local authorities and community leaders contribute by identifying a location for giveaway, chairs, tables, time (coming to join the event), and sometimes a PA system.

Objectives:

- To ensure that girls from economically challenged families living at a distance from the nearest school can consistently attend classes
- To ensure that the families of beneficiaries make a commitment to keep their girls in school
- To ensure accountability of participants, obtaining pledges from the families to return the bicycle should their daughters discontinue schooling
- To help improve attendance and academic performance as well as the safety of the girl while traveling to and from school.

Terms and Condition of the Project:

A. Guidelines for selection Criteria:

- Girls of poor families, landless families with many children, disabled persons, widow or widower (Poor Level I and II according to Ministry of Planning)
- Girls who live at least 1.5 kilometers from school
- Parents who support and are committed for girls' education
- Girl students who have dropped out of school recently or those in serious danger of doing so in the near future with firm commitment to returning and staying in school
- Girls at risk of sex trafficking, rape and all forms of sexual violence
- Girls who are currently not supported by any organization

B. Condition for bicycle recipients:

- Continue to stay in school for at least 2 years after receiving the bicycle. If not, the family has to return the bike at original cost
- Come to school regularly
- Must be behaved and maintain morality at school, at home and in public
- Obey school's rules and regulations
- Girls must attain a minimum grade of 50% each semester

C. Condition for parents/guardians of bicycle recipients:

- Help maintaining and fixing the bicycle
- Cannot sell or pawn the bicycle. In case it happens, either the bike needs to be returned or refund the original cost
- Parents/guardians are not allowed to use the bicycle during study hours
- Keep encouraging the girl to go to school regularly
- Follow up on the girl's performance at school

Requirement for Partners:

- a. Make agreement with parents/guardian of bike recipients (sample of agreement is enclosed)
- b. Follow up and report on academic progress of scholarship recipients for 2 years of the date of receiving bicycle (reporting format is enclosed)
- c. Provide photos of bike giveaway with caption specifying name of the place and distribution date as well as number of students receiving bike
- d. Provide case study as per request by LOCAM

Bicycle Package:

1. **A Bicycle:** the second-hand Japanese bike that is considered as comfortable, durable and suitable for the area and easy to find spare parts. Every bicycle needs to be stuck with a logo of Lotus Pedals which is provided by Lotus Outreach Cambodia (LOCAM).
2. **A Pump:** the supplier or NGO staff needs to demonstrate to students how to use it.
3. **A Lock:** the supplier or NGO staff needs to demonstrate to students how to use it.
4. **A Set of Repair Kit:** the set consists of:
 - a. A set of double open ended spanners (5 pieces)
 - b. A hex key
 - c. A Screwdriver
 - d. A set of puncture repair kit

Bicycles Distribution:

With funding support from Forix Foundation, Lotus Pedals Project is able to distribute 191 sets of bicycle to female students who are living at least 1.5kms from school in 16 communes of Chhouk and Dang Tong District, Kampot Province, in collaboration with Cambodian Organization for Children and Development (COCD). All the bicycle beneficiaries are scholarship recipients of COCD with funding support from Holt International and Aide et Action. However, both funding agencies (Holt International and Aide et Action) do not have provision for bicycles in their scholarship program, which allows Lotus Pedals to fit in perfectly to fill the gap. This is the beauty of working in partnership.

The 191 bicycles were given away in two occasions: 122 bikes were given away on November 10 to female students who are living in 3 communes (Dejo Akphiwat, Takaen, and Tropaing Phlaing) of Chhouk District, and another 69 bikes were given away on November 24 to female students who are living in 13 communes of Chhouk and Dang Tong District, Kampot Province. The distributions were honored by local authorities as well such as district governors, commune heads, and representative of commune women affairs. Teachers and parents/guardians of all the recipients also presented. Below is a summary of bicycles distribution by commune and district.

The distribution on November 10, 2016

No	Communes and District	Number of Recipients
1	Dejo Akphiwat Commune, Chhouk District	23
2	Takaen Commune, Chhouk District	37
3	Tropaing Phlaing Commune, Chhouk District	62
Total		122

The distribuion on November 24, 2016

No	Communes and District	Number of Recipients
1	Mean Chey Commune, Chhouk District	4
2	Krang Sbov Commune, Chhouk District	6
3	Baniev Commune, Chhouk District	7
4	Tromaeng Commune, Chhouk District	7
5	Lbeurk Commune, Chhouk District	8
6	Daun Yory Commune, Chhouk District	3
7	Neareay Commune, Chhouk District	7
8	Krang Snay Commune, Chhouk District	2
9	Sat Porng Commune, Chhouk District	1
10	Chhouk Commune, Chhouk District	1
11	Kjeay Tbound Commune, Dang Tong District	5
12	Dang Tong Commune, Dang Tong District	9
13	Tor Tung Commune, Dang Tong District	9
Total		69

Financial Aspect:

Forix Foundation trasferred US\$8,000 to Lotus Outreach Cambodia's account and on October 27, 2016, Lotus Outreach Cambodia received US\$7,990 (US\$10 is lost to bank service charge). With US\$7,990, 191 sets of bicycle were purchased and distributed with total cost of US\$7,979. Therefore, US\$11 is remained. Please advise if you need us to send the remaining funds back or allow us to use it for future purchase of bicycles.

Please click on the below icon for detailed expenditure report:



LPs Expenditure
Report.Forix Found:

Below are the receipts:

Photos of Bicycles Distribution:









