

Case Study

Ms. Taem Marina, a minority Cham Muslim girl from Kampong Chhnang province. She used to work in a factory before getting the DWD scholarship. She got a **3.65 GPA** among 54 students in the class in Year I.

Marina sits as a dorm leader for one year. She plays a key important role in taking good care of the scholars while they are living together. She provides an update on the scholars' situation including health, education, and other extra-curricular. All the scholars expressed their appreciation of having her as their mentor and supporter.

In 2024, she got a certificate of completion on Cloud4Cambodia (C4C) from USAID DWD's program. She learnt data storage security in the cloud. Another award, she got a short course scholarship from the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication (MPTC) to learn more about coding on mobile applications.

Ms. Marina, Last but not least, she was selected among nine applicants from three countries including Cambodia, Vietnam and Lao to attend the Emerging Mekong Women in Climate Action Workshop for four days in late August 2024, organized by the The Asia Foundation (TAF).

The purpose was to involve woman leaders to discuss about the climate issues in the current position. "At the workshop, I learnt the leadership lessons such as Leadership change, Power of influence, self-awareness and the knowledge about the climate issues relating to pollution and the cause of the pollution. After the training, I could reflect more myself relating to my strengths and weaknesses. In addition, I could learn the volunteer work on environment from different countries that they have done the amazing projects. Some quotations were touching my feelings and inspiring me as always "You're so good at listening and understand other's points and sharing them", "I appreciate your willingness, you can do it", "You are so thoughtful and curious! I love your positive energy and bravery to try new things", said Ms Team Marina.



Parent meeting

Activities



The scholar did the presentation during annual retreat 2024.



The scholar attended the volunteer with Plan international.

Digital Workforce Development (DWD)



There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish.



About the Program








The USAID Scholarship program is part of the Digital Workforce Development (DWD) project, which is funded by the **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)** through the University of California at Berkeley (UCB) for five years (2021-2026). One of the project goals is to engage private-sector partners to assist with developing and creating a scholarship model that increases access to quality certifications and bachelor's degree programs for diverse, talented students.

The Asia Foundation is working with the **KAMPUCHEA ACTION TO PROMOTE EDUCATION (KAPE)** to apply the existing successful experiences of KAPE in designing and setting the program strategy. The Asia Foundation will manage and monitor the implementation of the USAID scholarship program, oversee the program's financial management systems, evaluate its impact and provide occasional technical assistance and advice to the scholars in coordination with KAPE staff. The scholarship will cover the school fees, room and board, educational materials, and required technical equipment or materials (computer hardware or software stipends where needed). The computer laptops and health insurance are covered by the TAF budget which is not billed in the KAPE budget. The scholarship here is aimed at supporting potential female students with financial needs (and from low-income families) or with disabilities who will be prioritized to pursue higher education opportunities in digital-related subjects.

Major

Major	#Scholar	University
Computer Science Engineering	2	RUPP
Information Technology Engineering	10	RUPP

Scholarship Program Support Cost

	Tuition fee for Bachelor degree		Stipend for Food
	Accommodation		Study materials
	Utilities		Parental Meeting
	Laptop		Career Development Activities
	Health insurance		Internet

Year I 's Achievement

- All 12 scholars successfully completed year I with GPA 3+
- All 12 scholars were attending the English class at Australian Center for Education (ACE)
- Nine scholars attended the annual DWD scholars retreat hosted by TAF
- 14 parents attended the annual parent meeting
- Two club studies were running by scholars at dormitory
- All scholars attended regularly monthly meeting
- All Scholars attended the trainings by KAPE including *Effective time management, professional Email writing, Digital literacy, Fixed and Growth mindset.*
- Two scholars won gold medal from baseball match at RUPP
- Scholars attended various training/workshop topics including *E-Day, Girl in ICT, Concept on 3D 5G AR VR, Gender warrior, Book fair, reading day, etc.*
- Two scholar is intern at one ICT education institute.



Internship

Ms. Heng Gechsoursour interned at Authentic Advanced Academy (AAA) school in Phnom Penh. She is serving as a teacher's assistant for Robotic subjects and coding classes for children. She worked on the weekend from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. The internship period was three months. The teaching utilizes the English language. While she was taking an internship, Gechsoursour learned classroom management techniques, effective communication with children, and teaching strategies for robotics and coding.

Gechsoursour reported that she was delighted to contribute her knowledge and skills to the younger generation. It was a valuable opportunity to enhance her proficiency in ICT and digital technologies. She will seek other opportunities for internships to improve her skills in the future.



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