Carpets for Communities

Breaking the Cycle of Poverty in Poi Pet Commune, Cambodia
The Challenge

- **Cambodia:**
  - 36% of the population live below the national poverty line (2000)\(^1\)
  - 35% of children age 6-14 do not attend school (1999)\(^2\)
  - 49% of children who start school drop out before finishing grade 6 (2001)\(^2\)

- **Poi Pet Commune:**
  - Cambodians flock to Poi Pet, the only land border-crossing with Thailand, in search of work
  - Poverty forces children to work at home or work on the border instead of going to school
EMPOWERING FAMILIES TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

Poverty Cycle

A family lives below the national poverty line

Children forego school to support their family

As adults, their lack of education limits income opportunities
Carpets for Communities

- **Objective:**
  - Improve the livelihoods of the poor in Poi Pet Commune
    - Provide secure sources of income to parents
    - Enable children to complete school

- **Target Group:**
  - Families with children not going to school or with children at-risk of dropping out of school

- **Strategy:**
  - Provide poor families with carpet-making training, supplies and a sales channel for finished products
  - Assist children out of school to return
  - Monitor school attendance of participants’ children
Partner Organizations

- **World Youth Peace Summit (WYPS)**
  - Bangkok-based NGO established in 2004
  - **Objective:** Create worldwide network of youth leaders working for peace
  - **CfC Role:** overall project management, product design, marketing and distribution

- **Cambodian Hope Organization (CHO)**
  - Poi Pet-based NGO founded in 2002
  - **Objective:** Enhance child protection, food security, health, livelihoods and spiritual welfare of targeted children and adults to an acceptable level
  - **CfC Role:** participant selection, case management, production management
Proud Participants

Name: Samon Ren
Age: 42
- Mother of 6 children, including 1-month old boy
- Cannot work in the fields; must look after young children
- CfC provides opportunity for Samon to generate income from home and keep her children in school

Name: Chanhorn Ry
Age: 18
- Father is dead and mother is hospitalized with tuberculosis, leaving her to support 8 younger brothers and sisters
- CfC allows Chanhorn to send her siblings to school - not by giving her money, but by giving her work
Hand-Hooked Product Samples
Wool

Wool
Carpet Backing

EMPOWERING FAMILIES TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY
Hand-Hooked Product Samples
Silk & Silk-Wool

Silk

Silk-Wool
Hand-Hooked Product Samples
Acrylic Designs
Hand-Hooked Product Samples
Olefin

Olefin - Knotted

Olefin - Looped
Hand-Hooked Product Samples
Cotton
Ways you can help

- Donate supplies, such as: wool, acrylic, t-shirt material, or any other fabric. Thick and strong material is the most efficient to use.
- Make a donation for the long-term establishment of Carpets for Communities
- Provide a sales channel for the hand-tufted carpets
- Order a carpet (prices vary – please enquire)

Please e-mail carpets@wyps.org for more information.

Thank you for your support. A-Kun.