



# Embassy of the United States Phnom Penh, Cambodia

2014 PRESS RELEASE



TRANSLATION: ភាសាខ្មែរ

## USAID’s Improved Basic Education in Cambodia (IBEC) Program Helps 81,000 Cambodian Youth

Released on August 26, 2014

The five-year Improved Basic Education in Cambodia (IBEC) project supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) held a close-out workshop on August 25-26. Under the IBEC program, more than 81,000 Cambodian primary and secondary students received better quality and access to basic education through school improvement grants; development and testing of curricula; and training for teachers, non-governmental organization staff members and government officials.



The close-out workshop included the participation of Minister of Education, Youth, Sports and USAID/Cambodia Mission Director Rebecca Black.

The IBEC program also provided scholarships to 7,500 primary school students and 2,245 secondary school students to ensure that they stayed in school. Seventh grade completion rates for students in the program was 85 percent, versus the national rate of 47 percent.

IBEC staff worked with school officials to install 26 computer labs to give thousands of students access to information and communication technology. The project team also developed and helped implement 28 life skill modules in secondary schools that were endorsed and then adopted by the Royal Government of Cambodia in support of its 2014-2018 Education Strategic Plan.

The close-out workshop included the participation of Minister of Education, Youth, Sports and USAID/Cambodia Mission Director Rebecca Black. According to Ms. Black, “USAID supports the current education reforms and hope that the innovations in the schools supported through our project can serve as models for the country.”

### About the U.S. Agency for International Development

USAID was founded in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy and serves as the lead agency of the U.S. Government for foreign assistance. Since 1992, USAID has invested approximately \$1 billion towards Cambodia’s development.

For more information on the IBEC project, please click [here](#) or [here](#).