

AIMS



ACCESSING INFORMATION ABOUT MIGRATION AND SAFETY

“If I do migrate one day, I will migrate legally and safely.”

The AIMS project provides young Cambodians considering migration, or who have already migrated, with the knowledge and tools they need to make informed decisions, and to travel and find work safely if they do decide to migrate. World Education worked in collaboration with Friends International and Media One to implement AIMS.

Many young people in Prey Chrouk village in Siem Reap province migrate for work to Thailand and, according to the local school director, much of that migration is done illegally. He identified a lack of employment opportunities, especially after the harvest season, as a major reason for the high rate of migration.

To help inform at-risk youth about the risks of migration and how to migrate safely and legally, the Accessing Information about Migration and Safety (AIMS) project began in early 2014 through the support of the Dream Blue Foundation. The goals of the project were to develop the AIMS website and the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system as resources for safe migration, as well as to conduct peer-educator trainings on how to use the technology at target schools.

Meng is one of the youth who participated in the AIMS training at his school. He currently lives with his father in Prey Chrouk village; his mother, brother, and sister have all migrated to Thailand to work as laborers. When he learned that his mother and brother were planning on migrating to seek work, Meng thought back to the training that he had received, and visited the AIMS website for more information. Using facts from the website, Meng was able to inform his family of the benefits of legal migration, and his mother and brother migrated through a legal recruitment agency. Now, when Meng learns that other people in his village are interested in migrating, he shares safe migration information with them, and provides them with the IVR number and AIMS website address. Meng says that, since his training, at least ten people he has spoken with have called the IVR system before migrating.

The AIMS Project provided training to 5,644 youth in target areas (Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, and Prey Veng provinces) on how to use the AIMS website and the IVR system.

“Migration is a fact of life for most people, including me, so legal migration is a must” –Meng



Photo: Sambathrorth/World Education

Meng and his father at home in Prey Chrouk village, Siem Reap province, Cambodia

According to Mr. Vun Voeung, school director, *“The AIMS website is a very useful resource for students. Before, some students dropped out of school to migrate to Thailand without understanding the risks of illegal migration, but now I can see that my students are better informed.”*



Photo: Sambathrorth/World Education Cambodia

Meng accesses the AIMS website from his school's computer lab. The AIMS project was able to provide internet access to participating schools.



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