

File Form 0619

Construction of a new hospital building at O'Chrov Referral Hospital, Cambodia Final Report for the Eagle Foundation – January 2024

Donor name: Fondation Eagle

Fondation Eagle reference: FF 0619

Name of Charity: IMPACT UK

Introduction: Your grant has enabled IMPACT Cambodia to oversee the construction of a new hospital building at O'Chrov Referral Hospital in order to ease in-patient overcrowding, and to create space for the treatment of Accident and Emergency cases and a dedicated Maternity Unit, including delivery suite and postnatal ward.

This busy hospital is the referral facility for seven health centres in O'Chrov, the most densely populated district in Banteay Meanchey Province. It is located some 25km from Poipet, the large international border town with Thailand and serves 57,872 people living in the surrounding area – as well as supporting the region's transient population of tourists, traders and migrant workers. Throughout the course of the project, the design of the new building underwent two amendments, in discussion with Fondation Eagle. The new building opened to patients in June 2023.

Date of grant accepted: 15/12/2021

Amount: GBP 38,036

Conversion rate, date & amount in local currency: USD 50,968 - exchange rate based on 1 GBP = 1.34 USD (17/11/21)

Expenditure: GBP 56,228

Overspend: GBP 18,192

Name and exact location of the project: O'Chrov Referral Hospital, O'Chrov District, Banteay Meanchey Province, Cambodia

Period of Project: December 2021 – June 2023

Project beneficiaries: O'Chrov Hospital serves a population of 57,872 people. On average, there are 9,000 patients per year and 590 babies born.



The new Eagle-funded hospital building at O'Chrov Referral Hospital



An early stage stakeholder meeting in February 2022 between IMPACT Cambodia; the Provincial Health Department; building contractors; and the hospital Administration

Details of the project:

Although public healthcare services in government-run hospitals and health centers in Cambodia are subsidised, there are still nominal user fees and associated out-of-pocket expenses. Although O'Chrov Referral hospital is situated in between the larger towns of Poipet and Sisophon, it serves a surrounding rural population, whose economy is centered around seasonal agricultural practices, with residents engaged in activities such as farming and rearing livestock. The average local household income is just USD 1,000 per year, which makes prioritising healthcare a significant consideration for many people.



Typical rural dwellings in O'Chrov

In 2019, the hospital was upgraded from 'Health Centre' to 'Referral Hospital' status. However, without additional investment, it soon became apparent that the hospital's resources and infrastructure were insufficient to meet the increasing patient demand; *'O'Chrov Referral Hospital is a referral hospital in name only and its facilities do not benefit its new role. There is an urgent need for better accommodation for in-patients, especially children, as many are treated outside due to the lack of space and beds'* – **Sambo Tey, Director, IMPACT Cambodia.**

Knowing of IMPACT Cambodia's successful track-record of working in partnership with statutory agencies to improve hospital infrastructure - and provide equipment and training for healthworkers - the hospital Administration approached IMPACT with a plan to construct a new building, which would address three of the hospital's main shortfalls: Namely, overcrowding in general wards; lack of dedicated space for the treatment of Accident and Emergency cases; and cramped, unsuitable conditions for women giving birth and in recovery afterwards. We were so grateful to Fondation Eagle for agreeing to this much-needed upgrade.

Early plans were drawn up by a local architectural company for a small-scale building, which was proposed and agreed by Fondation Eagle in December 2021. However, during the early stages of planning between IMPACT Cambodia, the hospital Administration, the Provincial Health Authority and building contractors, an opportunity was identified to future-proof the building by incorporating deeper foundations and extra structural strengthening, in order that a second storey could be added in the future (in the hope that more resources might become available). In collaboration with Fondation Eagle, it was agreed amongst all concerned that this was a sensible proposition, given that patient numbers had been rising year on year, and there is a young and growing population in the surrounding area. The hospital also occupies a small footprint of land, so upward expansion was agreed as a viable option looking to the future needs of people in the area.



The original design versus the final completed building

Project timeline

- **December 2021** Funding approved by Fondation Eagle for a new hospital building to ease overcrowding and improve health services for the local population
- **March 2022** The building design is amended to incorporate deeper foundations and structural strengthening, in order that a second storey can be added in the future. The proposal included changing from a pitch roof to a flat roof and the Provincial Health Authority with the support of local well-wishers, committed GBP 9,126 from their funds to cover the shortfall
- **April 2022** Construction starts



- **October 2022** Severe flooding in the area delays building work



- **December 2022** The building is 80% completed. The Provincial Government step in with a further contribution of GBP 8,609 in order that a pitched roof can be installed after all. This was to provide better protection for the empty second floor of the structure, until such time as the resources become available to complete it. IMPACT Cambodia conducted regular site visits and inspections during the construction phase



- **May 2023** Building work is complete. A traditional Buddhist inauguration ceremony takes place on 26th May 2023 to bless the building and all who will use it



- **June 2023** The ground floor of the hospital opens to patients

Results

Through the successful completion of this construction project, IMPACT Cambodia has achieved the goal of creating a new 15 bed in-patient ward at O'Chrov, which will go a long way towards combatting the issues of over-crowding at the hospital. As you may see from the photographs, the new facility is light-filled, spacious and modern, which is greatly enhancing infection control and ensuring patients are accommodated in much more comfort than they were in the older buildings.



The new patient ward and delivery suite, shortly before opening to patients

“On behalf of all staff in O’Chrov Referral Hospital and people in this area, I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to the donor for the support. Without this, we would not know that when this would happen. With our own fund, we would only be able to extend small rooms. This new building brings new hope, smile, and joy for the staff and people in this area. This new building and all the new beds that the hospital received has contributed in providing better health care services for people in this area, especially for women and children. All the mothers can come to receive health care service from the hospital since their first prenatal checkup until delivery at a clean and comfortable place.”

Dr. Mom Sambath Director of O’Chrov Referral Hospital

The addition of a new delivery suite and post-natal recovery room has been a real positive for the hospital - within the first two days of opening, four mothers had safely delivered their babies!

Although Cambodia's Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has improved from 606 per 100,000 births in 2000, to 218 in 2020, it is still higher than the regional average. And it is well-documented that enhancing the quality and accessibility of women's health services is key to improving maternal health outcomes and reducing maternal mortality. The newly housed Maternity Unit takes referrals from the seven health centres under its umbrella, and is helping to ensure that access to safe and skilled delivery assistance (as well as emergency obstetric care) is available to everyone, whatever their income. Alongside the new delivery suite is a postnatal ward for women to recover after birth, ensuring that any post-birth complications are identified and managed quickly. Support for women during the postpartum period also contributes to overall maternal well-being.

The Maternity Unit has had a busy first six months, with an average of 40 babies born per month. As word spreads about the services on offer and the new improved facilities, IMPACT Cambodia expect that patient numbers will increase and we very much look forward to keeping you updated.



Reth Sinuon (19) is one of the first four mothers who had a safe delivery in the new building. She lives in Kaub Lech, Kaub Commune, O Chrov District, Banteay Meanchey Province. This is her first child. *"I came to have prenatal visit since my first month of pregnancy. The staff here are very friendly and they take good care of me. I feel safe and comfortable to receive health care service here. The birth went well and I am very happy to have been given so much support during and after the delivery."*



“As a midwife who has been working here for more than five years, now, I am very happy that the hospital received this new building. Previously, the former maternity unit was very small. The predelivery and post-delivery was in the same room, and that room was very small. We, the midwives, did not even have a proper place to stay during our duty hour. This new building will provide us a proper place to stay and the mothers will have a proper place to stay before and after giving birth. We always want to provide maternity care service for everyone as best as we can possibly do.” Midwife Kheng Srey Mom (pictured right)

The new building has also incorporated a dedicated treatment space and waiting area for Accident and Emergency patients and their families. IMPACT Cambodia is particularly pleased that A&E services have been elevated at the hospital, as there is a great need in this low-income setting. Accidents due to cooking on open fires are common, as are occupational accidents due low health and safety standards. Road traffic accidents are also a major concern. Local statistics are hard to come by but across Cambodia as a whole, 5.4 people die every day as a result, making it the sixth leading cause of mortality, greater than all deaths from HIV/AIDS. The A&E department is equipped to deliver life-saving interventions and immediate medical treatments – crucial in emergency situations when time is of the essence.



Additional photographs showing the exterior of the new building:



Thank you We are so grateful for Fondation Eagle’s partnership in helping to transform the health prospects of people living in this under-resourced region. The new facilities stand as a beacon for people living in the local area and demonstrate the positive and sustainable outcomes that can be achieved through cross-sector collaboration that includes funders, government agencies, local people and NGOs. Thank you for bearing with the project when the construction process was beset by flooding and for your flexibility in enabling us to future-proof the building design. IMPACT Cambodia will continue to work with the hospital to find the resources to open the second floor of the building in due course.

Letter of independent verification:

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION - RELIGION - KING

BANTEAY MEANCHEY PROVINCIAL
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BMC, Date: December 07th, 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that, IMPACT-Cambodia has been working in Banteay Meanchey Province since 2015. Lately, IMPACT-Cambodia has supported the construction of new maternity building in O Chrov Referral Hospital. The building is completed and in use by the hospital.

I wish IMPACT-Cambodia success in future endeavors.


Director of Banteay Meanchey
Provincial Health Department

Dr. LE CHANSANGVATH

Expenditure statement:

No.	Description	Budget (GBP)	Expenditure
A. Earthwork and Foundation			
1	Footing excavation	116	116
2	Pile work	1,854	1,854
3	Pile chipping	463	463
4	Lean concrete pile cap	463	463
5	Concrete footing	695	695
6	Concrete step column	197	197
7	Lean concrete connecting beam	295	295
8	Concrete connecting beam	1,382	1,382
9	Brick connecting beam foundation	1,475	1,475
10	Filling soil	295	295
11	Concrete	1,469	1,469
12	Steel for footing	883	883
13	Steel for step column	172	172
14	Steel for connecting beam	963	963
15	Steel	158	158
16	Steel for tying	26	26
Total		10,908	10,908
B. Superstructure			
1	Concrete column	413	413
2	Concrete connecting beam	1,382	1,382
3	Concrete floor	1,896	1,896
4	Concrete lintel	379	379
5	Steel for column	336	336
6	Stirrup steel for column	90	90
7	Steel for connecting beam	1,185	1,185
8	Stirrup steel for connecting beam	246	246
9	Steel for concrete floor	1,557	1,557
10	Steel for lintel	118	118
11	Steel for tying	26	26
Total		7,629	7,629
C. Masonry and Painting works			
1	Brick wall	2,949	2,949
2	Cement mortar plaster internal and external	4,055	4,055
3	Painting internal	553	553
4	Painting external	553	553
Total		8,110	8,110
D. Floor and wall tile works, and ceiling			
1	Supply and install floor tiles	1,580	1,580
2	Supply and install wall tiles	263	263
3	Ceiling	843	843
4	Supply and install floor tile toilet	434	434
5	Supply and install floor tile stairs	527	527
Total		3,647	3,647
E. Electricity and plumbing systems			
1	Electricity system	1,317	1,317
2	Plumbing system	527	527
Total		1,843	1,843
F. Others			
1	Glass window	711	711
2	Steel grill window	395	395
3	Window blinds	369	369
5	Sanitary ware	421	421
6	Stairs	527	527
	Pitched roof * added February 2023		8,609
Total		2,422	11,032
Sub-total		34,559	43,168
Labour costs		8,167	8,167
Sub-total		42,726	51,335
	Patient beds x 15	2,625	2,625
	Project management (calculated @ 5% based on the March 2022 budget of GBP 47,619)	2,268	2,268
Grand total		47,619	56,228

Budget notes:

The initial project budget of GBP 38,036 that was agreed with Fondation Eagle in December 2021 was superseded in March 2022, to incorporate the elements of the new building design, which added GBP 9,126 to the budget and was pledged by the Provincial Health Authority. 'Version 2' of the budget totalled GBP 47,619, including a recalculated 5% project management fee of GBP 2,268.

In February 2023, towards the end of the construction, the Health Authority stepped in with another funding injection of GBP 8,609, in order to complete the building with a pitched, rather than flat, roof. The management fee was not increased at this point, as the project was very near to completion and it was not necessary.

The final project expenditure came to GBP 56,228, representing an overspend of GBP 18,192. GBP 17,735 of which was been contributed by the Provincial Health Authority GBP 457 (to cover project management costs) from IMPACT UK's general funds.