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JWOC CLEAN WATER PROJECT

KORK POR VILLAGE REPORT



**KORK POR VILLAGE, DOUN KEO COMMUNE, POUK DISTRICT,
SIEM REAP PROVINCE, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**

MAY - JULY 2010



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INTRODUCTION

JWOC's Approach to Clean Water

Building on the positive impact JWOC's award winning project has already had, JWOC has added more elements to its Clean Water Programme to ensure the greatest and most sustainable impact. These elements include well repairs, basic training on the means to ensure safe-drinking water for families, simple hygiene practices and well maintenance. They also include working with one village at a time thus allowing a more thorough response to the needs of the village as well as securing a commitment from the village for their cooperation and continued independent ownership of the project in the long-term. By incorporating the training, JWOC can not only increase the impact of each well that is repaired or drilled but can also provide the villagers with the means to safeguard their own health in the future. Combining this training with a community centered approach JWOC ensures that the impact is also increased in terms of duration as villagers go on to fix their own wells and are empowered to work together to improve their health in the long-term.

JWOC has put into place 11 basic steps through which it can work with a local community and give them the chance to take control of their health and their future. By collaborating with communities and giving them the resources they need and the information they need to improve their lives, JWOC hopes to empower these partner communities to change for the better. To read about these steps in detail, please refer to appendix A at the end of this report.

KORK POR VILLAGE

The decision to work with Kork Por village built on JWOC's growing involvement with the area of Siem Reap Province to the North of the Western Baray (see Google Earth Map). Having already worked with two villages on the western edge of the Baray (Peam and Phnom Reum), JWOC staff identified a neighboring village where there was a need for the Clean Water project. The village of Kork Por is home to around 170 houses and a population of over 800. In a similar way to the surrounding villages, there was no real shortage of actual wells in the village, with over 100 found during our scouting activities. However, with the majority having been very poorly and cheaply constructed, families often found that their wells produced no water during the dry season. In addition, consistent with JWOC's experience elsewhere, there was little or no knowledge of the availability of cheap and effective filter technology, the benefits of filtering water and basic hygiene practices.

Working with the village chief and other local leaders, JWOC was able to establish this new partnership with Kork Por towards the end of May.

IMPLEMENTING THE PROJECT IN KORK POR VILLAGE

SUMMARY

During the months of May, June and July, JWOC worked intensively with the village to achieve the following things:

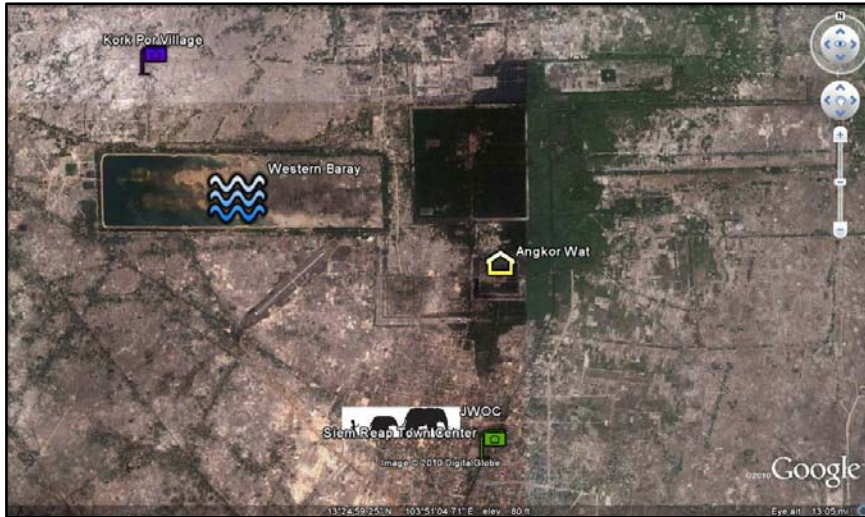
- assessing their needs,
- recording their water source, health and hygiene knowledge and practices,
- addressing the needs of families in their access to clean water (drilling new wells and fixing broken wells),
- training villagers and village leaders in maintenance and repair of their wells,
- distributing filters and running seminars on how to care for the filters and the benefits of filtered water,

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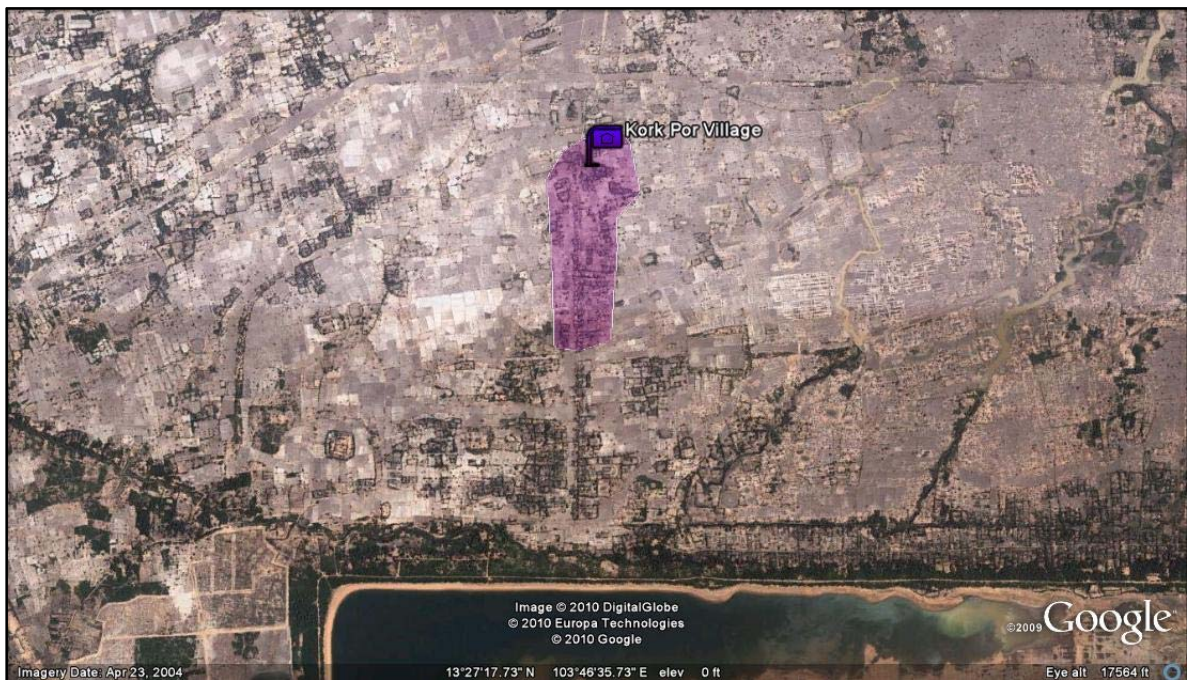


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- running health and basic hygiene seminars and distributing hygiene packs,
- testing water sources throughout the village,



**Kork Por Village
Location in relation
to JWOC, Siem Reap
and Angkor Wat.**



A close up view of the area of Kork Por Village. Google Earth is used extensively in JWOC's planning and decision making when working with villages on the Clean Water Project.



1 – CONTRACT SIGNING AND VILLAGE CONTRIBUTION

JWOC considers the participation and investment of the communities it works with in the process as fundamental to the impact and sustainability of the work it undertakes. In collaboration with the Village Chief of Kork Por and taking into account the poor living conditions of many of the families it was decided that each household would make a contribution of \$1.25 towards the partnership with JWOC. A contract was signed on 11 May 2010, detailing the commitments of JWOC to provide access to clean safe water for every person in the village, water testing, training and education and surveys to measure the impact of the project. Community obligations included attending seminars, using the knowledge and materials provided to make positive changes in their lives, making a financial contribution towards the project and taking responsibility in the future for the maintenance and upkeep of their wells.

2 - ASSESSING THE NEEDS

On 16th May, JWOC scholarship student Clean Water officers mapped the resources in the whole of Kork Por, taking GPS readings, photos and talking to the villagers about the conditions of the wells. We found just over one hundred existing wells throughout the village, most of them being simple “pulley” wells (a PVC pipe drilled around 5-8 meters into the ground by which water can be sucked out). In a similar way to the majority of water sources in the area, a large number of these wells became useless in the dry season (when the water table drops below the depth of the pipes) and there were, as a result, a significant number of places in the village where year round access to nearby water was not possible. Like the neighboring villages of Peam and Phnom Reum, the situation in Kork Por was worse than it appeared at face value.



The remains of a “pulley” well (whose plastic pipe has snapped), a hole well and a broken pump well in Kork Por Village.

A total of 19 locations for new family wells were scouted to ensure that (in combination with the existing wells) every family had easy access to safe water all year round. In consultation with JWOC’s well contractor, it was also decided that a range of essential repairs would be made to 61 other wells in the village.

3 – “BASELINE SURVEYS” - RECORDING WATER SOURCE, HEALTH AND HYGIENE KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES DATA



During the weekend of 22nd – 23rd May, JWOC Clean-Water Project Officers interviewed adult members of 38 households throughout the village to find out information about their health, their situation with regards to access to water, their knowledge about basic hygiene and routine hygiene practices. Further through the process, the data is used to make comparisons so that JWOC can gauge the changes that have happened and potential improvements to be made.

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4 – INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

Employing the services of a local well installation professional, the next step in the process was to begin drilling all the new wells decided on and to make repairs to all the existing wells in the village which were not functioning correctly. Although JWOC is not able to re-drill all the wells that are too shallow to function during the dry season, we do ensure that each family has nearby access to a functioning well all year round. For the pulley wells that function for some of the year, we make some simple improvements such as putting in a concrete base which makes the well stronger and prevents surface water from draining down the shaft of the pipe into the source.

A crucial aspect of this part of the process is that the well expert holds numerous training demonstrations and information sessions with families throughout the village to teach them about how to look after their wells, how the wells work and how to make simple repairs should anything go wrong.



Left: Clean Water Project Manager, Somit shows the well contractor the new locations for drilling in Kork Por.
Right: Drilling a new well in Kork Por.



Repairs were made on 61 wells in Kork Por.



A boy enjoys the water from the new well next to his house.



5 – SPECIALIZED TRAINING FOR LOCAL LEADERS

On 6th June, JWOC’s Clean-Water Project Manager, Clean-Water Officers and JWOC’s well expert contractor held a morning of specialized training about wells, water filters and hygiene for the community leaders of Kork Por to attend. This training is a particularly important step to reinforce the sustainable impact of JWOC’s efforts to improve local conditions in the village. By investing this extra time in the leaders of the community, JWOC makes sure that future problems can be dealt with first by the community itself, rather than relying on outside assistance. Each participant was presented with a ceramic water filter and a JWOC hygiene pack. JWOC also distributed specially prepared information sheets for the village chief and the group leaders, detailing the different parts of the wells and the filters, prices of replacement parts and contact details of people who could supply them in the future. This is done in the hope that villagers will be empowered to invest in new resources should they need to in the future and continue to benefit from the opportunity they have taken to improve their health by partnering with JWOC.



Local well specialists run a well maintenance session for local leaders.



6 - RUNNING HEALTH AND BASIC HYGIENE SEMINARS AND DISTRIBUTING HYGIENE PACKS

Hygiene seminars in Kork Por were held over the weekend of the 12th and 13th June. JWOC decided to alter the process of the project slightly by holding the hygiene seminars before the filter seminars. This was done with the intention of trying to boost the attendance numbers even higher than in previous villages. The water filters are an extremely popular part of the project with the villagers so it was hoped that by holding the hygiene seminars first, the attendance would be higher, with more villagers coming because they did not want to miss anything to do with the filters.

The 45 minute seminars on basic health and hygiene including hand-washing and teeth-cleaning were attended by 533 adults and children in 4 separate trainings. The two types of seminar – one for adults and one for children - are designed to be relevant and accessible in engaging people with the benefits of basic hygiene and the best techniques to use. Each person present was presented with a small “hygiene pack” of a toothbrush, toothpaste and soap for attending the sessions and to be able to put the training into practice straight away.



JWOC Hygiene seminars are interactive, fun and practical sessions to encourage villagers to enjoy good health and make the most of their clean water resources.



7 - DISTRIBUTING FILTERS AND RUNNING SEMINARS ON HOW TO CARE FOR THE FILTERS AND THE BENEFITS OF FILTERED WATER



JWOC Clean Water Officers run seminars on how to use and care for the filters, after which attendees receive their ceramic filter.

JWOC held 4 separate filter trainings in Kork Por on 19th – 20th June. Each training session, conducted by JWOC scholarship student, Clean Water officers, was a practical and interactive introduction to the benefits of using the ceramic water filters (a popular, locally made and recognized solution to the problems of dirty drinking water in Cambodia) and the techniques needed to care for them. Villagers were invited to get involved as volunteers in the demonstrations to build their confidence and 169 water filters were distributed. JWOC also added a new element to the training in Kork Por by distributing small flyers to every family in the village (to supplement the information given to the village leaders) with the names, phone numbers and places where replacement filters and parts could be found in the future. Students were on hand after the training to offer assistance to anyone who needed it.

8 – FOLLOW-UP HYGIENE KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE SURVEYS

On 11th, 17th and 18th July, JWOC returned to the same 38 households in Kork Por to conduct the first follow up survey. This survey measures the effectiveness of the hygiene training and what people remember as well as their understanding of their new water filters and whether they were using them properly and regularly.



Water sources are tested for harmful chemical properties, such as nitrates.

9 – TESTING WATER SOURCES THROUGHOUT THE VILLAGE

Water testing was undertaken by JWOC on water sources and drinking water in Kork Por, throughout the month of July, after the completion of the wells and maintenance by the contractor and after the filters had been in use for a few weeks. In areas like Kork Por, where there is heavy reliance on agriculture and animal rearing, testing for harmful properties such as nitrates in ground water are key to ensuring the overall safety of the water for general use. A selection of water filters were tested to check their effectiveness in providing drinking water free from harmful bacteria such as e-coli. Samples from wells and filters were taken by JWOC staff and sent to Siem Reap's Water Quality Laboratory for tests. All water source tests showed that the water coming from the wells and filters was safe.



10 – REMAINING STEPS

In January 2011, six months after the conclusion JWOC's work in the village, our clean water officers will conduct further health surveys to measure the impact that the project has had on the lives of those living in Kork Por.

KORK POR VILLAGE IN NUMBERS:

Total number of new wells drilled:	19
Total number of old wells fixed:	61
Total number of filters distributed following training:	169
Total number of hygiene packs distributed following training:	533
Number of water tests:	25
Approximate Number of people affected:	850

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This project was made possible through the generosity of all the donors to JWOC's Clean Water Project, whose efforts on JWOC's behalf have made such a difference to more than 800 people in Kork Por Village. JWOC would particularly like to thank CA (Computer Associates) and the Laughton Foundation, whose generous donation to the Clean Water project made a great deal of the work in this village possible. As always, we want to recognize the continuing hard work and dedication of our staff and scholarship students to improving lives in Cambodia.

JWOC would like to thank all the donors who made this project possible:

CA - Computer Associates (Wells, Filters, Hygiene Seminars, Water Testing, Well Repairs)
The Laughton Foundation (Wells)
Global Buddies (Wells)
Bernard Bellefeuille (Well Repairs)
Linda Loudermilk Inc (Well Repairs)
Sasebo Elementary School (Well Repairs)
Steve and Edna Kornberg (Water Testing)
New Zion Baptist Church (Well)
Sheila Sampson in Memory of Lily Kirubaidoss (Well)
David Cox and Tamara Compton (Well)
Steve Dalgas (Well)
Heather Downie (Well)
Joanne Fiedler (Well)
Joan Davanzo (Well)

We are currently working with our fourth village of 2010 – Lbaeuk. It is a neighbouring village to Kork Por. We are continuously looking for new donors to help support our work into the future and if you would like to be involved we would love to hear from you. Below is a list of ways that you could be involved now and in the future of JWOC's work.

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Please also visit our website (www.journeyswithinourcommunity.org) for more details and if you would like to donate online.

There are many ways you can get involved in helping us help:

Well Repairs: **\$20 - \$150**

Fixing a broken well can be very inexpensive so every contribution counts. Even a small donation to our well maintenance fund can resurrect a well and give villagers back their right to clean water.

Water Filters: **\$130**

Give 10 houses a sustainable way of getting safe drinking water.

Educational Seminars and hygiene packs **\$200 (Recommended donation)**

JWOC will typically run 5 or 6 seminars in each village but the number of participants depends on the population of the village.

Water Testing **\$250**

Allow JWOC to test wells and filters giving hundreds of people the knowledge and security of having safe water.

New wells **\$350 (or \$375 with a recognition sign).**

Sponsor a village **\$8,000***

Give JWOC the resources to help an entire village.

** Approximate cost given that every Cambodian Village is different in size and population.*



APPENDIX A

The steps we take with each village we work with are as follows:

1) Scouting

Members of the JWOC clean water project team go out into the countryside looking for areas that are both in need of assistance and where the local authorities (village chief, group leaders) and the community demonstrate a desire to work with JWOC to make positive changes.

2) Gathering information / mapping / assessment of need

When a location has been decided on in collaboration with local authorities, JWOC scholarship students gather all the information needed in order that JWOC can provide the appropriate assistance to the village. This includes information about the number of households, the population of the village, the existing water sources and places where access to water is limited or unsafe. GPS mapping of all the existing water sources is also made which is inputted into Google Earth for tracking and future record keeping.

3) Contract signing and money collection

Before beginning work in the village on fixing broken wells and drilling new wells, JWOC enters into an agreement with the village chief on behalf of the village population to guarantee JWOC's assistance for the village and to make sure that the villagers enter into the process and spirit of helping each other to use the information and resources made available to improve quality of life in the village. A small sum of money (\$2-3 or by mutual agreement with the village chief) is collected from each household in order to invest the villagers in the process of JWOC's assistance and ensure they continue to look after their wells and filters once JWOC leaves.

4) Baseline health and hygiene knowledge and practice surveys

Once an assessment of the needs of the village has been made a representative sample of people in the village are interviewed to gather information about their water source, health, hygiene practices and knowledge. This gives JWOC the information it needs to later assess its impact and collaboration with the village.

5) Drilling and fixing / maintenance training

Once the water needs of the village have been assessed, maintenance reports have been made and new locations decided on, JWOC employs a local well expert to begin work. During the course of the drilling and maintenance, the well man takes time with each group of houses to instruct them about the way the well works, how to care for the wells and how to fix basic maintenance problems as they arise (for example, changing the rubber seal). All JWOC installed wells are guaranteed for one year and while villagers are encouraged to take responsibility for the long term maintenance of their wells, JWOC's separate maintenance fund may be called on in the future for any big problems.

6) Specialized training for local leaders

In order to provide an extra layer of support for the communities we work with, JWOC asks local leaders to attend a full morning of specialized training in well maintenance, ceramic filter care and hygiene practices. This training and information session gives local leaders the specialized knowledge to be able to support members of their community in the future with any questions or problems they may have.

7) Hygiene training (hand washing / teeth cleaning)

Over the course of a weekend, villagers are required to attend basic hygiene seminars delivered by JWOC scholarship students. Presenting to adults and children separately, these seminars are designed as interactive and engaging information sessions focusing on hand washing and teeth cleaning. Villagers are encouraged to think about concepts of basic hygiene that they can introduce or develop in their everyday lives to have the maximum impact on their health. After the training, participants are presented with a small hygiene pack

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(soap, a toothbrush and toothpaste) to encourage them to incorporate these basic practices into their lives (if they are not doing so already) straight away.

8) Filter training and distribution

Providing households with access to safe drinking water for everyone is a crucial aspect of ensuring the decline in water borne illnesses causing diarrhea, sickness and in more severe cases, death. JWOC provides each household in the village with a locally produced and sustainably produced ceramic water filter, as produced by International Development Enterprises (IDE) - for more information on the filters please visit their website at www.ide-cambodia.org/projects.htm#ceramic. In order to receive their filter, villagers are required to attend JWOC training about preparing and caring for the filters as well as the health benefits of drinking filtered water.

9) Final check and follow up hygiene knowledge and practice survey

One week after the hygiene training, JWOC students return to the village to check that everything is working well and to answer any questions that may have arisen amongst the villagers. They also carry out a final follow-up hygiene survey to measure the difference in hygiene knowledge and practices in the village.

10) Water testing

Water is collected by students who have received specific training in how to collect water samples and they are delivered to a local testing laboratory in Siem Reap. The water is tested for dangerous chemicals such as arsenic that naturally occur in some areas of Cambodia. If the water in a particular well is unsafe the well is dismantled and another location is sought to find a solution.

11) Six month impact assessment

Six months after the initial collaboration with the village, JWOC students return to conduct an impact assessment. This is done to measure the success of the project and identify any areas that can be improved or changed in future projects.