

YEAR REPORT 2024

CAMBODIAN ORGANIZATION FOR LIVING AND TEMPORARY CARE (COLT)



COLT-CAMBODIA - DUTCH PARTNER NGO



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LEGEND

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1. INTRODUCTION

For COLT, the year 2024 was all about letting go and trusting our new way forward.

COLT's organizational model gradually changed from COLT Cambodia with several COLT partners in other countries (The Netherlands, Germany and Norway) to solely COLT Cambodia as a local NGO.

We believe this is the most sustainable way forward!



Curious about COLT's
history? [Click here!](#)

2. OUR PARTNERS



អង្គការម្លប់រុស្ស៊ី
M'lup Russey Organization



COLT strongly believes in the power of collaboration and knowledge sharing. To realize our goals and mission, we work together with local and international partners. With sustainability and empowerment of local communities as key concepts, COLT focuses on strengthening the local and regional network.



Save the Children



Windesheim 

3. GOVERNANCE OF COLT



- Deng Dara
- Tina Beekman-Tolner
- Sam Piseth
- Tout Sopheak



- Arnold Hubach
- Noach van der Linde
- Jessica Michgelsen



- Kristine Wittenberg
Andersen
- Tone Wittenberg

In 2024, COLT was represented in several countries: Cambodia, the Netherlands, and Norway. COLT Germany stopped by the end of 2023.

4. DEVELOPMENT OF OUR VISION

In its strategic vision for the period 2020-2025, COLT focuses on four main key themes: empowerment through education, women's and children's rights, the environment and achieving financial independence:

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EDUCATION

Education has been at the heart of COLT's activities and vision since its inception. In the next 5 years we aim to expand our education capacity without jeopardizing the quality of education.

WE TAKE CARE OF OUR COMMUNITY

COLT will intensify partnerships with both local and international NGOs over the next five years, enabling us to deepen our connection with vulnerable groups and increase the number of people we reach.

ENVIRONMENT

COLT will continue to invest in sustainable development. Outside the center, the goal is to disseminate important knowledge at the community level so that families understand how their actions affect their immediate environment.

FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE

COLT will use the coming years to make the foundation less dependent on international financing. By establishing a local strategic team, reinforced with international expertise, COLT will achieve greater stakeholder engagement from local to national level.

DEVELOPMENT OF OUR VISION 2020-2025

In the period 2015-2020, COLT underwent a transition from childcare to community center, ultimately providing sustainable assistance to children and families in the areas of education, medical and social care, sports and the environment. In order to make this transition successful, various activities are being started up step by step that provide support to various vulnerable groups in the community.



2020

- Start vision up to and including 2025
- Start from contribution to capacity
- Expansion of day care center
- Expansion vegetable garden

2021

- Start local fundraising and support plan
- Local support school & day care according to capacity

2022

- Hire local business development and fundraising manager
- Further reduction of institutional care
- Re-evaluation vision regarding development direct community

2023

- Reintegration of the last children from COLT's home
- Continued development of Family Based Care
- Continued development of prevention through education & day care

2024

- Community support
- Building a strong local NGO with less international support
- Building a strong local Cambodian board
- New Articles of Association
- Supervisory board outline
- Building a new website



5. UPDATES FROM THE PAST YEAR

In our [Spring 2024 newsletter](#), we shared some major milestones with you. We reintegrated all the children from our shelter back into their community and closed our school. The resources we had—like building materials, furniture, and educational tools—were redistributed. For example, the wood from our school was used to build a new home for three sisters who had been with us for years.

We also supported long-time team members Ma Sok and Sen Thearen in starting their own entrepreneurial journeys after the shelter closure, while donating educational materials to the Baku community.

Each of these changes set the stage for a bigger transformation—a **new COLT that's community-led and Cambodia-first**. A COLT that shifts from direct intervention to empowering Cambodian partners and organizations.



WHY THE SHIFT?

Several factors drove this decision:

- **Community Development:** The neighborhood around COLT has developed rapidly, making us realise that our resources would yield a higher impact elsewhere.
- **The Right Thing:** We believe that true empowerment means making ourselves obsolete. Cambodia is ready to lead, and it's time for us to step back.

Following the rationale above, COLT Cambodia will take the reins, and COLT Netherlands will transition into a more hand-off, advisory role. Hence, the title of this newsletter: **A Fresh Start and Handover to Cambodian Independence.**



NEW STRUCTURE

In collaboration with a Cambodian legal firm, we've revised the organizational structure. COLT Cambodia's status as a domestic NGO has been reinforced by installing new Khmer board members, who had a key role in these revised statutes. COLT is now a real domestic NGO, with Cambodian leadership driving our future initiatives.

The new Cambodian board is composed of passionate, experienced individuals who bring expertise in international charity, NGO operations, shelter management, and more. Let's introduce you to COLT 3.0's leadership team! We're very excited and proud to present these skilled and talented Cambodians to you, who will take over the lead from us.

- Pen Soppanara (Chairperson)
- Deng Dara (Vice Chairperson)
- Marn Sokhon (Treasurer)
- Nuon Putheavy (Executive Board Member)



Pen Soppanara
Chairperson



Deng Dara
Vice-chairman



Marn Sokhon
Treasurer



Nuon Putheavy
General Member



Piseth Sam
Charity Funding
Director



A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW CAMBODIAN BOARD OF COLT

"We are honored to take on this leadership role and lift-up COLT's legacy by continuing its mission a reality. Our commitment lies in fostering community growth, maintaining transparency, and delivering impactful programs. With your support, we aim to implement the Home-Based Care and Prevention Programs as indicated by the new Cambodian board, always prioritizing the best interests of children.

The Home-Based Care Program will enhance education and child protection by providing small grants to partner NGOs that share our objectives. This collaborative approach will leverage the strengths and expertise of our partners, ensuring a broader and more effective impact on the communities we serve.

Additionally, the Prevention Program will concentrate on strengthening family functionality. By empowering families to build a supportive and nurturing environment, we aim to create a happy and healthy community for children. This program will address key issues such as reducing school dropout rates, preventing youth involvement in gangs, mitigating other social challenges, and strengthen child-parental healthy relationship.

We are committed to maintaining transparency and accountability in all our initiatives, ensuring that every contribution directly benefits the target groups. Together, we can create lasting change and brighter opportunities for our community.

Thank you for your trust and dedication to our shared vision."

A MESSAGE FROM THE OLD BOARD OF COLT

“As we reflect on COLT’s journey, the outgoing board is filled with gratitude for the milestones we’ve achieved together. Serving this incredible community has been a privilege, and we are excited to hand over the authorization to the capable leadership of the new board.

With fresh ideas and a clear vision, the incoming board is ready to build on COLT’s legacy. Their focus includes: to enhance education and child protection by implementing the Home-Based Care Programs and Prevention Programs. This will be achieved through providing small grants to partner NGOs that share our objectives, fostering collaboration to leverage strengths and expertise. Our ultimate aim is to build a happy and healthy community for children, ensuring their overall well-being and success.

We are confident they will lead COLT to even greater heights.”



NOT A FULL GOODBYE; BUT A NEW BEGINNING

Supervisory Board

With the new organizational structure, COLT also welcomes a new body: the Supervisory Board. The main goal of the supervisory board is to provide advice and guidance to the Executive Board of COLT in Cambodia on a few key decisions. By doing so, we provide continuity of a long-lasting partnership between COLT NL and COLT Cambodia. Key decisions include e.g. appointments of new board members, changes in bank signatories, and financial support for other local initiatives greater than 20.000USD.

Whereas the Dutch Board played an active role in COLT's past, the supervisory board will operate on a passive, on-call basis.



Arnold Hubach
Chairperson



Jessica Michgelsen
Secretary



Eric van der Hoeven
Board Member



Andre Teeuw
Board Member



John ter Horst
Board Member

WHAT'S NEXT FOR COLT?

COLT will continue to support Cambodian communities, but in a more impactful, scalable way. COLT stepped back from providing direct support and transitioned into supporting vetted partners like the Domray Foundation and local leaders in the Baku Village. This allows us to leverage our two decades of experience of running shelters, community schools, daycares and family reintegration projects. We selected these five projects as pilot projects to restart our activities going into the year of 2025.

1. Pagoda school (Hygiene Hope)

We will provide hygiene packages and hygiene workshops twice a year and install and provide the water filters every three months to the pagoda school close to our COLT center.

2. Baku Village (Smart Start Community)

We sponsor training programs for children and adults on various workshops like positive parenting skills, financial literacy, and small business for adults and child safety, body hygiene, and future plans for children. We are connecting the pagoda, local NGOs and government officials, in order to remove barriers between families and aid delivery.

3+4. Daycare projects in Kampong Cham and Preyveng (via the Dom-Ray Foundation)

We sponsor existing projects with education materials, hygiene supplies, health check up, parent engagement, and snacks.

5. Indochina Starfish Foundation (ISF)

We provide sport materials like balls, protectors, and uniforms for the Pagoda school. Through their Education and Football Programs and their Community Development Projects ISF supports those most in need to build a brighter future.

NEW WEBSITE

With a new vision, strategy and Cambodian board, [a new website](#) can't be missing!

COLT Cambodia looks forward to welcoming you soon to a brand-new website. Apart from getting a deeper understanding of COLT's vision, mission and strategy, you will also get to know our partner projects and how COLT's vision will be distributed across Cambodia!

COLT CAMBODIA

Full focus on community-empowerment, home-based care and local expertise.

COLT champions community empowerment across Cambodia through backing local initiatives in family-based care, sustainable development, and education. With years of experience, our Cambodian Outreach and Local Transformation team extends its knowledge by supporting vetted partner organizations.

Transitioning from direct aid to a supporting role, we now fund and advise organizations that share our mission, maximizing the impact of your contributions. Join our journey to create sustainable impact.

Are you a local NGO working in the field of providing care for families and children in Cambodia?

Looking for a way to support impactful projects in Cambodia that benefit local communities and families?

Apply for a Grant

Donate to our Fund

15 years experience and expertise

500+ of families supported

3 running projects

6. FAREWELL

A Fond Farewell from COLT Netherlands!

With COLT The Netherlands transitioning into an advisory role, we also pass on the torch of this newsletter, which has been a beacon of information over the last two decades! We look forward to receiving future communications from our Cambodian team, and if you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to reach out to Piseth directly at piseth@colt-cambodia.org.

Thank you so much for your unwavering support over the past 20 years. We look forward to you joining COLT in this exciting new era, with COLT Cambodia truly leading the way!

Warm regards,

The COLT Netherlands Team

7. CONTACT INFORMATION

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EMAIL-ADDRESSES:

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Arnold Hubach: arnold@colt-cambodia.org

Noach van der Linde: noach@colt-cambodia.org

Jessica Michgelsen: jessica@colt-cambodia.org

BANK:

Rekeningnummer COLT-Cambodia
IBAN: NL81RABO0120024942

BIC: RABONL2U
KvK.nr: 02092710
ANBI.nr: 70433



8. APPENDIX: BALANCE OVER 2024 COMPARED TO 2023

Description	31 december 2024	31 december 2023
Assets		
<i>Financial fixed assets</i>		
Other receivables	1	1
Current assets		
Liquid assets	2.015	19.220
Total asset side	2.016	19.221

8. APPENDIX: BALANCE OVER 2024 COMPARED TO 2023

Description	31 december 2024	31 december 2023
Liabilities		
<i>Foundation assets</i>		
Free reserve	1.205	18.421
<i>Current liabilities</i>		
Accountant fees	800	800
Total liabilities side	2.005	19.221

8. APPENDIX: STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Description	2024	2023
Benefits	23.831	34.954
Total revenues	23.831	34.954
Inventory and machine costs	41.210	70.680
Office expenses	0	725
Overheads	1.455	816
Sum of operating costs	41.665	72.221
Operating result	-17.834	-37.267
Interest income and similar income	2.197	3.832
Interest and similar expenses	-580	-806
Sum of financial income and expenses	1.617	3.026
Result	-16.217	-34.241