

# Sharing experiences on working for OVC



**Children and Love Association**

- **Title:** Participation of Children in Child Protection network

## **Introduction:**

The increasing in number of OVC poses a problem to be well considered and need to be solved. All children need to be well protected, especially OVC need special protection and prevention. CLA believe that children are among the main factors in solving the problem of children. They are the best advocate for the best interest of the children. Recognizing that children's contributions are important, CLA empowers children's and youth's participation

## **Description**

To establish and function child protection system up to district level, CLA works in cooperation and collaboration with government institutions and relevant agencies up from village level to ensure that children's recommendations are considered in the Government Plan of Action and practice. Involves participation of relevant people and agencies in all stages of the project, especially child best centered focusing on the best interest of the child with developing protection policy. Build capacity needed for all involving people, especially children to become peer educators and groups of watchdog within their community. Establish child protection system up from village to district level. Conduct community awareness rising and advocate for the full implementation of children's rights.

## **Result:**

93 child protection networks are established within 93 out of 118 villages of Mesang District, Prey Veng province. OVC have their representative in all child protection networks. Strengthening of the existing government Child protection mechanisms at commune level in link together to Child Protection Networks established by CLA up from village level to district level. These networks become much stronger through their p through planning and reviewing plans, regularly monthly meeting, quarterly meetings and forum discussing and others activities. Therefore if they faced any especial case they meet very often to deal the problems. Through functioning of the network, it seems likely CLA had built the culture of solidarity, trust each other and nondiscrimination.

## Lesson learnt

We concern that although ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child has focused attention and commitment to put all children first, resources are still insufficient to ensure the comprehensive realization of the rights of the child.

Economic crisis make the move of people from place to place which can be led to HIV/AIDS pandemic, and further pose serious threats to the well-being of children in this country.

## **Recommendation**

- Children participation within all activities up from grass roots level should be considered in all stages from the beginning.
- Resources should be well allocated for the work for protection of children.