



Fast Facts

Country: Cambodia

Duration: March 2004 to April 2007

Implementing UN Agencies: UN-HABITAT

Other Implementing Partners: Solidarity for Urban Poor Federation; Urban Poor Development Fund; Asian Coalition for Housing Rights; Urban Resource Center

Budget: \$1,062,252.85

Key Words: Empowerment; poverty reduction; health; sanitation; urban development

BACKGROUND

In 2003, the city of Phnom Penh was facing a dire situation with an estimated population of 1.2 million people living in extreme poverty. Of these, approximately 25 percent were squatters who were socially marginalized. The Municipality of Phnom Penh was engaged in an ongoing campaign to improve

the living conditions of these communities. As part of this campaign, the Municipality of Phnom Penh and UN-HABITAT aimed to address key human security concerns of marginalized urban communities such as access to water, drainage and solid waste disposal, as well as sanitation and health services.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The project sought to build the capacity and strengthen the dignity of poor communities in Phnom Penh by reducing their poverty and improving their access to

affordable basic services and better living environments.

BENEFICIARIES

The project directly benefited more than 200,000 vulnerable people living in informal urban settlements, with a focus on women and children. Through the creation of over 160 community organisations, the project constructed footbridges, latrines, safe drinking water facilities and streetlights, while also improving

economic security for over 500 families through micro-credit schemes. To ensure the sustainability of these efforts, beneficiaries were empowered to participate in policy discussions at the Municipal level.