



Fast Facts

Country: Cambodia

Duration: December 2000 to September 2002

Implementing UN Agencies: UN-HABITAT

Other Implementing Partners: Municipality of Phnom Penh

Budget: \$177,719.60

Key Words: Urban poverty; access to basic social services; empowerment; improved governance

BACKGROUND

After the retreat of the Khmer Rouge in 1979, Cambodia's capital city Phnom Penh began to receive an inflow of migrants from rural areas who settled in the city's expanding informal settlements. In 2002, squatters and other urban poor constituted 25% of the

1 million population of Phnom Penh. This population lacked regular employment, faced social exclusion and suffered from inadequate housing, infrastructure and access to basic social services.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of the project was to reduce the broad range of insecurities faced by the urban poor in Phnom Penh. Specifically, the project aimed to (i) improve basic infrastructure and housing around Phnom Penh; (ii) implement a set of income-generating activities; and (iii) strengthen the capacities of the local Government and the participating communities. By relying on the collaboration of many different groups

in the city, the project implemented an integrated urban poverty reduction plan that improved access to basic services such as water and sanitation; provided vocational training and enhanced opportunities for income generation; and improved local governance through the active engagement of the citizenry and the local Government.

BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries of the project included 2,095 families and 3,500 individuals. In addition, 150,000

slum dwellers benefited indirectly from improvements in the city's slum and squatter communities.