SiRCHESI is a local Cambodian NGO #704 formed in 2000 to encourage Cambodian professionals, students and volunteers, concerned local citizens, medical practitioners, government agencies and non-government organizations (NGOs) and the Siem Reap and international business communities.

Health Promotion by the local grass-roots NGO, SiRCHESI (Siem Reap Citizens for Health, Educational and Social Issues) shown at Angkor Wat. They offer HIV/AIDS Prevention workshops to groups at risk.
An international, Inter-disciplinary collaboration among psychologists, medical practitioners, research students and interns, volunteers, and social change advocates.


Our collaborators: Gabe Pollock, Katie O'Brien, Stacy Niemi, William Salmon, Gillian McFadden, Roys Janemi, Suzanne Kiani, Elynn Braun, Michelle Green, Jillian Schuster, Trinca Pagnotti, Maggie Hall, Alison Rothwell, Sabina Bashir, Shelly Burton, Alison McNeil, Danielle Stevanov, Pam Trut, Emily Candy, Kylie Tribble, Alyson Day, Alan Correra, Sarah Condon, Burghildy Dunn, Kate van der Riet, Leslie Kim, Megan McCourt, Tas Kanna, Jennifer Hemenga, Dallas Groux, Stephanie Collins, Liz Branco, Heidi Lund, Kristen King, Kathryn McDonough, Sandra Dixon (University of Guelph), Cyril Arfeuille (Paris, France), Jessica Cadeshy (UNICEF), Clyde Tan, Sriakshmi Ganapathi, Mee Lian Wong, Wee Koon Chris Ng, Dilin Tang (National University of Singapore), Chris Winkel, Elizabeth Kirkwood (Macquarie University), Sarah Krous, Savon Toch, Tan Tsoi, Cary Poo, Ms Vanna, Vrikatham Hout, Hou Hov, Mr Phan (Siem Reap Provincial AIDS Office/SiRCHESI), Phalla My (Siem Reap Provincial Health Department), Brett Dickson, Neela Griffiths, Mot Song Heng, Pring Noun, Phal Sophea, Sophatra Doung, Srei Nieang, Kissa Sohoun Hoon, Bory Gu, Sophap Pram, (SiRCHESI), Helen Lee (University of Staffordshire), Claire Russell (University of Bath), Tien van Merode (University of Maastricht), Roel Idema (Maastricht, NL), Pauline Lim Sheng Min, Gan Jian Wei (Duke University), Jasmin Turner (Edinboro U., AU), Evelin van DelR (U. Amsterdam), Sarah Larney (UNSW), Bo Weng (Nanjing Normal University, China).
Agenda for Annual General Meeting, SiRCHESI NGO #704

1) Accepting of the Minutes of the previous general meeting (held Feb., 26, 2009).
Slide show of work done in 2009
Discussion with NGO members and guests
Adjourn meeting
Lunch
In 2000, the NGO “SiRCHESI” (Siem Reap Citizens for Health, Educational and Social Issues) brought together local stakeholders, health providers, etc.

Dr. Sarath Kros meets with SiRCHESI staff, 2003.

Beer sellers and hospital workers at annual meeting, May 2002.
The acting Director of the NGO, Dr. Sarath Kros and Prof. Ian Lubek, International Advisor, co-chaired the Annual meeting in English and Khmer.

Meeting attendees: Staff of SiRCHESI NGO, Staff of SiRCHESI Hotel Apprenticeship Program, SiRCHESI Outreach Peer Educators, PAO staff assisting SiRCHESI, interviewers
1) The minutes of the meeting of 2008 were displayed in a slide and approved.

2) An illustrated slide-show of accomplishments in 2008 was presented.

3) Staff changes in 2008: Ms Pring Noeun retired at the end of the School program and MS Ma Vanna took over as counsellor. Ms Neela Griffiths, English teacher at the SiRCHESI school, returned to University of Technology, Sydney. Two local English teachers gave additional lessons to students, each for a few months. Mr Scott McNeil got married and took on increased responsibilities with an import company.
3) A 2008 Audited Budget report from University of Guelph had not been finalized at the time of the meeting; in 2008 (and 2007) SiRCHESI’s operating budget was about $35,000 annually.

About 95% of funding came from M.A.C. AIDS FUND, and the remainder from the sale of Cambodian souvenirs and from donations from private individuals and SiRCHESI advisors and supporters.
4) Several ideas were discussed for 2009 program directions:

- 1) Working more with young vendors, street children at risk
- 2) Expanding our peer educator outreach activities 10%.
- 3) Followup with Cohort 2 after end of program, August, 2009
- 4) Staff requirements for 2009: when Ms Kris will leave for France.
- 5) SiRCHESI building capacity and partnering with other NGOs, PAO, agencies, etc.
- 6) Advocacy for beer company changes; beer seller workshops
- 7) Dissemination of results to government, press, conferences and talks, etc.
- 8) Making SiRCHESI self-sustaining in 2009 through health workshops, selling souvenirs

5) Meeting was adjourned.

The original M.A.C. AIDS Fund Grant, October 2007, ended in January, 2009 and was not renewed.

In 2009, $34,000 was the annual cost (not audited by University of Guelph, as yet) of operating SiRCHESI programs, continuing with some fellowship payment to students, due to economic crisis.

Income came from:
- Income from Siem Reap workshops: $150
- Small grants from SOMO, SPSSI, Canadian Embassy: 10,000
- University of New South Wales Research Grant: $10,000
- Remainder of MAC grant (JAN-FEB, 2009): $6000

Total income: $31,120

Budget was overspent by about $3000 in 2009; currency fluctuations

The SiRCHESI school closed in August, 2009, and much of our equipment is being shared with our health education partners at PAO.
Selling Cambodian Souvenirs around the world for SiRCHESI

At Kimarie shop Cabramatta, Australia, Apr. 2004

Trisha and Jillian, Toronto, 06/2006

Even a Conference Poster becomes a boutique.

Dr. Sarath Kros sells t-shirts at Auckland Buddhist Temple

Khmer New Year’s, Bonnyrigg Temple, April, 2009.

SASP, 2009, Melbourne

Marrickville Organic Market, May, 2009

2 happy NZ customers!
Some of what SiRCHESI does: We have 6 websites to send out information about HIV/AIDS, alcohol overuse, and Siem Reap health issues. Here are 4 websites:

www.angkorwatngo.com
Download “newsletter”

www.ethicalbeer.com
(get “Killer Beers?” stickers)

www.beergirls.org

www.fairtradebeer.com
SiRCHESI midwife Savun Touch with Dr. Mee Lian Wong at Mondol Moi Health Centre where annually 560 behavioural questionnaires are gathered in interviews conducted by Ms. Savun. The questionnaires are then taken to Singapore and to Australia for entry and analysis; now local staff help enter the data in Siem Reap into Excel and SPSS.
Monitoring changes in community risk groups’ behaviours

Consistent condom use with paying partners among beer sellers last week

Ms. Touch Savun conducts up to 560 interviews each year at Mondol Moi.

A Testing and counselling by Rose Center
B Peer educator workshop by SiRCHESI
C Peer educator outreach activities by SiRCHESI (with input by PAO)
D Peer educator by RACHA
SiRCHESI HIV/AIDS Educational Peer Educator Outreach

Outreach contacts by peer educators

- 2002 (Jun-Dec): 880
- 2003: 1848
- 2004: 2678
- 2005: 3460
- 2006: 4164
- 2007: 6485
- 2008: 7719
- 2009: 8570
Outreach peer educators
Working with Young Vendors on self sustaining economic micro development

And avoidance of sexual tourists and trafficking-- “street proofing” at Angkor Wat
We have created health education workshops and outreach for men, married women, beer-sellers and young vendors at risk.
Clinic with Dr. Mee Lian Wong (Singapore) and Pauline Meng Lim for screening for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome for beer-sellers who drank during pregnancies

Gabe Pollock (rt), with Nathalie Lim (Au) and translator Sophiap Prem, interviewed all 25 Hotel Apprenticeship students

Hotel Apprenticeship Program, Cohort 1, 2006-2008 and Cohort 2, 2007-2009
SiRCHESI, M.A.C. AIDS Fund, AVI, Siem Reap Provincial AIDS Office and 9 partner Hotels.

25 former beer-sellers; many still have careers in local hotels.
The first 14 women in the SiRCHESI PrimaryPrevention Hotel Apprenticeship program began their 2 year career commitment in Nov, 2006.
Neela Griffiths, with Australian Volunteers International, was our English teacher in 2007-8, and came from the ESL staff at University of Technology Sydney. Seen here with Cohort 2 students at the SiRCHESI School.
Learning Hotel Skills
2010-What’s new for SiRCHESI?

- In 2010, we will have funding from SOMO, Netherlands, and from IDRC, CANADA from a program of Governance, Equity and Health
- We will continue in May-June breathalyzer testing and health workshops for men and women
- We will see about road-accident and alcohol research
- We would like to increase our peer educator outreach almost to 10,000
- More students will come from Canada, UK and Australia to work with us