

**Name:** Angely Rose

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**Username:** angelyrose

**School:** Liger Leadership Academy

**Our letter sent to Mr. Phan Sophy: the department officer of the Cambodian Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology:**

Dear Mr. Phan Sophy, the department officer of the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology,

I am Angely Rose, a student from the Liger Leadership Academy writing to you to present some research findings regarding the access to clean water in Cambodia and to propose a few solutions that you can consider when you work on developmental projects in the future.

According to Water.org website: **“More than 2 million people** in Cambodia lack access to safe and clean drinking water, and **3 million** lack access to improved sanitation. With approximately 77 percent of Cambodians living in rural areas, poor access to safe water and sanitation disproportionately affects its rural communities.”

Furthermore, “One in three Cambodians uses water from a non-improved drinking source, which means they do not hygienically separate human waste from human contact. Seven in ten pre-primary schools do not have access to WASH facilities, and one in two rural healthcare facilities does not have sufficient water all year round.” according to UNICEF’s article on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Cambodia.

The above facts show crucial examples of environmental injustice where underserved communities will face more challenges due to the lack of necessary infrastructure to help them cope with environmental challenges.

In addition, there is a context of another problem of open defecation near waterways that poses a serious threat towards the public health in rural areas of Cambodia, especially increasing the risk of the spread of diseases.

I understand that the government of Cambodia is working hard towards achieving the goal for rural areas to reach 100 percent access to improved water and sanitation by 2025.

Therefore, I would love to propose to you some solutions outlined below that you can incorporate into your ministerial framework to expedite the bringing of safer drinking water and sanitation access to rural areas and those underserved communities.

1. The ministry can heavily invest your funding to local organizations that work towards achieving clean water goals for Cambodia such as Resource Development International (RDI). RDI have been creating affordable and effective clay water filters that can be easily accessible and affordable for rural communities. By funding RDI, the ministry can directly help to bring the water filters to the underserved communities in an effective manner.
2. the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology can conduct public workshops and training seminars to raise awareness on the importance of clean water, the prevalence of waterborne diseases and how to prevent those diseases by showing easy and effective water treatment plans for households around rural areas in Cambodia as well as to children in government school across the nation.
3. The ministry can further increase hygiene education in rural communities through community outreach programs along with community sanitation projects to raise funds for public toilets or soaps and hand-washing facilities in public areas such as schools and pagodas. This is crucial to increase the public access to clean water and sanitation and build a collective mindset that values water and cleanliness.

I would love to meet with you to discuss further about the above outlined action plans and expand with you more as needed to fit with the government and ministerial frameworks.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration and I hope to hear from you soon.

Best regards,

Angely Rose and the Trio-eco-wizards.

**Posters visual posted to instagram:**

## WATER ACCESS IN CAMBODIA



*photo: UNICEF Cambodia/2019/Fani Llaurado*

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**ACCORDING TO WATER.ORG**

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## WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN HELP?



*RDI - Resource Development International*

1. Learn more about, donate, and support to **local organizations** that work towards achieving clean water goals for Cambodia such as **Resource Development International (RDI)**. RDI have been creating affordable and effective clay water filters that can be easily accessible and affordable for rural communities.

## WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN HELP?



2. Raise awareness on the importance of clean water, how waterborne diseases can affect one's health and improve **hygiene education** in your community through simple activities such as communal discussions about ways to improve sanitation

*photo: UNICEF Cambodia/2019/Fani Llaurado*

## WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN HELP?



3. Create **a community sanitation project** to raise funds for public clean water access, creating more public toilets and hand-washing facilities in public areas such as schools and pagodas.

*photo: UNICEF Cambodia/2019/Fani Llaurado*

## Post to instagram:

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trioecowizards\_pgc22



trioecowizards\_pgc22 "One in three Cambodians uses water from a non-improved drinking source, which means they do not hygienically separate human waste from human contact. Seven in ten pre-primary schools do not have access to WASH facilities, and one in two rural healthcare facilities does not have sufficient water all year around." according to UNICEF's article on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Cambodia. (@unicefcambodia)

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This problem of open defecation near waterways poses a serious threat towards the public health in rural areas of Cambodia, especially increasing the risk of the spread of diseases.

Although Cambodia's economy is growing, families still struggle to access basic sanitation. However, there is great hope in this area as the government of Cambodia set a high-achieving goal for rural areas to reach 100 percent access to improved water and sanitation by 2025.

Therefore, we must join hands to gather collective action to bring safer drinking water and sanitation access.



Liked by shua\_na\_ and 2 others

10 HOURS AGO



Add a comment...

Post

**BONUS POINTS:** We actually sent this letter to Mr. Phan Sophy. We will send his reply before October 12th.



**Phan Sophy**

Active 10m ago



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