

WATER FOR LIFE PHASE 2 (SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA)

ABOUT THE WATER FOR LIFE PROGRAMME

Having clean drinking water at a turn of the tap is a basic amenity many of us usually take for granted. However, **did you know that more than 26% of Cambodia's population of 16 million has no access to clean water sources? In the rural areas, the percentage is 53%.** The country also has one of the highest infant mortality rates in Asia, and many of these deaths can be attributed to water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea, hepatitis A and typhoid.



Water for Life is the Singapore International Foundation's direct-service clean water programme which addresses gaps in rural communities' water ecosystem. We employ different types of clean water technology, such as bio-sand water filters, tube wells and membrane water filters, to best suit the needs of each community.

Our goal? To reduce the incidence of water-borne diseases, improve hygiene and sanitation conditions, enhance livelihood opportunities and improve overall well-being. This initiative also augments efforts made both at a national and global scale. For instance, the Cambodian government's national strategy for rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) aims to provide every person in a rural community with sustained access to safe water supply and sanitation services, and a hygienic living environment by 2025. On a global scale, the Water for Life programme contributes towards global efforts such as [UN's Sustainable Development Goals](#), particularly Goal #6 which aims for universal access to water and sanitation for all by 2030 and the Our work today, bringing communities together, contributes towards a greater good.

In Cambodia, we kickstarted the first phase of the Water for Life programme in 2009, in partnership with Water for Cambodia. The five-year Phase 1 ended in 2014 with more than 17,000 Cambodians enjoying easy access to clean drinking water and improved health through 2,600 Bio-Sand Filters built.

ABOUT WATER FOR LIFE PHASE 2

Come September 2017, we would be starting Phase 2 of the Water for Life Programme. The four-year programme will be sponsored by Ngee Ann Development Pte Ltd, and implemented in partnership with Water for Cambodia. Through this programme, the aim is to provide communities in the Siem Reap province with access to clean drinking water and enhance their quality of life through improved health and hygiene practices.

Through the Phase 2 programme, more than 9,000 Cambodians are expected to benefit from this initiative through the following activities:

- Installation of 900 bio-sand filters to provide communities with access to clean water and substantially reduce the incidence of water-borne diseases
- Basic hygiene education classes for 4,310 villagers, school teachers and children

HOW CAN VOLUNTEERS CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS WATER FOR LIFE?

The SIF is now looking for corporations and institutions to form groups of 6 - 12 individuals to spend five days volunteering for the project in Siem Reap. Volunteers would be involved in one or more of the following activities:

- Learn how to assemble and build bio-sand filters
- Install bio-sand filters in households and schools
- Conduct basic hygiene training (hand washing and tooth brushing) in villages and schools

The SIF will conduct a pre-departure briefing and relevant training to equip and better prepare volunteers for the volunteer programme. An SIF staff or Direct Service Team Leader will also provide on-site assistance during the volunteer trip.

WHAT IS THE CRITERIA TO BE A VOLUNTEER?

Our volunteers are key to the success for any of our programmes. We welcome all Singaporeans and Singaporean residents to come together and do good for a better world. However, we do look for the following essential traits to be embodied in our volunteers to ensure a meaningful volunteering stint:

- **Adaptability, Willingness to Serve, Motivated to Change** – Places that we visit might be out of your comfort zone, in terms of cleanliness and convenience. Being adaptable to different working environments and situations is vital.
- **Cultural Sensitivity** – It is also important to have an open mind and interest in learning about different cultures. Being mindful of cultural differences and possessing the ability to articulate personal convictions respectfully is vital.
- **Humble Spirit of Service** – We encourage our volunteers to interact with the community with humility and friendliness, underpinned by a desire to serve the local community.
- **Team Spirit** – To achieve the objectives of any trip collectively, working well and building good rapport with fellow volunteers, local partners and community leaders is important.

Volunteering with the SIF is a meaningful and rewarding experience. Our volunteers often come away with firm friendships amongst their fellow volunteers and the individuals in the communities they serve in.

HOW MUCH WOULD IT COST?

Each volunteer is expected to pay **S\$1,075 for a single room** or **S\$975 for a twin-sharing room**. This amount includes the following items:

1. Pre-trip arrangement
2. Return air tickets to Siem Reap (via Silkair)
3. Hotel accommodation
4. 2-way airport transfers
5. Transportation during field days
6. 3 lunch packs
7. Travel insurance and ISOS emergency services

The above is an estimated cost based on a 5D 4N programme. Let us know if you wish to extend your trip before making your payment as the cost will increase according to the duration of your stay. Once payment has been made, you will not be able to make any further changes.

By having volunteers cover their personal costs, the SIF can then channel corporate sponsorships into providing resources to the communities and directly addressing their immediate concerns.

CANCELLATION REFUND POLICY

Airfare	5 weeks prior to trip departure or upon issuance of tickets, whichever comes first: No refund
Land cost <i>(Hotel accommodation, local transport, airport transfers, local logistics & on-site assistance, lunch packs, travel insurance & ISOS emergency services)</i>	15 days or more prior to trip departure: 50% refund 14 days or less prior to trip departure: No refund

PROPOSED VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME 5D 4N *(subject to changes without prior notice)*

Time (hrs)	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
0700	Arrive in Siem Reap	Breakfast at hotel			Depart Siem Reap
0800		Depart for WFC	Depart for districts	Depart for districts	
0900		Briefing/ training Build bio-sand filters at WFC	Install bio-sand filters at village households/schools	Conduct basic hygiene training at village households/schools	
1000					
1100		Lunch			
1200		Build bio-sand filters at WFC	Install bio-sand filters at village households/schools	Remove BSF moulds	
1300				Return to hotel	
1400		Return to hotel	Return to hotel	Return to hotel	
1500					
1600		Dinner			
1700					
1800					

HOW DO I CONTACT SIF?

Please contact us at the following avenues to register your interest and/or for more information:

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