

# M'lop Tapang at a Glance

## The challenge

The population of Sihanoukville province is around 200,000 people



21.4% of the population is vulnerable to poverty leading to a high number of street working and street living children

street children suffer from hunger and poor health

street children are victims of road accidents

street children are subject to violence & abuse

## At a glance:

**M'lop Tapang** is a comprehensive center dedicated to disadvantaged street children and youth in Sihanoukville, Cambodia. The Center provides shelter, medical care, education, sports, arts, vocational training, counseling, family support and protection from all types of abuse. Through a wide variety of programs focused on challenges across the community of Sihanoukville, M'LoP Tapang supports over 7,000 at-risk children, youth and their families.

## Key programs:

### Outreach

The Outreach Programs offer community education, family reintegration and emergency support. By going out each day to the markets, streets, port and beaches of Sihanoukville, the Outreach Team is often the first contact for children in need.

### Child Protection

To combat abuses faced by children living in poverty, the Child Protection Team works with children and their families, local authorities, and community members. The focus of child protection services is on prevention, advocacy, victim support, recovery and reintegration.

### Social Enterprise Strategy

Sandan, a restaurant operated by M'LoP Tapang, functions as a training center for disadvantaged youth aged 15 years old and above, offering local residents and tourists delicious Khmer food. The Motor Repair Shop opened last year trains youth in mechanics and soft skills. Finally, M'lop Tapang's two shops function as non-profit ventures sell handicrafts made by youth in the vocation training program and parents of former street children.

### Medical Services

Health care expenses can push poor families deeper into poverty. M'LoP Tapang offers free health care at their Medical Clinic – where more than 50 patients are treated each day – as well as in the community during Medical Outreach trips.

### Education

The education program developed in collaboration with the Department of Education, helps children & youth who have never been to school (or have been out of school for a long time) to catch up with their studies. The goal is to reintegrate children into the local public school system at a grade level suitable for their age.

### Vocational training

The Vocational Training Program helps youth 15 years and older who are either unemployed, in menial jobs, not in full time education, victims of abuse or former drug users, to secure decent work and to lead a dignified life. Trainings are designed to meet the job market needs in Sihanoukville and include: sewing, cooking & hospitality, professional dancing and theater and more.

## Key facts:



Area of operations supported by Epic Foundation

Age Range  
**0-24**

Beneficiaries  
**7,000**

Sector  
**Education,  
Health, Economic  
Empowerment,  
Rights Protection**

Staff  
**210**

Budget  
**\$1,598,855**

Year est.  
**2003**

(2017 data estimate)