

CUP OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL

APRIL 2006

WATER FILTER BUSINESS STARTED IN CAMBODIA

-MATT WEBB

Cup of Hope International has just returned from a trip to Cambodia where we were able to train our first Biosand water filter technician to start his own local business. He is already building Biosand water filters to sell to people in his village. He will also be able to train them on proper filter usage, household sanitation techniques and hygiene issues.

We met Duen, the new technician, upon our arrival in Phnom Penh. He helped us to pick up and inspect the first steel filter mold for his business. From there, we started on our trip up to the Battambang province, where he lives. Our first stop was at church plant in the Preah Vihear province

where we built a filter and trained Duen at the same time. He went on ahead of us to his own village, as we took some time to visit the ancient temples at Angkor Wat. We met up with him 2 days later and found that he had hired an assistant named Kio. Together they had built a filter. We were able to show them how to wash the filter media (sand and gravel) and correctly install it into the filter. We also built a diffuser plate, a lid and demonstrated the proper usage of the filter. Over the next few days, Duen and Kio built 2 more filters themselves, and were excited to build more as people in the village began to inquire as to how they could own a filter.

In the meantime, Mike was able to do some community-wide training on the importance of clean drinking water, hygiene, and sanitation. He also explained the SODIS method of water disinfection. We all collected water bottles, filled them up with rain water, and placed them on a roof to wait for the sun to purify the water in them.

We are excited about the success we had with this first project, and we will watch it carefully to see how it develops over time.



Kio and Duen with one of the Biosand water filters they built.

THE BIOSAND WATER FILTER AND SODIS

-MATT WEBB



SODIS process of Solar Water Disinfection in use.

The Biosand water filter is simply a concrete container, enclosing layers of sand and gravel whose purpose is to eliminate sediments, pathogens and other impurities from the water.

Water is poured into the top of the filter as needed, where a diffuser plate placed above the sand bed dissipates the initial force of the water. Traveling slowly through the sand bed, the

water then passes through several layers of gravel and collects in a pipe at the base of the filter. Gravity then propels the water through plastic piping encased in the concrete exterior, and out of the filter, for the user to collect.

The Solar Water Disinfection (SODIS) process uses solar radiation to destroy pathogenic microorganisms which cause water borne

diseases.

SODIS is ideal to treat small quantities of water. Contaminated water is filled into transparent plastic bottles and exposed to full sunlight for six hours.

CUP OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL

1015 9th Ave.
Greeley, CO
80631 USA

Phone: 970-405-7155
Email: info@cupofhope.info

www.cupofhope.info

How Can You Help???

Cup of Hope International is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization committed to making clean drinking water available to everyone who needs it. We are fully donor-funded, meaning we rely on people like you, to make this happen. We also rely on a team of supporters to cover what we do with constant prayer. You can be a part of this team! Pray that God would cover our travel, that he would continue to open up doors to us in countries, and that he would bring us honest people to work with in setting up the businesses. Thank you for your prayer, and donations! To make a

monetary donation, send checks or money orders payable to Cup of Hope, to the above address.

We Need Help!!!

Cup of Hope International is still in the startup phase, and as such, we need some items to help us in our operations! If you have anything, or know someone who does, or if you'd like to buy anything for us, please contact Matt at info@cupofhope.info. We currently need the following items:

- New Laptop computer. (1.5Ghz or better, capable of running Windows XP Pro, with CD/DVD burner)
- Portable Projector to show videos/presentations from laptop at meetings, etc.
- Handheld GPS unit w/ manual. (5 yrs. Old or newer)

All donations are tax-deductible.

Buy a Biosand water filter

Even though the Biosand water filters are relatively inexpensive, they are usually out of reach for people in 3rd world countries such as Cambodia. People who would be candidates to receive a filter usually are on a subsistence-based income, meaning that they only make enough to get by. We want you to get involved in this by sponsoring water filters for people in these countries.

For just \$40, you can buy a Biosand water filter for a family, and provide them with clean drinking water for life.

For \$40 each month, you can provide water filters for 12 families a year, and make a difference in the lives of an entire community of people.

Your filter sponsorship is extremely important to us. Without these donations, we would not be able to set up the businesses to provide these filters to people who need them.

WATER AND LEADERS

While bringing the technology of the water filters was important during our recent trip into Cambodia, we also wanted to encourage leadership development within the existing four churches that we visited. Our hope is to encourage a strong indigenous church leadership to develop. This will guide the church toward a deepening, intimate relationship with Christ.

During a question and answer time after speaking about community health issues I was asked by a respected man from the village; "Are these filters just for the church people?" I replied; "If Jesus were here with us today he would make sure that everyone that needs drinkable water would have it. We come in his name and will

do our best to make sure that happens." He seemed very satisfied with that answer and with a broad smile said; "I can see that you have good hearts and I appreciate that you have come across the ocean to help our people. This is a good thing. I will buy filters for my family and friends." Only later did I learn how influential this man is in the community. Many people said that because he said it was good, they, too, would want filters for their homes.

We participated in several baptisms and prayed with others to receive Christ. A few were neighbors to the churches who came because of the genuine community of the church. One woman was severely beaten by her husband after her confession of faith in Jesus and baptism,

but she was determined to remain a follower of the Lord. The church leaders were able to help this woman with a safe solution for her and her infant child.

Water and leadership work together to strengthen the community connection in two ways: First- the business owner is an elder within the church community and he will be regularly visiting the homes of those with bio-sand filters to ensure proper usage and maintenance. This on-going contact will provide numerous occasions for the Good News to be extended to the families with filters. Second, the opportunity provided through these contacts and the church that generously provides them with filters creates good will in

-MIKE WEBB

the village and a deeper understanding by the church as to the needs of the people entrusted into their care.

We will continue to do follow-up leadership training as long as the Cambodian churches request it from our teams. We are confident that "He who began a good work... will complete it".

