

Empowering Girls to Learn & Lead

"THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR, TEACHERS & YOUTH ADMIRE ME; THEY WONDER HOW I HAVE ICT SKILLS."

When Srey Nich was 16, she dropped out of school to help take care of her family. At that time, medical bills and debt had pressed her parents to migrate to Thailand, while her oldest sister had taken a job at an electronics factory. Srey Nich was left responsible for taking care of her younger sister, her grandmother and the family's house in rural Cambodia.

The next year, she heard about World Education's Youth On The Move (YOTM) program and decided to enroll in the after-school Information and Communications Technology (ICT) class, which was a non-formal education class offered in her village for three months. She picked up typing, desktop navigation and other software-specific skills quickly. Srey Nich used her newfound skills to help other students while also assisting the class facilitator.

After completing the ICT course, community members nominated Srey Nich to be a facilitator for other non-formal education classes. She was trained by YOTM and served her community for six months, coordinating youth meetings and facilitating workshops on topics ranging from financial management to health and nutrition to safe migration.

Through the process, Srey Nich shared that she gained important information about issues affecting youth like her, strengthened her critical thinking and communication skills and deepened her relationships with community members. Armed with new skills and knowledge, Srey Nich identified a false advertisement about private schooling in the capital city and saved other youth from falling prey to a scam.

Empowered by her experiences, Srey Nich went back to finish school. "I spend some free time to help youth in the school computer lab," Srey Nich shares, "the School Director, teachers and youth admire me and wondered how I have ICT skills?" In the future, Srey Nich wants to be a teacher and help younger generations thrive.

Youth on the Move is World Education's regional initiative aiming to reduce the vulnerability of potential migrant, and migrant, youth to trafficking, exploitation and abuse through improved learning outcomes, life skills, and knowledge about safe migration. For more information about the Youth on the Move project, contact Estelle Day at estelle_day@worlded.org

