Global hygiene is in our hands.
The Issue

Clean water, proper sanitation, and hygiene are some of the most important factors in keeping rural and slum families healthy. Unfortunately, hygiene is often overlooked as a public health intervention.

In Cambodia, 75% of rural families lack access to the most basic hygiene products – including soap. The Eco-Soap Bank is determined to meet their need.

The Process

- Partner with hotels and guesthouses in Cambodia
- Collect gently used bars of soap
- Recycle soap bars into new bars
- Distribute soap to rural schools, communities, clinics, and slums
- Pair soap distribution with hygiene education classes
- Watch healthy and productive communities prosper

The Impact

Our process has clear positive health, environmental, and economic impacts on the Cambodian people:

Health

Since its launch in 2014, the Eco-Soap Bank has served over 650,000 people with hygiene through our 30 NGO partnerships. That means health clinics can now give soap to patients who come in sick from diarrhea as a preventative resource. Schools now have the tools to teach their students lifelong hygiene skills that will keep them healthy and in the classroom.

Economic

The Eco-Soap Bank employs women in villages to serve as hygiene ambassadors to sell recycled soap in their communities and earn income for themselves and their families. Additionally, we relieve costs associated with healthcare treatment by providing rural Cambodians with the means to prevent illness.

Environmental

Two million tourists pass through Cambodia each year, generating a steady stream of wasted hotel soap in the process. Rather than allowing this non-biodegradable waste to flow into the trash heap, the Eco-Soap Bank seeks to reuse this “scrap” material in service of an even larger issue – Cambodia’s severe hygiene problem.

By fighting on three fronts, the Eco-Soap Bank seeks to maximize its positive impact on the developing world.
Impact in Numbers

🗑️ 186,698 Soap Donations
🗑️ 25,910 Pounds Recycled
❤️ 666,562 People Served
📊 227 Hotel Partners
💼 31 Cambodians Employed
🛒 39 Distribution Partners

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The Eco-Soap Bank is building support to open its fourth soap recycling branch in Banlung, Ratanakiri. Ratanakiri Province features the worst health outcomes in Cambodia, with an average life expectancy of 41 years and a child mortality rate far worse than the national average. Roughly 23% of children die before the age of five.

Your contribution today will help hire five underemployed women in Ratanakiri province to recycle and distribute soap, reaching an additional 50,000 Cambodians in dire need.

Global hygiene is in your hands.

Donate at ecosoapbank.org/donate or contact samir@ecosoapbank.org.

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