



# VIC Update

January – May 2012

## RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

- On February 21, the SHG/Federation workshop took place at Kien Khleang. There were 123 participants in attendance.
- On February 15, the Kien Khleang Center began to implement the sliding fee at the rehabilitation center. The majority of PWDs were receptive to the new fee.
- On February 6-9, The International Center's CFO, Nain Anderson, visited VIC to discuss the organization's plans for future sustainability.
- On January 5, VIC hosted a formal opening ceremony for the Female Disabled Federation. The event was attended by H.E. Yi Veasna, advisor to the royal government of Cambodia.

## VIC Works to Improve Sustainability

VIC has undertaken numerous steps in the past months to work towards becoming more sustainable as an organization. These steps include working to implement a sliding fee model in their clinics, meeting with the Handa Foundation to discuss a private clinic, and meeting with The International Center's CFO, Nain Anderson, regarding financial and legal issues regarding the organization's sustainability.

Part of VIC's efforts has included several discussions with Kevin O'Brien and the staff of the Handa Foundation regarding the implementation of a private clinic.

These meetings have led to the circulation of an MOU in late April between The Handa Foundation and VIC in an effort to start a private clinic that will be called The Handa Rehabilitation clinic.

Also, VIC was granted permission to begin using a sliding fee system by MoSVY in January. VIC was encouraged, however, to maintain the fee as a voluntary contribution and to not compel any PWDs to pay for services. The fee was implemented at the Kien Khleang center on February 15.

Ms. Anderson visited VIC's offices from February 6-9. She, along with senior VIC staff, conducted meetings related to the potential transformation of VIC into a local NGO, the sustainability and future of the project, and the private clinic.

## VIC and the ASEAN Disability Forum

Son Sit, Physical Therapy mentor at Kien Khleang center, attended a two-day regional conference of the ASEAN Disability Forum near the end of March. The focus of the conference was "Accelerating the Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities." By the end of the conference, the forum had composed a completed draft of Phnom Penh's "Declaration on Persons with Disabilities."

Following the meeting, a group of 26 forum attendees visited VIC's Kien Khleang center. Son Sit and VIC staff gave the delegates a tour of the facility and a brief presentation on VIC programs and interests.

The forum visit concluded a weekend of visits for the KK center. The day before forum visitors arrived, VIC staff welcomed two prosthetic specialists to the center. Both doctors were given an overview of VIC programs and a tour of the center.

