

# ANNUAL REPORT

01 October 2023 - 31 December 2024



# RIVER CLEANUP MISSION CAMBODIA

**Geographic Coverage:** Mekong, Tonlé Sap and Bassac Rivers  
(Phnom Penh, Kratie, Kampong Cham, Kampong Spue, Kandal and  
other priority provinces)

**Project Period:** 5 years (October 2023 - September 2028)

**Budget:** USD466,650.00

Sponsored by:



Implemented by:

**អង្គការសម្អាតទន្លេ សមុទ្រ**  
**River Ocean CLEANUP**

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# OFFICIAL LAUNCH RIVER CLEANUP MISSION - CAMBODIA

March 20th, 2024, Phnom Penh.

Presided over by  
**H.E Eang Sophalleth, Minister of Environment**  
High Representative of  
**Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei**  
**Hun Manet, the Prime Minister of Cambodia**



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cambodia has been intensifying its efforts to combat plastic pollution, focusing on the capital and provincial centers in alignment with the Ministry of Environment's Circular Strategies: Clean, Green, and Sustainable.

Cities, parks, streets, and national roads are becoming visibly cleaner through multipronged cleanup actions, educational campaigns, and active community participation. However, riverine plastic pollution remains a critical challenge, with illegal dumpsites and floating plastic debris polluting waterways, harming marine ecosystems, and endangering marginalized communities—particularly the younger generation—by contaminating vital water resources.

To tackle this issue, the Five-Year River Cleanup Mission (2023–2028), funded by Leader Energy, was launched in late 2023. This mission plays a pivotal role in removing plastic waste from Cambodia's three major rivers: the Mekong, Tonlé Sap, and Bassac.

## Impacts:

- 214 tons of waste collected (Mekong: 63.60 tons, Tonlé Sap: 93.66 tons, Bassac: 57.12 tons) from 233 km of riverbanks cleaned using highly trained officers, Debris Buster Boats, land transport, and community efforts
- 196.88 tons of non-recyclable waste repurposed for cement production through co-processing, an environmentally friendly waste treatment solution
- 14 Jobs created
- 2,763 volunteers engaged from 27 schools and 12 communities, participating in 12 outreach events across Phnom Penh and Kandal Province
- Total expenses: UDS 133,647.47

Despite these achievements, much more remains to be done to ensure Cambodia's rivers are clean and communities thrive in a healthy environment.

**H.E. Eang Sophalleth, Minister of Environment**, recognizes the River Cleanup Mission as a significant contributor to Cambodia's fight against marine plastic pollution.

Together for Clean Rivers!



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# SOLUTION

A group of people in blue uniforms are cleaning a riverbank. They are using a small white boat with a blue stripe and a white canopy. The boat is filled with plastic waste. The people are using long poles and nets to collect trash from the river. The riverbank is covered in a thick layer of plastic waste, including bottles, bags, and other debris. In the background, there are trees and a building.

# LEGACY MARINE PLASTIC

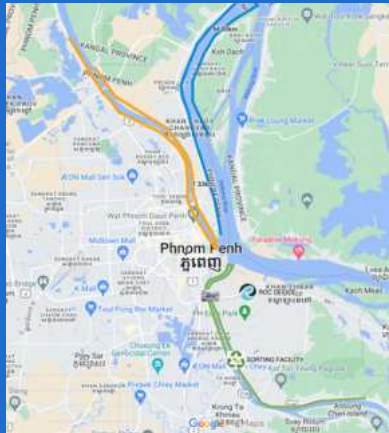
# 1. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

**Phnom Penh 86km**

Mekong: 30 km

Tonlé Sap: 33 km

Bassac River: 23 km

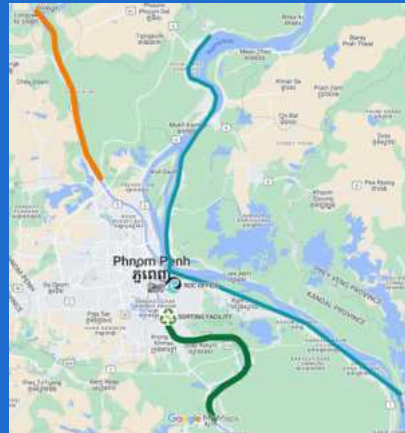


**Kandal Province 127km**

Mekong: 76 km

Tonlé Sap: 26 km

Bassac River: 25 km



**Siem Reap 20km**

Tonlé Sap: 20 km



## 2. KEY ACTIVITIES

### 2.1 River Cleanup



However, based on the distance coverage suggests that the highest waste collected per km is Bassac River.

In total, **214.38 Tons** of waste has been collected from 233 km the Mekong, Tonlé Sap and Bassac Rivers and shorelines within Phnom Penh, Kandal and Siem Reap provinces (Chong Kneas). The chart indicates that Tonlé Sap (79 km) has the highest volume of waste was collected at 93.662 tons, equal to 1,185 kg/km. The second highest is Mekong (106 km), 63.601 tons, equal to 600 kg/km and the lowest is Bassac river (48 km) 57.123 tons equal to **1,190 kg/km**.



# 214 Tons

OF NON-RECYCLABLE WASTE  
CO-PROCESSED

**LEAD ACTIONS, DRIVE POSITIVE CHANGE**



**WATER FESTIVAL 2024**

**WATER FESTIVAL 2023**



# BEFORE THE RAIN WASHING DOWN BASSAC RIVER



**Preak Pra, Preak Tmei Communes,  
Chbar Ampov District**



# MEKONG RIVER



# TONLÉ SAP RIVER

Preak Kdam bridge, Kandal Province

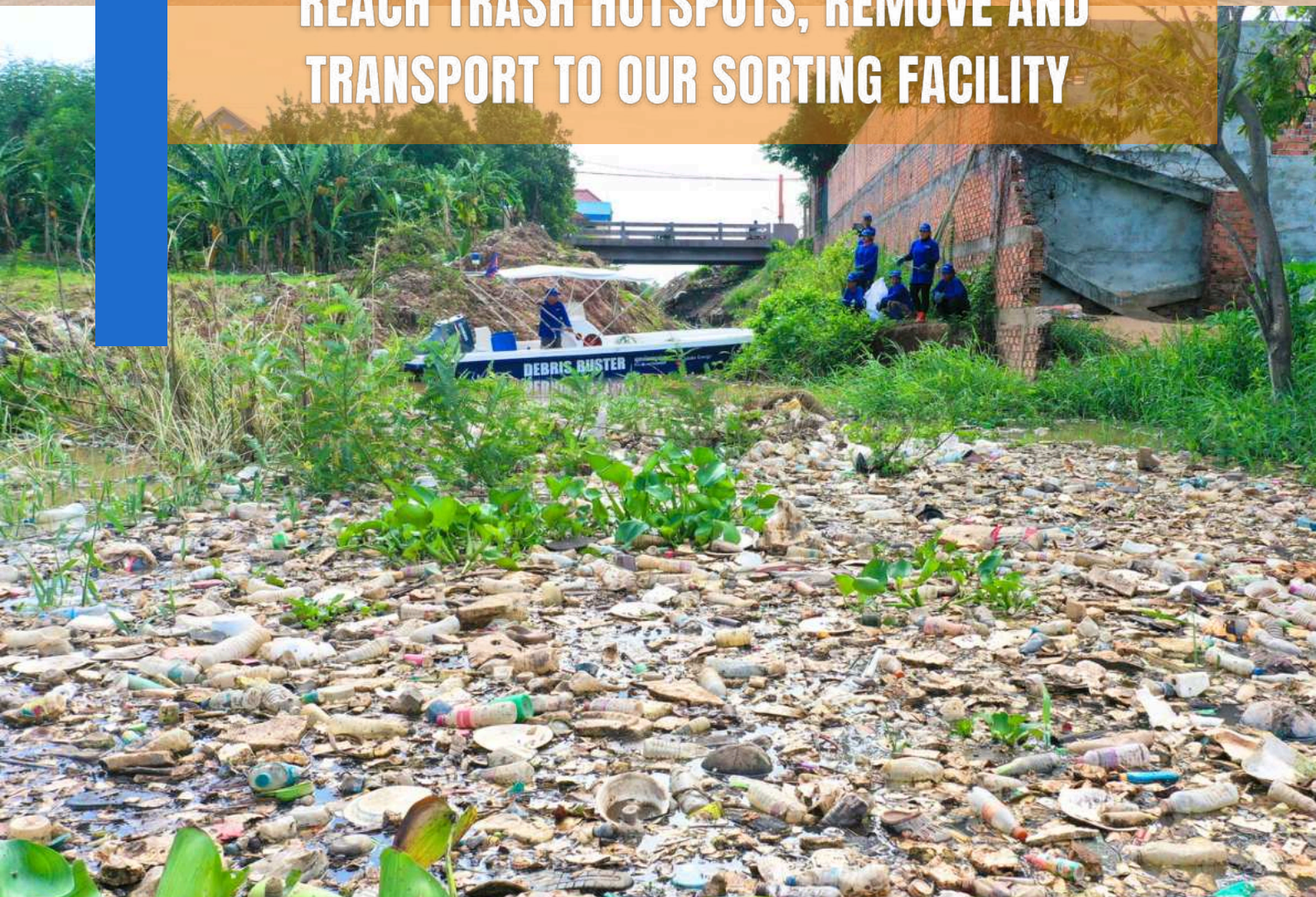


# BASSAC RIVER





**WITH THE BOAT WE CAN ACCESS HARD-TO-REACH TRASH HOTSPOTS, REMOVE AND TRANSPORT TO OUR SORTING FACILITY**



# COMMUNITIES PARTICIPATION



## 2.2 CO-PROCESSING

All materials collected materials from the rivers were sorted into different streams at the sorting facility based on standard requirements.

Marine plastic is different from social plastic, it's highly contaminated, which is technically rated as non-recyclable, and required a special waste treatment. **196.33 tons** of 214 tons of collected waste were converted into the energy part of the cement production process through our contractor. Environmentally treated.

Repurpose,  
Resource Recover,  
Zero Waste,  
Environmentally treated



# CO-PROCESSING PLANT

**BENEFITS:** Replacing coal and fossil fuel with non-recyclable waste, it decreases the amount of natural resources taken from the earth. Leaving no waste residue - within a cement kiln, waste fuels are co-processed utilizing the heat value derived from the waste fuel to substitute fossil fuels or coal incorporating the ash as a partial replacement of the raw materials to produce cement. Reduce CO2 emissions from burning of waste which cannot be recycled Reduce greenhouse gas from land, especially methane. Reduce plastic waste from the environment and the chance of soil waster and air pollution. It's a zero-waste practice.



## 196 Tons

OF NON-RECYCLABLE WASTE  
CO-PROCESSED

## 2.3 OUTREACH



Awareness-Raising Programs were conducted to promote basic waste management among riverine communities people and students. It is one of the most critical parts of the mission to ensure the long-lasting impact of the River Cleanup Mission. **12 events** were organized to engage students and villagers to take ownership in keeping their commune clean through understanding the important role of the rivers in supporting livelihoods and nature.

**2,763 volunteers**, from 27 Schools, and 12 communities in Phnom Penh and Kandal provinces.



**12** EVENTS

**2,763** VOLUNTEERS

## 2.4 STAFF VOLUNTEERING



On May 31, 2024 - Kandal Province, we successfully kick-off an environmental education and outreach initiative the Staff Volunteer Program to contribute protect Cambodian rivers. The initiative aims to further promote clean rivers and the conservation of river ecosystems as part of Leader Energy's Five-Year Cambodia Rivers Cleanup Mission commitment. The programme aimed at enhancing waste knowledge and encouraging collective responsibility for waste management. The Ministry of Environment of Cambodia, the Department of Environment of Kandal province, and the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport supported the initiative.



A total of 650 participants joined in the cleanup, including employees of Leader Energy, the ROC team, students, teachers, monks, officials, and a waste collection company. Together, we collected 10.30 tons of waste around the school compound next to the riverbanks.

It was a day of action, a day where we put our commitment to a cleaner, healthier environment into practice.



1 EVENT

650 VOLUNTEERS

## 2.5 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

DESCRIPTION	KPI	RESULTS
1. River Cleanup - Waste Collected from river and on land close to rivers.	120 Tons	214 Tons (Achieved)
2. Co-processing of non-recyclable waste	120 Tons	196 Tons (Over Achieved)
3. Environmental Education (Outreach)	12 Events	12 Events (Achieved)
4. Employee Volunteer Program	2 Events	Only 1 event was able to organize due to high frequency of the events in 2024. Therefore, one more will be combined with events in the following year to make the event larger.
5. Launch "River Cleanup Mission	1 Event	Completed
6. Inventory (Boat, Pickup Truck, Tricycle)	3 Units	3 Units (Inventory List)

- The amount of waste collected is reaching almost 200%. This year, we focused on waste collection as early as possible to ensure the Mekong, Tonlé Sap, and Bassac rivers in the priority cities and provinces are clean within the project timeline.
- In 2025, all KPIs will be the same except #5 and #6

### 3. FINANCE SNAPSHOT

PROJECT BUDGET (October 2023 - September 2028)

**USD 466,650**

TOTAL BUDGET RECIEVED (October 2023 - December 2024)

**33% USD 155,925**

MANPOWER



**14%**

RIVER CLEANUP,  
PROCESSING



**29%**

COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH



**3%**

ASSETS



**28%**

EVENTS



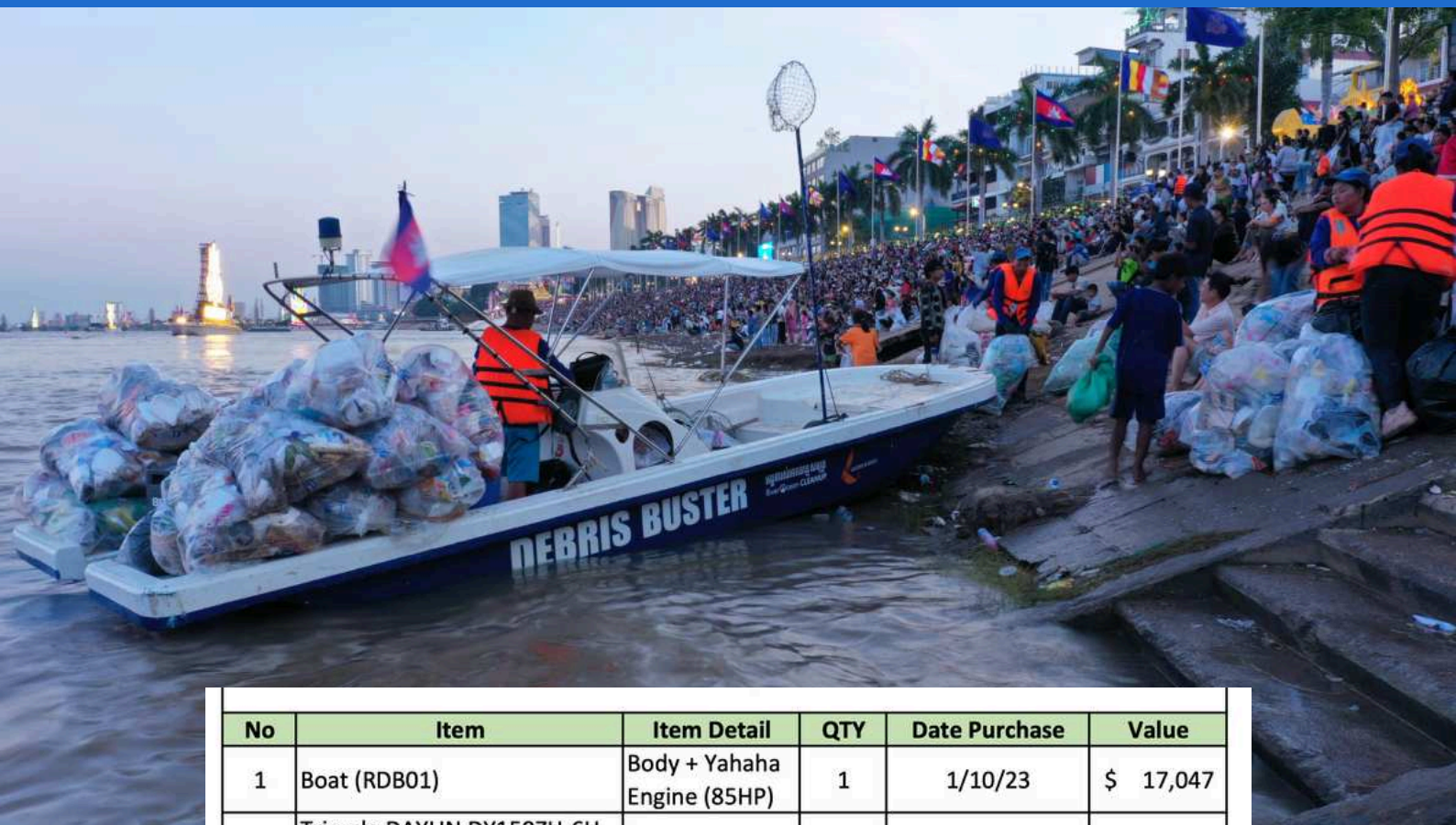
**11%**

BALANCE



**14%**

## 4. INVENTORY



No	Item	Item Detail	QTY	Date Purchase	Value
1	Boat (RDB01)	Body + Yahaha Engine (85HP)	1	1/10/23	\$ 17,047
2	Tricycle DAYUN DY150ZH-6H 2023	ONG2 1-6414	1	20/10/23	\$ 2,853
3	Pickup Truck-Ssangyong Rexton	ONG2 2-0951	1	15/2/24	\$ 23,800
Total Value					\$ 43,700



## 5. SPECIAL EVENTS

### WORLD CLEANUP DAY



# WATER FESTIVAL 2023-2024



# TOGETHER FOR CLEAN RIVER

អង្គការសម្រាប់ការស្រោចស្រព  
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