



Better Future for High School Project Proposal

Period: Jan-Dec 2026

I. What do we need?

To fully support one high school class of 25 low-income students for the 2026 Better Futures Project, JWOC seeks funding of **\$12,500** for the year. This investment will cover essential training, mentorship, materials, and support activities that equip students with English proficiency, digital literacy, life skills, leadership, and career readiness.

Your support will ensure students gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to successfully transition into higher education, secure fair employment, and contribute positively to their communities.

II. What's the problem?

Since 2005, JWOC has been committed to empowering Cambodian youth through education-focused programs. Over the past 19 years, we have supported thousands of young people to gain the skills, confidence, and opportunities they need to thrive in education, employment, and community life.

In 2019, JWOC sharpened its mission to focus more directly on youth development. The Better Futures Project was launched in 2020 as a direct response to the gaps faced by high school youth from low-income families. The project equips students with essential skills—English proficiency, digital literacy, life skills, leadership, and career guidance—helping them prepare for higher education, employment, and active engagement in their communities.

However, many young Cambodians—especially those from rural and disadvantaged areas—continue to face significant barriers. While English and computer studies are included in the national curriculum, most schools lack trained teachers, resources, and facilities to deliver these subjects effectively. As a result, students graduate without the language skills, technical competence, or 21st-century skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and communication that are essential for success in today's job market.

The challenge is compounded by the lack of structured career guidance and mental health support. Many students are unsure about their next steps after high school, leading to uncertainty, low confidence, or missed opportunities for further education or decent employment.

These gaps have been documented in national and international assessments. The OECD Youth Well-Being Policy Review of Cambodia highlights that a large proportion of Cambodian youth experience multidimensional deprivation, which affects their ability to participate fully in education, work, and civic life. The UNFPA Cambodia 2023 Annual Report further identifies youth development as a national priority, but recognises persistent resource and capacity gaps.

In this context, the Better Futures Project plays a critical role. Since 2020, over 300 students (70% female) have completed the project. Of these, 70% have progressed to higher education and 20% have received JWOC university scholarships. Beyond academics, students report significant growth in self-confidence, leadership skills, and career readiness.

In 2026, JWOC aims to expand its reach by enrolling four new classes of up to 25 students each. By providing structured training over 2.3 years, JWOC will help these students bridge the gap between school and real-world

readiness, empowering them to become confident, capable individuals who can pursue higher education, secure fair employment, and contribute positively to their communities.

III. What do we do?

Goal: Youth possess the knowledge and skills required to pursue further education, meaningful employment, and community engagement.

Outcome 1: Youth are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and support needed that enable them to make informed decisions and successfully transition into further education or employment.

Output 1: Equips youth with essential skills for work, education, and daily life.

- Provide basic English training to improve communication for employment and learning.
- Provide digital literacy training to build confidence using computers and online tools.
- Conduct the financial literacy workshop to increase knowledge on how to manage money, budget, and save effectively.

Output 2: Supports youth in exploring career paths and preparing for the job market.

- Conduct the career workshops to empower them to be able to self-discover, set goals, communicate, and apply for jobs.
- Support the study tours & workplace visits to connect them to the real-world exposure to learning and work environments.
- Set up the career days to connect them with professionals across various industries.

Output 3: Promotes resilience, emotional health, and supportive relationships.

- Conduct health workshops on first-aid, mental health, and self-care.
- Provide motivational training sessions & ongoing mentoring to inspire personal growth and perseverance.
- Create high-risk packages to provide tailored assistance based on individual needs.
- Conduct the team building & reflection meeting to foster trust, awareness, and group connection.

Outcome 2: To develop youth leadership and engagement skills that empower them to become role models and active contributors to their communities.

Output 1: Builds essential leadership and 21st-century skills through structured learning.

- Provide 21st-century skills 4Cs & leadership skills workshops to develop communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity alongside core leadership competencies.
- Conduct leadership sharing forum to gain knowledge from guest speakers and alumni who share real-life leadership experiences and advice.
- Conduct the project management training to increase knowledge on practical skills in planning, organizing, and executing community projects.

Output 2: Provides hands-on experience through student-led projects that apply leadership and teamwork.

- Coach the project design & in-campus implementation to design and carry out short-term project implementations.
- Conduct project visits to observe and learn from peer-led or alumni community projects to inspire future engagement and broaden perspectives.

IV. Measure the Success

In order to measure the success of the project outcomes. The project will apply 4 main indicators:

1. % of students graduate from the program
2. % of students who express confidence in making career and education decisions by graduation
3. % of students who demonstrate concrete steps toward their career or education goals by graduation.
4. % of students who are satisfied with the quality of training services provided by the project.

The project is committed to reaching at least 95% target for each indicator and uses the survey methods to measure the outcome.

V. Budget

No.	Description	Qty	Unit price (USD)	Amount
1	Administration & utilities (Rent, Wifi, Electricity)	12	\$ 152	\$ 1,824
2	Recruitment & orientation	1	\$ 1,668	\$ 1,668
3	Instructional materials	25	\$ 45	\$ 1,125
4	Internal Instructors/trainers cost	12	\$ 334	\$ 4,008
5	Stipend for external committee who facilitate the English enhancement activities (competition events),snack and gift for students/ winner	3	\$ 75	\$ 225
6	Faciliation of intensive English session (by external/partner) for slow/lovel English students.	3	\$ 180	\$ 540
7	Transportation and snacks for study tours	2	\$ 150	\$ 300
8	Transportation, meals, and materials for student team building	2	\$ 500	\$ 1,000
9	Stipend for mentors and package for motivational sessions	5	\$ 94	\$ 470
10	Package for high risk students	4	\$ 150	\$ 600
11	Transportationa and snack for parent meetings	2	\$ 140	\$ 280
12	Faciliation and gift for external trainers and speakers.	2	\$ 200	\$ 400
13	Materials and snack for the faciliation of students Bi-annual meetings	2	\$ 30	\$ 60
Total				\$ 12,500