



Election Observer is the People Mission for Society



Prin Chhort, 26, live in Kork Po village, Keo Por commune, Pourk District, Siem Reap province, applied for PDP-Center’s local youth and as observer for election registration from 01 September-29 November, 2016 funded by the European Union.

Chhort lives in a famer family and she got married when she was 17 years of age, by then she finished grade 8.

Chhort have changed her behaviors after attending the advocacy training organized by PDP-Center in 2015 under the project Youth Civic Engagement for Transparent and Accountable Development funded by Oxfam, before she was afraid of speaking with public officers, especially the commune council members, now she is capable and more secure to speak to public officer and raised many problems that happen in the commune to commune council members in order to get a solution for the problem.

Ms. Prin Chhort, Observer in Keo Por is on her back home from the Voter Registration Station because she wanted to know about people participation in voter registration and to help commune with transparency in the voter registration.

Chhort is active in social works to serve her people in the community, as a dynamic youth she played a very important role as observer in Keo Por commune. She decided to be observer

Chhort said **“when the observer card is in my hand I feel that I have a vital mission for my society and the responsibility of being a frank society server, that is why I try to do my best.”** She added “I dreamed to do many things for society since I studied in school. PDP-Center helped me to reach a part of my dream because the advocacy training that I attended made me reduce the fear to discuss with people in the government. The fear was released from my mind, I also continued training and explaining young people in my commune about democracy, transparency and the importance of youth to participate in voter registration.”

Chhort continued that “as my role as observer I have to observe both inside and outside the voter registration station if the eligible people was in some way unable to come to the voter registration station. Inside the station I look at the documents that people bring to register, the function of multi registration team and computer typing officer.” When people could not read and write she decided to talk to the registration team leader to provide assistance, the team leader agreed and he told the computer typing officer to ask her to verify the people names by comparing their names in the ID cards and data in the computer.

Chhort expressed that “my live was changed thanks to the PDP-Center’s training. Now commune council members friendly talked with me while I was actively participating in the commune council monthly meeting.”

Ms. Chhort told that “due to the volunteer work for my commune even as voter registration observer, I learn many things and notice an improvement in for example, having good communication with commune council members and know about their works. I understand that the more people participating the more development in the community.”

I am disappointed because as I was married when I was 17 years old I was not able to reach my dream of becoming a medical doctor, but PDP-Center help me to know a large society that made me reduce my sadness.

Finally, Chhort mentioned that “I encourage young people to get out to register their names for voting and fill in their commitment card to get out to register. I also encourage the old people to get out to register their names at the registration station.”

She ended adding that “***election observer is a people mission for society.*** This mission should come from your commitment and volunteer basis.”

Keo Por commune has 4,434 as eligible people until the end of September, 2016 there were 1,920 include 1, 023 registered their names.

The commune was located near Tole Sap river where most of people are famers and fishers. The commune has 7,432 population in total include 3,406 females.

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