

## 2021 WORLD CONGRESS ON JUSTICE WITH CHILDREN

**15-20 November 2021**

*“Ensuring access to justice for all children: towards non-discriminatory and inclusive child justice systems”*

### Workshop Programme

#### **The “This Life Model”: Holistic Interventions for Young People in Conflict with the Law and their Families (Programs, Research, and Communications)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Thursday, 18th November 2021</b>		
<b>Timing</b>	11:00 - 12:30 Geneva	17:00 - 18:30 Bangkok & Phnom Penh	19:00-20:30 Tokyo
<b>Organiser</b>	This Life Cambodia		
<b>Type of Workshop</b>	Certified Training		
<b>Region</b>	Asia		
<b>Language</b>	English		

#### **Abstract**

This workshop outlines the developmental journey that This Life Cambodia embarked on for over 10 years, to address the problematic inequalities and provide practical opportunities for children and young women incarcerated in Cambodia. It will highlight the social research methods that have been employed and which has given rise to radical change. It will illustrate how the production of an evidence base has helped guide the development of community based youth diversion programs, which will provide scalable opportunities to help reduce prison overcrowding.

The training workshop will highlight the distinct prisoner based initiatives that This Life employs, which help support young prisoners through their period of incarceration. This includes case management support for families and support to maintain prison visits and maintain family relationships. This Life also supports young prisoners with education programs and on release, with practical training and opportunities to join a commercial vehicle maintenance program.

Amongst these programs, we will also share details of the education and development work that we undertake with young women, who are accompanied by their young children. Here, we discuss the practical tactics that we adopted with prison authorities, to support young women facing disproportionately long sentences. At the time of writing, This Life is on the verge of establishing an early years childhood nursery, on site, for both young women with accompanied children and pregnant prisoners. This initiative will provide these cohorts with pre and post natal education, as well as practical guidance on child-focused early years development.

## 2021 WORLD CONGRESS ON JUSTICE WITH CHILDREN

**15-20 November 2021**

*“Ensuring access to justice for all children: towards non-discriminatory and inclusive child justice systems”*

Our training and development approach with both prisoners and prison staff, has enabled This Life to develop new innovative projects. Following a process of research and development dialogue, our activities have led to closer working relations with the Ministry of Justice. This has enabled green light approval to develop and deliver the first community based youth diversion program in Cambodia. Not only does this offer prospects for young people nationwide, but adults too, in the near future.

### Key take-aways of the session

- Robust research can lead to persuasive arguments for change. Our research perception tested all the key actors involved in the Juvenile Justice System, with a view to innovation and change.
- Resistance to change isn't always guaranteed. Our research revealed virtually no resistance to change.
- New creative and innovative ideas have the capacity to win hearts and minds. Our research described win-win ways of remedying misdemeanors and non violent crime with meaningful education and personal development. In doing so, reducing overcrowded prisons.

### Speakers

**1. Se Chhin, Deputy Director**

Over a decade, Se Chhin has proven experience overseeing multiple programming thematic areas, including education, poverty alleviation and livelihoods, child justice and protection, gender and equality, and MEAL and research. At This Life, Se is responsible for leading and managing the operation and supporting the Executive Director in developing and implementing This Life's strategic plan. He holds a BA in English Translation and Interpretation from Build Bright University, an MA in Public Administration from Royal University of Law and Economics, and an Executive Master in Development Policies and Practices from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies.

**2. Philip Gover, ILE Section Lead**

Philip Gover has a passion for sustainable development and social economics. With 12 years of Public Health experience with the UK Government & National Health Service (NHS), Philip has worked in developing countries in East Africa, South East Asia, and various settings across Europe, supporting a variety of Social Enterprises, Charities, and

## 2021 WORLD CONGRESS ON JUSTICE WITH CHILDREN

**15-20 November 2021**

*“Ensuring access to justice for all children: towards non-discriminatory and inclusive child justice systems”*

Housing Associations. Philip is a graduate of Durham University (BA Hons’ Community & Youth Studies), Durham University Business School (MA Enterprise Management), and the University of Northumbria (MPH, Public Health). Philip is a Fellow of both the Chartered Management Institute and Royal Society for Public Health.

**3. Chanda Phang, *Children and Families Section Lead***

Chanda Phang joined This Life in February, 2020. He brings years of extensive experience in working to support children and families. He holds a Bachelor of Business Management from the National Institute of Business and a Master of Development Management from Norton University. As the Children and Families Section Lead, Chanda is responsible for supporting Program Coordinators in implementing their respective programs to realise This Life’s vision, mission, and goal.

**4. Kanitha Veu, *Program Coordinator***

Kanitha Veu is the Program Coordinator for the This Life Beyond Bars Program which supports children in conflict with the law. Kanitha has extensive experience in working directly with and managing programs supporting women, children, youth, and families affected by HIV/AIDS, abuse, exploitation, and domestic violence. Prior to joining This Life, Kanitha had worked for Agape International Missions, World Vision Cambodia, and Hagar International. Kanitha holds an MA Science in Gender and Development Studies from the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand. Before her master’s degree, she completed a Bachelor Degree of Sociology at the Royal University of Phnom Penh.