“Nothing is as powerful as an idea whose time has come.” (Victor Hugo)
I. VISION AND MISSION
II. WHY IN CAMBODIA?
III. STRATEGY
IV. WHY THIS STRATEGY?
V. THE YOUTH HOUSE CONCEPT
VI. OUR FUNDAMENTAL PHILOSOPHY: 6 + 4 = 6
VII. IMPLEMENTATION
MISSION to promote Good Governance and citizenship in the grassroots, using modern concepts of democratic education and direct democracy and to adopt these concepts effectively into the Cambodian context.

VISION to engender a grassroots movement of citizenship.
[2008] THE UN-REPORT “SITUATION ANALYSIS OF YOUTH IN CAMBODIA” RECOMMENDED TO “establish a number of youth centers that offer opportunities for young people to participate in civil and community life and access opportunities for non-formal education, leisure and recreation.”

[2002] LENA WALLQUIST SAYS IN HER REPORT ABOUT THE YOUTH SITUATION IN CAMBODIA “that there is a great need for youth centers [in Cambodia] with the possibilities to study, play game, take part in trainings, create youth clubs etc.”

[2010] THE NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY ACTION PLAN PROPOSES TO “create municipal/provincial youth centers that provide multiple services including education and skills training, ... arts and cultural events and leisure and recreation.”
DEMOCRATIC EDUCATION [JOHN DEWEY]

- Theory of learning and school governance in which students and staff participate freely and equally in a school democracy
- Equipping pupils to make real choices about fundamental aspects of their lives.

DIRECT DEMOCRACY

- Theory of democracy in which sovereignty is lodged in the assembly of all citizens who choose to participate.

DELIBERATION [HABERMAS]

- Ideal communication and democratic interaction
- People seek the authentic involvement of others in decision making activities
Instead of teaching the participants, the participants teach themselves, because...

- WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH A FREE SPACE IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRATIC UNDERSTANDING AND PERSONAL VALUES.

- WE BELIEVE, THAT A CRITICAL UNDERSTANDING OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND CITIZENSHIP CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED ON ONE'S OWN INITIATIVE.
MANAGEMENT BOARD
5 MEMBERS FROM 5 YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

YFP OFFICE
MAINTAINING

ACTIVITIES

COMMUNE COUNCIL
LOBBING ENFORCE ACCOUNTABILITY

YOUTH HOUSE
FREE TO JOIN

YOUTH ASSEMBLY
CENTRAL DEMOCRATIC ORGAN OF THE YOUTH HOUSE
BASED ON 6+4=6

ELECTS
COMMUNE BOARD
ELECTS

INFORMATION BOARD
INFORMATION

ALL THE YOUTHS IN THE COMMUNE
6 THEMES
Mutual respect of each others rights
Dialogue Across the society
Democratic Interaction
Social stewardship
Direct Democracy
Inclusion

4 EXPECTATIONS
Participating as an engaged citizen
Communicating democratically
Expanding knowledge
Developing own values

6 COMMITMENTS
Learn to communicate in speech and writing
Practice citizenship and democratic living
Live in respectful harmony with others
Respect minority opinions
Express own opinions
Serve the commune
I. Direct Democracy (Structure)

1) Sovereignty is lodged in the assembly of all youth who choose to participate (Youth Assembly)
   1.1. The Youth Assemblies take place once in a week
   1.2. The Youth Assemblies are to be announced publicly

2) Non representative and leadership free:
   2.1. One person - one vote
   2.2. There are no leaders, only facilitators
   2.3. Free choice of the agenda

3) The Youth Assembly elects the members of the Information Board and the Commune Board
   3.1. For a six months term
   3.2. According to the rules of decision making and inclusion: Majority/consensus vote and gender equality
   3.2. With full accountability to the Youth Assembly

II. Inclusion (social and in the discussion)

1) The Youth House is open to any youth in the target area and participation is never compulsory
   1.1. New participants shall have the same rights as everybody else
   1.2. New participants should be seen as a chance for new ideas

2) Respect the uniqueness and “irreplaceability” of each person in discussions
   2.1. Minority opinions have to be listened carefully and respectfully (Decision making)
   2.2. Every person has the right to contribute to the discussion

3) Gender Equality
   3.1. Both genders are to be treated equally - and respected for their unique capacities
   3.2. All elected positions are required to have rotating male and female candidates (Decision making)
START OF THE PILOT YEAR JANUARY 2011

FINAL EXTERNAL EVALUATION DECEMBER 2011

BUDGET 20,210 $

TARGET AREA ?

DIRECT BENEFICIARIES YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE AGE FROM 14 TO 22

PARTNERSHIPS BRIDGES ACROSS BORDERS, KYA, ...
“Nothing is as powerful as an idea whose time has come.” (Victor Hugo)

... and time has come!