



Has visited to the rural and remote schools in **Indonesia, India** and **Cambodia**.

Up to 2019, NCTU has

carried out **17** volunteer abroad projects.

In 2019, NCTU offered

**119** related courses.



### Helping non-profit primary schools in Cambodia to renovate school buildings and alleviate education gap in impoverished areas

In July 2019, the Southeast Asia International Volunteer The Bridge of ASEAN and Taiwan (BAT) Group of NCTU and the students from the Department of Architecture of Taipei Municipal Da-An Vocational High School went to Oddar Meanchey. Oddar Meanchey is a frontier province in northern Cambodia. BAT group implemented a volunteer service project with a focus on architecture. Under the guidance of Yu-Wen Lai, the Co-Director of Global Citizenship Education Center at NCTU, June-Hao Hou, the Director of Graduate Institute of Architecture, Chen-Hui Lin of the Department of Architecture of Taipei Municipal Da-An Vocational High School and Chih-Ming Chien, the CEO of the Association of Humanitarian Architecture (AHA), BAT group spent 14 days creating a stepped open space with teaching and recreational functions for the Development for the People of Cambodia (DPC) School (a local non-profit primary school) in Cambodia.

The DPC School, located on the border between Thailand and Cambodia, currently has about 500 students. There are only five stable wood-and-concrete classrooms. Most of the students come from families with an average annual income of less than US\$1,000 in the surrounding areas. Due to the school location, which is in the inland and border areas in Oddar Meanchey, its terroir and social resources have fallen far short of Cambodia's main developed areas. The economic and educational situation in the region has long been fallen behind in development. Apart from poverty, it is a less active region of international aid organizations in Cambodia.

Although the construction is full of challenges due to lack of machines and tools, unstable power supply, and uneven quality of local building materials, NCTU-BAT group and Taipei Municipal Da-An Vocational High School still transformed the school building of DPC School in two weeks. The school had only roofs and wooden beams and columns with timber and steel pipes and low brick walls. It was turned into an open space that corresponds to the local architectural characteristics. This stepped open space owns ventilation and lighting functions. It is suitable for the local hot and dry climate.

In the future, NCTU will continue to provide volunteer services in Cambodia by bringing our teachers and students from different disciplines. The teaching and international services with deep cultural heritage and professional knowledge will be deeply cultivated in Cambodia's rural areas. NCTU will cooperate with local non-profit organizations to bridge the educational resources gap to help build children's capacities and the people in Cambodia's rural areas.

### Helping Indian children to get out of poverty and connect with the world through education

Jamyang School, which locates at the Himalayan foothill of Ladakh in India, provides free education to needy children. The students who attend the school all come from families in remote areas and from families with relatively disadvantaged family structure and socioeconomic status. Professor Mei-Lin Pan, the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences of National Chiao Tung University (NCTU), came across the school and collaborated with the NCTU Service-Learning Center to establish the India International Volunteer Jullay Group in 2010. Since then, NCTU has been implementing the service-learning model in its academic curriculum.

"We are not helper, but sharer." is the service spirit of International Volunteer Jullay Group, which has continued to devote time and effort in India. NCTU hopes to help the local people by cooperating between the two schools and the steady annual service plan. The group improves professional teaching skills through complete course training and maintains close communication with the local people at the same time. The group also researches the field notes and experiences in-depth, which were passed down by previous volunteer groups. India International Volunteer Jullay Group designed and practiced the service project based on the mutual connections between the two schools with the core philosophy of "providing helping hands." After years of effort, NCTU's India International Volunteer Jullay Group has introduced the resources from ASUS Foundation and the mathematical expertise to Jamyang School. Gradually, the digital competence of teachers and students was improved. The software and hardware were upgraded. Therefore, the local children's learning is no longer limited to the impoverished environment. This service project will help these children change their future and connect with the world.