EDGE Worldwide
Educational Growth and Empowerment
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EDGE Worldwide *press kit*

CHARITY PROFILE AND MEDIA BACKGROUND

EDGE Worldwide is an Australian charity working alongside Cambodian educators, schools and communities to expand access to learning, support wellbeing and create opportunities for personal and community development.

ONE LINE PROFILE

EDGE Worldwide is an Australian charity working with Cambodian communities to strengthen education, wellbeing and local capability.

At a glance

FOCUS	Education, mentoring, student wellbeing and educator development in Cambodia.
APPROACH	Work with local educators and community leaders to identify needs and strengthen existing initiatives.
LEADERSHIP	Jamie Christopherson, Founder and Executive Director; Hilde Marie Kvaløsæter, Executive Director.
STATUS	Registered Australian charity with Deductible Gift Recipient status. ABN 13 613 372 777.
CONTACT	info@edgeworldwide.org
WEBSITE	https://edgeworldwide.org/

SHORT PROFILE

EDGE Worldwide is a registered Australian charity working alongside Cambodian educators, schools and communities. Its work includes education, mentoring, student wellbeing and teacher development. Its history includes the development of Phum Ou Community School and Vocational Training Centre near Siem Reap. Current work includes support for Kep Gardens and the development of an Education and Pastoral Care Hub model shaped by local needs.

Standard profile

CHARITY PROFILE

EDGE Worldwide is a registered Australian charity supporting education and community development in Cambodia. It works with local educators, families and community leaders to understand what is needed and build on the knowledge and initiatives already in place.

A defining early project was Phum Ou Community School and Vocational Training Centre near Siem Reap. Working with local educator Sarath Proeun and the community, EDGE helped fund, build and develop the school. That experience continues to shape its approach.

Today, EDGE's work spans learning support, mentoring, teacher development, student wellbeing and individual education pathways. It maintains an ongoing partnership with Kep Gardens in southern Cambodia and is developing an Education and Pastoral Care Hub model. The model brings together learning, digital access, pastoral care and community support according to local needs. EDGE also helps communities respond to urgent needs, including support for families displaced by the border conflict.

01 History and current work

Phum Ou legacy

Phum Ou is a defining chapter in EDGE's history. The project grew from Sarath Proeun's ambition to create educational opportunities in his community outside Siem Reap and his partnership with Jamie Christopherson.

The school began with around 25 students learning in converted cow sheds while a purpose-built site was planned. In 2014, work developed into Phum Ou Community School and Vocational Training Centre. EDGE helped secure international support and funding, working with Sarath, community leaders, families, educators and local monasteries to build and develop the school.

Its programmes extended beyond English classes to literacy, digital skills, vocational training and teacher development. The

Kep Gardens partnership

PARTNERSHIP

EDGE maintains an ongoing relationship with Kep Gardens, a community education organisation in southern Cambodia. Support includes funding, practical resources and educational development in response to locally identified needs.

EDGE helped fund and support a dedicated Pastoral Care Centre. The centre provides space for counselling, health and dental screenings, safeguarding and crisis support. It also offers a setting for conversations with students and parents, creative activities and additional student support. The centre is relatively new and continues to develop in response to community needs.

Education and Pastoral Care Hub initiative

HUB MODEL

EDGE is developing a flexible Hub model with local schools and communities. It is designed to bring education, digital access, mentoring, pastoral care and teacher development together in a locally based space.

The scope of each proposed Hub is shaped by the community's priorities. A project may involve adapting an existing space or establishing a new one. Depending on local needs and available partnerships, it may also provide access to visiting health professionals and community services.

Community support during displacement

BORDER RESPONSE

During Cambodia's border conflict, communities in Kep and Kampot collected supplies for displaced families in the north.

EDGE helped coordinate volunteers, information and transport, and delivered practical support including medical and hygiene supplies, everyday essentials and learning materials.

Local teachers were already creating temporary classrooms in shelters. EDGE provided resources to support their work, including educational and play materials to help children continue learning and retain familiar routines.

02 Leadership and media information

Jamie Christopherson

FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jamie Christopherson is an international educator and Founder and Executive Director of EDGE Worldwide. He has more than 20 years of experience in international education. His work with EDGE includes strategy, partnerships and coordination, drawing on relationships with Cambodian educators and communities.

Website: https://www.jamiechristopherson.com.au/

Hilde Marie Kvaløsæter

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hilde Marie Kvaløsæter is Executive Director of EDGE Worldwide – Human Development, Leadership & Empowerment. Her connection with Cambodia began in 2007, and she has nearly two decades of experience living and working alongside Cambodian communities. Her work includes education, mentoring, pastoral care and community engagement.

Website: https://hildemarie.com.au/

Story areas

01

Community-led education

The history of Phum Ou and how local ambition, educational expertise and external support helped develop a community school.

02

Student wellbeing

The decisions behind the Pastoral Care Centre at Kep Gardens and the value of support shaped by community needs.

03

Learning during disruption

Local teachers keeping children learning in displacement shelters, and the practical support that helped them continue.

04

Charity leadership

How local knowledge, professional advice and transport networks informed decisions about limited resources.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES AND ASSETS

info@edgeworldwide.org

For interview requests, further background, approved logos or photographs, contact info@edgeworldwide.org. Confirm attribution, captions and image-use permissions before publication.

Official records and further reading

Website	https://edgeworldwide.org/
About	https://edgeworldwide.org/about
Approach	https://edgeworldwide.org/approach
History	https://edgeworldwide.org/legacy
Hub initiative	https://edgeworldwide.org/hub
Transparency	https://edgeworldwide.org/transparency
Border response	https://edgeworldwide.org/updates/what-the-north-needed-the-south-sent
ACNC charity record	https://www.acnc.gov.au/charity/charities/87c2be85-3aaf-e811-a95e-000d3ad24c60/profile
Australian Business Register	https://abr.business.gov.au/ABN/View/13613372777

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REGISTERED CHARITY
acnc.gov.au/charityregister