

# RTAI Solidarity Fund

## Here To Help

*Last year the RTAI Solidarity Fund provided financial assistance to nine education projects. Five of these are featured over the next few pages. Projects in Zambia, Ghana and two in Kenya will be featured in the next edition.*

### SeeBeyondBorders

**Battambang province, North West Cambodia**

SeeBeyondBorders works to implement UN Sustainable Development Goal 4 – Quality Education. Through a peer mentorship programme, the project develops teaching skills of primary teachers so they can provide children with a quality education. By age of 15, a mere 2% of Cambodians are achieving minimum reading standards (OECD 2018). The teaching of reading in Cambodian primary schools typically focuses on memorising vast numbers of letter combinations and words, in isolation

**SeeBeyondBorders works with the Ministry of Education to create positive, systemic and sustainable change in education for the children of Cambodia**

(rather than in the context of a piece of writing, such as a book). The goal of SeeBeyondBorders' Literacy Program is to improve the professional knowledge, practice and engagement of Cambodian teachers tutoring literacy. It incorporates reading, writing, listening and speaking. SeeBeyondBorders works with the Ministry of Education to create positive, systemic and sustainable change in education for the children of Cambodia.

#### **Solidarity Fund assistance**

Funds received from the RTAI directly impacted the professional development of 22 primary school teachers in SeeBeyondBorders' Literacy Project in Battambang Province. During the 2020/2021 academic year, these teachers taught 724 children in grades 1 to 3. Teachers received continuous and ongoing support from SeeBeyondBorders staff to improve their teaching quality in Khmer literacy. RTAI funds supported the salary of a SeeBeyondBorders Mentor Coordinator for four months as well as enabling the purchase of a high-quality camera. The camera was used to record best practice educational videos for teachers.

#### **RTAI sponsor**

Marie Moreau, a retired school Principal of Rush and Lusk Educate Together NS. "I have had a lifelong interest in development education and development issues. I got to know about SeeBeyondBorders through a fellow Principal, Maeve Corish, and a primary teacher from Dublin, Colm Byrne, who has worked as Director of Development SeeBeyondBorders for a number of years. I had a wonderful experience participating in the SeeBeyondBorders Teacher Programme in January 2020 and seeing its invaluable work first-hand. I feel privileged to be a Board Trustee of SeeBeyondBorders Ireland, which recently launched as a new charity in Ireland, RCN 20206034."



**Marie Moreau sharing her experience with Cambodian colleagues**