



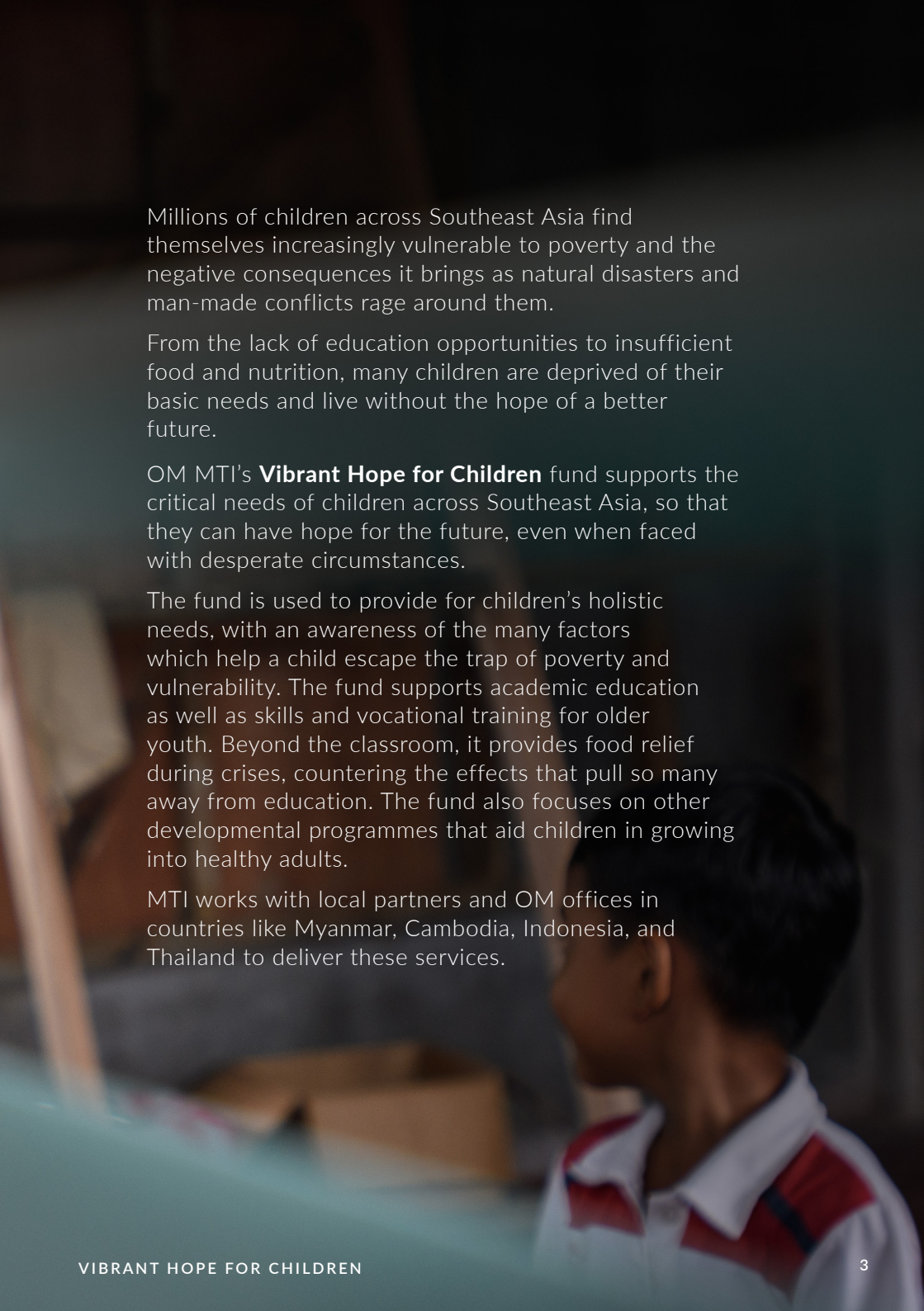
*Vibrant  
Hope  
for Children*



A young child with dark hair is smiling and looking at a book. The child's hand is resting on the book. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a wooden structure and some greenery.

*Supporting  
holistic development*

in the lives of  
vulnerable children in  
Southeast Asia.



Millions of children across Southeast Asia find themselves increasingly vulnerable to poverty and the negative consequences it brings as natural disasters and man-made conflicts rage around them.

From the lack of education opportunities to insufficient food and nutrition, many children are deprived of their basic needs and live without the hope of a better future.

OM MTI's **Vibrant Hope for Children** fund supports the critical needs of children across Southeast Asia, so that they can have hope for the future, even when faced with desperate circumstances.

The fund is used to provide for children's holistic needs, with an awareness of the many factors which help a child escape the trap of poverty and vulnerability. The fund supports academic education as well as skills and vocational training for older youth. Beyond the classroom, it provides food relief during crises, countering the effects that pull so many away from education. The fund also focuses on other developmental programmes that aid children in growing into healthy adults.

MTI works with local partners and OM offices in countries like Myanmar, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Thailand to deliver these services.



Since he was a young child, 13-year-old \*Sok has come to the OM Cambodia base in Phnom Penh for classes. For the past 8 years or so, he has walked or cycled to the base five days a week, rain or shine.

Every afternoon, Sok, along with dozens of other children and teens, would begin streaming into the backyard of the base. Those who were early would play together while waiting for their classes to begin at 2pm.

In mid-2020, schools in Cambodia were closed in the nation's efforts to fight against the spread of

Covid-19. The closure lasted for a long time, to the detriment of the academic progress of children and youth across the country. A learning assessment of grade 6 students in November 2021 revealed that there has been a substantial drop in the proficiency levels of the students in Khmer and Mathematics.

It was only in late 2021 that schools opened again gradually. However, student attendance in both rural and urban areas has dropped.



Sok with his friends



*Students of the English class at OM Cambodia*

When the schools were closed, OM Cambodia continued to hold classes as they did not want the education of the children and youth to stop. Students who did not have Internet access at home would also come to the base to use the Wi-Fi network for their online classes.

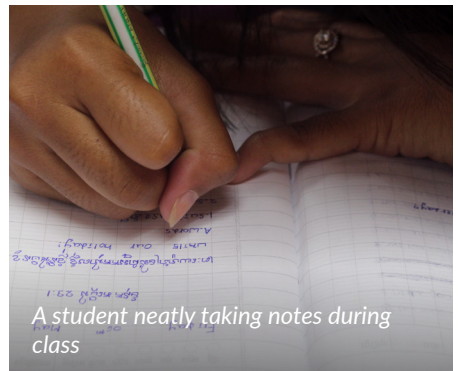
Sok came for both the morning and afternoon classes during that time. Even now, he enthuses about the class at OM Cambodia. "I like to learn about the Bible, and my friends are here. I can really learn a lot here."

Currently, OM Cambodia offers three classes – English, Khmer, and Computer – in the morning and again in the afternoon, in classrooms made out of donated shipping containers. MTI works actively with local partners like OM Cambodia to ensure continued access to education for vulnerable children in Southeast Asia.


*\*name changed to protect his identity*

"I like to learn about the Bible, and my friends are here. I can really learn a lot here."

- SOK



*A student neatly taking notes during class*



As the Covid-19 virus ravaged the world, the area at the Thailand/Myanmar border similarly found itself struggling to deal with the pandemic, including the community where OM MTI has previously served before.

Numerous in the community had contracted the virus, but there was a lack of medical and sanitation supplies for the people.

At a youth dormitory, several children and youth also fell ill from Covid-19. Recognising the risk, OM MTI provided medication, Covid-19 test kits, and sanitation kits to the dormitory and the wider community. Gradually, the situation became under control, and the children and youth at the dormitory have recovered well.



*Students studying in a school at the Thailand/Myanmar border*

## How does the fund work?

The **Vibrant Hope for Children** fund supports the holistic fulfilment of the urgent needs of children across Southeast Asia in education, food and nutrition, healthcare, and other developmental needs.

A key feature of the fund is that it allows MTI to meet the needs of children whether they are with a programme for one month or five years. Those in need do not have to wait to gain individual sponsorship, but can access opportunities immediately. MTI and its partners can walk alongside these children for as little or as long a time as the children are present.

As situations in the region change and develop, OM MTI will work with our local partners to assess the most vital needs of the children and provide the necessary aid so that they can have hope even in the midst of despairing circumstances.

## Who is OM MTI?

Mercy Teams International (MTI) is a ministry of Operation Mobilisation (OM), established to share hope and support change among vulnerable communities in the East Asia region.

Through our workers in the field and local partners, we seek to share God's love and justice through practical transformational development initiatives in these five areas: education, community health, social and family development, disaster response, and vocational training.



Supporting  
holistic  
development

in the lives of  
vulnerable children in  
Southeast Asia.

## GIVING DETAILS

### Cheque

Payable to "MERCY TEAMS  
INTERNATIONAL LTD"

### Bank Transfer

DBS Current Account 0279004452  
(Bank 7171, Branch 027)

### PayNow

UEN: 200203438W



- Administrative charges may apply.
- For donations outside Singapore, please contact us for details on your nearest OM office.
- Please write in to us after you've made your donation to designate your donation to the VHFC fund.



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