



CAMBODIA

A country still struggling to rebuild after a devastating genocide.

When our founders first arrived in Phnom Penh in 2009, they found dozens of nonprofits and social enterprises already providing survivors with rehabilitation and production skills. However, these skills were not enough to give survivors a meaningful income or protect them from exploitative work conditions.

Through our **Nomi Network Fashion Incubator (NNFI)**, we provide advanced fashion and production skills with our **Nomi International Fashion Training (NIFT)** classes. This training offers skills that social enterprises and local entrepreneurs need to hone their craft and provide work for survivors and individuals at risk of trafficking. We also create income opportunities through our **NOMI brand** by selling ethically made products and creating a transparent supply chain for multinational brands and consumers. Leaders at these brands become mentors for young Cambodian entrepreneurs, and several of them lead workshops at NIFT! Additionally, Nomi Network hosts large-scale networking events to facilitate partnerships and strengthen local Cambodian businesses.

Our goal is to fight trafficking by building up Cambodian fashion leaders who have the vision to employ and provide safe labor conditions to fellow Cambodians living in poverty. We are combatting exploitative practices within the fashion industry that fuel modern slavery to transform supply chains and restore power and dignity to those who are most vulnerable.

In 2019, our NIFT classes educated young entrepreneurs and organizations like Cambodian Women's Support Group in:

- Business Savvy such as the sustainability of their business, product pricing, and entrepreneurship
- Marketing & Social Media such as Facebook marketing, branding, and typography
- Styling & Visual Merchandising such as draping, advanced tailoring, embroidery, and pattern-making
- Technical Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop and spec sheets for design and production

Soun*

(Name changed to protect her privacy)

Soun* lives in a one-room house with her family of five in Phnom Penh. At 56, she is a widow and the sole breadwinner for her family—caring for two daughters, her elderly mother, and a nephew with disabilities. She also lives with HIV. For years, house cleaning was her only option for work. Since her clients lived in a wealthier part of town, she walked over an hour to work every day. As her physical limitations became greater, this job became unsustainable.

In 2015, Soun was connected to the Cambodian Women’s Support Group (CWSG), a social enterprise that focuses on ethical trade and production. She trained for months in pattern-making and sewing, showing a natural talent for the skill. CWSG hired her as a producer, allowing her to work from home and earn a higher income than her previous job.

As a part of CWSG, Soun produces tote bags, accessories, and ornaments for the NOMI brand. As orders through Nomi Network have increased, her income has grown over the past four years. When asked what this work means to her, Soun shared, “Even though I am a bit old, I am very happy that everyone trusts me and still needs me to produce their product.” She stated that the NOMI brand is a huge contributor to her monthly income, allowing her to support her daughters’ education. She is hopeful that her daughters will be able to secure well-paying jobs after graduation, allowing them to have a better life.



Cambodian Women’s Support Group

Cambodian Women’s Support Group (CWSG) is a collective of women who were initially connected through a vocational training program for vulnerable women called Nyemo Cambodia.³ After graduating from Nyemo’s program, these women were empowered to manage their own resources and create their own businesses—designing and producing toys, clothes, and home decor for retail sale. However, the group faced initial challenges finding a local or international market to sell their products.

Kanary, the leader of CWSG, started attending NNFI in 2018 to hone her business knowledge. She took NIFT classes in Facebook Marketing Strategies, Visual Merchandising, Product Pricing, and Basic Pattern-making. Kanary used these newfound skills to improve CWSG’s marketing and branding by creating a Facebook page, new logo, price list, and set up a brick-and-mortar shop. Today, CWSG is one of Nomi Network’s main production partners. Through the NOMI brand, Nomi Network provides CWSG producers with consistent revenue streams—allowing them to provide for their families while working from home. As many of these women are the sole providers in their families, this flexibility protects both them and their children from seeking potentially exploitative work.

Our Impact

2,297 women & girls impacted across **11** sites +
1,426 jobs created or supported in **2** countries



Cambodia 2019

- **1** NNFI site
- **1839** people attended NNFI events
- **8** new NNFI volunteer trainers and **3** returning volunteer trainers taught & spoke at NNFI
- NNFI training supported **866** jobs
- **74** orgs sent **141** people to **239** hours of NIFT classes
- NOMI products created by **10** production partners supported **381** jobs
- **8** new mentors provided coaching to budding Cambodian designers & entrepreneurs
- Planning progress for new WFD site in Poipet



India 2019

- **9** WFD sites & **1** Production Center
- **1070** new WFD trainees
- **460** existing WFD trainees
- **325** girls completed AGP
- **1** WFD class of 50 women piloted digitized training curriculum
- **12** WFD graduates employed by Nomi Network Production in India
- **4** new T3 trainers
- **8** existing T3 trainers
- **140** new SMEs established
- **15** existing SMEs maintained
- **301** people received legal training
- New WFD trainees supported their **954** children

