

LICADHO Annual Activity Report

(Public)

Promoting and Defending Human Rights in Cambodia



January –December 2008



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LICADHO

CAMBODIAN LEAGUE FOR THE PROMOTION
AND DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights (LICADHO)

LICADHO is a national Cambodian human rights organization. Since its establishment in 1992, LICADHO has been at the forefront of efforts to protect civil and political and economic and social rights in Cambodia and to promote respect for them by the Cambodian government and institutions. Building on its past achievements, LICADHO continues to be an advocate for the Cambodian people and a monitor of the government through wide ranging human rights programs from its main office in Phnom Penh and 12 provincial offices.

LICADHO pursues its activities through two program departments:

Department of Monitoring and Protection:

- **Monitoring of State Violations and Women's and Children's Rights:** monitors collect and investigate human rights violations perpetrated by the State and violations made against women children, and victims are provided assistance through interventions with local authorities and court officials.
- **Paralegal and Legal Representation:** victims are provided legal advice by our paralegal team and in key cases legal representation by our human rights lawyers.
- **Prison Monitoring:** researchers monitor 18 prisons to assess prison conditions and ensure that pre-trial detainees have access to legal representation.
- **Medical Assistance:** a medical team provides medical assistance and referrals to prisoners and prison officials in 12 prisons and victims of human rights violations.

Department of Communication and Advocacy:

- **Community Training, Education and Advocacy:** advocates raise awareness to specific target groups, support protection networks at the grassroots level and advocate for social and legal changes with women and youth.
- **Public Advocacy and Outreach:** human rights cases are compiled into a central electronic database, so that accurate information can be easily accessed and analyzed, and produced into periodic public reports (written, audio and visual).

Cover Photo: International Human Rights Day celebrations at Dey Krahorm - residents launch balloons carrying "Stop Evictions" slogans.

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The Human Rights Situation Review 2008

This review provides a summary of high profile human rights cases and issues during 2008.

LAND GRABBING

Dey Krahorn, Phnom Penh: The remaining members of the Dey Krahorn community have continued to face a campaign of threats, intimidation and groundless legal actions to pressure them to give up their land.

Since 2005, the 7NG company has been laying claim to the prime riverside land of Dey Krahorn in central Phnom Penh, based on an invalid contract it signed secretly with former community representatives. Faced with the threat of eviction and continued harassment, many residents agreed to the company's offer of alternative land at a relocation site outside of Phnom Penh or cash payments of far below the market value of their land. Other residents, however, remain on the site, struggling to retain their land or at least to obtain fair, market-price compensation for it.



In January 2008, the 7NG company and local police tried to seal off Dey Krahorn by persistently erecting roadblocks around the community. Police, military police and company staff working together placed drums filled with water across the access roads, and prevented supplies from being delivered to the Dey Krahorn market – an apparent attempt to cut off the livelihoods of many residents who sell goods at the market. Residents managed to dismantle the roadblocks each time. Confrontations went on for several days and nights with 7NG and authorities trying to provoke tensions and incite disorder. A truck used in one of the roadblocks was mysteriously set ablaze – minutes after electricity to street lamps in the area was cut, blackening the scene – and Dey Krahorn residents were immediately accused of the arson.

The filing of spurious criminal charges, without a shred of evidence being presented, has consistently been used to threaten Dey Krahorn community representatives. On January 21, 2008 community representative Ros Pouy, who had been arrested on September 14, 2007 on charges of physical assault and detained in Prey Sar prison, was convicted and sentenced to six months imprisonment, with a further 18 months suspended. She was accused of assaulting and injuring several 7NG company workers during an incident on August 4, 2008 when a group of workers came to dismantle houses in the community. The conviction was based solely on the testimony of 7NG staff, and the prosecution failed to produce any medical evidence regarding the supposed injuries.

On 14 August, Dey Krahorn community representative Lao Seyha was sentenced by the Phnom Penh Municipal Court to a three year prison term of which 18 months was suspended. The charges related to complaints filed in 2005 by former community representatives who accused him and seven others of defamation and forgery and in Lao Seyha's case an additional charge of physical assault. Before the trial the investigation judge had formally dismissed all the charges against the seven other accused people and only Lao Seyha's charges remained. Following Lao Seyha's sentencing the court without specifying

reasons, instructed the public prosecutor to reopen criminal investigations into the seven other Dey Krahorn residents named in the original complaint.

Borei Keila, Phnom Penh: In July 2003, a social land concession in the form of a land-sharing arrangement was established for Borei Keila, which allowed a private company to develop part of the area for commercial purposes while providing alternative housing to the residents on the remaining land. The idea was hailed because rather than being evicted, villagers would receive compensation for their land in the form of apartments in newly-constructed buildings. Municipal and district authorities conducted a survey of the area, and as a result, 1,776 families were identified to receive apartments on the site. In addition to home owners, renters were also eligible for apartments if they had lived in Borei Keila for at least three years.



By the end of 2008, more than five years since the social land concession was first established, 1,254 families are still awaiting apartments with only 522 families having received apartments from the Phnom Penh municipality. Seven additional buildings are presently under construction with three buildings already complete. There is ample space to provide housing for all families according to the original concession; however corruption by local officials and irregularities in the allocation process have plagued Borei Keilas' residents. There have been reports that some families now living in new apartments had never been residents of Borei Keila at all, while some of the poorest Borei Keila residents have been left without adequate shelter.

Residents filed two separate complaints of corruption to the Prime Minister's Office, one in December 2007 and another in June 2008. The Ministry of National Assembly, Senate Relations and Inspections officially opened an investigation into the corruption allegations in August 2008. So far no findings have been made.

Also of concern is the authorities' plan to evict a group of families affected by HIV/AIDS in the near future in order to clear space for the construction of a new Ministry of Tourism building. Throughout the whole development of Borei Keila the HIV/AIDS affected families have been completely excluded from the screening and allocation process for apartments.

The municipality is now planning to relocate the HIV/AIDS families from the green shed to Toul Sambo, a site 20 km from Phnom Penh where sanitation and health services for them are extremely deficient. The relocation site cannot provide adequate living conditions for individuals living with HIV-AIDS, or even for perfectly healthy individuals. The families will face serious public health dangers at the site and, because of the distance from Phnom Penh, will have limited access to vital medical services they are currently getting. Most of these families, who are barely surviving now, will also lose prospects for income generation and become more desperate.

Chey Sena, Kampot: In 2008 residents around Chey Sena village, in Taken commune, Chhuk district, Kampot, have faced serious threats to their homes. This has involved repeated harassment by police and military soldiers, including physical assault and the firing of gunshots over their heads, as well as forced eviction and relocation. In early April, commune police officers, including the deputy chief, and military police threatened 152 families living on land on the edge of Chey Sena village. The provincial authorities had issued a letter

declaring that the land had been given to a private company. On April 6, one family's house was destroyed by Taken commune police. Following intervention by NGOs with the provincial authorities, local police and military officers apologized to the families and promised that no one would be forcefully evicted.

Later in April, however, friction arose between another group of Chey Sena villagers and soldiers from Brigade 31, when the soldiers took over approximately 20 meters of the villagers' land to build a road. The land was being developed by military Battalion 317 and Brigade 31 as part of a 450-hectare social land concession being given by the government to the families of disabled soldiers. When villagers resisted this loss of land, soldiers fired shots into the air to disperse the villagers and one soldier hit a mentally-disabled woman. Villagers eventually "agreed" to give up part of their land for the road to be built.

On June 22, soldiers from Brigade 31 sealed off the Chey Sena village and blocked all roads to the area. The day before, Forestry Administration officials had told the hundreds of families living in Chey Sena that they would need to relocate to make room for a tree nursery. Claiming that the disputed land was state land on which the villagers had no right to settle,



forestry officers, with the assistance of soldiers, began to forcibly evict families. The residents were moved to a new piece of land 10 kilometers away, however, which was known to already have owners. Soldiers reportedly began patrolling the village, ripping down homes and demanding payment from villagers for the relocation of their possessions.

On June 24, soldiers blocked LICADHO and ADHOC from entering Chey Sena to investigate the situation. As well as roadblocks, there were also reports that soldiers were patrolling the forest to prevent access to the village. By July 1, the besieged villagers were reportedly running low on food.

On July 2, human rights workers from the UNOHCHR, ADHOC and LICADHO were allowed to visit the area by Brigade 31 Commander Mr. Srun Saroeun. Soldiers closely followed ADHOC and LICADHO staff during most of the visit, making it virtually impossible to speak confidentially with villagers.

Nevertheless, it became apparent that some of the villagers had tried to resist the forced relocation, resulting in four arrests, three villagers going into hiding and a number of physical injuries to villagers. Several villagers went into hiding in the forest and 23 others travelled to Phnom Penh to raise their dispute with the national authorities. However, within days all the remaining affected families had been forced out of the area, which is now firmly in the hands of the Forestry Administration and the military.

Kong Yu, Ratanakkiri: Alleged cases of powerful persons grabbing land from indigenous minority villagers in Ratanakkiri province continued to go unresolved. This included the long-standing case of Keat Kolney, sister of Minister of Finance and Economics Keat Chhon, who in January 2007 was accused of grabbing 450 hectares of villagers' land. In April 2008, Ratanakiri court investigating judge Yar Narin declared that he would no longer actively investigate villagers' complaints against Keat Koley; the judge said that he was unhappy that neither side in the case had agreed to pay court fees of \$1,500 and that villagers had refused to allow Keat Kolney's company access to their land to measure it for the court case.

Similarly, there was no action on a court complaint by 180 villagers against RCAF Major General Kao Try, who they accused in August 2007 of grabbing more than 200 hectares of land they had occupied since 1979. Kao Try responded by filing a counter lawsuit against some of the villagers and local government officials. The Ratanakkiri Provincial Court delayed hearings on both cases.

In May, the authorities banned a march by ethnic minorities, including Jarai, Phnong, Kreung and Tompoun people, to protest alleged land-grabbing and the illegal logging of their ancestral lands. Instead, more than 300 villagers held a public meeting at an NGO office to discuss their concerns. Police maintained a heavy presence nearby during the event.

Snoul, Kratie: In October, Stieng and Phnong ethnic minorities in Snoul district, Kratie province confront the private company CIV who had earlier in the year received a 99 year lease from the Provincial authorities to use the land for a rubber plantation. Approximately 750 families in the surrounding communes depend on the disputed land for their traditional farming of potato and rice. Various negotiations between the community and provincial authorities during the year fail to reach a resolution.



On 5 October villagers confronted bulldozers and excavators that had come to clear the farmland. The villagers who outnumbered the company workers eventually forced the bulldozers and excavators to leave the disputed land. Following the dispute CIV filed complaints with the provincial authorities alleging robbery and property damage during the confrontation.

On 8 October, community representative from Snoul district together with representative from 11 other provinces around the country, also embroiled in land disputes, traveled to Phnom Penh to lodge a joint land dispute complaint with the national authorities. A joint press conference was held calling for the action in their respective disputes. No formal answer has since been given to the communities.

On 17 November several community representatives were summoned to appear in court to be questioned over the CIV complaints. Large groups of villagers escorted the representatives to the court fearing that they would be arrested; subsequently the court delayed the questioning.

Military soldiers involved in land disputes: During 2008, LICADHO investigated and documented 27 separate cases about the involvement of military soldiers in land related cases against civilians in 13 provinces where LICADHO has an office. The use of military personnel to intimidate, threaten, assault and evict civilians during land disputes, sometimes at the behest of private companies owned by high ranking officials is an illegal misuse of power and the involvement of armed soldiers in evictions usually leads to violence, injuries and at times, deaths of villagers.

REPRESSION OF FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

Garment industry workers injured during strike: In early February, 500 workers, members of the Cambodia Confederation of Apparel Worker Democratic Unions (CCAWDU) gathered in front of the Kingsland factory demanding the reinstatement of 19 union representatives fired by the factory in mid-June 2007. The workers blocked the entrance to the factory, demanding a solution from the factory manager.

The factory owner and management team refused to negotiate with the strikers group. In the evening a group of police and military police forcibly cleared the entranceway to the factory and signalled for the factory owner's car to leave. The car subsequently hit several workers with 11 other workers also injured in the violence. Five of them were hospitalized in a medical clinic. No action was taken by authorities against the perpetrators of the violence against them.

The incident is part of a long pattern of violence against union representatives and members at garment factories in recent years.

Khmer Youth Union Federation strikers injured by police: In early January, 300 workers in the Khmer Youth Union working at the Cambodia Apparel Industry Ltd in Kampong Speu province held a non-violent strike to complain about violations of labor rights and the dismissal of 78 probation workers and three union leaders.

The strike continued for several weeks as the workers were unable to negotiate a resolution with the factory owner. When the workers attempted to block the factory and prevent the export of products, police arrived at the factory, carrying shields and batons, to disperse the demonstrators.

The workers later rallied in front of the Kampong Speu provincial court, where they filed a complaint against the factory owner, asserting that he had violated the labor law.

Dream For Darfur delegation prevented from entering Tuol Sleng Museum for memorial ceremony: On January 21, police and military police armed with guns and electric batons prevented a delegation of people, led by US actress Mia Farrow, to enter Phnom Penh's Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. The group had intended to lay flowers to commemorate the Cambodian people who were killed during the Pol Pot regime, as part of Mia Farrow's global "Dream For Darfur" campaign which aimed to draw attention to China's economic support of Sudan and the war in Darfur ahead of the August Olympics.

Dispersed by the police, the delegation then held a media conference at the Center for Social Development's office to condemn the violation of their rights of assembly and expression.

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Montagnard refugees: On June 3, Mennonite Pastor A Dung, a Montagnard asylum-seeker who had fled to Cambodia from Vietnam after harassment for his religious activities, disappeared from a Phnom Penh guesthouse along with his wife, child and brother. Eyewitnesses reported that the family were arrested and taken away by police. It is believed that the family were secretly deported back to Vietnam and that Pastor Dung was placed under house arrest or in prison there, although Vietnamese authorities have not publicly confirmed this. Pastor Dung's disappearance is part of a wider pattern of Vietnamese asylum seekers being abducted in Cambodia and deported to Vietnam, where some have been imprisoned, in recent years.

Also in June, two people, Phan Savang and Leir Yainghay, were given four month prison sentences by the Phnom Penh Court for harboring Vietnamese Montagnards in Cambodia after they had entered the country to seek asylum. The case continued a pattern in recent years of Cambodian authorities filing criminal charges against individuals who assist asylum

seekers, such as Montanards to come to Cambodia to exercise their right to seek protection under the UN Refugee Convention.

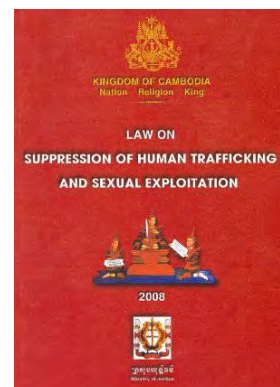
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

22 Cambodian men rescued from slave-like conditions on Thai fishing boats: During 2008, LICADHO helped to repatriate 22 Cambodia men who were victims of international labor trafficking. The men had chosen to search for work overseas, because of their poverty, but they were unaware that they would be trafficked into forced labor.

The men were smuggled into Thailand and taken to various fishing boat in Paknam, Samut Prakan on the east coast of Thailand. On the fishing boats they were forced to work day and night without pay, adequate rest or food and going some days with only one or two hours sleep. The men were able to escape their ships when they were docked on the coast of the Malaysian state of Sarawak. Once on land the men normally hid in the forest scavenging for food and attempting to avoid other human traffickers who would re-traffick them onto fishing boats or local police who would arrest them as illegal migrants. The men eventually made contact with family members in Cambodia over the phone. Upon hearing of their situation, their families approached LICADHO for assistance.

Based on information from LICADHO, and in cooperation with the Malaysian authorities, the United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region, Tenaganita (a Malaysian NGO) and the Cambodian Embassy, a total of 22 men were transferred back to Cambodia safely in April and December 2008.

New trafficking law: In February, Cambodia passed the *Law on the Suppression of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation*, which introduced more comprehensive definitions and charges for human trafficking and also specifically outlawed brothels and solicitation (i.e. criminalizing prostitution). The passing of the law contributed to Cambodia, in June, being raised to the Tier 2 level in the USA Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report ranking, which is meant to reflect increased efforts in combating human trafficking. Following the law's passing, and prior to the TIP report's release, authorities launched a major crackdown on brothels, closing hundreds of them in Phnom Penh and some provinces. Sex workers and civil society organizations strongly criticised the campaign, saying that it forced sex workers onto the streets, where they had less access to health programs and were more vulnerable to arbitrary arrest and detention (see below). The crackdown was also criticised for being selective and ineffective because it did little to target major traffickers and brothel owners (particularly those allegedly backed by senior government officials) for arrest and prosecution.



ARBITRARY ARREST AND ILLEGAL DETENTION

Unlawful detention of street persons: In June, LICADHO exposed a long-standing policy by the government to unlawfully arrest and detain poor persons living or working on Phnom Penh's streets. Homeless families, beggars, drug addicts and more recently sex workers were among those who were routinely rounded up from the streets and detained in so-called education or rehabilitation centers run by the Phnom Penh Municipal Social Affairs Department. Police, district guards and Social Affairs Department staff conducted the arrests, often violently.

Arrestees were unlawfully detained in a Social Affairs center in Prey Speu village, Cham Chao commune of Phnom Penh, or another one on Koh Kor Island in Saang district of Kandal. Inhumane conditions - including lack of adequate food, clean drinking water and medical care - were reported at both centers. Violence by guards, including rapes of female detainees and deaths of detainees, was commonly reported at Prey Speu.



On June 17, LICADHO managed to enter the Koh Kor center, despite efforts by the staff there to prevent this, and found more than 20 men, women and children locked away in a detention room together. The detainees included a nine-month pregnant woman and her four-year-old son, two gravely-ill people (one of whom died two days later) a nine-year-old girl with epilepsy who was unable to receive her usual medicine because of her detention, and various other adult men and women, some of whom appeared disoriented or suffering from mental problems and were unable to explain how long they had been detained.

On June 24, after LICADHO sent to the government and international stakeholders photographs of men, women and children locked behind bars at Koh Kor, the detainees there were abruptly released. Loaded onto trucks, most of them were driven to Phnom Penh and dumped on roadsides. However, Koh Kor has not been permanently closed and the Prey Speu center - which LICADHO has been repeatedly refused access to - has not been dismantled and can be used at any time. Based on past experience, it is only a matter of time before unlawful arrests and detentions at the centers resume.

The Ministry of Social Affairs, in a statement dated November 4 and published in Rasmei Kampuchea newspaper on November 6, repeated its assertion that poor homeless people had stayed at the centers "on a voluntary basis" to receive vocational training and other services. The statement assured human rights and other civil society groups that there was no reason for concern about the centers.

On November 6, the day the statement was published, LICADHO staff gained access to the Prey Speu center, in Phnom Penh's Chom Chao district, for the first time after years of being



refused access. Inside, they found that center staff who have been repeatedly been implicated in grave abuses against detainees in the past - and whom LICADHO has asked the government to suspend pending a full investigation - continue to work there

During this visit LICADHO staff documented handwritten messages on the wall [left], one reads: "Detained in a miserable prison. Enough already. I won't come back to this prison for a second time." The message is signed, but the name is illegible.

Detention by Ministry of Interior police: A district policeman from Kep municipality was unlawfully arrested and detained for six weeks, from February 18 to April 2, on the orders of National Police chief Hok Lundy. The policeman, Priep Pov, showed signs of torture during his detention. He was detained by the Ministry of Interior's Order Police, without charges being filed against him, because his family were involved in a land dispute with Princess

Marie Ranariddh. After more than a month's detention, Prieap Pov was transferred to hospital suffering respiratory problems and difficulty walking due his lengthy confinement. A few days later, he was released. Officials said that he would face criminal charges for allegedly destroying property on the disputed land.

As of January 2009, Prieap Pov still lives on the disputed land and the court has yet to take any action against him.

CONTROL OF THE MEDIA

Journalist receives death threats: In early May, Radio Free Asia journalist Lem Piseth again fled Cambodia to Thailand after death threats were made against him. He had been investigating a drug trafficking and murder case with alleged links to high-ranking officials. On April 10, his daughter discovered six AK-47 bullets placed in front of their rented house in Battambang, and on April 13 he was followed by a group of eight men on his motorbike in Phnom Penh. Lem Piseth had previously fled to Thailand in 2007 after receiving a threatening phone call warning him to stop writing about illegal logging.

Arrest of pro-opposition newspaper editor: Moneakseka Khmer editor-in-chief Dam Sith, who was also an SRP candidate in the national election, was arrested on June 8 only weeks before the election, on charges of defamation and disinformation and sent to Prey Sar prison. Dam Sith was charged after a complaint was made against him by Minister of Foreign Affairs Hor Namhong, regarding an article quoting comments about the minister and his links to the Khmer Rouge made by opposition leader Sam Rainsy. Dam Sith was released on bail one week later, and Hor Namhong later said that he would drop the complaint against the editor.



Murder of journalist in lead up to election: Two weeks before the National Assembly election, journalist Khim Sambo and his 21 year old son were killed in a drive-by shooting on July 11 in Phnom Penh. Sambo had been a reporter for Moneaksekar Khmer, a newspaper affiliated with the opposition Sam Rainsy Party (SRP) and whose editor-in-chief Dam Sith had been arrested a month before for on defamation charges (see above). Khim Sambo had been known for publishing investigative articles critical of the government and several high-ranking officials. The murder of Sambo marks the 10th killing of a journalist in the past 15 years and the police have yet to establish a motive for the killing or identify any suspects.

RESTRICTION OF CIVIL SOCIETY

Proposed NGO Law: Since 1996 the Cambodian government has proposed the need for a Law on Associations and NGOs (NGO Law) with various drafts having been produced in the past 12 years. In September 2008 Prime Minister Hun Sen publicly stated that the NGO law must be urgently passed as one of the three priority laws and urged the Ministry of Interior to draft the law as soon as possible.

Local and International organizations expressed their concerns on the purpose and process of drafting this law, as they fear that such a law would be used primarily to control and limit the independence of selective civil society organisations including not only NGOs but Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), informal community activists and groups such as

student and media associations. Especially high profile groups who advocate on the rule of law and human rights issues in Cambodia or provide assistance to victims of state abuses.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTION

Election fails to meet international standards: On 27 July Cambodia held its fourth National Assembly election since the first United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) organized election conducted in 1993. While the election day passed with little



reports of violence, as compared to previous elections, international observers considered the election to have fallen short of international standards.

During the pre-election campaign period there were widespread reports of money and gifts being given by election candidates, threats targeted at political opposition members, blatant misuse of state resources by the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) for campaign purposes and media coverage was dominated by the CPP in spite of regulations for free and equal access. Most disturbing was the unprecedented number of defections to the CPP from opposition parties. The defections were fuelled by money and the promise of political appointments and LICADHO also documented several cases of defections resulting from threats and intimidations (including deaths threats) and other coercive tactics.

On the day of the election, many voters were unable to find their names on voting lists and therefore were unable to vote. The National Election Committee later admitted that 49,340 registered voters had been mistakenly removed from the voting lists however opposition parties claimed the number to be closer to one million. Additionally there were claims by the opposition parties that a significant number of people were allowed to vote despite not having proper identification.

The final result of the election saw the ruling CPP retain control of the National Assembly winning 58% of the votes, giving it 90 out of the 123 total seats. The majority won by the CPP, due to the modification of the Constitution in March 2006 to allow a government to be formed with a 51% majority, means that the CPP now completely controls the National Assembly and is able to amend the Cambodian Constitution without opposition support. The CPP has also recently declared that no opposition member would be allowed to chair National Assembly committees or commissions.

LACK OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY

Arrest of SRP activist Tuot Saron: On March 18, an SRP commune chief in Kampong Thom province, Tuot Saron, was arrested and charged with unlawfully confining a fellow SRP member who had defected to the CPP. The arrest came one day after Prime Minister Hun Sen gave a public speech in which he referred to the supposed unlawful confinement and demanded that action be taken about it. However, investigations by human rights workers showed that the alleged victim, a woman who had defected to the CPP but then changed her mind, had in fact approached Tuot Saron asking for protection after she had decided to return to SRP. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, which investigated the case, has publicly stated that it found no evidence to support the charge

against Tuot Saron. Nevertheless, at time of writing, the SRP commune chief remains in prison awaiting trial.

Impunity for Cambodia’s police and armed forces: During the year Cambodia witnessed to a spate of shootings perpetrated by police or Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) personnel. These individuals at the time of the shooting incidents were either off-duty or working second jobs as security guards, during which they were illegally carrying firearms. Following the shootings all these perpetrators escaped prosecution because they were protected by their high-level connections, paid out-of-court compensation to the victim to ensure a criminal complaint was not made, or were allowed to go into hiding.



Wrongfully imprisoned men released on bail: On 31 December, the Supreme Court announced the release on bail of Born Samnang and Sok Sam Oeun after almost 5 years of wrongful imprisonment, and ordered the Appeal Court to re-investigate their case. The two men were held at PJ prison for almost five years after being wrongly convicted of the assassination of Chea Vichea, leader of the Free Trade Union of Worker of the Kingdom of Cambodia (FTUWKC).

After a grossly unfair trial, scapegoats Born Samnang and Sok Sam Oeun were convicted of the murder and sentences to 20 years’ imprisonment. There was a 20-month delay before the Appeal Court heard their case and upheld the verdict against the two men, despite the chief prosecutor’s acknowledgement of insufficient evidence. The appeal hearing was criticised by the international community as being politically-motivated and failing to take into account new evidence. The Appeal Court also ignored the conclusions of its own prosecutor, who acknowledged that the police investigation into the murder was incomplete and found no credible evidence linking the two men to Chea Vichea’s murder and recommended that more investigation needs to be conducted.

THEY NEED JUSTICE



Released on bail after
1 7 9 9
days in prison

Local and International human rights groups and individuals including retired King Norodom Sihanouk have repeatedly stated that the two men are not the real killers of Chea Vichea. The family of Chea Vichea has also publicly denounced the trial and conviction of the two men and have refused to accept the \$ 5,000 compensation that the court ordered the two men to pay.

The expected retrial of Born Samnang and Sok Som Oeun by the Appeal Court presents an opportunity for the judiciary of Cambodia to demonstrate commitment to international standards of fair legal proceedings and independence from the government. It is hoped that investigating authorities will use this opportunity to conduct an impartial and effective reinvestigation to collect and present evidence that will hold those really responsible for Chea Vichea's murder accountable.

Introduction

ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION

1992-1999: Conception and Expansion

LICADHO was founded in the wake of the 1991 Paris Peace Accords by Dr. Kek Galabru and other overseas Cambodians. Officially recognized as a local NGO in July 1992, LICADHO worked in close cooperation with the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to provide voter education and monitoring of election-related abuses during the 1993 election. In the course of this work, LICADHO staff was exposed to a number and variety of serious human rights violations occurring throughout the country.

This led to an expansion phase between 1995 and 1999 during which LICADHO developed a broader range of services, yet more focused programs of training and awareness-raising, research, documentation, monitoring and investigations of human rights abuses in Cambodia. During this time, LICADHO also developed its capacity to respond strategically to specific issues and target groups needing direct and sustained responses. Specialist projects evolved and led to the establishment of the Medical Office, which serves all program offices at LICADHO, as well as program offices for Women's Rights, Children's Rights, and a Prison Research Unit within the Monitoring Office, and advocacy and social services in the Project Against Torture.

2000-2005: Consolidation

As the new millennium arrived, LICADHO entered a consolidation phase, focusing on strengthening the overall capacity and effectiveness of the organization, its staff and projects. This included developing a clearer vision, mission and mandate to guide the organization in strategic planning and decision-making; developing staff, tools and information management structures to enable more effective implementation and evaluation of projects; streamlining case management, information dissemination and referral services with the adoption of tools such as databases and the website www.licadho.org; and improving advocacy and integration across program offices. Specialized training in social work skills was also provided to enable staff to move beyond the traditional legal emphasis of human rights work, and better meet the holistic needs of victims and their families to support their emotional and social recovery.

During this time LICADHO also began placing increased emphasis on long-term planning, leading to the development of a three-year strategic plan covering 2006-2008 programs and activities. Among other objectives, the plan called for LICADHO to harness the experience and information gained in its field work and specialist activities, to formulate more effective priorities and strategies for advocacy, and to integrate this work with regional and international partners such as Human Rights Watch, International Federation of Human Rights, Forum Asia and Amnesty International, as well as various national coalitions such as the Housing Rights Task Force (HRTF), NGO Children's Rights Convention (NGO CRC) and the Cambodian Committee of Women (CAMBOW) and Alliance for Freedom of Expression in Cambodia (AFEC).

2006 - 2008: Professionalism and Restructure

After consolidating the experiences of over a decade of human right work, LICADHO is now in an era of seeking increased professionalism at all levels. Progress has been made towards

developing systematic methods for human rights data collection, management and analysis through the establishment of the Advocacy, Documentation and Resources Office (ADRO).

Advocacy and stakeholder partnership on key issues such as rule of law, freedom of expression and assembly, and domestic violence have been addressed through sustained, unified advocacy that contributed to significant changes in national policies and institutions. LICADHO plans to build on these successes and commits to striving further as well as continuing to evolve and respond as the situation in Cambodia develops.

In early 2008 LICADHO implemented the first phase of its restructuring plan, which aimed to streamline its project and upper and middle management. All of LICADHO's offices were restructured to fall under four new departments: Department of Monitoring and Protection, Department of Communication and Advocacy, Department of Human Resource and Administration, and Department of Finance. Each department was assigned a new deputy director who was internally promoted. Under this restructuring plan, all project units operate under the Department of Monitoring and Protection and the Department of Communication and Advocacy program

The Department of Human Resource and Administration and Department of Finance remained mostly unchanged from the former administration and finances offices. However the new Department of Monitoring and Protection, and the Department of Communication and Advocacy represented significant changes in staff management. The Department of Monitoring and Protection amalgamated the monitors and researchers from the Children's Rights Office, Women's Rights Office, Prisons Project and Monitoring Office, together with lawyers from the Legal Project and medical staff from the Medical Office. While the Department of Advocacy and Communication amalgamated the advocates from the Children's Rights Office and Women's Rights Office, together with the staff from the Advocacy, Documentation and Resource Office and the Human Rights Education Office.

With the restructure of LICADHO's project units, staff and offices were also physically moved at LICADHO's Phnom Penh office during February and March 2008 in order to position staff physically closer together in their new management teams; to aid accessibility and functionality.

Department of Monitoring and Protection	Department of Communication and Advocacy
Monitoring Office - Monitors, Investigators, Para legal and Lawyers	Children's Rights - Trainers, Advocates and Campaign Officers
Children's Rights - Monitors and Social Workers	Human Rights Education Office - Trainers and Advocates
Women's Rights - Monitors and Investigators	Women's Rights - Trainers and Advocates
Prison Project - Researchers	Advocacy, Documentation and Resource Office - Documentation and Database staff
Medical Office - Doctors, Medical Assistant and Mid Wife	
Project Against Torture- Counselors and Social Workers	

Following this first stage of the restructure, LICADHO worked on drafting and strengthening work responsibilities, updating and drafting new policies, reviewing salaries, and conducting job evaluations. Starting in late 2008, with the assistance of a part time organizational development consultant, LICADHO worked towards obtaining the NGO Voluntary

Certification System, a Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) project, by mid 2009 including review and the adoption of a new board of directors.

In the second half of the year, the Human Rights Education Office and the Project Against Torture were phased out due to funding constraints, lack of human resources and a change in demand for human rights education. Despite securing additional project funding in 2008 for two key projects, LICADHO continued to struggle with funding gaps in order to respond to high profile human rights cases and political events in 2008. Two core funding partners, ICCO and Diakonia, increased yearly core funding on existing 2008-2009 contractual agreements and two other funding partners approved part of existing budget to be used for overhead and administrative cost which enabled LICADHO to meet 2008 expenses and continue to promote and protect human rights throughout the year.

In 2009, LICADHO plans to renew its 3 year strategic and funding plans which will include a review of past programs and address funding plans from 2009-2011.

Note: This activity report still categorizes the operational activities of LICADHO using the previous organisational structure (Monitoring Office, Women’s Rights Office, Children’s Rights Office etc) and not the new structure (Department of Monitoring and Protection and Department of Advocacy and Communication) as these activities were still conducted until the end of 2008. Activities under the new restructure will be outlined in 2009 activity reports.

COMMITMENTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

LICADHO’s over-riding priority is to ensure all commitments are met to clients and victims, donors, fellow NGOs, and to staff. This has meant constant improvement such as the recent move towards qualitative impact, for which the management structure and case management process is being strengthened. Demand for services remains high, and LICADHO is committed to maintain its high standards in the face of increased case loads and an ever more complicated human rights environment. The following commitment statement is prominently displayed in Khmer and English at each of LICADHO’s 13 offices:

ការប្រើប្រាស់សេវាការលីកាដូ
អង្គការលីកាដូ ប្តេជ្ញាផ្តល់សេវាដូចខាងក្រោមនេះ៖

- ▶ ផ្តល់សុវត្ថិភាព និងភាពគ្មានការកំរាមកំហែង ជូនជនរងគ្រោះ
- ▶ ផ្តល់សេវា និងសម្ភារៈនានា ដោយឥតគិតថ្លៃ ជូនជនរងគ្រោះ
- ▶ ផ្តល់សិទ្ធិ ជូនជនរងគ្រោះ ជាអ្នកសម្រេចចិត្ត លើការណ៍របស់ខ្លួន
- ▶ រក្សាភាពសម្ងាត់ បំផុត ជាមួយជនរងគ្រោះ បុគ្គលិក អង្គការដៃគូ និងអ្នកដែលពាក់ព័ន្ធ
- ▶ លើកតម្កល់ សេវារប្រើជូនជនរងគ្រោះ ឱ្យប្រសើរឡើង ដោយមិនមានការរើសអើង អាយុ ភេទ សញ្ជាតិ ក្រុមជនភាគតិច ចូលនិវត្តន៍ ឬជនពិការឡើយ

OUR COMMITMENT
LICADHO is Committed to the following:

- ▶ Providing a safe, non-threatening environment for victims
- ▶ Providing all services free of charge
- ▶ Allowing victims to determine how their cases will be pursued
- ▶ Maintaining a strict confidentiality with victims, colleagues, partner organizations and beneficiaries
- ▶ Promoting non-discriminatory services for all victims regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnicity or disability

ប្រសិនបើលោកអ្នក មានប្រសូល ឬមានពាក្យបណ្តឹង សូមទំនាក់ទំនង តាមខ្លួរស័ព្ទលេខ៖ ០១២ ៨០៣ ៦៥០ ពីម៉ោងរសៀល១២ ដល់ម៉ោង១៧ ថ្ងៃច័ន្ទ រៀបរយសេវាសម្រាប់ ជនរងគ្រោះ និងប្តេជ្ញាថែរក្សាភាពសម្ងាត់

Please call 012 803 650 with any question or complaints. All calls will be treated confidentially.

LICADHO recognizes the importance of continued strengthening of governance within the organization. By-laws have been comprehensively reviewed in an ongoing participatory exercise with every member of staff from cleaners and guards up to senior management and the President. Annual audits are conducted by Price Waterhouse Coopers. Though audits focus primarily on financial accuracy, they also include quality assurance elements, suggestions and comments on management control, and contracts compliance.

Financial management, in Cambodia’s prevailing culture of endemic corruption, is an area where LICADHO has paid special attention from inception. Procedures have been designed and refined following donor and external audits. Financial and procurement procedures are transparent and require multiple signatures from several offices. Provincial management is designed to operate in the same way, however in order to re-affirm controls, LICADHO has a special mobile team that provides support and spot inspections for all offices.

LICADHO VISION & MISSION

In line with LICADHO’s commitment to continually evolve as an organization, during 2006, staff drafted and voted on new vision and mission statements. The new statements reflect the evolution of LICADHO from an organization providing traditional monitoring, training and advocacy activities, to an emphasis on developing staff capacity to empower clients through broader social mobilization and community-led advocacy.

ទស្សនៈវិស័យ និង បេសកកម្ម LICADHO's Vision and Mission
បេសកកម្ម

<p>ទស្សនៈវិស័យ</p> <p>ប្រជាពលរដ្ឋនៅកម្ពុជាទទួលបានសេចក្តីសុខុមាលភាព ក្នុងសង្គមមួយដែលមានការគោរពសិទ្ធិមនុស្ស ប្រជាធិបតេយ្យ និងពុទ្ធិធម៌សង្គម ។</p>	<p>Vision</p> <p>All people in Cambodia to live in a peaceful society that respects human rights, democracy and social justice.</p>
<p>បេសកកម្ម</p> <p>ដកិវឌ្ឍបុគ្គលិកឱ្យមានជំនាញសិទ្ធិមនុស្សដែលអាច ផ្តល់សេវាមានគុណភាពដល់អតិថិជន ទំនាក់ទំនងពង្រឹង ជាមួយដៃគូ ដើម្បីធ្វើឱ្យមានអំណាចវិជ្ជមានដល់អ្នករង គ្រោះថ្នាក់យោងតាមសិទ្ធិមនុស្ស ស្របទៅនឹងបែប ការងារវិជ្ជមានសង្គមមានប្រសិទ្ធិភាព ។</p>	<p>Mission</p> <p>Develop human rights professionals who can provide quality client services, form effective partnerships and influence those in power to assist victims of human rights violations, while developing the overall organisational effectiveness of LICADHO.</p>

□□□

General Information/Administration

In December 2008, 135 full time staff and four part-time Cambodian staff (42 female) were working in Phnom Penh and 12 provinces. Five full-time consultants and one female part-time consultant were also assisted local counterparts in legal, advocacy, documentation, finance, monitoring, and organizational development activities. 19 new staff (three females) were hired during the year while 25 staff resigned or did not have their contract renewed. Additionally, eleven staff were transferred to other offices or were promoted to other positions.

LICADHO's management committee comprising of the director, four deputy directors and unit coordinators held 32 meetings every Friday afternoon in order to resolve challenges affecting the operation of the various offices. LICADHO's provincial coordinators met ten times with representatives of Phnom Penh offices, usually taking place at the end of the month and lasting for one to three day, to exchange information and experiences, identify new strategies and to implement work plans.

In 2008, LICADHO staff carried out 137 missions in 17 different provinces (including 5 provinces where LICADHO does not have a permanent office but were visited upon requests from partner NGOs and clients) to investigate and support victims of human rights abuses and to communicate with other persons involved in related cases.

In April 2008, LICADHO conducted a one and half day meeting with all of LICADHO main donors to present the financial situation, advocacy efforts and restructuring plans. From December 20-22 2008 LICADHO held a staff workshop and retreat at Sihanoukville.

LICADHO is the chair of the Cambodian NGO Committee on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (NGO CEDAW) and co-chair of the Cambodian Committee for Women (CAMBOW). LICADHO is also an active member of International Federation of Human Rights (FIDH), NGO Children's Rights Convention (NGO-CRC), Housing Rights Task Force (HRTF), Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC), Forum Asia (FA) and NGO Forum in Cambodia.

In 2008, 75 LICADHO staff members benefited from two formal internal training workshops organized by LICADHO. Additionally, LICADHO also sent 13 staff members to external training courses organized by NGO and funding partners. Training topics included Penal Procedure Code, Law on the Rights of Disabled People, Land Law, Law Analysis, Basic Drug Addiction, Civil Code, Management of NGOs, Marriage Law, and Needs Assessment.

Three staff members travelled abroad to attend a training course and conferences. The training course was on Human Rights, Peace, and Security held in Stockholm, Sweden; a regional conference on Lawyering for Social Justice and Human Rights in Manila, Philippines, and an international conference on Principles on Equality and Development of Legal Standards on Equality in London, England.

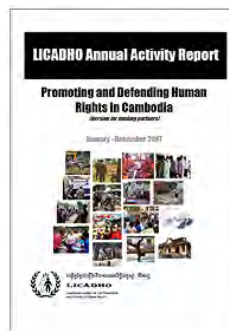
Aside from annual planned event campaigns within unit projects (International Women's Day March 8, International Labor Day May 1, International World Press Day May 3, International Children's Day June 1, International Torture Day June 26, 16 days of Activism

Against Gender Violence November 26 to December 10) LICADHO in cooperation with other NGOs, also participated in a number of public events including:

- 28 January: 4th anniversary commemoration of the imprisonment of Born Samnang and Sok Samoeun at Svay Por Pe pagoda, Phnom Penh with 135 participants from various NGOs.
- 19 February: Media conference at Foreign Correspondents Club (FCC) for the launch of a report on Defending Economics and Social Rights, held jointly with ADHOC and FIDH.
- 20 February: Press conference at Andong village relocation site held by local NGOs and FIDH, highlighting land evictions, attended by 155 villagers.
- 23 September: Celebration event of releasing 1,700 balloons at PJ prison to mark the 1,700th day in prison for Born Samnang and Sok Sam Oeun, attended by various NGOs.
- 10 December: Nationwide celebration of Human Rights Day and the 60th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Right. LICADHO and other NGOs helped to coordinate 26 celebration events in 14 provinces and also distribute 5000 Human Rights Day booklets.

Numerous media statements, briefing papers and reports were issued throughout the period, aiming to educate the government, civil society, the media and the general public on human rights issues and the law. Some of these were prepared in collaboration with other NGOs. A comprehensive list of all these activities can be found in the appendix to this report. The following list comprises reports and briefing papers produced and released by LICADHO in the year of 2008:

- *LICADHO/LICADHO Canada: Dey Krahorm Land Case Explained Briefing Paper (January)*
- *Prison Conditions in Cambodia 2007: The Story of A Mother and Child (March)*
- *LICADHO Annual Activity Report 2007 (March)*
- *A Research Study: Child Workers in Brick Factories: Causes and Consequence (May)*
- *Reading Between The Lines: How Politics, Money & Fear Control Cambodia's Media (May)*
- *Attacks & Threats Against Human Rights Defenders in Cambodia 2007 (September)*
- *International Human Rights Day Booklet (December 2008)*



Monitoring Office

AIMS/OBJECTIVES

- To identify human rights abuses and maintain authoritative knowledge of the human rights situation in Cambodia.
- To establish effective means, by which human rights abuses are addressed, revealed, documented, stored, investigated, and redress sought.
- To assist the most vulnerable members of society and highlight the abuses committed against them.
- To formulate and implement effective strategies for engaging with law enforcement authorities on behalf of victims; to improve professional conduct, and to prevent future abuses.
- To build up specific areas of expertise in categories of human rights that are of special concern to LICADHO: - extra-judicial killings, torture in police custody, illegal detentions, disappearances, kidnappings, threats, intimidation, land expropriations, human trafficking, rape and sexual abuse of women and children.
- To store and maintain documentation and a database for research and analysis of human rights violations, including links to similar national and international resources for advocacy purposes on legal and social issues.
- To maintain in-house legal expertise and access to HR Legal Defense NGOs.
- To produce best quality advocacy reports, statements, briefing notes and responses, that will comment on serious and/or consistent patterns of abuse and prompt redress and preventative actions.



ACHIEVEMENTS

The activities of the Monitoring Office (MO) are divided into three main areas:

- **Monitoring Office (MO)**
MO runs the primary activities of monitoring and investigating human rights violations perpetrated by state actors and institutions and also provides victims with assistance through paralegal advice and interventions with local authorities and court officials.
- **Prisons Research Project (PRP)**
The PRP interviews prisoners and pre trial detainees and monitors 18 out of Cambodia's 26 prisons around the country for human rights abuses, prison researchers also work in cooperation with the LICADHO Medical Office which provides medical services in 12 prisons.
- **Human Rights Legal Project (HRLP).**
The HRLP, a unit set up in 2006, provides legal assistance and representation to a select number of human rights violation cases.

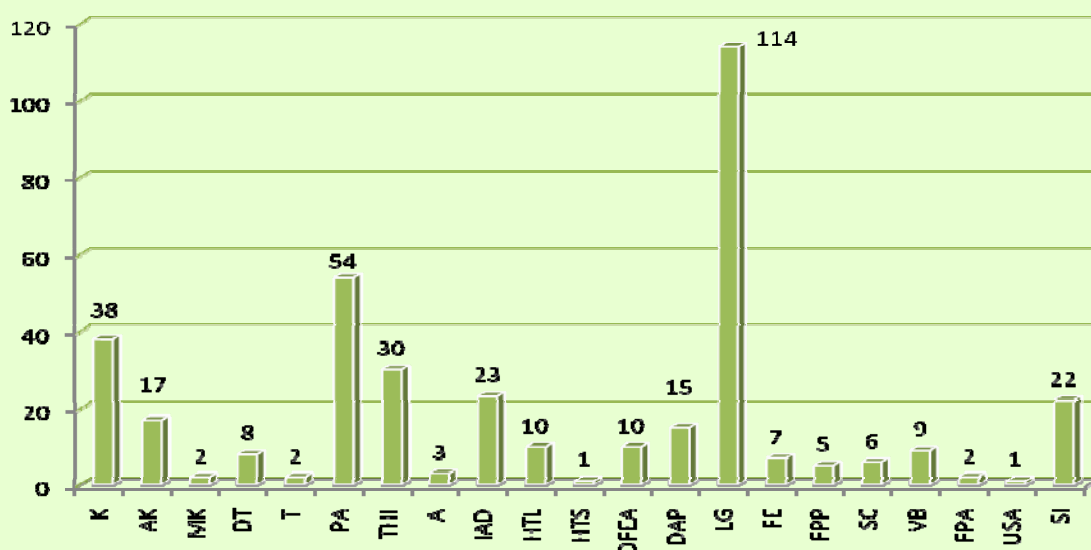
Monitoring Office

In 2008, MO investigated a total of 379 new cases of human rights abuses (an increase of 17% compared to 2007), which consisted of 526 violations and involved 16,725 victims (an increase in 70% compared to 2007). Land grabbing was the most common type of human rights violations, which involved 14,650 families and victims (a 42%



increase compared to 2007). The next highest number of victims came from cases of obstruction of freedom of expression and assembly, which normally related to protests against land grabbing. Moreover, many of the killings, physical assaults, and illegal arrests and detentions were also linked to land grabbing. Land cases are among the most serious cases as these affect the security and the livelihood of whole families and communities. Landlessness in Cambodia is synonymous with dire poverty, urban migration, the separation and destruction of families and communities and, in the most severe instances, malnutrition, starvation and death.

Cases for Human Rights Violations Received by Monitoring Office 2008



K = Killing	HTS = Human Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation
AK = Attempted Killing	OFEA = Obstruction of Freedom of Expression/Assembly
MK = Mob Killing	DAP = Destruction/Illegal Appropriation of Property
DT = Death Threat	LG = Land Grabbing
T = Torture	FE = Force Eviction
PA = Physical Assault	FPP = Failure to Prosecute/Protect/Provide Service
THI = Threat/Harassment/Intimidation	SC = Other / Special Cases
A = Abduction	VB = Vote Buying
IAD = Illegal Arrest/Detention	FPA = Failure to Prosecute/Protect/Provide Service
HTL = Human Trafficking for Labour	USA = Use of State Asset for Political Party (Election Campaign)
	SI = Signboard Interference

During 2008 monitors also engaged in following up on previous year's cases, checking to see if victims require more assistance or that intervention actions are still continuing. Senior monitors and three foreign consultants had to respond to several complex protection cases requiring asylum and other protection services.

The table below indicates the frequency of paralegal advice given and observations (of demonstrations and human rights events) and interventions with local authorities conducted by MO in 2008.

Paralegal Advice and Interventions Provided by MO during 2008

Offices	Paralegal advice	Observation	Intervention				Total
			Sent letter to court	Sent letter to authority	Sent letter to land commission	Meetings	
Battambang	73	22	2	5		21	28
BanteayMeanchey	87	1		11	13	20	44
Kg.Thom	107	70	9	2	10	3	24
Kg. Chhnang	79	13	2	2	4	9	17
Kg. Speu	101	10	6			10	16
Sihanoukville	127	12	1	6	1	21	29
Kampot	107	32	3			29	32
Koh Kong	71	6	2			9	11
Kg. Cham	100	5				30	30
Phnom Penh	616	53	4	11		45	60
Pursat	112	7	10	6	1	2	19
Siem Reap	104	27	2	12		46	60
Svay Rieng	64	5	3	5	2	8	18
Kratie *						2	2
Preah Vihear *						2	2
Takeo *						3	3
Prey Veng *						3	3
TOTAL	1,748	263	44	60	31	263	398

*No LICADHO office

Prison Research Project

LICADHO prison researchers visit each prison at least once a week to conduct interviews with prisoners. The interviews last for approximately two to three hours and in that time between three and five prisoners will be interviewed. Prison researchers use a standard questionnaire form which documents the prisoners' personal details, treatment, living conditions, complaints, legal information and any other important information.

In 2008, prison researchers interviewed 1,983 prisoners, both pre-trial detainees and convicted prisoners, which also included 174 females. According to the interviews, 85 prisoners (one female) reported that they were tortured, 78 cases occurred while in police custody and 7 other cases occurred in prison. LICADHO also recorded 39 deaths in 13 prisons.

Prison Research Project Case Study

During a routine prison monitoring visit to the Kamong Chhnnang prison, a LICADHO prison researcher discovered that a 12 year old boy was being detained in the prison (13 is the minimum legal age in which a minor can be detained).

The boy had been arrested alongside two of his friends aged 14 and 15 earlier in the year. When the boy was brought to the court, he told to the prosecutor he was 13 years old. The three suspects were charged with robbery and sent to pre-trial detention.

In October after investigating the case, LICADHO submitting an intervention letter to the prosecutor highlighting the boy's age. In November, the provincial prosecutor contacted LICADHO and welcomed the attention in researching the case for him and invited LICADHO to meet with him and the investigation judge the next day.

During the meeting, the prosecutor and judges thanked LICADHO for its research and encouraged future cooperation. Three days later the three children were released by the court and were reunited with their families.

Adopted-A-Prison Project

The LICADHO Adopt-A-Prison project was established in 2003 to mobilize and facilitate material and food aid for children, their mothers, and pregnant women living in prisons, in cooperation with NGO partners and private donors.

Number of Pregnant Prisoners and Children Living in Prisons in December 2008

Prison	CC2	TM	PJ	BB	BM	SR	SP	KK	KN	KC	KT	PS	SV	Total
Children	17	8	0	2	4	3	7	3	2	3	1	3	1	54
Pregnant Women	4	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	12
Total	21	9	1	3	4	3	8	4	3	4	1	4	1	66

Human Rights Legal Project

Despite a limited numbers of lawyers in 2008 (three full time lawyers and one new lawyer hired in November 2008), the HRLP worked on 38 cases representing 68 clients across 11 provinces. A large proportion of cases involved land grabbing (19) and violence against women (14). The clients represented are those that present the most serious cases of violence.

Number of HR Cases assisted by the Legal Unit January-December 2008

No	Provinces	Victims	Type	Hearing Date	Result	Total
1	Kompot	4	Rape	Pending	Pending	4
2	K.Chhnang	1	Rape	Referred to PJJ	Closed	1
3	Kompot	1	DV	Closed	Closed	1
4	Svay Rieng	2	LG	Closed	Closed	1
5	Svay Rieng	1	HT	Pending	Pending	1
6	Banteay Meanchey	2	LG	Pending	Pending	2
7	Kompong Thom	15	LG	Pending	Pending	3
8	Kompong Speu	3	LG	Closed	Closed	2
9	Kampot	8	LG	Pending	Pending	5
10	P.P/Kandal	7	LG	Pending	Pending	3
11	P.P/Kandal	4	HRD	Pending	Pending	2
12	P.P/Kandal	1	Special Case	Pending	Pending	1
13	P.P/Kandal	1	Rape	Pending	Pending	1
14	Battambang	3	LG	Pending	Pending	1
15	Sihanoukville	2	Rape	1 Closed/1 Pending	1 Closed / 1 Pending	2
16	Pursat	1	DV	Pending	Pending	1
17	Pursat	3	LG	Pending	Pending	1
18	Pursat	3	Rape	Pending	Pending	3
19	Siem Reap	4	LG	Pending	Pending	1
20	Kompot	2	Special Case	Pending	Pending	2
Total		68				38

Case Study: Land Grabbing Legal Representation

Villagers in Veal Tonsay village, Meanchey commune, Oudong district, Kampong Speu had been living on their plot of land since 1979 and in 1986, they agreed to exchange the land with the Meanchey commune office and went to live in Tompoung village. In 1992, the commune office moved to a new location, enabling villagers relocated back to their former land.

In 2006, Meanchey commune chief Peng Pal attempted to grab the land based on a land title he had given himself in 1995. A conflict between the commune officer and the community emerged and the case was sent to the provincial court.

On January 28, 2008, 2 community representatives of the 35 affected families were arrested in Tompoung village and charged with damage to private property allegedly caused in 2006. Upon the request of the victims, LICADHO accepted to represent and defend the accused villagers. In cooperation with the provincial monitor, LICADHO lawyers collected evidence and meet the two victims in prison to prepare their defence case. A bail application was sent to the court but rejected.

On May 29, 2008 the hearing took place at Kampong Speu's provincial court. The judges found the villagers guilty and sentenced the two men to 1 year imprisonment with 8 months being a suspended sentence and 5 years probation. The men were also ordered to pay compensation to the Mean Chey commune office of 1 million riel (USD\$250). The prosecutor however did not agree with the sentence and appealed the decision, causing the two villagers to remain in detention awaiting the appeal hearing.

The Appeal's court hearing was conducted on November 7, 2008 with the judges reducing the prison

sentence to 9 and a half months. Following the hearing, LICADHO requested that the court quickly issue the verdict summary so that the men could be released. The two were finally released on November 17, 2008 and were able to return to their community to represent the villagers who are still struggling to have their land rights recognised.

Staff Capacity Building

LICADHO's Monitoring Office conducted training on the new criminal procedure code for all LICADHO monitors, researchers, lawyers, children's rights monitors, women's rights monitors and provincial coordinators from January 23-25, 2008 and September 11-12, 2008, there were 50 staff who participated in the training. On September 3-5, 2008 37 provincial coordinators and researchers received the training on the Civil Code and Marriage law.

One lawyer attended English classes for one term at the Australian Centre for Education (ACE) in line with her work responsibilities.

IMPACT

- Emergency responses provided relief and basic protection to victims and communities against violent and serious human rights abuses.
- Victims were empowered to seek redress by legal means, and support other victims in their communities after receiving investigative, legal and advocacy services.
- Cooperation and support fostered among the human rights community to address human rights abuses. LICADHO responded directly to the detention and protection of human rights defenders.
- Through media coverage, the public and the international community were informed about emerging human rights cases and issues on a regular basis.
- Communities participated broadly in event campaigns, empowering both victims and community advocates.
- Prison visits allow researchers and medical staff to ensure prisoners had access to legal representation, basic health and hygiene and a means for seeking redress when their rights were violated.
- Increased involvement of partner communities, CBOs, Christians, volunteers and NGOs to witness human rights violations, specifically related to land dispute demonstrations.
- Increased credibility of LICADHO as a source of information relating to the human rights situation in Cambodia and high profile cases. Requests are regularly made by policy makers, international community, donors and media.

□□□

Women's Rights Office

AIMS/OBJECTIVES

- To disseminate women's rights information and relevant laws relating to the protection of women to specific target groups such as women in selected communes and local authorities.
- To investigate and document cases related to violations of women's rights such as domestic violence, rape and sexual assault and human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation.
- To provide legal redress and assistance to victims and their families to file complaints with the courts or the police.
- To provide to victims and their families referral services to shelters, legal aid organizations and other vocational or rehabilitation NGOs.
- To provide food, material, medical care and counseling to those in need.
- To promote gender equity between men and women through advocacy campaigns.
- To lobby to policy makers to incorporate gender issues in national legislation and policies.
- To lobby at the national, regional and international level for social and legal reforms to better protect women.



ACHIEVEMENTS

The main activities of the Women's Rights Office (WRO) were:

- Monitoring and investigating cases where women's rights had been violated;
- Educating both women and local authorities about women's rights and laws relating to women's rights in Cambodia;
- Supporting and assisting grassroots networks and Focal Points focussing on WR issues;
- Advocating to advance the cause of women in Cambodia; and
- Training sessions for staff to increase the quality of work performed by WRO.

ACTIVITIES

Monitoring and Investigations

In 2008, monitors in the WRO in Phnom Penh as well as monitors in LICADHO'S 12 provincial offices investigated a total number of 238 cases of women's rights violations. Within these cases there were 238 victims and 253 perpetrators. All cases involved violations of domestic violence (DV), rape (RA), sexual/indecent assault (IA) and human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation (HTS). DV accounted for 67% of the total cases. Out of the 238 cases, there are 178 new cases that remain open and 60 cases that have been closed.

In comparison, in 2007 WRO investigated 302 cases of women's rights violations. Within these cases there were 312 victims and 333 perpetrators. The decrease in reported cases from 2008 to 2007 is due to organizational efforts to follow up status of former cases, shortage of monitoring and women's rights staff, women's rights staff absent on maternity leave, organizational restructuring, lack of funding for investigations/transport and increase in number of high profile human rights violations such as land grabbing that needed responses from monitoring and medical staff. See additional responses in section "Challenges".

In 2008, 8 women died as a result of violence (domestic violence and rape) and 7 women reported cases of gang rape and 3 cases were committed by a relative (brother in law, cousin and uncle).

Women's Rights Cases by Case Type and Province 2008

	PP	KD	KN	PS	BB	BM	KS	KP	SV	KK	KC	KT	SP	SR	Total
DV	31	12	4	7	7	16	16	22	7	7	8	5	4	22	168
RA	3	6	7	6	4	1	5	7	3	3	8	6		8	67
IA						1									1
HTS								1		1					2
Total	34	18	11	13	11	18	21	30	10	11	16	11	4	30	238

Women's Rights Cases Pending 2008

Types	Police Inspector	District	Commune Police	Appeal court	In the court process			Total
					Pending escaped	Pending no arrest warrant	Pending detained not arrested	
DV	6	16	10		3	10	71	116
RA	2	1	7		7	27	15	59
IA			1					1
HTS	1				1			2
Total	9	17	18	0	11	37	86	178

Women's Rights Cases Closed 2008

No	Type	Trial	Charges Dropped	Facilitated by Police	Facilitated by District	Facilitated by Court	Facilitated by Police Inspector	Withdrew Complaint	Total
1	DV	2	16	22	6	1	1	4	52
2	RA	3	3		2				8
3	HTS								
Total		5	19	22	8	1		5	60

Legal Service and Referrals

The LICADHO Legal Project represented 14 clients in 2008. These clients represented priority and most serious cases of violence against women.

WRO Monitors and provincial monitors also referred 10 clients to referral NGOs: 4 female victims of rape (2 cases to Cambodian Women's Crisis Center (CWCC), 1 case to SSC and 1 case to Hagar), 5 female victims of domestic violence cases (2 cases to CWCC, 2 cases to Renacer and 1 case to Hagar) and 1 female victim of human trafficking for sexual exploitation to Hagar.

Victims Assistance

During the reporting period, WRO provided material and transport assistance to 35 clients. 22 of these clients reported cases of domestic violence, 12 were victims of rape and one was a victim of trafficking for sexual exploitation. Materials included mosquito nets, bean soy sauce, fish sauce, noodles, salt, cooking oil, baby milk, rice, tin fish, accommodation and shampoo. Transportation assistance included travel back to a victim's home province, to medical facilities and accommodation shelters.

Community Activities-Networking and Dissemination

In 2008 WRO continued the Community Ownership of Women's Rights Pilot Project (the Pilot Project). Formal training workshops for Focal Points (key community women trained on women's rights issues) and selected local authorities concluded in 2007.

In 2008 Focal Points conducted 31 awareness raising sessions to 2,431 participants in Kompot and 37 sessions to 1,752 participants in Kompong Thom province, on violence against women. Awareness raising sessions were conducted in formal and informal meetings. Informal sessions included meetings with people at the market place, discussions on violence against women issues during meals and conversations between neighbors, friends and family. Formal sessions were organized by Focal Points inviting community members and local authorities to attend sessions.

Community Forum

On 25 April, 2008, in Kompot province, and 30 April, 2008 in Kompong Thom province, LICADHO held two community forums to mark the conclusion of the Pilot Project activities in those provinces. Each forum had approximately 75 participants.

The purpose of the community forums was to present feedback from the participants about the training sessions and the Pilot Project. The results of the Pilot Project were presented to the participants through the form of a short drama, similar to the one conducted in Kandal.

Follow-up Training for Focal Points

In 2007, 37 women in Kampot and 35 women in Kampong Thom were trained as Focal Points for the women's right pilot project. During 2008 six one day follow-up sessions were conducted in each province. The purpose of these sessions was to follow up on any queries/problems, to reinforce issues taught in the first training sessions and to provide support to the Focal Points in their own community awareness raising, community monitoring and group advocacy activities on domestic violence, rape and HTS issues.

Follow-up Training for Local Authorities

In 2007, 25 local authorities (23 male and 2 female), from Kampot and 22 local authorities (20 male and 2 female), from Kampong Thom were trained on practical implementation of existing legislation for assisting victims of domestic violence, rape and human trafficking for sexual exploitation.

Following up meetings were conducted in 2008 with local authorities who had been attended the training session (7 meetings) and also those that had not attended the training session (2

meetings), in order to discuss the pilot project and the planned cooperation between the focal points and local authorities on cases of violence against women.

Advocacy Materials

In 2008 WRO (with the assistance from members of LICADHO's Advocacy, Documentation and Resource Office) designed, produced and distributed 711 pictorial booklets entitled 'The Shadow of Life.'



The purpose of the booklet was to discuss the issue of domestic violence and how this impacted on one family's life in Cambodia, leading to rape, marital rape, death and trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation. The booklet was designed to be a pictorial booklet in order to target community members who are illiterate. The booklet was printed in June 2008 and is to be distributed to all Focal Points, local authorities and community villagers.



Advocacy Campaigns

16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence

LICADHO assisted pilot project focal point women to conduct door-to-door visits during the 16 Days Campaign in Kandal (6 villages), Kampot (8 villages) and Kampong Thom (8 villages). The aim of the activities were to visit villagers and victims of gender based violence in the target areas and to meet authorities to discuss gender violence situations in the areas. Participants

wore symbolic white ribbons and distributed background information on the 16 Days Campaign, and DV booklets. Banners to protect women's rights were also displayed on main roads and at commune offices.

The Cambodian Committee of Women (CAMBOW) and Cambodia NGO Committee on CEDAW (NGO CEDAW)

Dr Kek Galabru, the President of LICADHO, remained the co-head of the coalition CAMBOW (a coalition comprising 36 members working to advance the cause of women in Cambodia) and in May 2008 was elected the chair of NGO CEDAW (a coalition comprising 68 members working to monitor the implementation of the CEDAW in Cambodia). The WRO assisted CAMBOW and NGO CEDAW in many of its activities in 2008.

Main coalition meetings and advocacy events relating to women's rights in 2008

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Organizer</u>	<u>Place</u>
1	7 March 2008	CAMBOW members organized a celebration for the 98 th International Women's Day	CAMBOW	Samrong Leu commune, Angsnoul district Kandal province
2	8 March 2008	CAMBOW in cooperation with LICADHO to distribute materials to women and children	CAMBOW and LICADHO	PJ and Takmao prisons
3	6 May 2008	CAMBOW organized a meeting on the declaration by Ministry of Interior to suspended the right of Khmer women to marry foreigners	CAMBOW	LICADHO office
4	1 June	CAMBOW in cooperation with LICADHO to	CAMBOW and	CC2 and Takmao

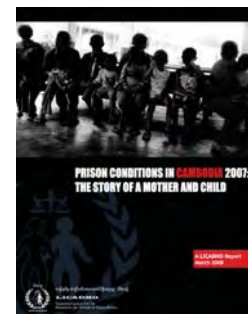
	2008	distribute materials to children in prison	LICADHO	prisons
5	4 July 2008	CAMBOW in cooperation with Ms. Silk Studziusky and Dr. Setheci Andreas organized a presentation about Women's victim by Gender based violence in Pol Pot regime	CAMBOW	LICADHO office
6	29 July 2008	CAMBOW in cooperation with Ms. Silk Studziusky and Dr. Setheci Andreas organized a meeting discussed about Helping Women's victim by Gender based violence in Pol Pot regime.	CAMBOW	LICADHO office
7	9 October 2008	CAMBOW in cooperation with Ms. Silk Studziusky and Dr. Setheci Andreas organized a press conference on Gender Based Violence in the Pol Pot regime.	CAMBOW	Sunway hotel
8	January - December	26 radio talk shows discussing domestic violence.	NGO CEDAW/CAMBOW	FM 105 Beehive Radio

International Women's Day

On March 7, 2008, a public drama organized by LICADHO was co-sponsored by the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and Peace Bridges in honor of International Women's Day. There were over 1,000 people in attendance at the Somrong Leu Commune, Ang Snoul district, Kandal; among them were representatives from CAMBOW member organizations. The drama itself was used as an educational "info-commercial" during the showing of a popular movie. It focused on the responsibility of all members of the community, and especially the local authorities, to reduce violence against women, particularly domestic violence, and uphold the DV Law.

On Saturday March 8 LICADHO and partner NGOs celebrated International Women's Day by distributing food, drinks, clothes and materials to female prisoners, children living in prison and female prison guards across 20 prisons in Cambodia. There were also performances by comedians and musicians at two prisons in Phnom Penh to help celebrate the day.

Coinciding with the Women's Day celebrations LICADHO also released its latest report on prison conditions entitled "The Story of a Mother and a Child". This report profiled the story of one particular mother and child who spent several years in prison living together. The report reveals the harsh realities of life in Cambodian prisons where prisoners must cope with limited access to food and clean water, overcrowding of prison cells, routine denial of quality medical services and violence towards prisoners from prison guards and other inmates.



Capacity Building**Training workshops attended by WRO staff 2008**

Names	Date	Topic	Organized by
Koeut Meak Pheaktra	23-25 January 2008	Penal procedure code	LICADHO (MO)
Koeut Meak Pheaktra Chheng Soklay Chim Channeang	10 January-22 March 2008	General English course at ACE, level 2, level 9A and level 9B	LICADHO
Koeut Meak Pheaktra Bun Saora	4-8 February 2008	Technical skill for investigation of children's cases	LICADHO (CRO)
Sar Bopha	6-8 May 2008	Gender training	GAD/C
Sar Bopha, Lim Y	24-26 September 2008	Gender mainstreaming	GAD/C
Chim Channeang	26-28 March 2008 4-8 August 2008 15-19 September 2008	RBA	DCA/CA
Chheng Soklay	3-5 September 2008	Marriage and family law	LICADHO (MO)
Koeut Meak Pheaktra Bun Saora	10-12 September 2008	Civil code (Marriage and family law)	LICADHO (MO)
Chim Channeang Chheng Soklay Bun Soara	02-03 October 2008	Human Trafficking Law	DCA/CA
Sar Bopha, Set Vannak, Lim Y, Yiev Sorak	02-03 October 2008	Communication Skills	LICADHO
Sar Bopha, Koeut Meak Pheaktra	17-18 November 2008	Civil Code on Divorce and Marriage	GAD/C
Sar Bopha, Set Vannak, Lim Y, Bin Bopha Cheat, Chheng Soklay, Koeut Meak Pheaktra, Bun Saora	25-26 November 2008	Civil Code on Inheritance of Acquisition of Immovable and family Property	LICADHO
Chim Channeang	June -December 2008 (3 weeks)	NGO Management	EWMI
Chheng Soklay	22-26 December 2008	Investigation on Human Trafficking	CDP

IMPACT

- Victims and their families became better informed of their rights and more confident in making decisions regarding legal redress.
- Selected communities and key women in communities received information on women's rights and basic ways to better protect women.
- The public became more aware of women's rights and violence committed against women and girls through radio and other media coverage. Women were able to raise key legislative policies to policy makers and the public
- NGOs and other members of civil society were able to advocate on key legal and social reforms relating to women and girls.
- The authorities also became more educated about their obligations to protect the rights of women under Cambodian law.
- Female community leaders were provided with knowledge and tools to better support their families and communities.

Children's Rights Office

AIMS/OBJECTIVES

- To identify children's rights abuses and maintain authoritative knowledge of the human rights situation of children in Cambodia.
- To give material assistance, protect and provide special support, including legal representation, to children and their families especially victims of rape, killings and physical assault.
- To initiate and co-operate with NGO partners and community members promoting Children's Rights, in order to maximize combined impact.
- To steer the Cambodia National Children's Committee towards a more sustained consistent strategy beyond calendar events to address major social issues and themes such as sex tourism and the domestic culture that permits it to exist.
- To counter child labor abuses by preventing and reducing children's involvement in worst forms of child labor through increasing understanding and action on the issues.
- To highlight and lobby on key issues relating to children's rights and worst forms of child labor to target groups.



ACHIEVEMENTS

The main activities of the Children's Rights Office (CRO) were:

- Investigations and victim assistance
- Conducting training programs
- Establishing and maintaining Child Protection Groups (CPGs) and student clubs
- Conducting advocacy activities and event campaigns.

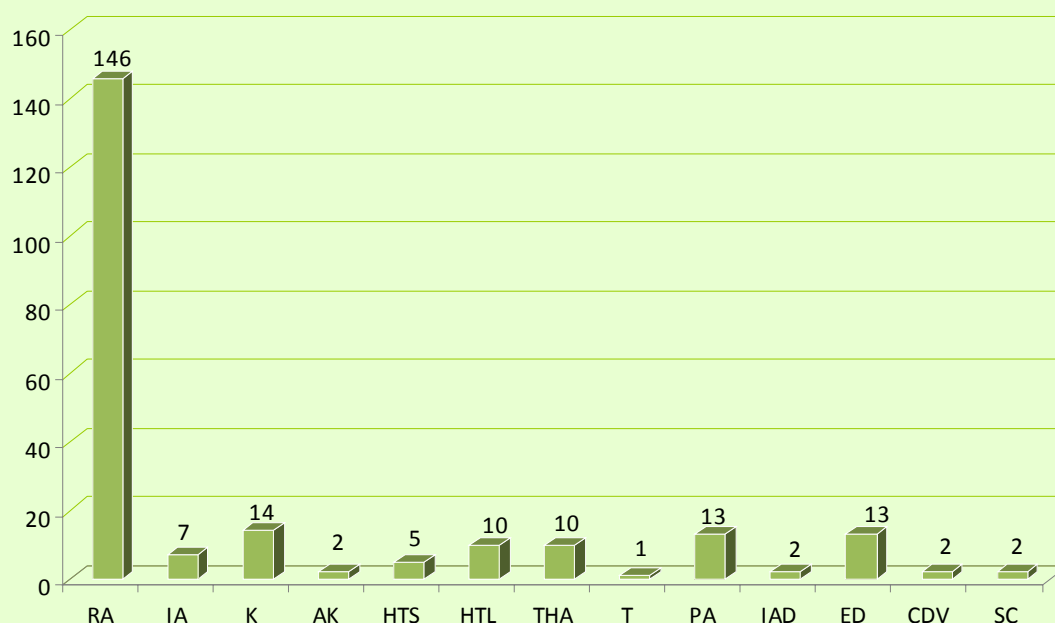
Monitoring and Investigations

Children's Rights monitors in Phnom Penh and provincial monitors continued with their ongoing activities of providing legal assistance and other basic needs to children and families who are victims of abuse and exploitation. Activities carried out in 13 provinces and in Phnom Penh.

During 2008, the monitoring team received and investigated 227 new cases comprising 244 victims (232 females and 12 males) and 272 perpetrators. Reported cases of rape made up 64% of the total case load.

In comparison, in 2007 CRO investigated 284 cases of children's rights violations. Within these cases there were 304 victims and 337 perpetrators. The decrease in reported cases from 2008 to 2007 was due to efforts to follow up on the status of former cases, length and complexity of cases involving children and their families, efforts to provide more holistic services to child victims and their families and shortage of child rights monitoring staff.

Cases of Children's Rights Violations Received by CRO, 2008



RA = Rape/ Attempted Rape	T = Torture
IA = Indecent Assault	PA = Physical Assault
K = Killing	IAD = Illegal Arrest/ Detention
HTS = Human Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation	ED = Enforced Disappearance
HTL = Human Trafficking for Labour	CDV = Child Domestic Violence
HTA = Human Trafficking for Adoption	SC = Special Cases

AGE RANGE OF VICTIMS

RANGE OF AGE (YEARS)	CASES	NUMBER		
		F	M	T
0-5	22	19	3	22
6-9	36	36	0	36
10-12	38	35	5	40
13-15	88	91	1	92
16-17	43	51	3	54
TOTAL	227	232	12	244

AGE RANGE OF PERPETRATORS

RANGE OF AGE (YEARS)	CASES	NUMBER		
		F	M	T
14-15	12	0	9	9
16-18	22	0	22	22
19-25	63	4	92	96
26-45	102	15	102	117
OVER 46	28	3	25	28
TOTAL	227	22	250	272

OLD AND NEW CASES CLOSED

CASES CLOSED BY	NUMBER OF CASES
Legal means/ trial at court (convicted and acquitted)	18
No legal means/ compensation, marriages, agreement)	28
No action by court(not accused, charge dropped, death)	0
Action by LICADHO (victims dropped complain and other)	16
TOTAL	62

Intervention and Legal Assistance

INTERVENTION ASSISTANCE DURING CASE INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE	CASES
Police/local authorities	72
Courts	126
NGO for legal representation	4
Total	202

CASES REFERRED FOR LEGAL SERVICES

AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS	CASES
Legal Aid of Cambodia(LAC)	13
Project for Juvenile Justice (PJJ)	10
LCADHO	6
Legal service of children and women(LSCW)	4
Cambodia Defender Project(CDP)	1
Action Pour Les Enfant(APLE)	1
TOTAL	35

Social and Material Assistance

Assistance was provided in 220 cases, involving 393 children (209 girls and 184 boys). Most of them were vulnerable children with the remainder being victims of cases received. 75 of these children received material assistance as a part of International Children's Day celebrations. The assistance provided included repairing houses by CPG members, school materials, medical certificates for legal purposes, infant milk, transportation to school and hospital, and counseling.

Training Activities

Training Workshops

30 two-day participatory training workshops (TW) attended by 737 people (332 female) were conducted in project areas by field advocates with support from senior child rights advocates from Phnom Penh. The aim of the TWs are to raise awareness on child rights, child trafficking and child sexual exploitation and other child rights issues specific to each area, among, parents of working children, teachers, and vulnerable and at



risk children in five provinces of the project areas. In each training course, 25 participants were invited to attend.

NUMBER OF TRAINING WORKSHOPS AND PARTICIPANTS DIVIDED BY PROJECT AREA

Location	PARTICIPANTS																	
	LA			VC/VAC			PWC/SoE			T			S			Total		
	#	F	M	#	F	M	#	F	M	#	F	M	#	F	M	#	F	M
Kg Cham	2	7	43	2	31	19	0	0	0	1	11	14	1	11	14	6	60	90
Kandal	2	25	17	2	22	28	0	0	0	1	17	8	1	15	10	6	79	63
Siem Reap	1	7	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	17	33	3	47	30	6	71	79
Koh Kong	2	12	32	1	10	15	0	0	0	1	12	13	2	23	27	6	57	87
Sihanoukville	1	8	17	2	26	25	1	11	14	1	4	21	1	16	9	6	65	86
Total	8	59	125	7	89	87	1	11	14	6	61	89	8	112	90	30	332	405

NOTE: - #: Number of Training Course
- LA: Local Authority, S: Student

- VC/VAC: Victim Children/Vulnerable,
- T: Teachers, PWC: Parent of Working Children, SoE: Staff of Establishments.

Training Provided to Other NGOs

TRAINING PROVIDED TO OTHER NGOS

DATE	NGO AND PURPOSE
March	River Kid Foundation: to provide three workshops on child rights, child trafficking, and child labor
3-4 Sept	International Cooperation for Cambodia (ICC), workshop on child rights and child abuse
27 August	Community Care Coalition, child rights and child trafficking
28-29 August	World Vision Cambodia, workshop on child rights and child trafficking

Child Protection Groups and Advocacy

65 Child protection groups (CPGs) have been formed since year 1 of the ODW project. No new CPGs have been formed for this period. CRO focused on the building capacity of existing CPGs in order for them to disseminate, advocate, and respond to all child abuses. CRO is also continuing to support a network of 56 CPGs formed under a previous donor project.

Student Clubs

12 student CPGs were transferred to join eight student-clubs. The student-clubs were formed through meetings with school principals and/or representatives and with each of the student-CPGs. Discussions were held about the process of the clubs by presenting a draft statute which was prepared by project staff. After which, an election meeting was organized and one leader, one vice leader and one secretary was elected for each club. Each club has 14 to 34 members (except one in Koh Kong which has 58 members) which include all the existing student-CPG members and some of very bright students at those schools. One representative was assigned by the school to be the responsible person to support the club.

CPG Case Study

Seng Chansopheap was born in 1993, the fifth child of his family, in Steungkhav district, Sihanouk province and he lived with his disabled father, unemployed mother and his four siblings. Chansopheap's family is very poor. Seng Chansophal, his elder brother, currently is in his 4th year at the Royal University of Law and Economics and is the only family member to have studied at university."

In 2006, Seng Chansopheap was invited to participate in a child rights training workshop conducted by LICADHO. At the workshop he was also selected to be a member of a Child Protection Group after his enthusiastic involvement during the training and then he was selected as the leader of Child Protection Group to Steungkhav district. He was very surprised to have been selected as he never expected to get a chance to help his children in the community.

Because of he participated in child rights projects such as workshops, capacity building training and the radio talk show, Chansopheap gained more knowledge relevant to child rights. He then became an active CPG leader with responsibility for dissemination and reporting cases to LICADHO or other relevant agencies in his community.

In early 2007, Chansopheap was invited to a 3- day workshop on the activities result for 2006 and to develop a work plan for 2007, organized by CNCC (Cambodian National Council for Children) at the Ministry of Social and Veteran Affairs. At the closing ceremony, he was selected to give a speech on Child Rights in Cambodia to His Excellency Ith Samheng, Minister of Social and Veteran Affairs. After that, Chansopheap was invited to a meeting by the NGO on the Committee for Child Rights with the aim of selecting a new president, vice president, and secretary of NGOCRC and to develop the 2008 work plan and organize the national program on 3 June 2008 for International Children Day, 1st June 2008 and World Day against Child Labor on 12 June 2008. At this meeting, Chansopheap was further selected to give speech on 3 June 2008. On 3 June 2008 Chansopheap gave his speech to Chairman H.E Sok Ann, deputy prime minister and minister, in charge of the offices of the council of ministers.

Chansopheap came from humble beginning and grown to become known and praised for his high capabilities, experiences and knowledge of child rights so much so that he has been invited by NGOs to speak on many topics such as child rights, child labor, child trafficking, child participation.

Follow- Up Training

17 training courses were conducted for participants who attended previous workshops to refresh them on topics such as child rights, child labor, and child trafficking and other questions relevant to child rights violations. 414 participants (181 females and 233 males) attended the training in five locations.

CPG Capacity Building

105 training courses were conducted for existing adult and children CPGs to build their capacity on child rights and child labor issues and skills in dissemination. 1,649 members (796 females and 853 males) attended the training. 37 for adult CPGs and 68 for children CPGs.

Five children CPG members, supported by LICADHO, joined as members of the Children and Youth Movement Club which has been established by Child Right Foundation (CRF). The Club attended nine meetings at the CRF office in Phnom Penh where they help to develop a plan of action in their area.



Five children CPG members attended a two-day training on Children Advocacy, organized by the NGO Committee for Children’s Rights.

CPGs Activities

166 adult and children CPG meetings were organized by CPGs with supporting assistance from CR senior and field advocates with existing children and adult CPGs in the locations to support and reactivate their participation in the prevention and protection of children (82 with child-led CPGs and 84 with-led adult CPGs).

139 dissemination sessions were held on children's rights, child labor, child trafficking, child sex tourism, and safety of children in the working place conducted by CPG members with assistance from CR field advocates (69 led by children CPGs and 70 led by adult CPGs). A total of 10,231 people participated in the dissemination sessions including 4,579 village children.

During the year 88 cases under the CR monitoring mandate were reported by CPG members to LICADHO monitors and advocates. Cases included child domestic workers, death threats, vulnerable/at risk children, domestic violence, killing, rape and physical assault. Most of the cases were reported by teachers, local authorities and parents of working children but there were an increasing number of cases being reported by children CPG members, most notably in Siem Reap, Kandal, Kampot, Kampong Cham, and Koh Kong, which suggest children in these groups are becoming more confident and assertive in taking action and reporting.

Additionally, CPGs assisted CR field advocates, social workers and monitors in seeking permission from relevant local authorities for investigations, making assessment and providing social assistance to victims and vulnerable children and very poor families.

Advocacy Activities

Radio Advocacy

During the reporting period LICADHO President Kek Galabru, attended 26 radio talk shows on FM 105 and FM 103 discussing domestic violence in Cambodia.



16 radio talk shows were broadcasted by FM 95.2 MHz Kampot, Angkor Ratha, Siem Reap, FM 102 MHz and Sarika Radio on children’s rights in general and other child rights issues including the following topics: International Children’s Day, child labor, child trafficking for labor and child sexual exploitation. Speaker invited were child rights field advocate, senior advocate, the Office of Labor and Vocation Affairs of Kampot province, Office for Human Trafficking and Protection of Minors and children and adult CPG members.

The CR Project Supervisor attended 7 radio talk shows (4 round table discussions on FM 102, 1 time FM 105, 1 time Sarika 106.5 MHz, National Radio Cambodia FM 102MHz, 1 time).

The Deputy Director of Advocacy and Communication attended in radio talk shows (round table discussions) on FM 106.5 for the concert advocacy event on child domestic workers on 10 November 2008

Five Radio Talk Shows (round table discussions on FM 105 and FM 102) in June 2008 on children's rights in general and other child rights issues including topics: International Children Rights Day, child labor, child trafficking for labor and child sexual exploitation. Speakers were invited from Child Rights Field Advocate, Senior Advocate, the office of labor and vocation affairs of Kampot province, and Child Welfare Group. Phone-in sessions during the shows also proved very popular.



Workshop and Advocacy Event on Child Workers in Brick Factories

A workshop on Child Workers in Brick Factories (CWBF) in Battambang was held on May 7, 2008 in Battambang province. There were 97 participants in this workshop including representatives from both partners LICADHO and partner NGO World Vision Cambodia (WVC), provincial governor, 2 district governors, 2 deputy governors from Thmor Koul and Sangke districts, 11-brick factories

owners, 11-child parents, 5-children working in brick factories and 55 other participants from other NGOs and government departments who were involved in the research. At the workshop findings of research conducted in 2007 on CWBF in Battambang were presented. The research was commissioned by LICADHO and WVC.

Following the workshop the third national campaign event on CWBF was held on May 8, 2008 at Neak Parnh Tek national park in Battambang province. The public event aimed to raise awareness on CWBF through dissemination of brochures, a public concert, speeches and games for children. The event was advertised for two days in local newspapers, Koh Santepheap and Raksmeay Kampuchea, on local radio FM 103.25 and FM 91 MHz, and also through flyers posted around the town.

The estimated public audience at the event was approximately 2500. The event was hosted by two local personalities and had a performance by local comedian Neay Khchib, quiz games for children on stage and an audio recording of a girl and a boy who spoke of their experiences of working in brick factories.

The public event was broadcasted on Radio of Free Asia (RFA), Voice of America (VOA); and was covered in the Cambodge Soir, Phnom Penh Post, Cambodia Daily and Koh Santepheap newspapers.

International Children's Day

Organized celebrations for International Children's Day (ICD), June 1st, 2008 in two locations (Kien Svay and Koh Kong). In each area, the campaign chose a specific children's rights issue with which to raise awareness amongst the community. The issues included child trafficking and child sexual exploitation.

The public events were organized by LICADHO in cooperation with local authorities, police, students and teachers, NGOs and other community members. These events ran from 2:00pm into the evening and included:

- Provincial, municipal, and district governors talking about child rights and child issues.
- Representative of CPGs and LICADHO gave speeches on child rights.
- Singing by children CPG members and professional singers on child rights issues.
- A play performed by a comedian group from Phnom Penh.
- A ' Question and Answer ' session about child rights issues for prizes.
- Balloon flying.
- Distribution of educational materials including primer books, posters, leaflets, child friendly books.
- Showing educational video of child labor and child trafficking and child rights.
- Traditional/local games organized by CPGs.

Results from these activities included increased local awareness of child rights issues, the exposure of large audiences to child rights education at each site totaling approximately an audience of 8,000 for all locations. Follow up information and pictures were widely published in local media including television TVK, CTN, and local newspapers. Selections of these events were directly broadcast on Radio station FM 105.



Also on ICD CRO staff joined LICADHO partner NGO Future Cambodia Fund to help celebrate at the Andong land eviction relocation site just outside of Phnom Penh. Over 600 children attended the event participating in games, theatre and music performances, a puppet parade, dancing, face painting, juggling and other activities.

Advocacy March on Child Trafficking in Koh Kong

LICADHO staff and CPG members joined an advocacy march on 23 November 2008, on child trafficking and sexual exploitation in Koh Kong province with the theme "Let's work together to combat child trafficking and sexual exploitation". The march aimed to spread awareness about these forms of abuse and the devastating effects they have on children and encouraged government officials, polices and members of the public, including tourists, to work together to protect children from such abuse. 500 participants joined including vice provincial governor, polices and relevant officials, NGOs staff, and all CPG members. The march took place between 7am and 12pm. Activities for the march included:

- Press releases issued two days before the marches
- Local TVs, Radios (Free Asia, Voice of America) and Khmer and foreign language newspapers highlighting the themes, aims and key messages and also including quotes from interviews with organizers and local government officials who joined the marches.
- Speeches by Vice Governor, on child rights and child issues
- Speeches by representatives of CPGs and LICADHO related to child rights
- Speeches by representatives of LICADHO CRO
- Audio broadcast of a child trafficking victim's story



During the march, leaflets were distributed with information about the need to protect

children from such abuse. Marchers wore t-shirts and caps and held a puppet effigy which represented of bad spirit of child abuse and 17 banners with messages such as “Give children a future; stop trafficking and sexual abuse of children” and “Sexually abuse a child; end up in prison for 15-20 years”

Local government officials showed their support and good cooperation in approving the request for the march. Police escorts were sent for traffic control and security reasons and provincial and district officials also joined the march.



Advocacy Event on Child Domestic Workers in Phnom Penh

On November 10, 2008 the second national campaign on child domestic workers (CDW) was held at Wat Phnom in Phnom Penh. The public event aimed to raise awareness on CDW through dissemination of brochures, a public concert, speeches and games for children. The event was scheduled to coincide with the annual water festival which attracts an estimated one million people into the city to watch the dragon boat races (one dragon was also sponsored by the event and competitors wore T-shirts on CDW). The event was advertised in local newspapers, Koh Santepheap and Raksmeay Kampuchea, on local radio FM 102, FM 93.5 and FM 105 and also through flyers posted around the city.

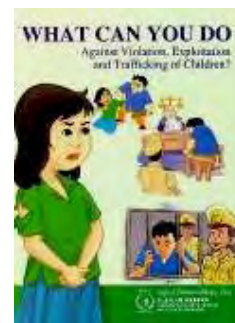
The estimated public audience at the event was approximately 6000. The event was hosted by two local personalities and had performances by pop singers Khem Maraksereymun, Yuk Thithroatha, quiz games for children on stage, a Khmer drama performance by children, an educational performance by comedian Neay Koy and an audio recording of a child domestic worker who spoke about the hazardous working conditions in her workplace

The event was broadcasted on Radio of Free Asia (RFA), Voice of America (VOA), Women Media Center (WMC), and covered in the Cambodge Soir, Phnom Penh Post, Raksmeay Kampuchea and Koh Santepheap newspapers and also on TV3.

Advocacy Materials and Tools

Materials Developed and Printed

- Reprinted 4750 long illustrated leaflet on children rights.
- Reprinted 4000 child friendly booklet on “What can you do against child trafficking, exploitation and abuse”
- Printed 400 T-shirt on Child Trafficking
- Reprinted 3000 leaflet on Child Trafficking
- Printed two banners with messages for 1st June 2008
- Printed two backdrops for 1st June 2008



Distribution of Documents/Materials

The documents/materials listed below were distributed to the participants of the training workshops, were used in the child rights campaign activities on June 1st and for providing training to other NGOs staff.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS/MATERIAL

N	Documents/materials	Used for				Total
		Training	Campaign	March	Other NGO	
1	Illustrated booklet on children rights (based on articles of CRC)	4330	600	0	240	5170
2	Long illustrated leaflet on children rights	1275	100	0	240	1615
3	Small booklet on rights and responsibilities of children	875	0	0	140	1015
4	Child friendly booklet on "What can you do against child trafficking, exploitation and abuse?"	3500	400	500	175	4575
5	ILO Convention n. 182 and recommendation n. 190	1175	0	0	150	1325
6	ILO Convention n. 138	1175	0	0	150	1325
7	Certificate for participants	900	0	0	0	900
8	Appreciated Certificate for CPGs	180	0	0	0	180
9	Note book (printed with children rights message)	925	0	0	0	925
10	T-shirt on child trafficking	82	80	550	0	712
11	Caps	10	40	420	0	470
12	CRC Convention	1295	120	0	150	1565
13	Poster on legal procedures	260	0	200	0	460
14	Sticker on child trafficking	0	0	3000	0	3000
15	Information Pocket, " protection children and child safety "	400	0	0	120	520
16	Leaflet on child trafficking	3350	1000	3000	0	7350

Children in Prison

On 1 June 2008, CRO staff celebrated International Children's Day in close cooperation with LICADHO's Prison Project. Essential materials, such as mosquito nets, sandals, body soap, washing soap, toothbrushes, combs, sarongs, fruit juice, bananas, cakes, footballs, water as well as food were distributed to minor prisoners, children living with their mothers in prison and pregnant women in 12 prisons throughout Cambodia. (10 provincial prisons and 2 in Phnom Penh).



People who received materials and food were:

- 41 children living with parents in prisons
- 582 minor prisoners
- 4 pregnant women prisoners
- 441 children of prison guards (food and juice only)

Staff Capacity Building

Training workshops attended by all CRO staff

- New penal procedure code 5 days training in January 2008.
- Orientation on the project activities and develop annual work plan for year 2008 of ODW in January 2008

- Children's Rights in Matters of Sexual Exploitation from February 4th to February 8th 2008.
- Orientation training on using new social assistance forms for 40 LICADHO field monitors, researchers, advocates and coordinators 20 March 2008 conducted by Social Services of Cambodia
- Communication skills training from 2-3 October 2008
- New civil code training 19 to 21 November 2008
- LICADHO staff retreat in Sihanoukville from 22-24 December 2008

Individual staff training:

- CR acting supervisor and campaign coordinator attended a Report Writing course from 26 February 2008 to 27 March, 2008 at the American Academic Associates (AAA) Phnom Penh.
- CR administrator attended the training on office administration skills at the American Academic Associates (AAA) Phnom Penh from January 21-February 18, 2008.

IMPACT

- Participants support the idea for the promotion of child rights in their communities which demonstrates an interest in protecting children.
- Most of the participants express their motivation and desire to continue participation in LICADHO training and subsequent activities, highlighting the fact that people do want to learn more about child rights.
- Participants spread their knowledge and understanding to other members of their communities through dissemination activities which converts training into action.
- CPGs advocate to government officers, to involve and developed work plans and schedules for their community.
- Most of the CPG members praised the project activities because the project implement directly with local poor people and focus on specific issue which are happening in their community.
- The majority of participants of the training are willing to become CPGs members, enjoying the status and responsibility that it brings.
- Increased reporting of information and complaints of children's problems and cases of child abuse and exploitation to field staff and monitors in all project areas shows a heightened awareness and a growing understanding of the responsibilities of the community in protecting children.
- Some members are able to respond to and address needs and problems of children on their own in all project areas which points towards positive sustainability and an increase in knowledge on how to respond to children's rights violations.
- Many questions are raised during workshops and dissemination sessions and a corresponding increase in understanding of how child rights violations impacts upon the community has been noted.
- More interventions were made on behalf of victims and a higher number were removed from their vulnerable or dangerous situation, largely as a result of increased reporting by CGP networks.
- Local authorities, NGOs, and people living in community have an understanding of the benefits of social services.
- Easy to contact child safety centers because they understood and recognized the roles and purposes of various stakeholders.
- More clients are beginning to understand the social services offered by LICADHO and when have problems, they know LICADHO is an organization that can help them.
- Key CPGs were able to provide concerns from their communities to events at the national level.

Project Against Torture

AIMS/OBJECTIVES

- To provide quality rehabilitation services and protect victims of torture and other serious violence, and to take action to prevent the use of torture in Cambodia.
- To train LICADHO staff on identifying trauma, provide counseling and social work services.
- To identify potential partners (NGOs, individuals, community networks, etc) with whom the project can collaborate in order to improve its scope and effectiveness of services to the project's target groups.
- To counter a culture of torture and inhumane treatment that is common in law enforcement and other institutions through increasing understanding and action on the issue and promoting alternative better practices.

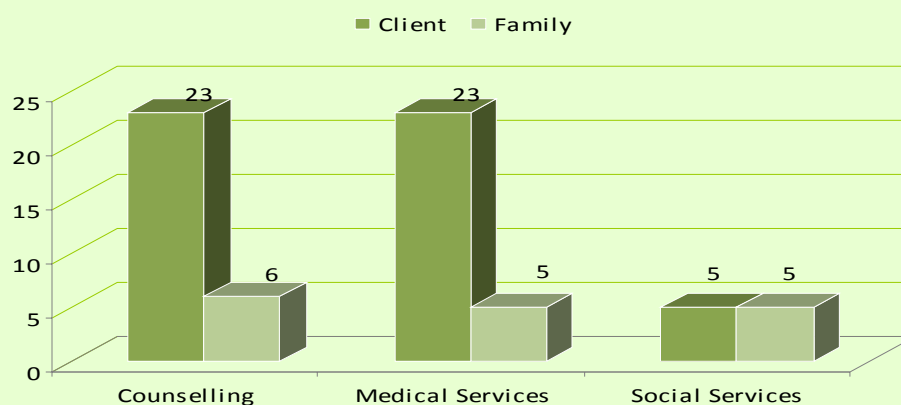


ACHIEVEMENTS

The Project Against Torture (PAT) operates principally out of LICADHO's Phnom Penh office with monitors in provincial offices. The project provides rehabilitation services to victims of serious human rights violations who require assistance for serious physical and psychological injuries. Such violations can include rape, serious domestic violence, State sanctioned torture, acid attacks and other cases the PAT assumes in cooperation with other LICADHO offices.

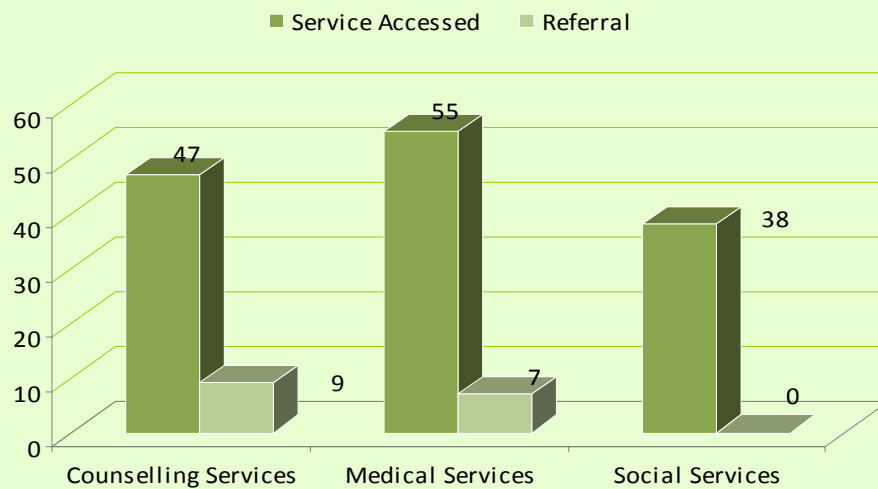
At the start of 2008, PAT worked on 46 cases which included 39 open cases, 5 new cases and 2 cases in cooperation with other units. There were three rehabilitation services offered by the PAT: counseling, social service and medical service. The table below documents the number of cases that involved these services through out the year 2008.

Rehabilitation Services Provided by PAT Jan-December, 2008



The table below documents the frequency of rehabilitation services provided by PAT and the amount of referrals. Where necessary PAT may refer clients to other NGOs or government bodies that may provide more specialized treatment or medical services.

Number of Times PAT Rehabilitation Services Accessed by Clients Jan-Jun, 2008



In addition to the tangible achievements discussed above, PAT staff experienced improved relationships of trust between themselves and clients.

Closure of Office

Due to a lack of funding support for PAT activities the office was phased out in October 2008. Over a period of 3 months remaining case files were closed, transferred to CRO or referred to partner NGOs. Two staff members were transferred to the social work team in CRO while the remaining members were given redundancy packages.

IMPACT

- Victims and clients were better able to resolve their problems.
- Clients' families have increased understanding of how to support client in their families.
- Clients have better health condition after receiving medical treatment.
- Trust and relations between the clients' families and staffs has been improved.
- Key torture cases were highlighted and debated on radio and other media and to some extent created debate within society.

Medical Office

AIM/OBJECTIVES

- To provide and facilitate proper medical care to prisoners and prison officials and identify and highlight causes of major health problems in prisons.
- To initiate preventative health education and hygiene programs in prisons.
- To establish possible causes of deaths in prisons and torture practices or ill-treatment by prison officials or fellow prisoners.
- To provide supplementary food, medication, and services to vulnerable groups in prisons and outside of detention centres.
- To respond to high profile human rights violations and conduct medical examinations of human rights victims, subject to consent, to furnish evidence for individual redress and countering such abuses.
- To treat patients, arrange hospital referrals, provide basic material and compile data on injuries and diseases.
- To provide medical services to the most vulnerable people living in eviction or resettlement sites in Phnom Penh.
- To increase nutrition levels of children and their families in selected provincial areas.



ACHIEVEMENTS

The three main activities of the Medical Office are:

- Monitoring the health of prisoner's and prison officials in 12 prisons;
- Providing medical services in Andong re settlement site and other most urgent provincial eviction or re settlement sites;
- Monitoring HR events such as demonstrations, strikes...;
- Providing nutrition information to children and families in Kampong Speu area; and
- Providing medical treatment to victims of human rights violations.

Prison health services

In 2008, the Medical Office provided assistance to 8,592 patients in prisons (1,097 female), this is an increase of 174 patients from 2007. The table indicates the number of patients who received medical care:



People receiving medical treatment under the Medical Offices prison program in the year 2008

	Prisons	Number of consultations with prisoners		Number of consultations with prison guards		Total consultations	Prison Visits
		Men	Women	Men	Women		
1	Toul Sleng	23	0	50	0	73	11
2	PJ	372	30	19	0	421	11
3	Takhmao	463	103	24	0	590	11
4	Prey Veng	572	47	76	13	708	9
5	Svay Rieng	403	59	90	18	570	9
6	Takeo	741	106	105	15	967	11
7	Sihanoukville	615	74	39	3	731	11
8	Koh Kong	403	79	28	7	517	11
9	Pursat	238	28	37	5	308	10
10	Battambang	1385	272	34	0	1691	10
11	Kg Thom	728	98	44	13	883	9
12	Kg Cham	967	123	39	4	1133	9
	Total	6910	1019	585	78	8592	122

In order to improve the quality and quantity of food given to prisoners, the medical team provided vegetable seeds and tools for gardening to 16 prisons in April 2008. The prisons were: Sihanoukville, Koh Kong, Pursat, Battambang, Kompong Thom, Siem Reap, Banteay Meanchey, CC3, Kampot, Takmao, Kompong Speu, Kompong Chhnang, and Kompong Cham.

Services for victims of eviction/re settlement sites and of human rights violations

In the year 2008, the Medical Office provided medical treatment to 392 (265 women) victims of human rights violations and 11,038 (7,362 females) victims of land dispute cases and evictions including on site examinations, hospital referrals and provision of medicine and food supplement.

Beside the curative work, the medical team also implemented the preventive work for improving health status among the people of community. From mid March to the end of June, the medical team in cooperation with the local health department provided vaccinations against tetanus, tuberculosis diphtherias, polio, whooping cough, and measles to 1,158 children and 347 adults female were made.

Capacity Building and Networking

In order to improve qualification of its staff, the Medical Office organized 10 internal training courses held monthly. In addition to this, one staff member was sent to the monthly meetings organized by the Membership Organization for NGOs Active in Cambodia's Health Sector

(Medicam) and one staff member also participated in two meetings with the Cambodian Human Rights HIV/AIDS Network (CHRAN).

IMPACT

- The Medical Office provided health care to more than 20,000 people in Cambodia during 2008. Without the office, these people would have suffered ongoing physical/mental pain and potential disabilities.
- Medical findings complemented the work of monitors and advocates with visual and medical evidence for key HR cases and incidents.
- Medical care provided immediate relief to victims of human rights abuses which created trust from clients and thus enabling LICADHO and partner NGOs to offer and provide more long term services such as investigations, legal representation and national advocacy.
- In addition to medical treatment, the Medical Office's work with both prisoners and prison guards helps to raise awareness on how each party should expect to be treated and also works towards challenging the culture of violence that exists in the prison system.
- The Medical Office continued to provide medical and food supplies to the Phluk Thnung village in Kampong Speu province, as a part of its nutrition program to combat severe poverty and prevent malnutrition in the village, especially amongst children.

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Advocacy, Documentation and Resources Office

AIM/OBJECTIVES

- To provide LICADHO with tools, methodology, procedures, forms, software and technical expertise and to improve the accuracy, objectivity, consistency and credibility of the reports, and to ensure the security and confidentiality of the data on human rights violations.
- To improve the coordination and consistency of information shared between the different offices within LICADHO.
- To raise the technical capacity of designated staffs in data collection, data processing and analysis, and computer networks and systems.
- To better understand the situation of human rights in Cambodia using new social research methods and adapt the advocacy efforts accordingly.
- To establish LICADHO as a reliable source of information for national, regional and international advocacy efforts.
- To strengthen information networking with other local/international NGO's
- To document and report on program and project activities and results for internal purposes and to LICADHO donors.
- Provide video cameras and technical skills to grassroots community activists, to collect footage and assist them to create visual tools for their advocacy plans.



ACHIEVEMENTS

The Advocacy, Documentation and Resources Office (ADRO) primarily works to compile, translate, and insert case files from the various LICADHO offices (MO, CRO, WRO) into a central electronic database so that accurate information can be easily and securely stored, accessed and analyzed. ADRO's other output areas include: coordinating information sharing between offices, conducting data analysis for advocacy and maintaining the resource centre, producing advocacy materials and tools and updating the LICADHO website.

In 2008, ADRO produced and published eight periodic internal newsletters, one external newsletter (Adopt-A-Prison Project), 14 news articles, 26 press releases and 12 audio news podcasts in Khmer. All these publications are made available on the LICADHO website.



Reports (Written, Audio and Video)

ADRO also published three reports, in both Khmer and English, and recorded and produced audio versions in Khmer of the two LICADHO Reports:

- *Prison Conditions in Cambodia 2007: The Story of A Mother and Child* (March 2008)
- *Reading Between The Lines: How Politics, Money & Fear Control Cambodia's Media* (May 2008)
- *Attacks & Threats Against Human Rights Defenders in Cambodia 2007* (August 2008)



The audio versions of the reports help to disseminate reports to the wider Cambodian community that are illiterate, in the provinces or are overseas and choose to download and listen to the report.

In 2008, 8,667 copies of LICADHO reports and publications were printed (4,518 in Khmer and 4,149 in English) and also 7,450 Khmer language CDs of audio report.



To commemorate International Human Rights Day on December 10, 2008 and the 60th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Right, ADRO produced an International Human Rights Day Booklet. The booklet explained three key human rights guaranteed by the Declaration of Human Rights and the Cambodian Constitution: “Freedom of Movement, Freedom of Expression and Speech and Freedom of Assembly and Association”. The booklet cited cases that occurred during 2008 when these rights had not

been respected by the government and it also provided practical tips on what to do when the government attempts to restrict them. ADRO produced 5650 booklets (5000 Khmer, 650 English). Almost 5000 copies of the booklet were distributed during Human Rights Day. The distributions were made at the 26 celebration events in 14 provinces that LICADHO help to organise.

ADRO also produced three short documentary videos; one cover land grabbing in Battambang; one covering the commemoration event of the 1700th day of wrongful imprisonment of Born Samnang and Sok Sam Ouen and the other a video slideshow to compliment the release of the report *Attacks & Threats Against Human Rights Defenders in Cambodia 2007*. The videos were release on LICADHO’s website, while the final video also had 50 DVDs and 50 VCDs printed for a limited release to donors. The production of videos (filming and editing) was a trial product for ADRO and proved to be successful in training ADRO in new skills and in providing LICADHO with more high impact advocacy tools.

In addition, ADRO also printed 1,805 bilingual DVDs, 760 in Khmer and 1,045 in English, produced by NGO partner LICADHO Canada in cooperation with LICADHO. These DVDs included:

- *Three Days in Dey Krahom*
- *True Faces of Dey Krahom*
- *Echoes of Cambodia*
- *Snapshot of Andong Relocation Site*
- *Two Years Too Long*
- *Beyond the Watchdog*
- *\$79 million for who?*



The videos listed above mainly explore the topics of land eviction in Phnom Penh, in particular the villages of Sambok Chap, Dey Krahomr and Beoung Kak Lake.

LICADHO Website

The LICADHO website 2008 showed considerable growth and improvement. More media releases were published together with photos of human rights violations.

Some statistics for the LICADHO website include:

- The website had an average of over 5,000 unique visitors per month.
- The top five countries/regions that visited the website were:
 1. The United States of America

2. Australia
 3. European Countries
 4. Cambodia
 5. Great Britain
- The top four pages/ topics viewed on the website:
 1. Photo album
 2. Reports
 3. Media Release
 4. Audio section
 - Top three search terms used to access the website:
 1. LICADHO
 2. Human rights
 3. Child labour in Cambodia



Flip Camera Project

In 2008 ADRO initiated the FLIP camera project with assistance of international NGO partner WITNESS. WITNESS donated 50 small hand held cameras for distribution to community activists from different provinces in Cambodia for filming human rights violations. Over 30 cameras were distributed throughout the year and footage was captured of various human rights violations and events - in particular land grabbing. The footage has been used to produce some of LICADHO's advocacy videos and also used by the community activists to document the human rights violations in their community.

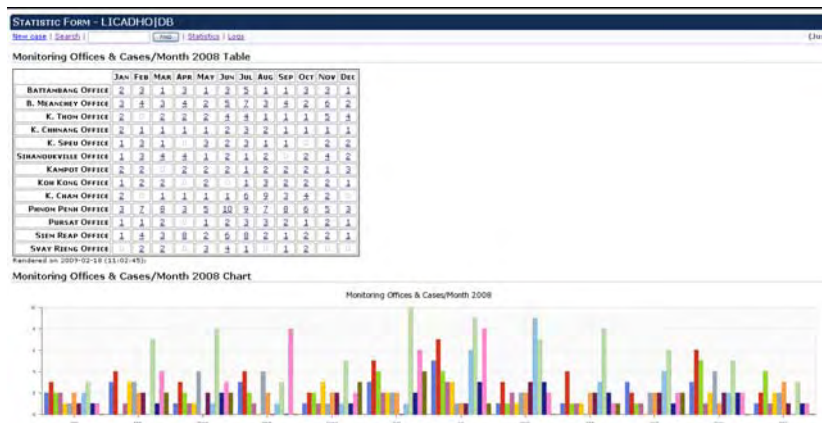
New Database

In January 2008, LICADHO began upgrading its central human rights violation database from its previous FoxPro software database, which was created in 2004. The existing FoxPro database had become obsolete and was not user friendly in terms of extracting information or producing statistics. The new database built with MySQL software with a Mozilla FireFox graphical user interface was completed in February, with input from various LICADHO staff and had its initial test runs in March 2008.

The new database is now directly used by the ADRO staff for data input and by the LICADHO monitoring office to monitor the status of investigations and to document any additional information. LICADHO has been able to use the new database to improve the accuracy, objectivity, consistency and credibility of its reports and advocacy materials. LICADHO has also been able to share human rights case information and statistics with other NGOs in particular cases on land grabbing, rape and trafficking.

In 2008, ADRO reviewed and inserted a total of 3,568 old cases (2003 - 2007) into the new database and 852 current cases from 2008. During 2009 ADRO plans to further migrate case files from 2000 to 2002 which are still stored in the old database.





Training

Three Documentation Officers attend one term of English classes at ACE in January and February.

IMPACT

- Statistics of human rights violations were made easily accessible and more accurately recorded with the introduction of the new database. This increased the efficiency of documenting case files, ensured follow up of cases by monitors and served as a comparison and check for case files.
- The increase in ADRO staff improved ADRO's capacity to keep the database up to date, and to assist in all aspects of the production of LICADHO public reports (research, formatting, translation, editing and audio recording) greatly increasing the capacity of LICADHO to produce timely public reports.
- Internal newsletters provided staff with a medium to share both social and staff issues.
- The production of video advocacy tools provided LICADHO with a high impact medium that can easily be accessible at the grass roots level to the international level.
- Increased media mediums (written and audio reports, audio podcasts, VCDs, DVDs) have enabled LICADHO to share information to a broader audience on national, regional and international level.
- Increased accuracy and credibility of LICADHO's advocacy materials including reports and briefing papers.

Human Rights Education Office

AIMS/OBJECTIVES

- To convey effectively to Cambodians of every social status, educational background and circumstances the universal human rights that they are entitled to from other people and that they in turn owe to all others.
- To share an understanding of human rights with individuals, families, and communities such that they can govern their own actions and influence others positively towards peaceful solutions to conflict, and instil inclusiveness and participation.
- To operate a tried and tested series of relevant, practical, and effective learning modules, using participatory methodology with curricula that meets the needs of target group, and that are subjected to continuous review to reflect best human rights practice in Cambodia.
- To identify and reach those members of society in greatest need of human rights awareness, both those whose rights have been violated or at risk, and those who are in positions to help those in need.
- Conduct human rights courses and human rights dissemination sessions to selected target groups.
- To provide guidance to communities for ideas, observations, and concerns on human rights issues for LICADHO and other NGOs to pursue with higher authorities.



ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2008, the main activities of the Human Rights Education Office (HREO) focused on human rights awareness through organizing and conducting human rights training courses including dissemination sessions and developing human rights training curricula and human rights publications.



Human Rights Awareness Activities

HREO provided comprise of a series of 34 half-day human rights discussion sessions, 11 three-day core human rights training courses, and 256 half-day dissemination sessions, involving 13,429 participants (7,778 women).

Half-day human rights discussion sessions were designed to serve the needs of victims of land grabbing and other secondary human rights issues, such as domestic violence, violations of the right to freedom of expression and political violence and intimidation. Relevant local authorities, including the commune chief, commune council representative, village chief and police officers are invited to speak in response to participants' questions about the issues listed.

During these courses advocacy materials are distributed. The table below demonstrates how many courses were conducted and indicates that women constituted more than half of the total participants.

Training courses conducted from January to December 2008

Types of training	Courses conducted	Participants trained	Women Participants
Three-day courses	11	333	228
Half-day discussion sessions	256	11,504	6,483
Half-day dissemination sessions	34	1,592	1,067
Total	301	13,429	7,778

Training Curriculum Development

HREO's other core activity is to develop, assemble, produce, revise and update the human rights training materials to support target groups who participate in the human rights training courses, human rights discussion sessions, and human rights dissemination sessions. The materials included training manuals, illustrated books for both illiterate and literate people, leaflets, legal booklets, posters, picture screens, T-shirts, certificates of participation, calendars, and other specific training handouts. All materials are developed in Khmer.

The specific training handouts that were developed in 2008 were:

- Manual on Genuine Democracy
- Manual on Advocacy for Communities
- Manual on Legal Education for General Population (Understanding Pre-Trial Procedures of the New Criminal Procedure Code)

In addition, there are a number of publications printed and reprinted in the first six month to support activities.

Publications printed in 2008

Type of publications	Number of the publications
Constitution of Kingdom of Cambodia	18,000
Land law	8,000
Manual on Genuine democracy	3,175
Manual on Advocacy	3,200
Leaflet on land rights	10,000
Law on the prevention of DV	6,000
Manual on Legal Education	5,000
Total	53,375

Staff Capacity Building

HREO staff attended several staff development courses organized by LICADHO or other NGO partners. These included communication skills, computer skills, training on the new criminal procedures code, advocacy for community and grassroots advocacy.



Due to a transitional period between old laws and the adoption of new laws such as criminal procedure code and civil procedure code, HREO took the time to update education material and conduct two capacity building courses for all advocates. The first course on communication skills was conducted on October 2-3, 2008, and the second course on the new civil code was conducted on November 26-27, 2008.

Closure of Office

Due to ongoing lack of funding support, HREO was phased out starting in late 2007 and completed in December 2008. The decision was also made after observing that many communities that had benefited from HR training had the capacity to conduct the training sessions independently. Existing staff were transferred internally to other LICADHO units and offices. Specific human rights training is still conducted in LICADHO's other offices focusing on children's and women's rights.

IMPACT

- The participation of people during HR discussion sessions, core training courses and core disseminations sessions, in which many of the participants raised their own issues, especially issues of land-grabbing, violation of freedom of expression, domestic violence and political violence and intimidation. These problems are then responded to directly by the relevant local authorities who are invited as speakers.
- Leading up to the 4th national election in July 2008 and International Human Rights Day (10 December), some key members of communities and groups participated in HREO training sessions where the HREO materials were distributed to them.
- Over 1,000 copies of HREO documents were requested by community members and the public each month.
- Completion of HREO weakened some communication and cooperation with communities and local authorities.

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Appendix 1: LICADHO Publications 2008

January

Document: Dey Krahom Land Case Explained

January 22, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/reports.php?perm=118>

Press Release: Company and Authorities Intent on Inciting Disorder in Dey Krahom

January 08, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=171>

Press Release: Dey Krhorm: Mass eviction feared

January 23, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=172>

Press Release: Chea Vichea, Born Samnang & Sok Sam Oeun-Justice Denied

January 28, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=173>

News: 7NG Company and Phnom Penh Authorities Intent on Inciting Disorder in Cambodia's Capital

January 09, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080109/69/index.html>

News: After Four Years the Cambodian Judiciary Still Denies Justice to Chea Vichea, Born Samnang

January 28, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080128/70/index.html>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly Newsbrief (Khmer 07:39min)

January 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/media/index.php?id=69>

February

Press Release: Violence against CCAWDU union members at Kingsland Garment factory condemned

Thursday, February 07, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=174>

Press Release: Forced Evictions in Cambodia: Time to End Impunity

February 18, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=176>

Press Release: Condemnation of More Violence in Phnom Penh Land Cases

February 22, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=175>

News: Cambodian Land Eviction Crisis Draws International Attention
February 25, 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080225/71/index.html>

News: Tear Gas and Gunfire During Latest Violent Eviction In Cambodia's Capital
February 28, 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080228/72/index.html>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly Newsbrief (Khmer 07:42min)
February 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/media/index.php?id=48>

March

Documents: LICADHO Annual Activity Report 2007
March 01, 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/reports.php?perm=117>

Documents: Prison Conditions in Cambodia 2007: The Story of a Mother and Child
March 08, 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/reports.php?perm=116>

Press release: International Women's Day 2008
Thursday, March 06, 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=177>
Press Release: Unlawful Detention & Alleged Torture by Ministry of Interior
March 11, 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=178>

Press Release: Detained Policeman Transferred to Hospital because of Poor Health
March 25, 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=179>

Press Release: Concerns over Recent Political Arrest in Kampong Thom Province
March 27, 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=180>

News: International Women's Day Highlights Reality of Life in Prison for Cambodian Women
March 17, 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080317/73/index.html>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly Newsbrief (Khmer 07:28min)
March 2008
<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/media/index.php?id=50>

May

Document: Reading Between the Lines: How Politics, Money & Fear Control Cambodia's Media, May 01, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/reports.php?perm=119>

Documents: Child Workers in Brick Factories: Causes and Consequences
May 08, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/reports.php?perm=120>

Press Release: 2008 LICADHO Report: Media plagued by fee And corruption
May 02, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=181>

Press Release: Villagers flock to Phnom Penh as Land Crisis continues
May 29, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=182>

News: Radio Free Asia Journalist Flees Cambodia After Once More Receiving Deaths Threats
May 08, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080508/74/index.html>

News: Joint Research Report Released on Impact of Child Labor in Cambodia
May 12, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080512/76/index.html>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly Newsbrief (Khmer 06:41min)
May 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/media/index.php?id=70>

June

Press Release: Government should lift ban on Kratie local radio station
June 05, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=183>

Press Release: Arrest of Moneakseka Khmer Newspaper Editor in Chief Dam Sith
June 09, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=184>

Press Release: Unlawful Detention Camps Must Be Closed
June 28, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=185>

News: Land Disputes Across Cambodia Lead Villagers to Phnom Penh
June 04, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080604/77/index.html>

News: Two Years After their Eviction from the Center of Phnom Penh Villagers are Still Living in Squalor
June 06, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080606/78/index.html>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly Newsbrief (Khmer 08:17min)

June 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/media/index.php?id=90>

July

News: Cambodian Government Operating Unlawful Detention Camps in Phnom Penh, Locking up Homeless, Beggars and Sex Workers

July 02, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080702/79/index.html>

Press Release: Civil Society coalition calls for an end of political violence during the electoral campaign period

July 17, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/press/files/186JointPRPoliticalSituationPreElection08.pdf>

Press Release: Crackdown on Attempted Peaceful Protest by Workers and Teachers

July 17, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/press/files/188JointStatementCrackdownPeacefulGatheringPreahVihear2008.pdf>

Press Release: Arrest of Election Monitor feared

July 31, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/press/files/187LICADHOPrNICFECCConcern08.pdf>

August

News: Five Cambodian Men Rescued From Trafficking Ring

August 05, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080805/80/index.html>

Document: LICADHO Six Month Activity Report 2008

August 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/reports.php?perm=125>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly Newsbrief (Khmer 07:54 min)

August 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/media/index.php?id=142>

September

Document: Attacks & Threats Against Human Rights Defenders in Cambodia 2007

September 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/reports.php?perm=127>

Press Release: Action Needed Over Persecuted Human Rights Defenders

September 25, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=190>

Press Release: Born Samnang and Sok Sam Oeun, Innocent Prisoners - 1,700 days behind Bars
September 23, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=189>

News: Innocent Prisoners in Cambodia Mark 1,700 Days Behind Bars
September 23-25, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20080925/81/index.html>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly Newsbrief (Khmer 08: 32 min)
September 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/media/index.php?id=143>

October

Press Release: Communities collectively lodge land complaints with authorities in Phnom
Penh

October 8, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=191>

Press Release: Courts used as weapon against community representatives
October 29, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=192>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly News brief (Khmer 10: 05 min)
October 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/media/index.php?id=144>

November

Press Release: Illegal arrests & Social Affairs centers: Time for Government action, not more
denials

November 09, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=193>

Press Release: Civil Society Appeal for Urgent Solution to the Cambodian-Thai Border
Dispute

November 17, 2008

<http://www.licadhocambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=194>

Press Release: Violent eviction in Kampot should be halted
November 18, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=195>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly News brief (Khmer 12:14)
November 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/media/index.php?id=145>

December

Press Release: Open letter regarding forced eviction of Boeung Kak Lake residents
December 4, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/pressrelease.php?perm=196>

News: Borei Keila: Cambodia's Social Housing Project Five Years On
December 19, 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/articles/20081219/84/index.html>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly News brief (Khmer 12:14)
December 2008

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/media/index.php?id=146>

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