

# LICADHO 6 Month Activity Report

## Promoting and Defending Human Rights in Cambodia



January – June 2008



សម្ព័ន្ធនៃខ្លួនជំរឿននិយោគការពារសិទ្ធិមនុស្ស លីកាដូ

**LICADHO**

CAMBODIAN LEAGUE FOR THE PROMOTION  
AND DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

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

Since its establishment in 1992, LICADHO, a Cambodian human rights organization, has been at the forefront of efforts to protect civil, political, economic and social rights in Cambodia and to promote respect for them by the Cambodian government and its institutions. Building on its past achievements, LICADHO continues to be an advocate for Cambodians 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 its seven project units:

- **The Monitoring Office** investigates human rights violations and assists victims to attain justice using legal means. Specially trained staff monitor 18 prisons to assess prison conditions and ensure that pre-trial detainees have access to legal representation.
- **The Women's Rights Office** provides training on women's rights to target groups; investigates women's rights violations and advocates for social and legal changes.
- **The Children's Rights Office** provides training on children's rights and child labor to target groups; assist to establish child protection networks at the grassroots level, and investigates children's rights violations.
- **The Project Against Torture Office** provides rehabilitation services to victims of torture and advocates for legal reforms.
- **The Medical Office** provides medical services to prisoners and prison officials in 12 prisons and medical care to victims of land grabbing and other human rights violations.
- **The Advocacy, Documentation and Resource Office** enters case information into a central database and assists in analyzing and presenting the information in reports and other advocacy tools.
- **The Human Rights Education Office** provides training courses and dissemination sessions about specific human rights issues throughout the country.

**Cover Photo:** Villagers from Battambang involved in a land dispute walking to Phnom Penh to lodge a complaint with the National Assembly (May 2008).

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# The Human Rights Situation Review

## January-June 2008

This review provides a summary of high profile human rights cases and issues during the first six months of 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 legal action 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 by the threat of eviction, 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, resisting to keep their land or at least to obtain fair, market-price compensation for it.



In January, 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 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 angrily knocked down 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.

Based on a complaint by 7NG, with no incriminating evidence presented, five community representatives were charged with burning the truck by the Phnom Penh Municipal Court in February. Most of the representatives already had multiple other criminal charges pending against them in 2007. The filing of spurious criminal charges, without a shred of evidence being presented, has consistently been used to threaten Dey Krahorn community representatives.

Continuing this trend, on January 21 community representative Ros Pouv, 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 when a group of workers came to dismantle houses in the community. A human rights worker present during the incident did not observe her assaulting anyone. The conviction was based solely on the testimony of 7NG staff, and the prosecution failed to produce any medical evidence regarding the supposed injuries.

**Chey Sena, Kampot province:** In the first half of 2008, residents around Chey Sena village, in Taken commune, Chhuk district, Kampot, have faced serious threats to their land. This has

involved repeated harassment by police and military officers, 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 non governmental organizations (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 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 supposedly 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 community. 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 United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR), Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association (ADHOC) and LICADHO were allowed to visit the area by Brigade 31 Commander Mr. Srun Saroeun. Soldiers closely followed ADHOC and LICADHO staff during 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 hand so the Forestry Administration and the military.

**Ratanakkiri province:** 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,

Rattanakiri 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 Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (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 Ratanakiri 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.

## 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 managers refused to negotiate with the strikers group. A group of police and military police forcibly cleared the entrance way to the factory causing the injuries to 11 workers. Five of them were hospitalized in a medical clinic. No action was taken by authorities against the perpetrators who caused the injuries to the workers.

The incident is part of a long pattern of violence against union representatives and members at garment factories in recent years (see LICADHO reports on the situation of human rights defenders for more details).

**Khmer Youth Union Federation strikers injured by police:** In early January, 300 workers in the Khmer Youth Union (KYU) 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 entrance of 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.

**Delegation prevented from entering Tuol Sleng Museum for a memorial ceremony:** On January 21, police and military police armed with guns and electric batons prevented a delegation of people, led by American 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 Khmer Rouge 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 2008 August Olympic Games in China.

Dispersed by the police, the delegation then held a media conference at the Center for Social Development's (CSD) 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 who had sought refuge in Cambodia after fleeing Vietnam due to persecution for his religious activities, disappeared from a Phnom Penh guesthouse along with his wife, child and brother. Eyewitnesses reported that the family was 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 convictions highlight a pattern in recent years, of Cambodian authorities filing criminal charges against individuals who help Montagnards to come to Cambodia to exercise their right to seek asylum under the United Nations (UN) Refugee Convention.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**Five Cambodian men rescued from trafficking ring:** In March, the escape of four Cambodian men from slave labor on a Thai fishing boat highlighted the plight of victims of international labor trafficking. The four men, aged 20 to 37, had left Cambodia in October 2007 to seek work abroad. The men had chosen to 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 a fishing boat in Paknam, Samut Prakan on the east coast of Thailand. On the boat they were forced to work day and night without rest or food, going some days with only one or two hours sleep. The Thai captain constantly threatened to beat or throw anyone over board who disobeyed his orders. The men also found that the rest of the Cambodian crew were being exploited and had been trafficked by Cambodian brokers.

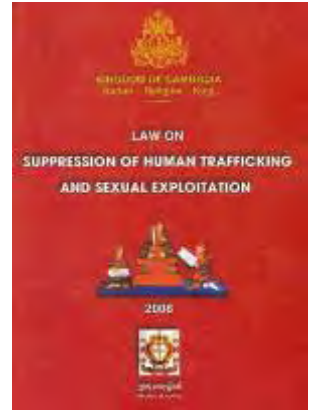
The four men were able to escape the ship in March 2008 while it was docked on the coast of the Malaysian state of Sarawak. Once on land, the men hid in the forest for several days. One night while they scavenged for food, they coincidentally met another Cambodian fisherman. The man, also a victim of trafficking, had apparently escaped earlier from another Thai fishing boat. That man had a mobile phone, and he allowed the four men to contact their families in Cambodia. 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 (UNIAP) on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong



Sub-region, Malaysian NGO called Tenaganita and the Cambodian Embassy in Malaysia, the five men were transferred back to Cambodia safely on April 19, 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 public solicitation. 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, detention and abuse (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

**Detention of street persons:** In June, a long-standing program by the government to unlawfully arrest and detain poor persons living or working on Phnom Penh's streets again came to light. Sex workers, homeless children and families, beggars and drug addicts 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. The arrests were conducted, often with great violence, by police, district guards and Social Affairs Department staff.

Children, women and men were unlawfully detained in a Social Affairs center in Prey Speu village, Cham Chao commune of Phnom Penh, or another center located on Koh Kor Island in Saang district of Kandal. Extremely poor 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, was commonly reported at Prey Speu center.

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 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 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 - also remains open.

Unlawful arrests and detentions at the centers resumed after the writing of this report.

**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, Prieap Pov, was allegedly tortured during his detention. He was detained by the Ministry of Interior's Order Police, without charges officially 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.

## CONTROL AND THREATS AGAINST THE MEDIA

**Journalist receives death threats:** In early May, Radio Free Asia (RFA) 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.

**Radio station closed:** On May 28 a new radio station, which had only been broadcasting for 13 days, had its license cancelled and was forced to shut down. FM 105.25, based in Kratie province, was closed because it sold airtime to opposition political parties. The government defended the closure by saying that the station had violated a condition in its radio license that it must seek Ministry of Information permission before selling airtime to anyone. There is no basis for any such requirement under Cambodian law.

**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 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 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.



## LACK OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY

**Arrest of Sam Rainsy Party (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 alleged 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. UNOHCHR, 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.

# 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](http://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 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' Rights Office and Women's Rights Office, together with the staff from the Advocacy, Documentation and Resource Office and the Human Rights Education Office.

<b>Department of Monitoring and Protection</b>	<b>Department of Communication and Advocacy</b>
Monitoring Office – Monitors, Investigators, Para legal and Lawyers	Children's Rights – Trainers and Advocates
Children's Rights – Monitors and Social Workers	Human Rights Education Office - Trainers and Advocates
Women's Rights – Monitors and Investigators	Women's Rights - Advocates
Prison Project - Researchers	Advocacy, Documentation and Resource Office - Documentation and Database staff
Medical Office - Medical Staff	
Project Against Torture- Counselors and Social Workers	

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

In April, May and June, time and efforts were invested into drafting and strengthening work responsibilities, updating and drafting new policies, reviewing salaries, and conducting job evaluations.

## 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:

**ការប្រើប្រាស់សេវាការលើកាតូ**  
អង្គការលើកាតូ ប្តេជ្ញាផ្តល់សេវាដល់អ្នករងគ្រោះនេះ:

- ▶ ផ្តល់សុវត្ថិភាព និងភាពគ្មានការគំរាមកំហែង ជូនជនរងគ្រោះ
- ▶ ផ្តល់សេវា និងសម្ភារៈនានា ដោយឥតគិតថ្លៃ ជូនជនរងគ្រោះ
- ▶ ផ្តល់សិទ្ធិ ជូនជនរងគ្រោះ ជាអ្នកសម្រេចចិត្ត លើការណ៍របស់ខ្លួន
- ▶ រក្សាការសម្ងាត់ បំផុត ជាមួយជនរងគ្រោះ បុគ្គលិក អង្គការដៃគូ និងអ្នកដែលពាក់ព័ន្ធ
- ▶ លើកកម្ពស់ សេវាបម្រើជូនជនរងគ្រោះ ឱ្យប្រសើរឡើង ដោយមិនមានការរើសអើង អាស៊ី ភេទ សញ្ជាតិ ក្រុមជនភាគតិច ឬជនពិការឡើយ

**លីកាដូ**  
**LICADHO**

**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 មានចម្ងល់ ឬមានពាក្យបណ្តឹង សូមទំនាក់ទំនង តាមទូរស័ព្ទលេខ: ០១២ ៨០៣ ៦៥០ ព័ត៌មានរបស់លោកអ្នក នឹងត្រូវរក្សាការសម្ងាត់

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.

<b>ទស្សនៈវិស័យ និង បេសកកម្ម LICADHO's Vision and Mission</b>	
<b>បេសកកម្មការងារ និង គោលដៅ</b>	
<b>ទស្សនៈវិស័យ</b>	<b>Vision</b>
ប្រជាពលរដ្ឋនៅកម្ពុជាទទួលបានសុខសន្តិភាព ក្នុងសង្គមមួយដែលមានការគោរពសិទ្ធិមនុស្ស ប្រជាធិបតេយ្យ និងប្រតិបត្តិសង្គម ។	All people in Cambodia to live in a peaceful society that respects human rights, democracy and social justice.
<b>បេសកកម្ម</b>	<b>Mission</b>
អភិវឌ្ឍបុគ្គលិកឱ្យមានជំនាញសិទ្ធិមនុស្ស ដែលអាច ផ្តល់សេវាមានគុណភាពដល់អភិបិទេស ទំនាក់ទំនងព្រម ជាមួយដៃគូ ដើម្បីធ្វើឱ្យអ្នកមានឯកោចជួយជំនួយ គ្រោះថ្នាក់យកសេវាសិទ្ធិមនុស្ស ស្របាលធិបតេយ្យ ការអភិវឌ្ឍន៍សង្គមឱ្យមានប្រសិទ្ធិភាព ។	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.

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## General Information/Administration

By June 2008, 140 full time staff and four part-time Cambodian staff (46 female) were working in Phnom Penh and 12 provinces. Five full-time consultants and one part-time consultant were also assisting LICADHO. Fourteen new staff (two females) were hired during the first months of the year while 14 staff left LICADHO. Additionally, eight staff were transferred to other offices or were promoted to other positions.

LICADHO's management committee comprising of the director, deputy directors and unit coordinators held 24 meetings every Friday afternoon in order to resolve obstacles affecting the operation of the various offices. LICADHO's provincial coordinators met six 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 the first half of 2008, LICADHO staff carried out 100 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.

Due to financial constraints, LICADHO was unable to implement the payroll scale so efforts were made to adjust salaries of some staff instead and for the second year in a row, it was not possible to hold an annual staff workshop. In April 2008, LICADHO managed to conduct a one and half day meeting with all of LICADHO main donors to present the financial situation, advocacy efforts and restructuring plans.

LICADHO is the co-chair of the Cambodian Committee for Women (CAMBOW). The committee conducted advocacy activities by producing media releases, utilizing the media and organizing public forums. LICADHO is an active member of International Federation of Human Rights (FIDH), NGO Children's Rights Convention (NGO-CRC), Housing Rights Task Force (HRTF) and NGO Forum in Cambodia.

In the first half of 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 partner NGOs. Training topics included Penal Procedure Code, Law on the Rights of Disabled People, Land Law, Law Analysis, Basic Drug Addiction, and Needs Assessment.

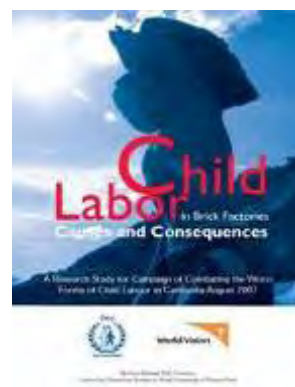
Three staff members travelled abroad to attend a training course and conferences. The training course was on Human Rights, Peace, and Security held in Stockholm, Sweden; a regional conference on Lawyering for Social Justice and Human Rights in Manila, Philippines, and an international conference on Principles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

Aside from planned event campaigns within unit projects, 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 in 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 in cooperation 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.

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 first half of 2008:

- *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)*
- *Prison Conditions in Cambodia 2007: The Story of A Mother and Child (March)*
- *LICADHO Annual Activity Report 2007 (March)*
- *LICADHO/LICADHO Canada: Dey Krahom Land Case Explained Briefing Paper (January)*





## Monitoring Office

*LICADHO monitors the human rights situation in Cambodia by collecting and analyzing information on violations including rape, sexual exploitation and human trafficking, torture in custody, extra judicial killings, illegal detentions, disappearances, threats and intimidation, land expropriations, and illegal destruction of property. Monitors assist victims to file complaints to police, the courts or other relevant institutions, and advocate for their cases to be investigated and resolved according to the law. Monitors in Phnom Penh and the provinces regularly monitor eighteen prisons, and the central office keeps updated records of the conditions of prisoners and human rights violations that occur in detention.*



### 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 for LICADHO, the Cambodian Committee for Women (CAMBOW), Housing Rights Task Force (HRTF), NGO Forum on Cambodia and NGO Children's Rights Convention, that will comment on serious and/or consistent patterns of abuse and prompt redress and preventative actions.

## Achievements

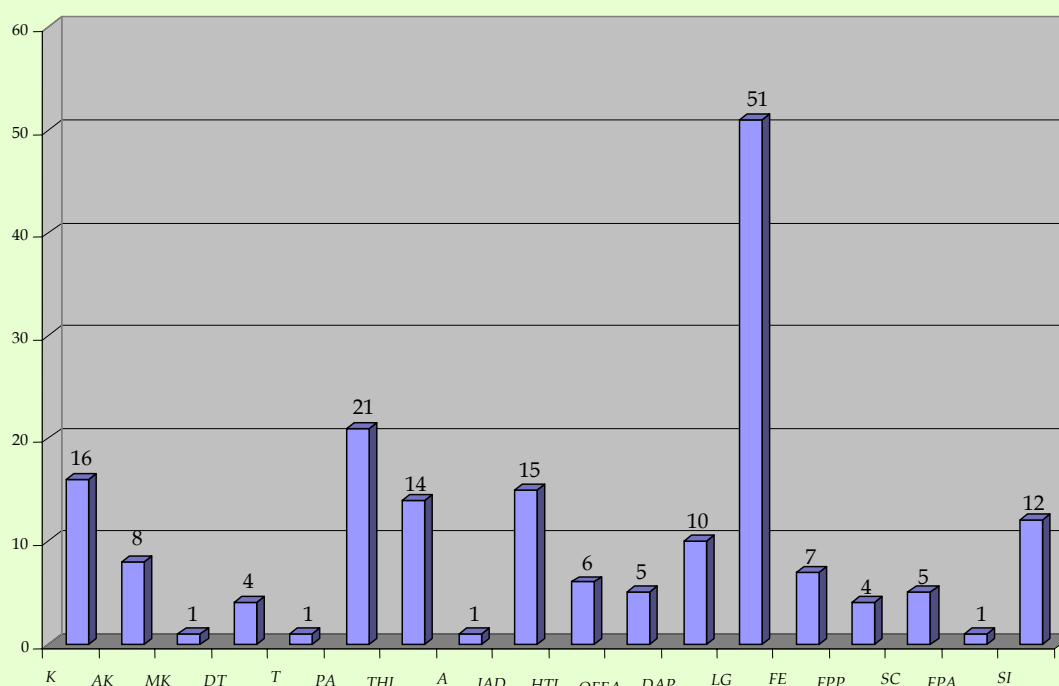
The main activities of the Monitoring Office (MO) are divided into three main areas: Monitoring Office (MO), the Prisons Research Project (PRP) and the Human Rights Legal Project (HRLP).

MO runs the primary activities of monitoring and investigating human rights violations perpetrated by state actors and institutions. 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. 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 the first half of 2008, MO investigated a total of 182 new cases of human rights abuses (8.9% increase compared to the first six months in 2007), which consisted of 265 violations (13.24 % increase compared to the same reporting period in 2007) and involved 5,081 victims.

**Cases for Human Rights Violations Received by MO Jan-Jun, 2008**



K = Killing	HTL = Human Trafficking for Labour
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	FPA = Failure to Prosecute/Protect/Provide Service
IAD = Illegal Arrest/Detention	SI = Signboard Interference

During the period land grabbing was the most common type of human rights violations, which accounted for 28% of new cases and involved 3,275 victims. 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.



### *Prison Research Project*

LICADHO prison researchers visit each prison once a week or bi monthly 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 the first half of 2008, prison researchers interviewed 960 prisoners, both pre-trial detainees and convicted prisoners, which also included 71 females. According to the interviews, 41 prisoners (no female) reported that they were tortured, 37 cases occurred while in police custody and other 4 cases occurred in prison.

LICADHO prison researchers conducted 37 interventions for prisoners who were waiting for trial, appeals, and those who were waiting for release after they had served their sentences.

### **Prisoner Detained in Excess of Sentence Period**

In April 2006, a 32-year-old Vietnamese woman was arrested on charges of drug trafficking. The Phnom Penh Municipal Court sentenced her to two years imprisonment, with her release date set for April 2008. However, the defendant owed the court one million riel in fines, and the prison officials would not release her until she paid. In March 2008, the staff of LICADHO informed the prison that the defendant wished to pay the fines by having her relatives take the money to the court, which they did. And yet, she was still not released. When LICADHO prison researchers interviewed her in late May, she informed them that a prison officer wanted her to pay \$50 to be released, but she did not have the money to pay him. When the monitors informed the director of CC2 prison about the attempted bribery, he said he would look into the problem. The woman was subsequently released on May 23, 2008.

In the first half, 68 prisoners in 18 prisons monitored by LICADHO received legal advice from LICADHO lawyers with the assistance of LICADHO prison researchers.

***Adopted-A-Prison Project***

The LICADHO Adopt-A-Prison project was started in 2003 to mobilize and facilitate material and food aid for children, their mothers, and pregnant women living in prisons. In the first half of 2008, each month on average, 48 children and 3 pregnant women received food, material and financial assistance from the Adopt-A-Project.

**Number of Pregnant Prisoners and Children Living in Prisons in June 2008**

Prison	CC2	BM	KT	KK	PS	Takmao	SP	SV	KN	BB	Total
Children	17	5	1	3	3	2	6	1	1	2	41
Pregnant Women	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>45</b>

***Human Rights Legal Project***

Despite a limited numbers of lawyers (three full time lawyers and one other lawyer who was promoted to another position in February 2008), the HRLP worked on 21 new cases (a 40% increase compared to the same reporting period in 2007) representing 36 victims (33% increase compared to first 6 months in 2007) across 9 provinces in the first six months of 2008. A large proportion of cases involved land grabbing and violence against women. The clients represented are those that present the most serious cases of violence.

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

No	Provinces	Victims	Type	Hearing Date	Result	Total Cases
1	Kompot	4	Rape	Pending	Pending	4
2	K.Chhnang	1	Rape	Referred to PJJ	Close	1
3	Kompot	1	DV	Pending	Pending	1
4	Svay Rieng	1	HTS	Pending	Pending	1
5	Banteay Meanchey	4	LG	Pending	Pending	4
6	Kampong Thom	15	LG	Pending	Pending	3
7	Kampong Speu	3	LG	29-05-08/ Pending	One Closed/ One Pending	2
8	Kampot	1	LG	Pending	Pending	1
9	P.P/Kandal	2	LG	Pending	Pending	1
10	P.P/Kandal	1	HRD	Pending	Pending	1
11	Kampot	3	Other	Pending	Pending	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>36</b>				<b>21</b>

***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, there were 50 staff who participated in the training.

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 researchers continued to monitor and investigate 18 of Cambodia's 26 prisons. These 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.

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## Women's Rights Office

*LICADHO plays an active role in promoting gender awareness and the rights of women through training workshops to target groups in selected provinces. LICADHO provides referral services including legal representation, counseling, medical care and shelter to female victims of rape, trafficking and domestic violence. LICADHO works with local and international committees to promote and advocate for women's rights.(must be reformatted)*



### 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;
- Advocating to advance the cause of women in Cambodia;
- Training sessions for staff to increase the quality of work performed by WRO;
- Involving foreign interns to contribute to increased global awareness about the situation of women in Cambodia; and

- Implementing changes to the office lay-out to create a more user-friendly environment for clients.

### *Monitoring and Investigations*

In the first six month of 2008, monitors in the WRO in Phnom Penh as well as monitors in LICADHO'S 12 provincial offices investigated a total number of 110 new cases of women's rights violations. Within these cases there were 110 victims and 118 perpetrators. The cases involved violations of domestic violence (DV), rape (RA), sexual/indecent assault (IA) and human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation (HTS). DV accounted for 64% of the total cases.

In comparison, for the first 6 months of 2007 WRO investigated 148 cases of women's rights violations. Within these cases there were 152 victims and 163 perpetrators. DV accounted for 69% of the total cases. 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.

#### Women's Rights Cases January-June 2008 by Case Type and Province

	PP	KD	KN	PS	BB	BM	KS	KP	SV	KK	KC	KT	SP	SR	Total
DV	18	4	0	2	0	5	7	9	5	4	2	1	1	12	70
RA	4	3	4	3	0	0	3	2	2	3	5	4	0	5	38
IA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>110</b>

Out of the 110 cases, there are 84 news cases that remain open and 26 cases that have been closed.

#### Women's Rights Cases Pending January-June 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	4	6	2			6	31	49
RA	2		2		1	16	12	33
HTS	1				1			2
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>84</b>

### Women's Rights Cases Closed January-June 2008

No	Type	Trial	Charges Dropped	Facilitated by Police	Facilitated by District	Facilitated by Court	Facilitated by Police Inspector	Withdrew Complaint	Total
1	DV			7	11	1		2	21
2	RA			3			2		5
3	HTS								
<b>Total</b>				<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>26</b>

From January to June 2008, three women died as a result of violence (domestic violence and rape) and four women reported cases of gang rape.

#### *Legal Service and Referrals*

As well as assisting clients in investigating their cases, the WRO Monitors and provincial monitors also assisted clients with legal information and referrals to legal organizations to further the clients' case. During the report period 516 clients received legal consultation while seven clients received legal representation by the LICADHO Legal Project.

WRO Monitors and provincial monitors also referred 11 clients to referral NGOs for female victims of rape (1 case to Cambodian Women's Crisis Center (CWCC) and 5 cases to Legal Support for Women and Children (LSWC)); domestic violence (3 cases to LSWC and 1 case to Healthcare Center for Children (HCC)); and HTS (1 case to LSWC).

#### *Victims Assistance*

During the reporting period, WRO provided material and transport assistance to 17 clients. 10 of these clients reported cases of domestic violence, six were victims of rape and one was a victim of trafficking. 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.

#### *Advocacy Campaigns*

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 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. The plot involved neighbors who witnessed violence in a family and reported it to the commune chief. The drama was followed by a period of time dedicated to questions and answers to measure interest and level of comprehension of the crowd; the drama was well received by the crowd.

#### *Community Activities-Networking and Dissemination*

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



2008 saw Focal Points begin advocating in their community networks and WRO conducting follow up training sessions.

In 2008 Focal Points conducted awareness raising and dissemination sessions in their communities on violence against women issues. Both formal and informal sessions were conducted. 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. Technical support was provided by the Women's Rights Office. The sessions included information on women's rights, violence against women and the laws related to these areas.

From January to June 2008, Focal point disseminated their knowledge in both formal and informal education to their villagers on violence against women to 4,594 participants in Kompot and 1,460 participants in Kompong Thom province.

### *Community Forum*

On 25 April, 2008, in Kompot province, and 30 April, 2008 in Kompong Thom province, LICADHO held a community forum 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. The community forums provided an important opportunity to come together, discuss achievements and obstacles, hopes for the future and to consolidate lessons learned. Several Focal Points presented their views on the situation, highlighting a decrease in domestic violence since the initiation of the project as well as their concerns that domestic violence was still persisting within their communities. Requests were made for the continuation and expansion of the project as well as expressing gratitude for the implementation of the project in their villages.



A number of questions were raised by Focal Points and local authorities regarding rape committed by a juvenile, whether rape compensation rules out a criminal prosecution, whether a community has the right to file a complaint, what the law says if a perpetrator of DV disappears for some time but then comes back and whether relatives of a trafficking victim have the right to file a complaint. Whilst the questions and comments revealed some understanding, they also revealed that a number of misconceptions regarding violence against women continue to persist in the community.

### *Training for Focal Points*

Pre-and post training testing was carried out to measure changes in women's knowledge and these showed significant increases in the levels of understanding and comprehension on issues of violence against women.

Five, one day follow-up sessions were conducted in each province on the following dates:

**Kompot**

28 January, 2008  
 28 February, 2008  
 20 March, 2008  
 21 April, 2008

**Kompong Thom**

30 January, 2008  
 27 February, 2008  
 25 March, 2008  
 21 April, 2008

Although six follow-up sessions had been planned, only five actually took place due to the project starting later than expected. 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. During these sessions, Focal Points were also asked what they had done in terms of dissemination and if they had made any case referrals.

Attendance at the follow-up sessions decreased throughout the implementation of the Pilot Project in a more significant way in Kompot Province. In Kompot Province, the number of participants fell from 37 to 26 and in Kompong Thom attendance rates dropped from 34 to 31.

***Training for Local Authorities***

LICADHO conducted a follow-up meeting with all local authorities, on 29 January, 2008, in Kompot, and on 5 February, 2008, in Kompong Thom.

LICADHO also conducted follow-up meetings with local authorities in each commune.

**Kompot Province**

Bantey Mease Kharng Lech Commune: 21 April, 2008

**Kompong Thom Province**

Chra Neang Commune: 24 January, 2008, and 26 March, 2008

Chhouk Kharng Commune: 28 January, 2008, and 21 March, 2008

Chung Doung Commune: 29 January, 2008, and 24 March, 2008

***Advocacy Materials***

WRO (with the assistance from members of LICADHO's Advocacy, Documentation and Resource Office) designed and produced a pictorial booklet 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*****The Cambodian Committee of Women (CAMBOW)**

Dr Kek Galabru, the President of LICADHO, remained the head of the coalition CAMBOW (a coalition comprising 36 members working to advance the cause of women in Cambodia). The WRO assisted CAMBOW in many of its activities in first six months of 2008 including:

1. Organizing meetings of member NGOs at the LICADHO office (see table below).

2. Organizing a celebration International Women's Day by distributing materials to women and children in Prisons.
3. CAMBOW and LICADHO distributed materials to children in prisons.

### Number of CAMBOW Meetings from January-June 2008

No.	Date	Subject	Organized by	Place
1	7 March 2008	CAMBOW members organized a celebration for the 98 <sup>th</sup> 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 2008	CAMBOW in cooperation with LICADHO to distribute materials to children in prison	CAMBOW and LICADHO	CC2 and Takmao prisons

### Radio Talk Shows

Dr Kek Galabru also attended 26 radio talk shows to discuss domestic violence. The majority of the talk shows were broadcast on FM 105 Beehive Radio, an independently operated radio station.

### International Women's Day and LICADHO Report



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. These donations are greatly needed in a prison system which must subsist on a budget of 1,500 riel (USD\$0.38) per prisoner per day to cover the costs of food, water, electricity, clothing and medical care.

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.

### Training

A WR Advocate attended a Gender training course conducted by Gender and Development for Cambodia (GAD/C) on May 6-8, 2008.

A WR monitor attended the new penal procedure code internal training for five days in January 2008

Two WR monitors joined a training session conducted by the Children's Rights Office on the Technical Skills of Investigations for Children's Rights Cases.

Two WR monitors and a WR senior advocate attended English classes for one term at ACE in line with their work responsibilities.

### *Interns*

Under the LICADHO-UQAM (University of Quebec in Montreal) partnership, LICADHO received two interns in 2008 from UQAM. The interns assisted in tasks relating to advocacy and educational projects on violence against women issues.

### **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.

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## Children's Rights Office

*Specialized trainers in Phnom Penh and selected provinces conduct participatory training sessions for parents, children, employers, local authorities and NGOs in order to promote understanding and implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Child protection networks bring together provincial officials, local authorities, parents and children to conduct grassroots prevention and protection activities emphasizing the participation of children, focused on combating the worst forms of child labor. Children's Rights monitors in Phnom Penh also provide legal, social and referral services to child victims of rape, domestic violence, trafficking and other violations.*



### 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

In the first half of 2008, the main activities of the Children's Rights Office (CRO) were:

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

## Training Activities

### Training Workshops

Two-day participatory training workshops (TW) 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 workshop: 18 courses

Number of participants: 437 (202 female, 235 male)

- **Kampong Cham (KC):** Three courses on child rights and child trafficking, one course for victim children/vulnerable children at risk, one for local authority, and one for student.
- **Kandal (KD):** Three courses on child rights and child trafficking, two courses for vulnerable children at risk and one for student.
- **Sihanoukville (SV):** Six courses on child rights, child trafficking and child labor, one for LA, two for working children, one for teacher, one for parents of working children and one for student.
- **Koh Kong (KK):** Four courses on child rights and child trafficking, two courses for local authority and two for student.
- **Siem Reap (SR):** Two courses on child rights and child trafficking, one course for teacher and one student.



### NUMBER OF TRAINING WORKSHOPS AND PARTICIPANTS DIVIDED BY PROJECT AREA

LOCATION	COURSE AND PARTICIPANT OF EACH TARGET GROUP																	
	VC/VAC			LA			S			T			PWC			TOTAL		
	#	F	M	#	F	M	#	F	M	#	F	M	#	F	M	#	F	M
KAMPONG CHAM	1	20	5	1	3	22	1	11	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	34	41
SIEM REAP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	16	11	1	11	15	0	0	0	2	26	26
KOH KONG	0	0	0	2	12	32	2	23	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	35	49
SIHANOUKVILLE	2	26	25	1	8	17	1	16	9	1	4	21	1	11	14	6	65	86
KANDAL	2	22	28	0	0	0	1	15	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	37	38
TOTAL	5	70	56	4	23	61	6	81	71	2	15	36	1	12	13	18	202	235

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

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



### Training Provided To Other NGOs

One CR Senior Advocate and one CR Advocate were invited by the River Kid Foundation to provide three workshops on child rights, child trafficking, and child labor in March.

### 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, respond to all child abuses. CRO is also continuing to support a network of 56 CPGs formed under a previous donor project.

Ten Student Clubs were formed for helping and dissemination on child rights and social issues which are occurring in their community.

### CPG Case Study

Van Ratana was born in 1996 in Krang Yov commune; Sa ang district, Kandal province and she lived with her mother and her four siblings (her father passed away when she was very young). Ratana's mother was very poor and couldn't afford to look after her so she sent Ratana and one of her sisters to live with their grandmother. Her grandmother lived in Kbal Koh commune, Kien Svay district and here Ratana and her sister were sent to school.

In 2005, Ratana was invited to participate in a child rights training workshop conducted by LICADHO. At the workshop she was also selected to be a member of a Child Protection Group after her enthusiastic involvement during the training. She was very surprised to have been selected as she never expected to get a chance to help her community. Initially in the CPG Ratana found that it was difficult to speak out to the audience and at times she was left speechless because she was nervous and shy. Later on, she grew in confidence and slowly her shyness disappeared, she then became an active CPG member responsible for dissemination and reporting cases to LICADHO or other relevant agencies in her community.

In 2007, her mother made Ratana drop out of school and in order to earn money for the family. Ratana ended up working for a restaurant in Phnom Penh. As a waitress she started work at 3pm and only finished at 11pm. At the restaurant some of the patrons would ask her to drink beer with them and they would also flirt with her.

Ratana hated working at the restaurant and later ran away and returned to her grandmother. Here her relatives contacted LICADHO for help. A LICADHO social worker and advocate then met with Ratana's mother and relatives so that they could discuss the situation. LICADHO explained to Ratana's mother that education was very important for Ratana and that it would benefit her by giving her opportunities and independence in the future. Additionally her grandmother and relatives even though they too were poor pledged that they would support Ratana to attend school again.

Ratana's mother finally agreed and Ratana is now back in school and active again in her CPG.

### Follow- Up Training

Eight 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. 194 participants (79 females and 115 males) attended the training in five locations.

### ***Capacity Building Training***

29 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. 369 members (186 females and 183 males) attended the training. Nine for adult CPGs and 21 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 has one meeting every month at the CRF office in Phnom Penh which they help to develop a plan of action in their area.

Three children CPG members attended a two-day training on Children Advocacy, organized by NGOCRC



### ***CPGs Activities***

64 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 ( 32 with child-led CPGs and 32 with-led adult CPGs ).

30 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 (20 led by children CPGs and 10 led by adult CPGs). A total of 3,894 people participated in the dissemination sessions including 3,245 children.

During January 2008 and June 2008, 20 cases under the CR monitoring mandate were reported by CPG members to LICADHO monitors and advocates (including two cases of rape, one case of domestic workers, one case of death threat, four cases of vulnerable/at risk children, two other special cases, one case of domestic violent, one cases of illegal arrest and detention, two cases of physical assault). Most of cases were reported by the local authority but there were an increasing number of cases being reported by children CGP members, most notably in Kandal, Chamkarleu in Kampongcham, Siem Reap, Koh Kong and Sihanouk Ville, which suggests 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***

Five Radio Talk Shows (round table discussions on FM 105 and FM 102) were held 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.

Two children CPGs attended meetings on child rights strategic planning and child participation with NGOCRC every two months. Five children CPGs attended several meeting on child development and child network with the Child Rights Foundation.



A workshop presentation on the findings of Child Worker at Brick Factory (CWBF) in Battambang was held on May 07, 2008 in Battambang province. There were 97 participants in this workshop including representatives from both partners LICADHO and 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 other 55 participants from other NGOs and government departments who were involved in the research.



The third national campaign on CWBF was held in May 08, 2008 at Neak Parnh Tek national park in Battambang province. The National Campaign was advertised in local newspapers, Koh Santepheap and Raksmeay Kampuchea for two-day, broadcasted for 2-day on local radio FM 103.25 and FM 91 MHz, and also posted pictures of famous comedians for 2 days before the event.

The estimated public audience at the event was approximately 2500 who attended the entire day's program. The public heard the opening address from LICADHO's representative; an audio recording of a girl and a boy who spoke of their experiences working at brick factories. In particular, the two experienced master of ceremonies -Ney Chabchien and Ms. Srey oy focused their speeches on promoting the improvement of the situation of children working in brick factory; additionally famous comedian (Neay Khchib) performed educational stories and songs. Quizzes were prepared for children who attended which aimed to educate them on the campaign and the situation of children working in brick factories (CWBF).

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

### *International Children's Day*

Organized celebrations for International Children's Day (ICD), June 1<sup>st</sup>, 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.

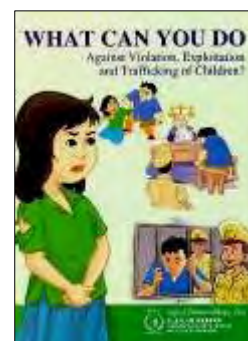
Results from these activities included increased local awareness of child rights issues, the exposure of large audiences to child rights education at each site totaling approximately an audience of 8,000 for all locations. Follow up information and pictures were widely published in local media including 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 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 1<sup>st</sup> and for providing training to other NGOs staff.

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS/MATERIAL**

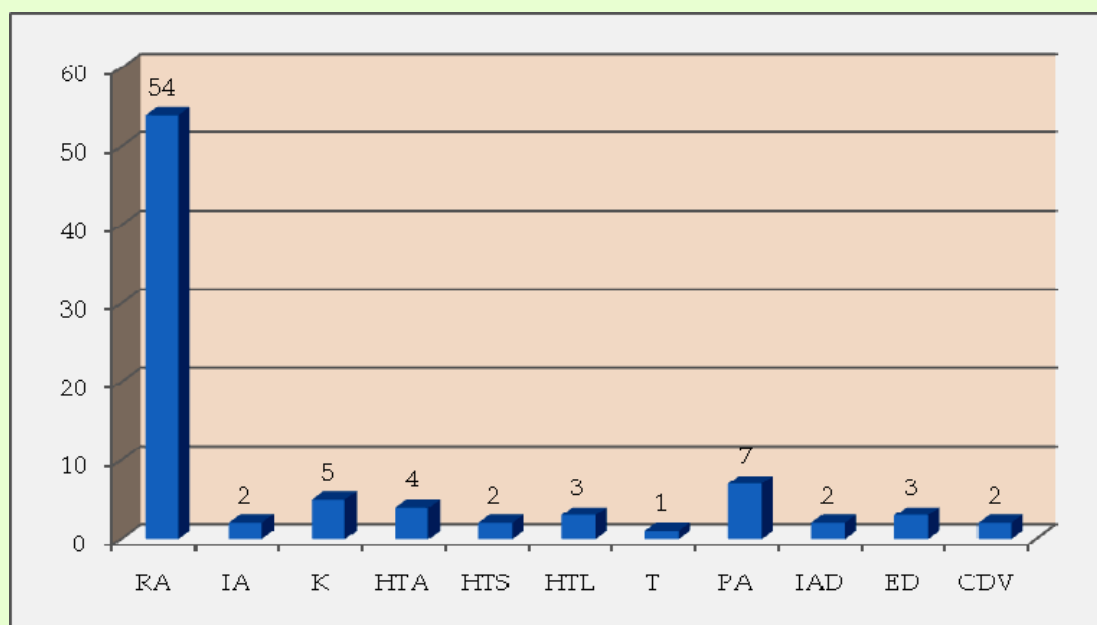
#	DOCUMENTS/MATERIAL	USED FOR:		TOTAL
		TRAINING	CAMPAIGN	
1	Long illustrated leaflet on children rights	1205	0	1205
2	Long illustrated leaflet on children rights-yellow	350	0	5100
3	Small booklet on rights & responsibilities of children	350	0	350
4	Child friendly booklet on “What can you do against child trafficking, exploitation and abuse”	825	0	4825
5	ILO Convention n. 182 and recommendation n. 190	350	0	350
6	ILO Convention n. 138	350	0	350
7	Note book (printed with children rights message)	350	0	350
8	Info Package “Protect Children and Child safety”	100	0	100
9	T-shirt on Child Trafficking		80	480
10	Leaflet on Child Trafficking	1400	0	4400
11	Poster on Law Procedure	60	0	60
12	Certificate on Child Sexual Exploitation			
13	CRC Convention	350	0	350
14	Poster on legal procedures	60	0	60

### 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 January-June 2008, the monitoring team received and investigated 85 new cases comprising 90 victims (81 females and 9 males). Reported cases of rape made up 64% of total case load.

#### Cases of Children's Rights Violations Received by CRO in the first six months of 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	

#### AGE RANGE OF VICTIMS

RANGE OF AGE (YEARS)	CASES	NUMBER		
		F	M	T
0-5	7	6	1	7
6-9	11	11	0	11
10-12	16	14	4	18
13-15	33	34	1	35
16-17	18	16	3	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>90</b>

### AGE RANGE OF ABUSERS

RANGE OF AGE (YEARS)	CASES	NUMBER		
		F	M	T
13- 15	6	0	7	7
16-18	7	0	6	6
19-25	24	0	54	54
26-45	42	7	46	53
46	6	1	6	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>127</b>

#### *Legal Assistance and Intervention*

CR staff was involved in various other intervention/actions and services during the complaint intake process. They included the following:

- 26 cases were intervened by the police and local authority.
- 53 cases were intervened/referred to courts (16 were represented by a lawyer)
- 6 cases referred to NGOs for lawyers/legal representative services

### CASES REFERRED FOR LEGAL SERVICES

AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS	CASES
Legal Aid of Cambodia(LAC)	6
Project for Juvenile Justice (PJJ)	6
LICADHO	1
Legal service of children and women(LSCW)	2
Cambodia Defender Project(CDP)	0
Bar Association of Cambodia(BAC)	0
Cambodia Woman Crisis Center(CWCC)	0
Action Pour Les Enfant(APLE)	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>

#### *Social and Material Assistance*

Assistance was provided in 129 cases, involving 225 children (128 girls and 97 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 throughout the reporting period included:

- Repairing houses by CPG members for three families of vulnerable and at risk children.
- School materials for 13 children
- Two children received comprehensive medical treatment (Kantha Bopha Children's Hospital)
- Eight children received medical certificates for legal purposes
- 21 infants below one year of age received milk
- 178 children had their transportation and food paid for during treatment at the hospital
- Nine children were referred to stay in Neavea Thmey, Hagar, World Hope Cambodia, HCC, SCC, Antharapheap Kampuchea
- 86 children (21 victims and 65 vulnerable children) were followed up after they received social and material assistance.

- 2 children were reintegrated into families through the assistance and collaboration of Neavea Thmey and LICADHO social workers.



### *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*

The Assistant Campaign Coordinator had attended 20-hour (4-hour a week) on professional report writing training course from 26 February 2008 to 27 March, 2008 at the American Academic Associates (AAA) Phnom Penh.

The Administrator had also attended the training on successful office administration skills at the American Academic Associates (AAA) Phnom Penh from January 21-February 18, 2008.

The Acting Campaign Coordinator attended a short course of English class at Panhansas University for 3 months.

During the report period, the Acting Campaign Coordinator continued her English skills training for communication.

All CRO staff attended a 5-day-training workshop on 'Children's Rights in Matters of Sexual Exploitation' and advocacy strategies at the LICADHO Phnom Penh office from 4-8 February 2008 with a Canadian trainer.

All CRO staff joined orientation on the project activities and develop annual work plan for year 2008 of ODW.

All CRO staffs attended new penal procedure code 5 days internal training in January 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 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.
- Increased requests for workshops/documentation on child rights by the public and local authority.
- 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.

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## Project Against Torture

*The Project Against Torture provides a comprehensive range of services for victims to assist them in their recovery and the development of coping mechanisms. The services include physical, psychosocial, and economic rehabilitation for all forms of torture, including torture by the police, prison officials or other government officials and domestic violence and other forms of severe violence committed by civilians.*



### Aims/Objectives

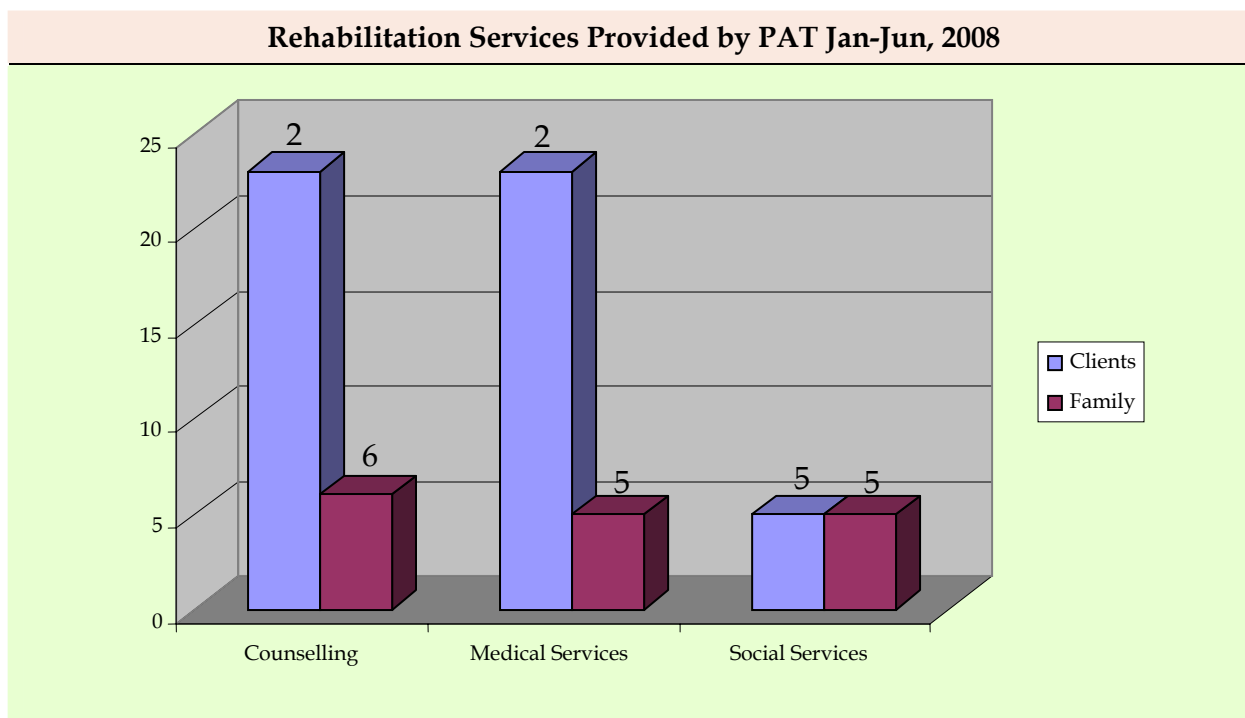
- To provide quality rehabilitation services and protect victims of torture and other serious violence, and to take action to prevent the use of torture in Cambodia.
- To implement a client intake and progress evaluation system to prove the project's ability to assess the impact of its rehabilitation services.
- To train LICADHO staff on identifying trauma, provide counseling and social work services.
- To design, implement and refine care for the caregivers/stress management program for Phnom Penh and provincial staff and other appropriate persons interacting closely with clients.
- 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

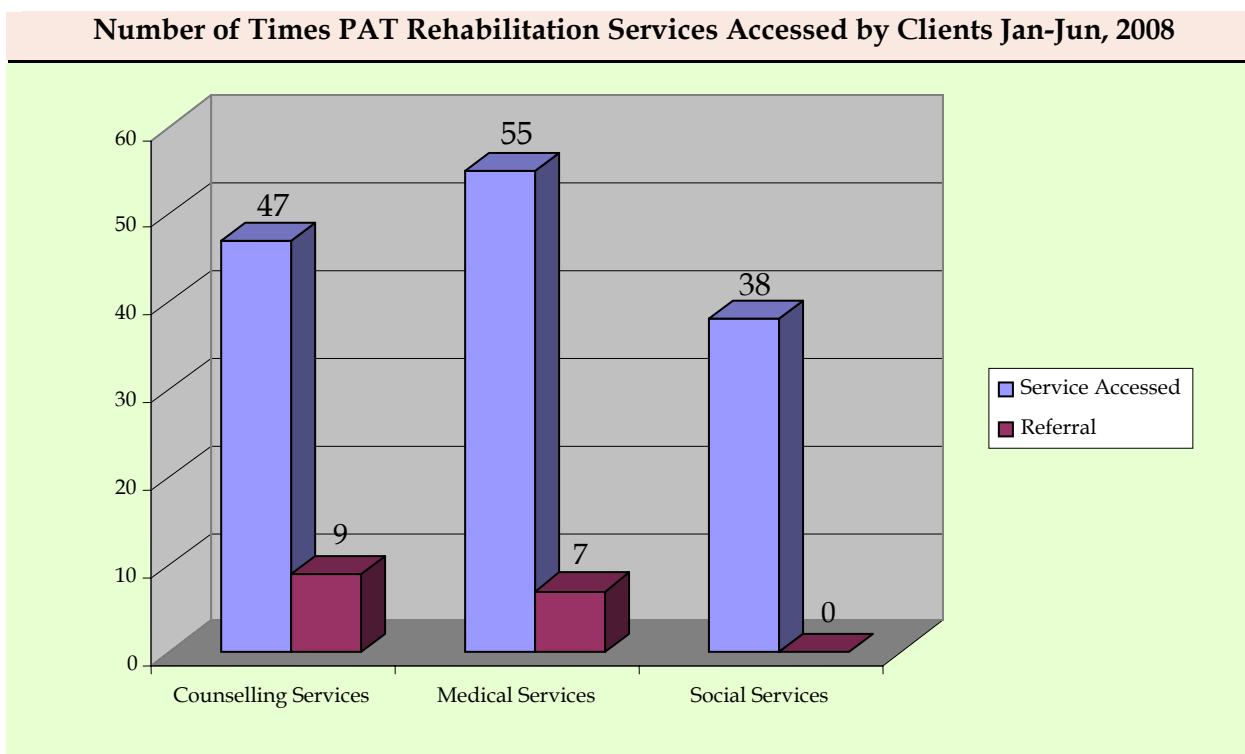
The Project Against Torture (PAT) operates principally out of LICADHO's Phnom Penh office with monitors in provincial offices. The project provides rehabilitation services to victims of serious human rights violations who require assistance for serious physical and psychological injuries. Such violations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

In first semester 2008, the PAT worked on 46 cases which included 39 open cases, 5 new cases and 2 cases in cooperation with other units.

There are 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 first semester of 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.





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

### **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.
- PAT's staff received additional knowledge, capacity and experience from their work.
- LICADHO staff more understanding about rehabilitation project of the PAT office, so the communication is increased between PAT and LICADHO provincial offices.
- Increased public discussion about laws against torture and other violence when implementing work in the field.
- Key torture cases were highlighted and debated on radio and other media
- Increase understanding about victims of torture and other human rights violations for partner organizations.

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## Medical Office

*LICADHO's medical team conducts monthly visits in twelve Phnom Penh and provincial prisons and provides medical services to inmates and prison officials. Nutritional supplements and specialized medical care are given to meet the particular needs of pregnant women in custody, children of female prisoners and other vulnerable groups. In Phnom Penh, the medical team also provides treatment for victims of human rights abuses in resettlement areas and within the general population.*



### Aims/Objectives

- To provide and facilitate proper medical care to prisoners and prison officials. To 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 important information on how prison health services compare to international standards
- 
- To arrange best coverage of Cambodia's prison population having regard to location and size of prisons and circumstances of each.
- 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 Offices are:

- Monitoring the health of prisoner's and prison officials; and
- Providing medical services in Andong re settlement site and other most urgent provincial eviction or re settlement sites;

- Providing nutrition information to children and families in Kampong Speu area
- and
- Providing medical treatment to victims of human rights violations.

#### *Prison health services*

The Medical Office provides regular medical care to prisoners in 12 prisons. The medical care focused on:

- Health promotion by monitoring human rights abuses and torture
- Intervening in the case of urgent health problems
- Referring patients to hospitals in serious cases
- Monitoring the living conditions of cells, and
- Investigating deaths in prison.

The Medical Office also provides extra food for pregnant women, babies, children, elderly and seriously sick people.

In the first half of 2008, the Medical Office provided medical assistance to 4,828 patients (24.72 % over the same period in 2007). The table indicates the number of patients who received medical care:

#### People receiving medical treatment from the Medical Offices prison program in the first half of 2008

	Prisons	Number of consultations with prisoners		Number of consultations with prison guards		Total consultations	Prison Visits
		Men	Women	Men	Women		
1	Toul Sleng	8	0	25	0	33	5
2	PJ	111	15	12	0	138	5
3	Takhmao	176	35	15	0	226	4
4	Prey Veng	404	54	23	1	482	5
5	Svay Rieng	266	35	27	5	333	5
6	Takeo	582	58	24	4	668	5
7	Sihanoukville	335	45	14	0	394	5
8	Koh Kong	259	46	12	0	317	5
9	Pursat	150	17	24	0	191	4
10	Battambang	908	110	19	0	1037	4
11	Kg Thom	350	60	33	3	446	5
12	Kg Cham	496	62	5	0	563	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4045</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4828</b>	<b>61</b>

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. The prisons were:

Sihanoukville, Koh Kong, Pursat, Battambang, Kompong Thom, Siem Reap, Banteay Meanchey, CC3, Kampot, Takmao, Kompong Speu, Kompong Chhnang, and Kompong Cham. The Medical Office hopes to increase the amount of food prisoners receive, whilst also providing opportunity to work outside prison cells.

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

In the first half of 2008, the Medical Office provided medical treatment to 159 (115 women) victims of human rights violations, 5,181 (3299 women) victims of land dispute cases and evictions (62.9% increase compared to the same period in 2007). In all cases, 63.9% of the victims were female.

Beside the curative work, the medical team also implemented the preventive work for improving health status among the people of community. In mid March 2008, the medical team started to cooperate with Operational District West to provide vaccination to evicted people living in Andong and Anchanh villages. From mid March to the end of June, vaccinations against tetanus, tuberculosis diphtherias, polio, whopping cough, and measles to 402 children and 130 adult females were made.



The Medical Office also provided treatment to victims of human rights violations sent from LICADHO's provincial offices as well as from other local and international NGOs. In cases of serious illness, the Medical Office referred patient victims to hospitals or other centres that could provide the required treatment or rehabilitation.

### **Case Study: Land dispute victim**

Vannak (*not real name*) is a 16-year old, currently residing in Andong Village, the relocation site for the evicted community from Sambok Chab. In December 2007, he was beaten by a guard of in a rehabilitation centre and his left leg was badly injured. AN examination by the LICADHO medical team revealed that he had poly trauma with a fracture in his left leg. The severity of the case was explained to his family and they asked permission to refer him to a hospital which they agreed to. Vannak was later referred to the Centre of Hope Sihanouk Hospital. In February 2008, after he recovered, he was sent to Kean Klaing Centre for rehabilitation and later vocational training. LICADHO also provided him with food, money and other materials as needed.

### **Capacity Building and Networking**

In order to improve qualification of its staffs, the Medical Office organized 5 monthly internal training courses. 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 meeting with the Cambodian Human Rights HIV/AIDS Network (CHRAN).

**Impact**

- The Medical Office provided health assistance to more than 5,340 people in Cambodia during first semester 2008. Without the office, these people would have suffered without medical treatment or advice. 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 malnutrition in the village, especially amongst children.

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## Advocacy, Documentation and Resources Office

*Documentation provides the LICADHO offices with the technical capacity to improve the accuracy, objectivity, consistency and credibility of their reports, and to ensure the security and confidentiality of the data on human rights violations that is collected.*



### Aims/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.

### 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, and PAT) 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 the first half of 2008, ADRO published four periodic internal newsletters, one external newsletter (Adopt-A-Prison Project), researched and drafted nine news articles and produced five audio news podcasts in Khmer for the LICADHO website.

**Reports**

ADRO also published two 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)



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 the report.

From January to June 2008, 5,850 copies of LICADHO reports and publications were printed, which consisted of 3,300 in Khmer and 2,550 in English, and another 3,500 CDs were also produced.

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 Krahorm*
- *True Faces of Dey Krahorm*
- *Echoes of Cambodia*
- *Snapshot of Andong Relocation Site*
- *Two Years Too Long*
- *Beyond the Watchdog*



The DVDs listed include visual imagery of the harsh living conditions of Andong villagers after they were violently evicted from Sambok Chap village in Phnom Penh and the longstanding land eviction in Dey Krahorm community.

**LICADHO Website**

The LICADHO website during the first half of 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:

- 31,008 unique visitors viewed 257,206 pages on the website with an average of over 5,000 unique visitors per month. For the same period last year there were 29,091 unique visitors.
- The top five countries/regions that visited the website were:
  1. The United States of America (169,000 pages)
  2. Australia (29,100 pages)
  3. European Countries (8,700 pages)
  4. Cambodia (7,567 pages)
  5. Great Britain (5,800 pages)
- The top four pages/topics viewed on the website:
  1. Photo album
  2. Reports

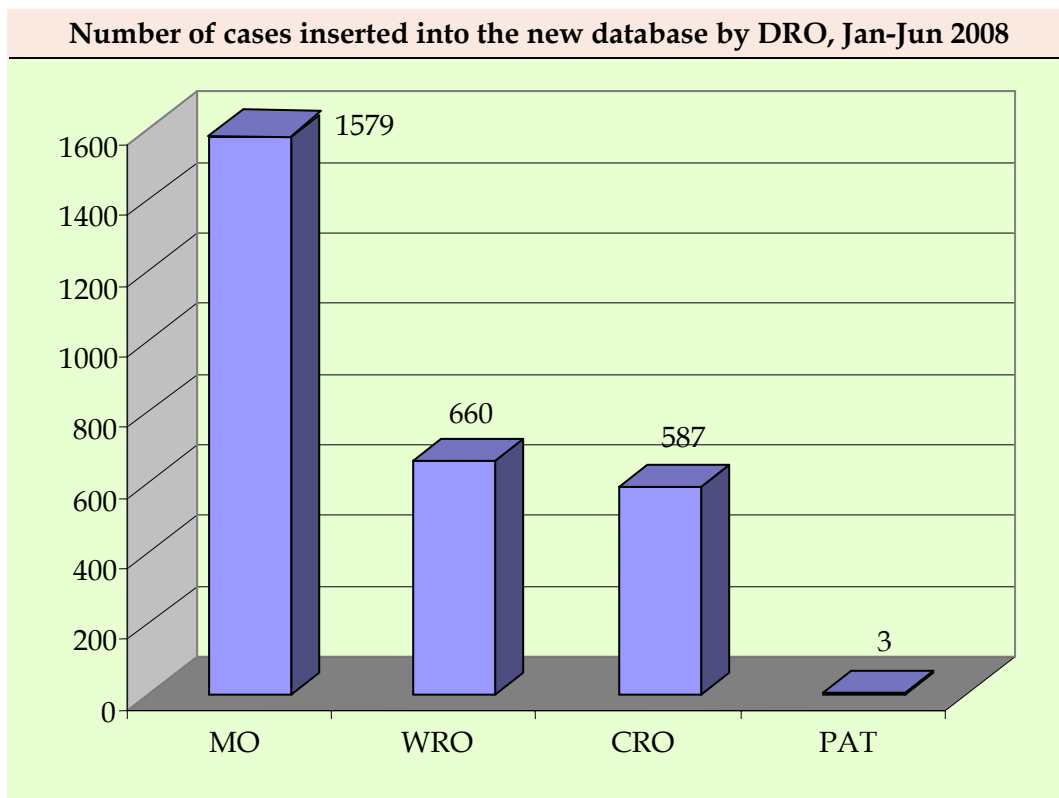


- 3. Media Release
- 4. Audio section
- Top three search terms used to access the website:
  - 1. LICADHO
  - 2. Human rights
  - 3. Child labour in Cambodia

***New Database***

After securing new funding for its operations with EC funding, ADRO was able to create a new database to better store and produce statistics on human rights abuses investigated by LICADHO. The system replaced an older database which had become obsolete to the organization’s needs. The new system enabled the organization to register new cases more efficiently and directly input the information into the database more effectively.

In the first half of 2008, ADRO inserted and reviewed cases from 2003 and 2005 to 2007 in addition to ongoing cases in the current year amounting to a total of 2,829 cases.



***New Staff***

ADRO recruited four new staff members to work on the new database and one other staff member was internally transferred to the position of Documentation Officer.

***Training***

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

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## **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 and ensured follow up of cases by monitors.
- The increase in ADRO staff improved ADRO's capacity to keep the database up to date and produce advocacy materials.
- News articles and success stories published on the LICADHO website provided timely advocacy material to the public on topical human rights issues.
- Internal newsletters provided staff with a medium to share both social and staff issues.
- ADRO's ability to assist in all aspects of the production of LICADHO public reports (research, formatting, translation, editing and audio recording) greatly increased the capacity of LICADHO to produce timely public reports.

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## Human Rights Education Office

*LICADHO trainers provide regular three- day training courses on human rights, legal procedures and democratic principles to selected target groups, including police officers, students and monks, using a range of educational media and a participatory learning approach.*

*LICADHO's provincial trainers also disseminate human rights information to the general public at the village, commune and district level.*



### 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 develop and produce educational experiences and material in the most appropriate ways for the messages to be understood and acted upon.
- To establish continuing relationships with participants and communities to facilitate monitoring of post-training progress for refresher/reinforcement and other follow-up activities.
- To achieve a consistent record of measured improvement in the levels of skills and knowledge assimilated by participants, retained up to six months afterwards, and shown to be acted upon.
- To provide guidance to communities for ideas, observations, and concerns on human rights issues for LICADHO and other NGOs to pursue with higher authorities.

- To identify, nurture, and encourage wherever possible suitably motivated and capable people who will continue to promote human rights in their communities.

### Achievements

In the first half of 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*

The human rights training courses offered by HREO comprise of a series of half-day human rights discussion sessions, three-day core human rights training courses, and half-day dissemination sessions.

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.



Furthermore, as requested by other partner non-governmental organizations (NGOs), three-day human rights training courses and half-day dissemination sessions were organized for community members, clients and staffs from partner NGOs' projects. The highlighted topics mostly centre on human rights and democracy, domestic violence, rights of disabled people and the right to adequate housing.

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 June 2008**

Types of training	Courses conducted	Participants trained	Women Participants
3-day courses	3	93	62
Haft-day discussion sessions	117	4,877	2,990
Half-day dissemination sessions	13	590	333
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>5,560</b>	<b>3,385</b>

### *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 the first half of 2008 were:

- Manual on Genuine Democracy
- Manual on Advocacy for communities
- Manual on Legal Education for general population (approximately 40% of completion)

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

#### **Publications printed from January to June 2008**

<b>Type of publications</b>	<b>Number of the publications</b>
Constitution of Kingdom of Cambodia	18,000
Land law	8,000
Manual on Genuine democracy	3,175
Manual on Advocacy for community level	3,200
Leaflet on land rights	10,000
Law on the prevention of DV	6,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,375</b>

### *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.

### **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 fourth national election in July 2008, media that is perceived as being more independent, covered an increasing number of non-violent social movements, many

in solidarity to protest land issues. Some key members of these movements have been participants in HR training courses and dissemination sessions where the HRE materials were distributed to them.

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## Appendix 1: LICADHO Publications Jan-Jun 2008

### January

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Document: Dey Krahom Land Case Explained

January 22, 2008

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

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

January 08, 2008

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

Press Release: Dey Krahom: Mass eviction feared

January 23, 2008

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

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

January 28, 2008

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

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

January 2008

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

### February

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

Thursday, February 07, 2008

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

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

February 18, 2008

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

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

February 22, 2008

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

News: Cambodian Land Eviction Crisis Draws International Attention

February 25, 2008

<http://www.licadho.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.org/articles/20080228/72/index.html>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly Newsbrief (Khmer 07:42min)

February 2008

<http://www.licadho.org/media/index.php?id=48>

## **March**

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Documents: LICADHO Annual Activity Report 2007

March 01, 2008

<http://www.licadho.org/reports.php?perm=117>

Documents: Prison Conditions in Cambodia 2007: The Story of a Mother and Child

March 08, 2008

<http://www.licadho.org/reports.php?perm=116>

Press release: International Women's Day 2008

Thursday, March 06, 2008

<http://www.licadho.org/pressrelease.php?perm=177>

Press Release: Unlawful Detention & Alleged Torture by Ministry of Interior

March 11, 2008

<http://www.licadho.org/pressrelease.php?perm=178>

Press Release: Detained Policeman Transferred to Hospital because of Poor Health

March 25, 2008

<http://www.licadho.org/pressrelease.php?perm=179>

Press Release: Concerns over Recent Political Arrest in Kampong Thom Province

March 27, 2008

<http://www.licadho.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.org/articles/20080317/73/index.html>

Audio News: LICADHO Monthly Newsbrief (Khmer 07:28min)

March 2008

<http://www.licadho.org/media/index.php?id=50>

## **May**

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

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

Documents: Child Workers in Brick Factories: Causes and Consequences

May 08, 2008

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

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

May 02, 2008

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

Press Release: Villagers flock to Phnom Penh as Land Crisis continues

May 29, 2008

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

News: Radio Free Asia Journalist Flees Cambodia After Once More Receiving Deaths Threats

May 08, 2008

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

News: Joint Research Report Released on Impact of Child Labor in Cambodia

May 12, 2008

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

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

May 2008

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

## **June**

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Press Release: Government should lift ban on Kratie local radio station

June 05, 2008

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

Press Release: Arrest of Moneakseka Khmer Newspaper Editor in Chief Dam Sith

June 09, 2008

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

Press Release: Unlawful Detention Camps Must Be Closed

June 28, 2008

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

News: Land Disputes Across Cambodia Lead Villagers to Phnom Penh

June 04, 2008

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

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

June 2008

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





<http://www.licadho.org>