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និងការពារសិទ្ធិមនុស្ស

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LICADHO

CAMBODIAN LEAGUE FOR THE
PROMOTION AND DEFENSE OF
HUMAN RIGHTS



ACTIVITY REPORT

JANUARY TO JUNE 2013

A report issued in
August 2013



Activity Report:

January to June 2013

A report issued in August 2013

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LICADHO

CAMBODIAN LEAGUE FOR THE PROMOTION
AND DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

CAMBODIAN LEAGUE FOR THE PROMOTION AND DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS (LICADHO)

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

MONITORING & PROTECTION



Monitoring of State Violations and Women's and Children's Rights:

Monitors investigate human rights violations perpetrated by the State and violations made against women and children. Victims are provided assistance through interventions with local authorities and court officials.

Medical Assistance & Social Work:

A medical team provides assistance to prisoners and prison officials in 14 prisons, victims of human rights violations and families in resettlement sites. Social workers conduct needs assessments of victims and their families and provide short-term material and food.

Prison Monitoring:

Researchers monitor 18 prisons to assess prison conditions and ensure that pre-trial detainees have access to legal representation.

Paralegal and Legal Representation:

Victims are provided legal advice by a paralegal team and, in key cases, legal representation by human rights lawyers.

PROMOTION & ADVOCACY

Supporting Unions and Grassroots Groups and Networks:

Assistance to unions, grassroots groups and affected communities to provide protection and legal services, and to enhance their capacity to campaign and advocate for human rights.

Training and Information:

Advocates raise awareness to specific target groups, support protection networks at the grassroots level and advocate for social and legal changes with women, youths and children.

Public Advocacy and Outreach:

Human rights cases are compiled into a central electronic database, so that accurate information can be easily accessed and analyzed, and produced into periodic public reports (written, audio and visual) or used for other advocacy.

For More Information Contact:

Dr. Pung Chhiv Kek, President
LICADHO
#16, Street 99
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Tel: (855) 23 727 102/216 602
Fax: (855) 23 727 102/217 626

E-mail: contact@licadho-cambodia.org

Web: www.licadho-cambodia.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/licadho Twitter: www.twitter.com/licadho

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COVER: A man participates in a Labor Day demonstration in Phnom Penh, on May 1, 2013. Photo/LICADHO

HUMAN RIGHTS: JAN–JUNE 2013



Police intervene to block a Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) march through central Phnom Penh on May 20, 2013. (All Photos by LICADHO unless noted)

Democracy in the Balance

The year 2013 began on a quiet note for Cambodia, with few of the shocking incidents that characterized an abysmal 2012 – one of the worst years for human rights in a decade.

By the end of June, however, that quiet start seemed like a distant memory.

Every single opposition party member had been expelled from the National Assembly just prior to the July National Assembly election, hundreds of land conflicts around the country continued to go unresolved, human rights issues continued to plague Cambodia's burgeoning sugar sector, Boeung Kak Lake land activist Yorm Bopha remained in prison, labor unrest appeared to be on the rise, and opposition party leader Kem Sokha was the victim of what appeared to be a government-organized smear campaign, leaving him accused of adultery, pedophilia, and the denial of Khmer Rouge crimes, among other things.

On top of that remained the one issue that loomed over everything: Pivotal elections were less than a month away.

KEY CASES FROM 2012 SEEP INTO THE NEW YEAR

There were few high-profile arrests of human rights defenders in early 2013, but the consequences of several 2012 cases reverberated into the new year.

After spending eight months in prison, the Court of Appeals ordered Mam Sonando and his co-defendants [released](#) on March 15, ending a bizarre saga that originally saw the independent radio station owner imprisoned for leading a so-called "secession movement" in Kratie province. Sonando was arrested on July 12, 2012, and convicted of various secession-related crimes in October; he was sentenced to 20 years in prison. In the end, the Court of Appeals inexplicably changed Sonando's charges to illegal-logging related crimes, reduced his sentence to five

In Cambodia there are "two entirely different justice systems: one that is wielded as a weapon against activism, and another that serves and protects well-connected individuals."

Naly Pilorge
LICADHO Director

years, and suspended all but the eight months that Sonando had already served. Sonando's legal battles spurred large protests in Phnom Penh, as hundreds of supporters gathered outside the courtroom for each of his hearings.

Born Samnang and Sok Sam Oeun, scapegoats in the 2004 killing of union leader Chea Vichea, remain in prison following the Court of Appeals' [surprise decision](#) to reinstate their conviction in late 2012. The two are widely believed to have been framed for the killing, and were in fact released by a courageous Supreme Court in 2008, after judges found no evidence linking them to the crime.

Boeung Kak Lake land activist Yorm Bopha – the 16th member of the Boeung Kak community imprisoned over a five-month stretch in 2012 – also remains in prison. Bopha was [arrested](#) on September 4, 2012, for allegedly beating a man near her home. Despite a total lack of evidence connecting her to the assault, she was convicted on December 26 and sentenced to three years in prison. Bopha was active in the protest movement to release the [15 other members](#) of the Boeung Kak community, and authorities [warned her](#) that she would face trouble in retaliation for her activism.

Bopha's [conviction](#) kicked off months of sustained, spirited [protests](#) from members of the Boeung Kak community, who have been involved in a land dispute with a company owned by ruling party Senator Lao Meng Khin. Most of the community's land was leased to the company, while residents were forced off their land with little or no compensation. The land dispute remains unresolved as of June 2013, with approximately 70 families [still fighting](#) for the right to settle on a 12.44 hectare piece of land carved out for the resettlement of evicted families.

On June 14, the Court of Appeals slightly altered the charges against Bopha and suspended one year of her sentence, but [refused to overturn her conviction](#) despite the continued [lack of evidence](#).

In stark contrast to the above cases, former Bavet governor Chhouk Bandith remains a free man, despite the existence of an arrest warrant and a criminal conviction [finding](#) that he fired his gun at a crowd of striking garment workers in 2012, seriously injuring three.

LICADHO Profile

13

LICADHO offices nationwide

137

LICADHO staff nationwide (as of June 2013)

367

Number of clients who visited LICADHO's Phnom Penh office during the first six months of 2013



Mam Sonando supporters react to news on March 15, 2013, that the Court of Appeal has ordered his release.

After a year-long legal journey that saw charges [briefly dropped](#) altogether, Bandith was finally convicted of causing “unintentional injury” on June 25, 2013, and sentenced to one-and-a-half years in prison. He did not show up for his trial. An arrest warrant has been issued, but he remains at large as of the end of June.

Even if Bandith serves his full prison term, the legal victory would be bitter-sweet. The shockingly light charges and sentence – one-and-a-half years in prison for actions that amounted to an attempted triple-homicide – are a stark contrast to Yorm Bopha’s case. Bopha was accused of masterminding an assault on one man, and there was no evidence presented of her involvement. Yet she was sentenced to three years.

“You can’t even call this a double standard,” LICADHO Director Naly Pilorge said in a June 25 statement. “It’s two entirely different justice systems: one that is wielded as a weapon against activism, and another that serves and protects well-connected individuals.”

LAND: NO SOLUTION IN SIGHT

Land remained the single most tumultuous issue in Cambodia during the first half of 2013, as it has been for at least the last 10 years. Nearly [2.2 million hectares](#) of Cambodian land have been granted to large firms in the form of economic land concessions (ELCs). These concessions and various other land grabs have affected at least 400,000 Cambodians since 2003 in Phnom Penh and the 12 provinces in which LICADHO works.

With commune elections approaching in 2012 and pressure from the donor community rising, the Prime Minister and his party proposed two solutions to the land crisis: First, a moratorium on new ELCs, along with a review of existing concessions, and second, an expedited land titling program designed to put more titles in the hands of rural people. As of mid-2013, both programs have failed to live up to their billing.

Although the so-called moratorium has slowed the pace of new ELCs, it initially did not totally stem the tide, with at least 16 new concessions granted since the ban was announced in 2012, totaling over 80,000 hectares. Meanwhile, the promised “systematic review” has yet to materialize, and none of the well-documented problematic concessions have been cancelled.

The land titling program has also sparked controversy. The program sent over 2,000 ruling party-affiliated youth volunteers to crisscross the country, measure land and issue titles. Implementation has also been shrouded in secrecy, and independent monitoring has been explicitly forbidden.

Although the government [claims](#) that it provided titles to over 470,000 families, covering 1.8 million hectares of land, the program meticulously avoided most areas of land conflict, where ELCs had infringed on the land of previous occupants.

Perhaps most troubling, however, is the fact that the program was funded by private donations from the Prime Minister and his closest allies: high-ranking members of the ruling Cambodian People’s party (CPP) and business tycoons. In other words, the program completely bypassed established state institutions, leading some to call it a massive act of vote-buying.

In addition, there have been numerous credible reports of landholders, especially in indigenous communities, being intimidated or tricked into accepting terms dictated by the volunteer students. Such individual titles undermine

3

Number of years in prison Yorm Bopha was sentenced to for allegedly masterminding – though not participating in – a physical assault on one man. No evidence has been presented that she was involved in any way.

300

Days Bopha had spent in prison as of June 30, 2013.

1.5

Number of years in prison Chhouk Bandith was sentenced to for firing his gun at a crowd of striking garment workers, seriously injuring three.

0

Days Bandith had spent in prison as of the end of June 2013. He remains at large.



A girl prays during a demonstration calling for the release of imprisoned Boeung Kak Lake activist Yorm Bopha in Phnom Penh on March 27, 2013.

extensive efforts to protect indigenous communities through communal land titling. There are also credible reports of landholders being told their new titles would be revoked if the ruling party loses the elections, or being told their official title would only be delivered after a successful election.

Cambodian sugar plantations – many of which are built on land violently wrested from poor farmers – were in the international spotlight throughout the first half of 2013.

Since 2009, an increasing number of ELCs have been used to produce raw sugar. This is directly linked to the effect of the EU's Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) preferential trade scheme, which allows Cambodia to export sugar to the European Union duty free, specifically under its Everything But Arms (EBA) categorization.

Cambodia went from virtually zero sugar holdings in 2006 to more than 100,000 hectares under lease to agro-industrial firms for cane production in 2012. Since the liberalization of the EU sugar sector went into effect in 2009, the value of annual Cambodian sugar exports jumped from US\$51,000 to US\$13.8 million in 2011. Some 92% percent of exports went to the EU. Those who export the sugar have openly and repeatedly stated that they invested in sugar in Cambodia in order to be able to take advantage of EBA.

The development of the Cambodian sugar industry has been accompanied by violent forced evictions; widespread seizures of farmland; destruction of property, crops and community forests; and the use of violence and intimidation.

EU regulations set up human rights safeguards which require an investigation, and potentially the withdrawal of trade preferences, where serious and systematic human rights violations have been found. But thus far, the European Commission has not triggered these safeguards.

In March, 13 Members of European Parliament formally requested an investigation of ELC-related human rights abuses in Cambodia. The European Commission declined.

Meanwhile, a group of 200 villagers from Koh Kong took matters into their own hands, launching a multi-million pound [civil lawsuit](#) against Tate & Lyle in the UK, claiming the sugar company knowingly profited from unlawfully seized land. Some 600 villagers from Oddar Meanchey filed [a separate complaint](#) with the Thai Human Rights Commission against Thai sugar giant Mitr Phol Sugar Corporation, which holds large concessions in Cambodia.

SHRINKING SPACE AND GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED COUNTER-PROTESTS

With elections approaching, an increasing number of Cambodians took to the streets to air their grievances, from [communities](#) affected by land disputes, to [union members](#), to [farmers](#), to opposition party members. Although many peaceful protests proceeded without incident or interference from authorities, the first half of 2013 will be remembered for at least two instances of shocking violence and a flurry of unorthodox government-organized counter-protests.

In the wake of Yorm Bopha's conviction in December 2012, the Boeung Kak community staged numerous protests, at times almost daily, calling for the community leader's release from prison. These led to some of the most violent repression from authorities thus far in 2013.

On March 13, a group of Boeung Kak demonstrators were [brutally beaten](#) by police after they gathered in a public park near the Prime Minister's house to call for Bopha's release. Five were injured, including Bopha's husband, Lous Sokorn, who lost two teeth. The authorities' intervention

13

Number of Ministers of European Parliament who made a formal request that the European Commission investigate human rights abuses related to economic land concessions (ELCs) in Cambodia.

200

Number of Cambodian villagers in Koh Kong who are suing international sugar giant Tate & Lyle in the UK, claiming the company knowingly profited from illegally seized land.

600

Number of Cambodian villagers who filed a complaint with the Thai Human Rights Commission against the Thai sugar company Mitr Phol, related to human rights abuses on land that the company cultivates in Cambodia.

0

Actions taken by the European Commission to investigate human rights abuses in response to mounting evidence of widespread human rights abuses in the Cambodian sugar and land sectors.



Boeung Kak demonstrators are blasted with high-pressure fire hoses during a demonstration in Phnom Penh on May 29, 2013

was documented [on video](#).

On May 30, Boeung Kak community members gathered outside city hall to again call for Bopha's release, and a resolution to their land conflict. After not receiving a response, a few of the demonstrators grouped together to block traffic on Monivong Boulevard. Authorities responded by calling in three fire trucks, which used [high-pressure water](#) from their hoses to disperse the protesters. Authorities also targeted some community members who came to rescue colleagues who had fallen down due to the impact of the water. This [video](#) was taken at the scene.

On May 20, 2013, members of the Cambodian National Rescue party and thousands of supporters [gathered](#) in Phnom Penh's freedom park for a political rally. They planned to march to the UNOHCHR office to present a petition to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, Surya Subedi, who was visiting the country.

The group initially marched down St. 51, but was stopped by a police roadblock at the corner of St. 254 and Norodom. The police finally allowed the demonstrators to proceed, but when they arrived at the OHCHR office, they were met by a counter-demonstration organized by a government-aligned motodop association. Past newspaper reports have quoted members of this group as admitting that they were paid by the government to protest.



A member of the pro-government motodop union speaks to media outside the UN human rights office in Phnom Penh on May 20, 2013.



Police stand behind barriers designed to stop a CNRP march in Phnom Penh on May 20, 2013. The barriers stopped the group just sort of the European Union embassy.

The members of the association were also protesting against Subedi and his past criticisms of the government's human rights record. They had arrived earlier in the morning, prepared to confront the CNRP protesters. The motodop association refused to move so that the CNRP group could approach the office. Fearing a confrontation, CNRP supporters stayed at the other end of the street, about 30 meters away. The tense standoff lasted over an hour. Police did nothing to intervene. Ultimately, key CNRP officials were able to enter the OHCHR office to meet with Subedi, while the rest of the group waited at the other end of the street.

About 30 to 40 members of government-aligned motodop association also staged a [counter-protest](#) outside the Court of Appeal during the first day of hearings for Yorm Bopha. The group used piped-in crowd noise, channeled through a megaphone, in an attempt to drown out the chants of Bopha's supporters. At least one of the motodop group told a human rights monitor he was paid 30,000 riels to protest.

This protest was followed a day later by a group of students – their leader subsequently linked to the ruling party – who stood up and chastised UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia during a university speech.

"What the hell are you doing to Cambodia?" the *Phnom Penh Post* quoted one student as asking. "Will you lose your job if you say Cambodia's human rights situation is good?"

Some of the more vocal protesters were later outed by fellow students and on Facebook as being members of the youth wing of the Cambodian People's Party, which is headed by the Prime Minister's son.

Perhaps the most unexpected demonstrations took place on June 9, when thousands of Cambodians throughout the country turned out in Phnom Penh and various provinces to [protest](#) remarks by Cambodian National Rescue Party (CNRP) leader Kem Sokha. The protests came after the Council of Ministers' Press and Quick Reaction Unit publicly released audio in which the CNRP vice-president allegedly claimed that the Khmer Rouge prison S-21 was a Vietnamese "fabrication." Sokha claimed that the tapes were manipulated and taken out of context.

Nonetheless, S-21 survivor Chum Mey called on Sokha to apologize, and threatened to call for protests if he did not. Sokha did not apologize, and on June 9, thousands of people gathered across the country to denounce Sokha's remarks.

The gatherings were hardly spontaneous, though, and bore [clear fingerprints](#) of CPP assistance. The recording and sound mixing equipment present at the protest was unusually sophisticated. Pro-CPP TV station CTN brought in a satellite dish to broadcast the unfolding event on live television – something rarely, if ever seen, for typical protests. There were even portable toilets brought in for the event. Throughout the morning, men with walkie-talkies could be seen directing groups of participants, at times carrying signboards themselves. Some of the trucks used to transport protesters in and out of Phnom Penh had military and police placards visible through the front window.

A sign calling for free and fair elections is seen during a CNRP rally in Phnom Penh on May 20, 2013



CNRP vice-president Kem Sokha, who was the target of numerous character attacks in the lead-up to the election.

ELECTION SEASON COMES EARLY

Activity Report: January to June 2013

The pre-election period in 2013 has so far lacked the overt political violence that Cambodia once experienced on a regular basis. But physical assassination has been replaced by character assassination of the most venomous type, along with pseudo-legally-based attacks on the opposition facilitated by the ruling-party's dominance of the televised media and a politically obedient judicial system.

The first blow was struck over two years ago, when a court convicted now-CNRP president Sam Rainsy of an array of politically-motivated crimes and sentenced him to **12 years in prison**. Rainsy fled the country and remains in self-imposed exile. As of June 30, he had not been allowed back into the country (though he was given a surprise pardon and allowed to return, though not run for office, in July). In June, the Thai government – headed by an ally of Prime Minister Hun Sen – prevented Rainsy from entering the country for a speaking engagement.

The most recent and well-publicized of the character attacks, meanwhile, came against Kem Sokha, who found himself accused of denying Khmer Rouge crimes, adultery, failure to support two children he allegedly “adopted” with a woman who claims to be his mistress, and pedophilia, all in a matter of about two weeks, all pushed to public attention by the Prime Minister via nationwide TV broadcasts. In the latter instance, the accusation came from the Prime Minister himself. In each of the other attacks, there was open government involvement and/or misuse of government bodies by the CPP.

LICADHO, for example, received three separate packages of audio tapes and other “evidence” against CNRP members directly from the Council of Ministers, an official government body. On June 14, the Prime Minister personally accused Sokha of paying for sex with a 15-year-old girl. The Prime Minister also claimed that he helped Sokha escape arrest for the act.

This was not the only instance of CPP members using their official government positions to campaign.

The Prime Minister **told a gathering** of 4,000 people in March that a CPP loss in the election would also result in cuts to “hundreds of thousands” of development projects. He claimed that the CPP members were personally funding these projects, and that opposition party members would not be so generous. The Prime Minister said in a speech to a group of 10,000 villagers in March that the Directive No. 01 land titling program would also disappear if his party was not re-elected.

In early June, the National Assembly permanent committee – which is made up entirely of CPP members – **expelled** all 27 opposition party MPs from the National Assembly, on the grounds that they had switched parties. The two main opposition parties had officially merged earlier in the year under the CNRP, and all of the MPs had been elected to represent their former parties in the last election.

The expulsion of opposition party members from the National Assembly has justification in law, even if it runs counter to the spirit of pluralism and democracy. However, under Cambodia's Constitution, the move should have also dissolved the National Assembly, because the body no longer contained the requisite number of members and the vacated seats

The Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia said in March that Cambodia's fifth national assembly elections in July are likely to be the least fair in the 20 years since the United Nations organized the historic 1993 poll.



A Cambodia National Rescue Party supporter holds a sign at a CNRP rally in Phnom Penh on April 24, 2013.

cannot, per the constitution, be refilled. Yet the Assembly not only continued functioning, it immediately introduced and passed two pieces of legislation, including the controversial law on the “non-recognition of the crimes committed during the Democratic Kampuchea period,” ostensibly targeting Kem Sokha. The new legislation was introduced following calls for such law by the Prime Minister during his televised rants against Kem Sokha.

LICADHO investigated numerous attempts to intimidate or obstruct members and supporters of opposition parties at the commune and village levels. In the first five months of 2013, a total of 18 cases of politically-motivated intimidation were documented. In recent weeks, LICADHO has noted a sharp increase in destruction of opposition party sign boards, especially in Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Kandal, and Takeo provinces.

Such acts have often been preceded by verbal threats from political activists and/or local officials affiliated with the ruling party.

In February for instance, authorities in a village in Kampong Chhnang province threatened more than 500 villagers that their names would be removed from voter lists if they attended a public forum with Kem Sokha. A number of villagers were pressured into thumbprinting documents which they did not understand. In March, a CPP deputy village chief and an accomplice attacked a CNRP activist with a knife and a wooden stick after the victim started to discuss politics in a village in Svay Rieng province. The activist escaped unharmed. When a CNRP member put up a party signboard in another village in Svay Rieng province in April, a machete-wielding CPP supporter destroyed the signboard and threatened the activist.

The government also took action to suppress independent media in the run-up to the election, issuing a [ban](#) on all foreign-produced Khmer-language FM radio broadcasts in late June. The ban came into effect on June 28, and at least [two radio stations](#) - Women’s Media Center FM 102 and Beehive FM 105 - stopped re-broadcasting RFA and VOA reports. Beehive actually began its broadcast, but station staff said they were called by a Ministry of Information official and abruptly stopped.

On June 29, after a massive local and international outcry, authorities rescinded the ban. However, a [separate order](#) issued by the Ministry of Information, dated June 21, indicates that authorities still intend to ban all media from disseminating foreign media reports regarding opinion polls, surveys and election results beginning five days before election day.

Meanwhile, even before the June pre-election circus, the Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia (Comfrel) said in March that Cambodia’s fifth national assembly elections in July are likely to be the least fair in the 20 years since the United Nations organized the historic 1993 poll. Comfrel concluded that Cambodia’s democracy is “increasingly fragile” and “showed trends toward authoritarianism.”

Pluralism has degraded significantly since Cambodia’s UN-sponsored elections in 1993. The CPP currently holds 1,592 of 1,633 commune chief positions nationwide, and 90 of 123 National Assembly seats. The number of National Assembly seats won by the CPP has consistently risen with each election, from 51 seats in 1993, to 64 in 1998, and 73 in 2003. Voter turnout and voter registration numbers have also fallen with each election.

These numbers should not be taken merely as a sign of increasing CPP support. Thanks in part to the ruling party’s firm control over the election body, the National Election Committee (NEC), voting irregularity is rampant. An independent audit of 4,900 voters conducted in 2013 found that 10.4% of registered voters simply did not exist, and that at least 9% of past voters were unfairly removed from voting lists. The audit was conducted by the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and the Neutral and Impartial Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia (Nifec), and covered voters in all 24 provinces. For the 2008 elections, only 7.7% of names on the election rolls were found to not match real people. The audit also found that birth dates for voters only matched election rolls 63% of the time, compared to 78% in 2008. This alone could lead to hundreds of thousands of voters being turned

27

Number of opposition party National Assembly members kicked out of parliament in June.

100%

Percentage of National Assembly seats held by the ruling party after the 27 opposition party members were expelled in June.

2

Minimum number of laws passed by the National Assembly after the expulsion, despite the fact that the body did not have the requisite number of members to function under the Constitution.

18

Number of politically-motivated intimidation cases documented by LICADHO during the first part of 2013.

10.4%

Percentage of registered voters who could not be confirmed to exist, according to an audit of 4,900 voters conducted by the National Democratic Institute in early 2013.

97.5%

Percentage of commune chief positions nationwide that are held by the CPP.

away when they go to vote in July.

LOOKING TO THE SECOND HALF OF 2013

The lead-up to the July National Assembly elections dominated the first half of 2013, touching virtually every human rights issue in the landscape. The elections themselves – and their fallout – will undoubtedly dominate the second half of the year.

The CNRP has already threatened to disregard the results of the election; the CPP has countered by saying that they would be prevented from taking their positions in the government if they do.

Sam Rainsy said Cambodia risked “violence” if the July elections were unfair; the Prime Minister countered by saying that the country would fall into civil war if the CNRP wins the election and follows through on its pledges to prosecute former Khmer Rouge members in his government.

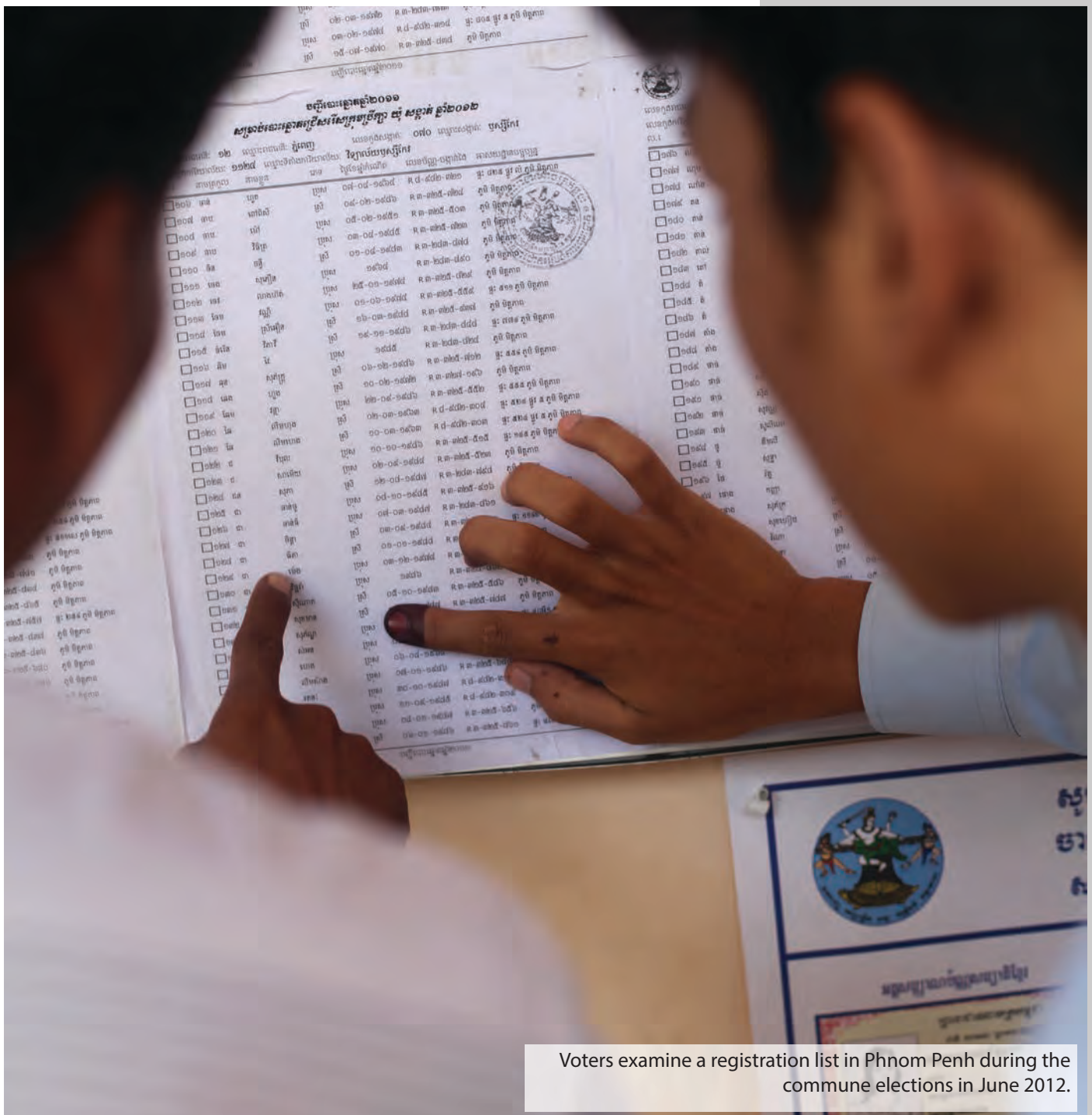
The clouds are gathering over Cambodia’s democracy, and it appears doubtful that they will part any time soon.

41%

Percentage of Assembly seats won by the CPP in Cambodia’s first post-war elections, in 1993

73%

Percentage of Assembly held by the CPP heading into the July 2013 elections



Voters examine a registration list in Phnom Penh during the commune elections in June 2012.

A woman protests outside of the Court of Appeal in Phnom Penh on June 14, 2013, during the hearing for imprisoned Boeung Kak activist Yorm Bopha.



PRISON MONITORING AND ADVOCACY



A prison cell in Kampong Chhnang provincial prison, one of the 18 detention facilities that LICADHO regularly monitors.

A Watchdog in the Darkest Places

LICADHO gathers information on prison conditions and the legal status of inmates in 19 target prisons (Police Judiciare (PJ), Correctional Centre 1 (CC1), Correctional Centre 2 (CC2), Correctional Centre 3 (CC3), Correctional Centre 4 (CC4), Takhmao, Toul Sleng, Kampong Som, Kampong Speu, Kampot, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom, Pursat, Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap, Svay Rieng and Koh Kong).

LICADHO's primary monitoring mechanism is weekly interviews with prisoners, family members of prisoners and released prisoners. Through these interviews, LICADHO monitors prison conditions, identifies prisoners with legal and medical needs, and identifies the occurrence of torture, among other things. In the first half of 2013, LICADHO interviewed 893 unique prisoners.

As of June 30, 2013, the total population in the 19 core prisons that LICADHO monitored was 13,070, with an occupancy rate of 156% of estimated capacity. This is the lowest occupancy rate that LICADHO has recorded for many years, and comes after a four-year advocacy campaign urging the government to reduce the exploding prison population. During that period, LICADHO published three major reports detailing the out-of-control growth in the prison population. There still remains much work to do on reducing the prison population, however.

DOCUMENTING TORTURE

LICADHO's prison project also documents incidents of torture and ill-treatment, both in prison and in police custody. During the reporting period, LICADHO documented 30 cases of torture or ill-treatment, the majority of which were alleged to have occurred in police custody.

ACCESS TO LEGAL REPRESENTATION AND SERVICES

One of the most important duties of LICADHO prison researchers is ensuring that pre-trial detainees have legal representation. Access to quality lawyers remains a

Activity Report: January to June 2013

Impact at a Glance

156%

Occupancy rate of the 19 prisons monitored by LICADHO, as of June 30, 2013.

893

Number of individual inmates interviewed by LICADHO in the first six months of 2013

4.5%

Percentage of interviewed pretrial inmates reporting torture in the first six months of 2013

30

Number of inmates who reported being tortured in prison or in police custody during the first six months of 2013

problem in Cambodia, particularly for the poor.

During the reporting period, LICADHO referred 103 prisoners' cases to legal aid organizations. In addition, lawyers from LICADHO's human rights legal team directly took on three new cases. The team also continued to represent imprisoned land rights activist and prisoner of conscience Yorm Bopha as well as human rights defender Sar Song.

In February 2013, a Phnom Penh based law firm began a pilot project with LICADHO's Adopt-A-Prison team to provide pro bono legal support for three women in CC2 – two pregnant women held in pre-trial detention and one mother whose appeal is pending and who is detained with her child. Legal advocacy staff from UNOHCHR are also supporting the lawyers. This pilot project aims to reduce the number of pregnant women and children in CC2.

LICADHO prison researchers also intervene directly on behalf of prisoners, in cases where such intervention is appropriate and feasible. Interventions typically involve a formal letter to the appropriate authorities requesting action, as well as follow up through in-person meetings, additional letters, contact with other authorities, and phone calls.

LICADHO's interventions for prisoners typically fall into four categories:

- Calling on the prison department and courts to review cases of excessive pre-trial detention;
- Intervening in cases where a prisoner has experienced long delays in having an appeal heard, or was prevented by prison officials from attending a court hearing;
- Working with prison and court officials in cases where prisoners are held beyond the expiry of their sentence;
- Helping prisoners who have still not received their final verdict (lack of a final verdict is an obstacle to on-time release at the end of a sentence, and prevents prisoners from requesting amnesty or a sentence reduction).

From January-June 2013, LICADHO intervened on 652 occasions in cases concerning excessive pre-trial detention and prisoners awaiting their appeal hearings. The courts responded positively in 11 cases of excessive pre-trial detention by holding overdue trials. The courts also responded positively in 171 cases of prisoners awaiting appeal hearings by conducting appeal proceedings. LICADHO also secured the release of nine inmates who were detained over the legal limit of detention and obtained eight final verdicts for inmates who did not have their final verdict.

ADOPT-A-PRISON PROJECT

As of June 2013, LICADHO and partner NGOs were providing food, material, medical and educational support to 48 children living with their mothers in prison and to 21 pregnant women via the Adopt-a-Prison Project.

LICADHO is continuing its efforts to find civil society partners willing to help provide extra food for inmates, pregnant women and children living with their mothers. Recent efforts have focused on issues related to the new prison law, which prevents children over age three from coming to prison with their mothers. This has created an acute need for guidelines on the assessment, placement and monitoring of children who are separated from their mothers due to incarceration.

ACCESS TO MEDICAL SERVICES

LICADHO's medical team regularly visited 14 of Cambodia's prisons, approximately once per month. Medical staff screened and treated 5,195 patients (4,886 prisoners and 309 prison staff) over the course of 50 prison visits during the reporting period. The most common ailments identified and treated were, in order of prevalence: upper respiratory tract infections, Beriberi, gastrointestinal problems and arthralgia and malnutrition. A total of five prisoners were referred to outside hospitals for further treatment.

Providing for basic needs

On March 8, International Women's Day, LICADHO delivered food and supplies to female prisoners in 15 prisons and held special events, including speeches, games and traditional dancing. LICADHO and partners also distributed toys to children living with their mothers in eight prisons.

To mark International Children's Day, which falls on June 1, LICADHO distributed food and materials to children and pregnant women in 14 of Cambodia's prisons. The children of prison guards, who often live on or near prison grounds, also received gifts. LICADHO also

From January-June 2013, LICADHO intervened on 652 occasions in cases concerning excessive pre-trial detention and prisoners awaiting their appeal hearings.

organized special Children's Day events at CC2, and provincial prisons in Kandal, Siem Reap, Koh Kong and Kampong Som. The events included games, prizes and guest speakers who discussed children's issues.

The LICADHO gift packs for children contained fruits, drinks, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, laundry detergent and toys. A total of 919 packages were distributed – 446 to juvenile prisoners, 15 to pregnant prisoners, 58 to children living with a parent in prison, and 400 to the children of prison officials.

LICADHO also provides care packages for pregnant women in prison as they are approaching their due birth date. These packages include mosquito nets and blankets for the babies, a baby bath, sanitary products and towels.

LICADHO continued to provide additional food and material on a regular basis to imprisoned human rights defenders around the country, including land rights activist Yorm Bopha.

ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS & INFORMATION SHARING

LICADHO published one major report on prison issues during the reporting period, the third installment of its series of reports on the lack of prisoner appeal transportation, "In Absentia 2013: An Update on Inmate Transportation and the Right to Appeal." The report documents how after years of delay, prison authorities have now begun transporting prisoners to their appeal, but that many prisoners are not provided with transportation back to provincial prisons. This, ironically, has caused some prisoners to try to avoid attending their appeals hearings.

The director of the General Department of Prisons (GDP) did not publicly comment on the report's findings, but the director of Phnom Penh's Correctional Center 1 ("CC1") admitted to The Cambodia Daily newspaper that taking prisoners back to their provincial jails was a problem "because we don't have the money to pay for petrol." Similarly one unnamed GDP official told media that authorities don't have enough money to cover return transportation costs and that prisoners themselves are required to pay if they wish to return to provincial prisons.

LICADHO continued to see good results from its earlier advocacy work. Following three years of advocacy on Cambodia's prison overcrowding crisis, LICADHO has recently documented a significant downward trend in prison occupancy rates. Significantly, figures from the first half of 2013 suggest that the female prisoner population is now dropping at a faster rate than the overall prison population. This reverses the 2010-2011 alarming growth in female prisoners.

Since the May 2012 prakas banning the use of prison labour to produce goods for export, LICADHO has not documented any more signs of prison labour programs that produce garments for private consumption and/or export. According to available information, no prison labor operations are currently known to be producing garments for international distribution.



A prisoner prepares rice for a meal at Kampong Chhnang provincial prison.

103

Prisoners' cases referred to legal aid organizations

11

Cases of excessive pre-trial detention in which the courts responded positively to LICADHO's intervention by holding overdue trials

171

Cases of prisoners waiting for appeal hearings in which the courts responded positively to LICADHO's intervention by conducting appeal proceedings

Selected media appearances

[Prisoners 'Buy' Early Release](#) (February 6, 2013, Radio Free Asia) in which LICADHO's Kampong Chhnang prison researcher addresses allegations that some prisoners paid bribes to be included in the January royal pardon list.

[Rise in Cambodia's Women Prisoners 'Alarming'](#)

March 8, 2013, Radio Free Asia

[Government Admits Prisons Still Too Bloated](#)

April 29, 2013, The Phnom Penh Post

[Wanted: More Electric Batons](#)

April 29, 2013, The Phnom Penh Post

[Provincial Prisoners Charged Bribes for Transport, Report Finds](#)

May 30, 2013, Voice of America Khmer

HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING



A Boeung Kak Lake community member demonstrates outside the appeal court during a hearing for imprisoned activist Yorm Bopha on June 14, 2013.

Monitoring - at Every Step of the Way

Monitoring human rights abuses is a core aspect of LICADHO's work. The work of LICADHO's human rights monitors - who serve as our eyes and ears - informs every other aspect of the organization's work: Advocacy, humanitarian assistance to communities and negotiations with authorities.

LICADHO's primary monitoring team is the Human Rights Monitoring Project (HRMP). With a team of monitors in Phnom Penh and one in each of our 12 provincial offices, LICADHO is able to respond quickly to - and document - reports of abuse. LICADHO monitors also observe protests, elections and other public gatherings.

During the first half of 2013, monitors based in Phnom Penh and 12 provinces investigated a total of 206 new human rights cases (an increase of 14.4% compared to the same period in 2012), affecting 4,764 individual victims and 1,350 families.

Land grabbing remained the most common type of human rights violation, accounting for 21.4% of the total human rights cases and affecting 1,289 families.

LICADHO also maintains separate monitoring teams focused on women's and children's rights, the Children's Rights Monitoring Project (CRMP) and Women's Rights Monitoring Project (WRMP). These projects are dedicated to investigating and documenting human rights abuses against women and children, and to providing specialized assistance for young victims. The achievements of these programs detailed later in this report, in the section titled "Protecting Women and Children."

LICADHO'S HOLISTIC APPROACH

LICADHO's monitoring programs do not stop with simple documentation of abuses. One of the most important roles of LICADHO monitors is their ability to assist clients in achieving a just outcome, whether by requesting intervention from

Impact at a Glance

44

New cases related to land grabbing investigated by LICADHO monitors during the first six months of 2013

206

New human rights cases investigated by LICADHO monitors during the first six months of 2013

1,350

Families affected by these cases

461

Number of interventions to local authorities on behalf of clients during the first six months of 2013

local government authorities, negotiations with involved parties, or public advocacy. LICADHO's clients also benefit from the organization's holistic approach, which provides diverse forms of assistance at every step of the process, from initial monitoring and documentation to social assistance to legal assistance.

One example is the case of a 17-year-old factory worker from Kngaok village in Kandal province, who was raped by a 23-year-old man named Van Kuon. The incident occurred in October 2010, when the victim went to look after a cow in the rice field near a pond about 70 meters behind her house. While she was tending to her cow, Van Kuon approached her and raped her. The perpetrator threatened to kill her if she told anyone.

On October 25, 2010, LICADHO child rights monitors were informed of the incident and interviewed the victim. Afterwards, they sent the victim to the hospital to be examined, both for her own health, and to possibly aid in prosecution of the perpetrator.

On October 26, 2010, LICADHO staff brought the victim to the anti-trafficking and juvenile protection police, and convinced the prosecutor to pursue the case against Van Kuon. LICADHO's child rights monitors, meanwhile, also secured a lawyer from Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW) to represent the victim.

After nearly two-and-a-half years, Van Kuon had yet to be tried – a common situation that stems from a combination of Cambodia's court system being overloaded, slow-working and ravaged by corruption. LICADHO monitoring staff intervened on April 3, 2013, by contacting the Kandal provincial prosecutor. After the prosecutor failed to push the case to trial, LICADHO monitors contacted the district court chief directly on May 6.

Following this pressure from LICADHO, the trial was finally held on May 23, 2013. Van Kuon was found guilty of rape, and sentenced to seven years in prison. He was also ordered to pay 8 million riel (about US \$2,000) in compensation to the victim. The perpetrator did not appeal the decision and is currently detained at Takhmao prison, where he should remain for the rest of his sentence.

Van Kuon has not yet paid the court-ordered compensation to his victim, but LICADHO monitors are continuing follow-up on that issue.

LICADHO's assistance was critical in ensuring that the victim's complaint was filed and pursued by the authorities. The process of filing a complaint, dealing with the police, and following up with the courts and prosecutor can be a complex and intimidating process for someone with no experience in the justice system, particularly for a young rape victim.

During the investigation period, LICADHO also covered the victim's transportation costs – including to the court, to government offices and to the hospital – and offered food and material support to the victim and her family. Such assistance may seem trivial, but its importance cannot be understated. The prospect of lost time in the field or at the factory, plus the burden of paying for transportation costs, likely prevents many Cambodians from pursuing charges.



461

Total number of new cases investigated by LICADHO's human rights, women's rights and children's rights monitors combined.

149

Number of observations, including attendance at court hearings, community protests, strikes, international celebrations (Women's Rights Day, etc.)

471

Number of field investigations and follow-ups conducted (new and pending cases).

(All statistics for Jan. - June 2013)



Ven. Loun Sovath and IDEA president Vorn Pao march with thousands of through Phnom Penh to mark international labor day on May 1, 2013.

SPECIALIZED LEGAL ASSISTANCE



Imprisoned Boeung Kak Lake land activist Yorm Bopha is led to a prison van after a hearing at the Supreme Court in Phnom Penh on March 27, 2013. Bopha's case was one of the most high-profile cases LICADHO's legal team handled in the first half of 2013.

Fighting Impunity and Injustice

The first six months of 2013 were particularly intense for the Human Rights Legal Project. The team began work on 10 new cases, in addition to continuing work on 17 ongoing cases. Most cases involved land rights abuses. Other key issues included arbitrary criminal charges against human rights defenders in retaliation for their work, human trafficking, rape, and domestic violence.

The project also represented three women who were shot and seriously injured during a strike at garment factory. The women filed civil complaints in the criminal case against the shooter – the well-connected then-town governor.

TRIAL AGAINST CHHOUK BANDITH FOR SHOOTING AT STRIKING FACTORY WORKERS

In late February 2012, thousands of factory workers demanding better working conditions held large demonstrations at multiple factories located in the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) of Bavet town, Svay Rieng province. The protests raged for days as the employers refused to meet the workers' demands for an additional US\$10 per month.

On February 20, 2012, workers gathered outside of one factory, waiting for a company representative to speak with them. As time passed, the protest grew restless and some rocks were allegedly thrown at the building. Then-governor of Bavet, Chhouk Bandith, was called and upon arrival, told the workers that he came to solve labor issues. After approximately 10 minutes on the factory premises, he took out his gun and, according to multiple witnesses at trial, aimed at and shot workers who were walking in and out of the restrooms. Bandith then escaped from the scene with a few armed forces.

Three women were injured as a result of the shooting, one of them severely: Bun Chenda (seriously wounded), 22, Nut Sakhorn, 24, and Keo Nea, 19.

The Human Rights Legal Project represented the victims, in partnership with law-

Impact at a Glance

10

New cases taken on by LICADHO's legal team during the first half of 2013

17

Number of ongoing cases also handled by the legal project during the same period

602

Number of complainants represented by LICADHO and partner NGO Equitable Cambodia in a petition to the Thai Human Rights Commission which alleges serious human rights violations linked to sugar concessions held by Thai company Mitr Phol Sugar Corporation.



Demonstrators call for the release of Boeung Kak activist Yorm Bopha, outside the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human rights, on May 20, 2013.

yers from the Community Legal Education Center (CLEC), in their efforts to get justice for their assailant and compensation for their injuries.

The Svay Rieng court first tried to dismiss all charges against Bandith, despite multiple incriminating eyewitness accounts. LICADHO and CLEC lawyers appealed that decision to a panel of the Appeal Court, which reinstated a charge of unintentional bodily harm, and ordered the case to go to trial. On May 21, 2013, the trial was delayed due to Bandith's failure to appear. Despite his absence again on June 12, the trial finally took place.

Over the course of three days, dozens of witnesses testified. Numerous police officers who were present at the scene offered powerful evidence against Bandith. Only one witness, a low ranking police officer whose testimony was riddled with inconsistencies and implausible conclusions, offered anything to contradict the growing body of evidence that Bandith had intentionally pointed his weapon at the women and fired.

On June 25, the court announced its verdict. Bandith was convicted, but sentenced to only 1.5 years in prison. He was also ordered to pay compensation to the victims. Bandith, however, was not present in court and has yet to be arrested. The Human Rights Legal Project will continue to push for his arrest and for proper charges to be handed down, reflective of the evidence presented.

YORM BOPHA CASE

Another prominent and high-profile case that LICADHO and its lawyers worked on in the first half of 2013 was that of Yorm Bopha, a land rights advocate from the Boeung Kak community in Phnom Penh. Bopha was arrested in September 2012 and convicted of "intentional violence with aggravating circumstances" in December. She was sentenced to three years imprisonment.

Given that no credible evidence was presented of her guilt during the trial, it is widely believed that the charges came in retaliation for her land rights activism. Her appeal hearing, which started June 5 and continued on June 14, 2013, reinforced the wholesale lack of evidence supporting the conviction. Nevertheless, despite patently contradictory witness testimony given by the civil party victims themselves - in violation of Cambodia's Code of Criminal Procedure - the Court of Appeal up-

A bitter fight over sugar

In some cases, justice cannot always be secured in a domestic courtroom – particularly in Cambodia. The ongoing battle over economic land concessions (ELCs) used to grow sugarcane is a perfect example of this.

Many Cambodian sugar plantations were built on land violently wrested from poor farmers, and in most cases, farmers were not compensated for their losses. To the contrary, many of these people have ended up working on the land they once owned, going from landholders to seasonal wage laborers at the end of a gun.

LICADHO's legal team has been involved in efforts to seek justice for some of the affected families since 2010, but the legal remedies available in Cambodia are limited, with corrupt courts controlled by the same interests who are profiting from unjust land concessions. LICADHO and its partners have thus taken the fight to an international level, targeting sugar buyers and donor governments whose actions may be contributing to sugar-related abuses. LICADHO has also taken the fight more public, outside the courtroom.

Most notably, the LICADHO and partner NGO Equitable Cambodia have filed a petition on behalf of 602 complainants about serious human rights violations linked to large sugar concessions held by Thai sugar giant, Mitr Phol Sugar Corporation. Systematic, serious abuses have taken place in the issuance and cultivation of the Thai company's three enormous economic land concessions (ELCs) for industrial sugarcane production. The concessions are located in Oddar Meanchey Province, in northwest Cambodia.

The 602 complainants in this case and other affected individuals are seeking appropriate remedies. The petition demands that Mitr Phol give the villagers fair compensation. Failing that, the company should return the forcibly seized lands. The petition follows a similar petition brought by communities affected by sugar concessions in Cambodia's Koh Kong province. The Thai Human Rights Commission has since issued detailed preliminary findings confirming the Koh Kong petitioners' allegations of widespread abuses.

LICADHO has also conducted lobbying trips

Con't next page

held the conviction. The Court merely suspended one year of her sentence, meaning she is scheduled for release in September 2014. LICADHO lawyers representing Yorm Bopha filed an appeal with the Supreme Court on June 17, 2013, in a bid to overturn or reduce her sentence.

In other notable cases, LICADHO lawyers succeeded in having spurious criminal charges dropped in April 2013. The charges had been filed against a landholder attempting to protect his property rights in Kampot province. LICADHO lawyers were also able to secure the release of three men imprisoned in Pailin province on arbitrary charges also related to their efforts to protect their homes.

Finally, LICADHO lawyers secured the closure of a case with charges dropped against a high profile advocate from Phnom Penh's beleaguered Dey Krahom community. The accused had actively protested against the 7NG company throughout the community's long efforts to stop the company from carrying out forced evictions and other abuses. After a short trial where clear evidence was presented that the accused was not even in Phnom Penh during the protest during which the alleged crimes took place, the court dropped the charges.

Bandith was convicted on June 25, but sentenced to only 1.5 years in prison for shooting three people. However, he was not present in court and has yet to be arrested.

and meetings concerning sugar concessions. These efforts have focused on the European Union, which under its Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) rules gives duty-free tariff treatment to Cambodian sugar. EU companies buy the vast majority of Cambodian sugar produced for export, and the GSP rules appear to have fueled most of the growth in the Cambodian sugar industry.

In February 2013, representatives from LICADHO went to Brussels and Bonn to meet with Members of the European Parliament, officials from the European Commission, and officials from the German government. In March 2013, LICADHO went on a field visit to a sugar concession in Kampong Speu with a delegation of the Directorate General for Trade of the European Commission. The goal of these meetings was to lobby for an investigation into human rights abuses linked to economic land concessions, particularly for sugar.

LICADHO's director also published an op-ed in the Cambodia Daily blasting the European Commission for its continued failure to acknowledge and investigate serious and systematic abuses linked to ELCs.



Demonstrators stage a protest outside the Court of Appeal in Phnom Penh on February 27, 2013, calling for the court to reinstate charges against Chhouk Bandith.

PROTECTING WOMEN & CHILDREN



Two Child Protection Group members act as moderators in a public forum organized to mark International Children's Day in Phnom Penh on June 1, 2013.

Better Information, Better Choices

Poverty remains a major obstacle to child development in Cambodia, particularly in the provinces, where poor families may have to choose between sending their children to school or putting food on the table. Many children are sent to work at a young age. At best, they might find their way in a trade and miss out on the chance of an education and a better life. At worst, they might find themselves trafficked to a foreign country and sold into virtual slavery.

LICADHO's Children's Rights Advocacy Project focuses on educating children, parents and authorities about the dangers of sending children to work at a young age, so that they may make informed decisions.

The centerpiece of this effort is LICADHO's network of Child Protection Groups (CPGs). For children and youths, CPGs are a way for children to come together, exercise their freedom of expression and to learn about their rights. For parent- and authority-focused CPGs, the groups are a way to develop a capacity to protect children. The groups also help build the foundation for a more just and democratic society in the future: The more that children know their rights, the more they will assert them and expect rule of law as adults.

As of the end of June 2013, there were 68 LICADHO-founded CPGs operating in the provinces of Sihanoukville, Siem Reap, Koh Kong, plus Phnom Penh/Kandal. Extensive statistics related to CPGs can be found in the appendix of this report.

Following training periods, child and youth CPGs design and produce their own interactive shows which they perform in their provinces. In the first half of 2013, these shows formed part of an event in Kandal province on June 12 to celebrate World Day Against Child Labor (a second event in Battambang province was planned, but authorities refused to allow it go forward).

A total of 375 participants gathered in Muk Kompol district for the event; they wore T-shirts and caps with key anti-child-labor messages and walked along the road from Prek Anchanh market across an area with brick factory areas until final-

Impact at a Glance

147

Number of new cases investigated by women's rights monitors in the first half of 2013

108

Number of new cases investigated by children's rights monitors in the first half of 2013

40

Number of tuk tuks in Battambang that carried LICADHO anti-child-labor advertisements during the first half of 2013

ly stopping at Chheu Teal Pagoda. After speeches by the deputy district governor and a LICADHO representative, the child CPGs performed theatre shows depicting the “true story” of child labor. These shows were authored by the children in the CPGs themselves.

OTHER CHILD RIGHTS ADVOCACY EVENTS

LICADHO’s Children’s Rights Office also organized the following campaigns during the first half of 2013:

- International Children’s Day events: CPGs and LICADHO staff integrated campaign activities on child rights and child labor to stage events in Koh Kong, Phnom Penh, Preah Sihanouk, and Siem Reap. These events included theater performances, speeches from local authorities, question and answer sessions, and more.

- Tuk tuk anti-child-labor campaign: Beginning in February, LICADHO placed anti-child labor advertisements on 40 tuk tuks in Battambang province. LICADHO is currently conducting an assessment, including case studies, of preliminary results which will assess the impact the Tuk Tuk campaign in Battambang has had on the target audience.

- TV Campaign: This campaign centered around comedians performing televised sketches related to child labor. Comedy group Aka Neay Khcib performed the sketches on June 9, 2013, on Raksmeay Hang Meas TV. The first piece was about a child domestic worker who was abused by her employers. The second story featured a group of men drinking and discussing using child labor, before they were advised against it by a woman who had served time in prison for violating children’s rights. The project was unable to acquire the viewing figures of Raksmeay Hang Meas TV, but the live studio audience at the TV station included about 400 people.

CHILD RIGHTS MONITORING

LICADHO also maintains a Children’s Rights Monitoring Project (CRMP), which is dedicated to investigating and documenting human rights abuses against children, and to providing specialized assistance for young victims.

From January to June 2013, CRMP monitored and intervened in 108 new cases affecting 243 children under the age of 18 (104 girls and 10 boys). Rape and attempted rape remained the most common form of child rights violations investigated by LICADHO, accounting for 76.9% of total cases received and investigated.

WOMEN’S RIGHTS

On paper, men and women enjoy equal rights in Cambodia, but the situation can be much different in reality. In particular, crimes such as sexual abuse and domestic violence often go uninvestigated and unpunished, thanks to official corruption, a culture of impunity and a culture of silence surrounding crimes that occur within the home. The role of LICADHO’s Women’s Rights Monitoring Project (WRMP) is to help bridge the gap between the law and reality by advocating for women’s rights and documenting crimes against women.

In the first half of 2013, LICADHO’s WRMP investigated 147 new cases of women’s rights violations, involving 152 victims and 166 perpetrators.

WRMP documented the deaths of four women due to domestic violence, four women who died after being raped and two who died after acid attacks. Domestic violence accounted for about 66% of all cases investigated. More and more women are seeking justice for violence directed towards them.



Children in brick factories

On June 28, 2013, an 8-year-old boy was severely injured while working with an unsafe brick-making machine in Beng Kandal village, Kampong Cham province. The boy was sent for treatment at Kantha Bopha hospital in Phnom Penh. His life was saved, but his right hand was lost.

Following the accident, five LICADHO staff visited the site to investigate. The team inspected the inside of two brick factories and interviewed families working in other brick factories, as well as local authorities. The results of the investigation were disturbing.

A total of 11 brick factories are operating in Beng Kandal village, and each factory uses between five and 15 unsafe brick-making machines. The LICADHO team met at least seven workers who had been previously injured by the unsafe machines, including six people who lost hands or arms and one who lost an eye. Three of the injured were minors.

The brick-making machines are set up outdoors, and often assigned to individual families. Even small children work, helping their parents. Few of these machines are covered with thatch or plastic. This makes them dangerous to work with when it is raining. Workers are typically paid 20,000 riel (US \$5) per 2,000 bricks, or roughly 10 riel per brick (US \$0.0025). Each machine can make between 2,000 and 6,000 bricks per day.

Most of the 15 families interviewed by LICADHO said that their children stopped going to school by the second grade.



Two girls who lost their arms after brick factory accidents.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE



A LICADHO doctor provides an in-home medical consultation to victims of land grabbing.

Helping Those Left Behind

Cambodia is often touted as an economic success story, with its rapidly-developing economy and consistent growth. But the fruits of this growth have not been shared equally. Most of the country still struggles with severe poverty. Meanwhile, free public services to help the poor are virtually non-existent, and conflict over land rights has led to the forced resettlement – and the loss of livelihoods – of tens of thousands of Cambodians. The poor and powerless – especially those whose human rights have been violated – often have nowhere to turn for help. This is where LICADHO’s assistance programs step in.

LICADHO’S SOCIAL WORK PROJECT

The core of LICADHO’s assistance program is the Social Work Project (SWP), which focuses on short-term material, food and medical aid for Cambodians in need, primarily women, children and individuals who have been victims of human rights abuses. For every client of the SWP, the SWP team conducts needs assessments, visiting them in their homes or elsewhere to determine the level of support that LICADHO can offer.

In the first half of 2013, the SWP cooperated with partner NGOs to provide food, material, and medical assistance to 1,831 people. The majority of these cases were referred to SWP by other LICADHO departments. In all, the SWP opened 139 new cases of assistance between January and June 2013.

The SWP also provided food support to 12 inmates who were imprisoned for defending their rights, usually in land disputes. These individuals are imprisoned at six different prisons. Support was also provided to each of the prisoners’ families (a total of 54 people combined).

Since 2000, the SWP has also been referring vulnerable and at-risk children who often have been victims of rape, trafficking for sexual exploitation, child labor or abusive families/relatives to childcare centers (including Hagar, Our Home, Neavea Thmey and Krou Sar Thmey). The care centers provide long-term shelter,

Activity Report: January to June 2013

Impact at a Glance

1,831

Vulnerable individuals provided with food and material assistance by LICADHO’s Social Work Project during the first half of 2013

12

Number of individuals imprisoned for defending their rights that received assistance from LICADHO’s Social Work Project during the first half of the year

8

Communities affected by land grabbing that received assistance from LICADHO’s Social Work Project during the first half of the year



access to education and, in some cases, vocational training.

SAMPLE CLIENTS OF THE SWP

- Members of eight communities who have been affected by land grabbing, including Boeung Kak lake community, Borei Keila, Thmar Kour, Banteay Srei in Seim Reap province, Vel Veng in Pursat province, Thnong village in Koh Kong province and Thmar Sat in Preah Vihear province.

- AJ and CJ, two young orphans from Kampot province whose mother was killed by their father in May 2013. LICADHO provided food, material and social services assistance to the young boys.

- Born Samnang and Sok Sam Oeun, the wrongfully convicted scapegoats in the murder of labor leader Chea Vichea. Born Samnang and Sok Sam Oeun are

currently serving 20-year prison sentences at CC1. LICADHO has provided food to the two, and has provided financial assistance to the pair's family, so that they can visit CC1 twice a month.

MEDICAL PROJECT

Cambodia's healthcare system is primitive even for those with the means to pay for services. But a lack of trained doctors and properly equipped clinics means that many Cambodians receive no care at all. LICADHO's Medical Project attempts to bridge this gap in services.

The Medical Project focuses on providing medical care to prisoners and prison officials; conducting medical examinations of human rights victims, subject to consent, to furnish evidence for individual redress and countering such abuses; establishing possible causes of prison deaths and documenting prison torture; to identify and highlight causes of major health problems in prisons; to initiate preventative health education and hygiene programs in prisons; and to provide medical services to the most vulnerable people living in eviction or resettlement sites in Phnom Penh and most urgent provincial sites.

During the first half of 2013, the Medical Project provided regular medical care to prisoners in 14 prisons, and occasional care in two other prisons (CC1 and CC2). Over the course of 64 visits, plus 12 special visits to CC1/CC2, staff provided medical care to 5,286 patients, both prisoners and prison guards.

The Medical Office also provided extra food for pregnant women, babies, children, elderly and severely ill individuals. Meanwhile, in order to improve the quality and quantity of food given to prisoners, the medical team provided vegetable seeds and tools for gardening in 19 prisons.

In the first semester of 2013, the Medical Project also provided treatment to 95 victims of human rights violations (68 female) and 4,980 victims of land dispute cases (2,991 females). The medical team also implemented preventive work for improving the health among displaced communities. For example, during the reporting period, LICADHO doctors provided vaccinations against tetanus, tuberculosis diphtheria, polio, whooping cough and measles to 305 children and 26 women.

An urgent need for care

In May 2013, LICADHO staff were informed that a man named Chan (not his real name), from the Borei Keila community, was suffering from a severe liver problem. LICADHO immediately sent a medical team to the site.

LICADHO doctors found the 45-year-old man emaciated and suffering from abdominal pain, anorexia, fatigue and fluid buildup in his leg. He had recently gone to the municipal hospital, but discharged himself after two days due to the incompetence of the staff.

LICADHO returned the man to the hospital, this time accompanying him. LICADHO's medical project director met with the hospital director and explained Chan's medical history and current state. The hospital director agreed to personally intervene to ensure proper treatment for Chan.

By the next day, Chan's condition had improved. Ten days later, after receiving appropriate treatment and medical care at the hospital, the patient had improved to the point where he was discharged from the hospital. LICADHO continued to follow up on his case with home visits until he completely recovered.

Impact at a Glance

5,286

Medical consultations conducted by LICADHO doctors for prisoners and prison staff

5,075

Victims of land grabbing and human rights abuses who received medical treatment from LICADHO doctors

331

Women and children vaccinated by LICADHO from January to June 2013



PROMOTING GRASSROOTS EMPOWERMENT



Farmers protest outside the National Assembly in Phnom Penh on June 7, 2013, to raise concerns about the draft Law on the Management and Use of Agricultural Land.

Helping Communities Help Themselves

In the face of a surge in land grabbing and other human rights abuses, Cambodians have grown increasingly organized and vocal in demanding their rights.

Unfortunately, recourse is not always available via official channels. The perpetrators of land grabs and human rights violations are often well-connected and operate with impunity. Recourse to the notoriously corrupt and political-ly obedient judiciary is rarely an option. For most Cambodians, the only avenues that offer the prospect of success may be organizing a community group, publicly protesting and taking individual action – but this of course carries significant risks. Community leaders may be arrested, intimidated, assaulted and even killed.

This is where LICADHO has stepped in, with a program designed to provide legal assistance, monitoring, protection and capacity building services to unions, grassroots groups and affected communities. Below are some examples of the assistance that LICADHO provided during the first half of 2013.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY MARCH

On May 1, 2013, between 6,000 and 7,000 garment workers, union leaders, local communities, motodops, students, NGOs and others gathered in Phnom Penh to mark International Labor Day. The group was also joined by at least two monks, NGO leaders, local communities fighting for their land rights. LICADHO monitors and medical staff were present. They marched from Freedom Park, where they had gathered in the morning, to the National Assembly in Phnom Penh. As the group gathered in front of the National Assembly, they listened to speeches and presented petitions to the government. Throughout their march, the participants called for better living wages, improved working conditions and for justice in the Born Samnang/Sok

LICADHO's grassroots empowerment program provides legal assistance, monitoring, protection and capacity building services to unions, grassroots groups and affected communities to help them assert their rights

Sam Oeun and Chhouk Bandith cases.

Born Samnang and Sok Sam Oeun were wrongfully convicted of the 2004 murder of union leader Chea Vichea. They were released in 2008, then re-imprisoned after an appeal hearing in late 2012. LICADHO printed and distributed banners to the marchers (three in Khmer and two in English) calling for the release of Sok Sam Oeun and Born Samnang.

Chhouk Bandith, former Bavet city governor, at that time had yet to be tried for the shooting of three garment workers outside a factory in Svay Rieng province in February 2012.

CAMBODIAN GRASSROOTS PEOPLES' ASSEMBLY

The CGPA (Cambodian Grassroots People's Assembly) is a cross-sectoral group composed of farmers, fisher-folk, forestry activists, land activists, indigenous people, feminists, labor activists, sex workers, youth activists, anti-eviction activists, anti-capitalism activists, LGBT activists, activists impacted by hydro-power dam projects, artists and singers.

Three CGPA gatherings were organized in June 2013 – in Kampong Chhnang on June 14, Kampong Som on June 19, and Siem Reap on June 24 – just before the start of the election campaign, so that politicians from the three major political parties could listen to their constituent's main concerns, thus promoting a dialogue between the candidates and voters. The organizers saw the CGPA gatherings as an occasion for people to enjoy their democratic rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution of Cambodia. The gatherings were free of any political affiliation.

LICADHO staff members were present at all three meetings. LICADHO monitored the events, supported the participants and provided them with assistance when needed.

Authorities in Kampong Som and Kampong Chhnang initially made the gatherings difficult, but ultimately, both events went forward. A total of 637 people attended the event in Kampong Chhnang. About 1,000 people attended the events in both Kampong Som and Siem Reap.

The Kampong Chhnang gathering featured five representatives from the Cambodian National Rescue Party. About 60 officers from police and military police were deployed by the authorities.

The Kampong Som event featured Prince Tomiko, parliamentary candidate for the CNRP, Kong Sarim, Parliamentary candidate for FUNCINPEC and Somrith Pom, vice-president of CPP office in K. Som province.

The event in Siem Reap featured the most obstruction from authorities. Over 200 police, military police and soldiers were deployed, and the event was disrupted by the authorities asking for a "permission letter" allowing the event to be held. Authorities also claimed the gathering was too noisy, and intimidated organizers by calling them for questioning by the police. Police also attempted to break up the event by promising money, clothes and even the resolution of land disputes if participants left.

CPN CAMPAIGN

On June 11-12, 2013, the Cambodia People's Network organized a campaign in Phnom Penh to demand justice for human rights defenders and activists who have been intimidated/accused by Cambodian courts over the past 10 years. On June 12, about 800 people held a demonstration in Freedom Park, then marched to the Ministry of Justice and the National Assembly. The participants submitted a petition to the Ministry of Justice, the Cabinet and the Supreme Council of Magistracy.

LICADHO sent medical staff and five monitors to the event.

Farmers' March

On June 7th 2013, around 600 Cambodian farmers gathered in front of the Ministry of Agriculture in Phnom Penh to protest against the Draft law on the Management and Use of Agricultural Land.

In late 2011, the Cambodian government quietly released a draft law which, if promulgated, would have serious implications for farmers. Under the current draft, the draft law could be used as legal cover for land-grabbing, as it would allow the government to demarcate land for so-called "agricultural development areas," and for those who wish to exploit and personally profit from Cambodia's land and resources. Most alarmingly, the law creates felony criminal liability for any actions that violate the law's far reaching provisions.

The farmers submitted a petition to the Ministry asking for the revision of some of the Law's provisions. Notably, the farmers asked the Ministry to abolish the draft Law's criminal penalties and insert a disposition stating that farmers could not be forced to participate in the creation of an "agricultural development area".

LICADHO sent observers, and its staff were ready to assist the demonstrators, in case they needed assistance.

Assistance to the Boeung Kak community

Throughout the first half of 2013, LICADHO supported Boeung Kak Lake community members in their efforts to seek justice for imprisoned activist Yorm Bopha. LICADHO regularly sent monitors and medical staff to BKL demonstrations in Phnom Penh, and printed 300 copies of the Amnesty International poster featuring Bopha as a "prisoner of conscience."



ADVOCATING FOR A BETTER CAMBODIA



Demonstrators carry letters spelling out "Stop Deforestation" in front of the National Assembly, during a march to mark World Environment Day on June 5, 2013.

One Message, Many Voices

Vigorous advocacy is a core component of LICADHO's approach to ensuring that human rights are respected in Cambodia. Advocacy comes in many forms - public reports, legal assistance, outreach efforts, training, and behind-the-scenes negotiation and action.

The foundation of effective advocacy is ensuring that LICADHO has access to the best available information on the human rights situation in Cambodia. LICADHO's Human Rights Monitoring Project (HRMP) serves as LICADHO's eyes and ears, the team that investigates human rights abuses, collects evidence, documents victims' stories, and intervenes with authorities on behalf of victims.

LICADHO's Advocacy and Documentation Resource Office (ADRO) then provides the technical foundation for LICADHO's extensive advocacy work. It works in cooperation with LICADHO's other offices to maintain LICADHO's database and website, produce video and audio pieces and written publications, and organize joint advocacy events. Below is a summary of activities undertaken during the first half of 2013.

ADVOCACY EVENTS

- LICADHO organized a celebration of International Women's Day on March 8 in 15 prisons; this included distribution of food, drinks, and organization of entertainment for detainees. (See also the Prison Monitoring and Advocacy section of this report)

- On May 1, between 6,000 and 7,000 garment workers, union leaders, local communities, motodops, students, NGOs and others gathered in Phnom Penh to mark International Labor Day. The group marched from Freedom Park to the National Assembly in Phnom Penh, calling for living wages, improved working conditions and for justice in the Born Samnang/Sok Sam Oeun and Chhouk Bandith cases.

Impact at a Glance

39,218

Unique visitors to LICADHO's Website during the first six months of 2013

8,084

Number of viewers by LICADHO's most popular Facebook post during the first half of 2013, a [photo album](#) documenting a land rights gathering in Phnom Penh.

9,544

Cases of human rights violations currently documented in LICADHO's database

- LICADHO organized a celebration of International Children’s Day on May 31 in 14 prisons. Children’s Day officially falls on June 1, but the events were moved to May 31 because June 1 fell on a Saturday. (See also the Prison Monitoring and Advocacy section of this report)

OTHER NOTABLE ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

LICADHO (jointly with the Cambodian NGO Equitable Cambodia) filed a petition on behalf of 602 complainants about serious human rights violations linked to large sugar concessions held by Thai sugar giant, Mitr Phol Sugar Corporation.

The Thai Human Rights Commission has since issued detailed preliminary findings confirming the Koh Kong petitioners’ allegations of widespread abuses.

Apart from the petition, LICADHO conducted lobbying trips and meetings concerning sugar concessions. In February 2013, representatives from LICADHO went to Brussels and Bonn to meet with Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), officials from the European Commission, and officials from the German government. And in March 2013 LICADHO met and went on a field visit to a sugar concession in Kampong Speu with a delegation of the Directorate General for Trade of the European Commission. The goal of these meetings was to lobby for an investigation into human rights abuses linked to economic land concessions, particularly for sugar, under the EU’s Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) regulation.

A LICADHO consultant also travelled to Washington, D.C., in April to attend the 2013 World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty, to lobby members of the US government on Cambodian human rights issues, and to meet with partner NGOs. The meetings with US officials included appointments with President Obama’s senior advisor on Southeast Asian affairs and key staff within the State Department.

SMARTPHONE PROJECT

During the first half of 2013, LICADHO distributed 70 smartphones with specialized applications for monitoring and capturing civil and human rights abuses to dozens of key staff. The goal of this distribution is to allow LICADHO staff to report human rights violations more quickly, more securely (through the use of data encryption) and with more supporting video and photographic evidence.

Information gathered with the smartphones will improve the quality and quantity of audio-visual advocacy materials on LICADHO’s website and Facebook page.

DATABASE

From January to June, the ADRO team inserted 559 new cases into LICADHO’s central database, bringing the total number of case files to 9,544.

The database of perpetrators is continually being updated. The database compiles statistics, allows for the identification of trends, and aids in the overall analysis of cases involving human rights violation. Monitors who want to identify repeat offenders can now use the more comprehensive database listing. Case information from past offences can then be used as evidence against perpetrators



Photographer Thomas Cristofolletti leads a photography training session at LICADHO on May 23, 2013.

Major publications (Jan. to June 2013)



- **Briefing Paper:** In Absentia 2013: An Update on Cambodia’s Inmate Transportation Crisis & The Right to Appeal (May 2013)

- **Report:** Human Rights 2012, The Year in Review (January 2013)

For full list of publications see Appendix 1.

Training better advocates

During the first half of 2013, LICADHO staff participated in a number of training sessions to designed to improve their advocacy skills. These included:

- **Photography training:** Six key staff participated in a multi-session training, led by two locally-based professional photographers, focusing on improving the quality of LICADHO photographs.

- **Page design training:** Three ADRO staff were trained on the use of Adobe InDesign, which is now used to design and layout LICADHO’s printed materials.

- **Smartphone training:** Approximately 70 staff were trained on the use of new smartphones, including how to use data encryption programs to send secure text messages and data.

- **Report writing training:** Approximately 70 staff were trained on techniques to improve the quality of their investigative reports, so as to make them more valuable for the legal and advocacy teams.

- **Video advocacy training:** Training of key LICADHO and LICADHO Canada staff, in cooperation with partner NGO WITNESS.

who are taken to court.

Throughout the reporting period numerous upgrades to the central database were made to ensure the database maintained its efficiency and effectiveness as both a storage device and analytical tool.

LICADHO WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

LICADHO's website received 39,218 unique visitors during the reporting period, and continued to be the primary online portal for accessing LICADHO materials.

The most notable development during the first half of 2013, however, was LICADHO's continued expansion on social media – namely Facebook and Twitter. Just two years ago, LICADHO presence on social media was virtually nil. Today, Facebook and Twitter are a core component of the organization's advocacy strategy, particularly in the distribution of photos and breaking news developments.

Both platforms are particularly useful in reaching Cambodian youth. This is a marked change from only a few years ago, when Internet penetration was low in Cambodia, and the Internet was primarily a tool for reaching a foreign audience. Recognizing this change, LICADHO in early 2013 began posting in both English and Khmer on Facebook and Twitter. This has sparked a surge in the number of people "liking" LICADHO's page.

The number of "likes" for LICADHO's almost doubled in the reporting period and was nearing 2,000 at the end of June 2013. The total weekly "reach" for LICADHO's Facebook page – the number of unique people who have viewed content on the page – regularly approached 20,000 during the reporting period.

One post alone in mid-June – a photo album documenting a gathering of HRDs and community land activists – reached over 8,000 viewers. The same post also generated over 700 likes, shares and comments.

These numbers are only likely to grow in the second half of the year.

Twitter has seen similar growth, with LICADHO's feed surpassing 1,000 followers during the first half of 2013. LICADHO's Twitter feed has been used primarily to provide brief, timely news flashes and to update followers when LICADHO material is released elsewhere.

Publications: An Overview

During the first half of 2013, ADRO produced and published:

- 3 advocacy videos
- 11 media statements
- 12 news / flash news
- 1 briefing paper
- 4 photo albums
- 2 reports
- 2 open letters

In May, with the publication of the report "In Absentia 2013," LICADHO continued its gradual rollout of a new design for its printed materials. The report marked the first major redesign of LICADHO's issue reports in roughly nine years, and gives the organization's printed material a more modern and professional look.



A Boeung Kak Lake community member sits in front of a sign calling for the release of imprisoned activist Yorm Bopha. LICADHO helped design and print the signs, which uses the Amnesty International logo and colors to draw attention to the fact that Amnesty designated Bopha a prisoner of conscience.

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LICADHO ADMINISTRATION

LICADHO STAFF

At the end of June 2013 LICADHO employed 137 staff, including eight part-time staff (five women and three men), six disabled persons and 10 foreign consultants. LICADHO also employed one intern and recruited 10 new staff over the first six months of the year.

During the same period, four staff (one woman and three men) resigned due to securing education scholarships or new employment. Meanwhile, seven staff members were promoted or transferred to another project/unit.

COMMUNICATION, MEETING AND EVENTS

During January to June 2013, LICADHO offices received a total of 1,113 clients and visitors nationwide; 367 of these were at the Phnom Penh office. The organization sent out a total of 596 letters to various institutions, including letters of intervention and invitations to events; 69 of them were sent from the Phnom Penh office. LICADHO received a total of 807 letters from partner NGOs, the government and other institutions; 213 of these were received by the Phnom Penh office.

INTERNAL MEETINGS

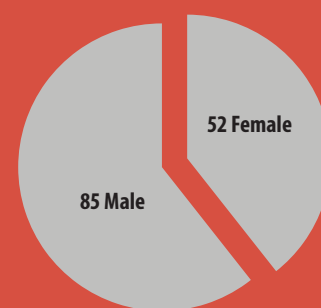
- Provincial coordinators convened in Phnom Penh at the end the month for 1-2 days four times to submit reports, obtain funds and discuss key issues.
- All provincial and Phnom Penh staff participated in a three-day meeting/training from June 23-25 on updated policies, bylaw modification, insurance issues, national election procedures, to elect the staff representative for the board, and to set up a three-month election monitoring activity plan.
- The Management Committee met on June 10 to discuss/resolve internal issues.
- The Board of Directors conducted two meetings, on January 26 and March 16, to discuss and resolve internal issues and bylaws.

EVENT ORGANIZING & MATERIAL DISTRIBUTION

From January to June 2013, the Administration and Human Resource Office collaborated with other projects to organize events, including distribution of materials for:

- International Children Rights Day
- International Women's Day
- Labor Day
- World day Against Child Labor
- AGPA (ASEAN Grassroots People's Assembly) events
- Boeung Kak Lake marches, trials and calls to release Yorm Bopha
- Fundraising for the medical treatment of Vorn Pao, a key unionist and human rights activist in Cambodia.

Licadho Staff Profile



38%

Number of local staff who are female

58

Meetings conducted with government authorities by staff in LICADHO's 12 provincial offices alone

Impacts

- Capacity building, including staff appraisals with feedback, has increased staff effectiveness.
- Revising internal policies has encouraged professionalism and good practice within the organization.
- New smartphones and systems in place have increased LICADHO's efficiency regarding services to clients.

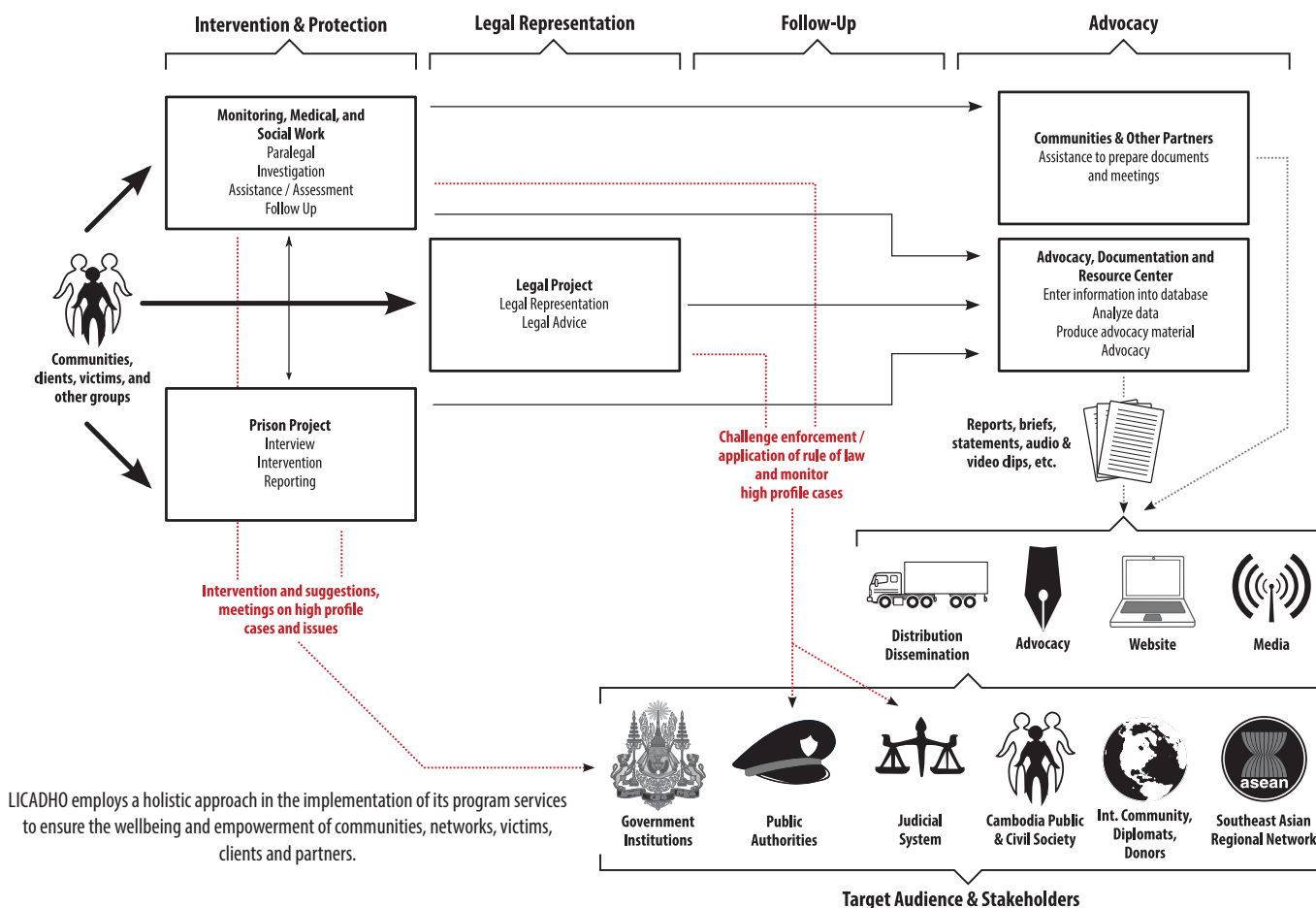
Insurance & Equipment

- Six cars, thirty-seven motorbikes and 116 staff are currently insured by the insurance company.
- Seventy Samsung Galaxy SIII mini smartphones were provided to provincial and Phnom Penh staff (HR Monitor, WR monitor, CR Monitor, Admin and community representatives).
- Other partners and private donors donated money, clothes, office equipment, shoes and toys for clients directly to LICADHO's Phnom Penh office.

Provincial Administration - Meetings and Communication (Jan. to June 2013)

Province	Staff	Letter		Communication		Meeting			
		Out	In	Out	In	Staff	NGO	Authority	Other
Kg. Thom	4	61	72	48	44	7	10	10	12
Kg. Cham	4	62	18	101	67	11	5	6	0
Kg. Speu	3	32	22	11	27	6	0	2	0
Kg. Chhnang	4	38	49	110	52	18	7	0	34
Kampot	4	42	14	76	151	7	15	2	13
Koh Kong	4	37	18	39	21	6	7	3	26
Kg. Som	4	26	26	26	126	11	8	5	0
Battambang	4	52	142	14	4	5	5	7	37
B. Meanchey	4	50	32	51	98	7	10	12	0
Pursat	3	21	16	19	18	16	6	4	7
Siem Reap	5	64	87	54	92	5	2	6	7
Svay Rieng	3	42	8	23	46	7	6	1	0
Total	46	527	504	572	746	106	81	58	136

LICADHO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FLOWCHARTS



Monitoring & Protection Program

The Monitoring and Protection Program comprises seven project offices:

Human Rights Monitoring Project: Monitors and investigates human rights violations perpetrated by state actors and institutions; provides victims with assistance through paralegal advice and interventions with local authorities and court officials.

Children's Rights Monitoring Project: Monitors and investigates human rights violations made against children (persons under the age of 18 years); provides victims with material, shelter, food and paralegal assistance.

Women's Rights Monitoring Project: Monitors and investigates violations made against women (rape, domestic violence and human trafficking for sexual exploitation); provides victims with material, shelter, paralegal and food assistance.

Prison Project: Interviews prisoners and pre-trial detainees and monitors 18 of Cambodia's 27 prisons around the country for human rights abuses.

Human Rights Legal Project: Provides legal assistance and representation to a select number of human rights violation cases (land rights, human rights defenders and gender-based violence).

Social Work Project: Provides social services to victims of human rights violations, including medical assistance, food, counseling, safety, shelter, referrals and assistance in vocational training.

Medical Project: Provides medical assistance to prisoners and prison officials in 12 prisons and provides medical care and referrals to hospitals for victims of human rights violations.

Promotion & Advocacy Program

The promotion and advocacy program is comprised of three program offices:

Children's Rights Advocacy: Raises awareness on violations made against children (persons under the age of 18) through community education activities, community and national events, supporting protection networks at the grassroots level, and advocating for social and legal change regarding child rights.

Documentation & Resources Office: Compiles rights cases into a central

electronic database, so that accurate information can be easily accessed and analyzed, and produced into periodic public reports (written, audio and visual).

Supporting Unions and Grassroots Groups and Networks

Assistance to unions, grassroots groups and affected communities to provide protection and legal services, and to enhance their capacity to campaign and advocate for human rights.

