



ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN CAMBODIA (EVAW PROGRAM)

Second Progress Report
September 2016





Family visit by Case Managers, Phnom Penh, Hagar program

The information in this report has been provided by implementing partners of the EVAW program. Data has been provided from Annual, Six month and Quarterly Progress Reports.

GIZ data has been disaggregated to reflect the DFAT proportion of funding (co-funded with BMZ)

The names of individuals in the case studies have been changed to protect identities.

Photos used throughout this document have been provided by the implementing partners. Permission has been provided to use these images.

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Services provided by Coffey International Development on behalf of DFAT.

About the Ending Violence Against Women Program

Ending violence against women is key to promoting gender equality and enabling women to fully participate in the political, economic and social life of Cambodia.

The Cambodia Ending Violence Against Women (EVAW) program is a five year partnership between the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MOWA) and the Australian Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) that commenced in 2012. The aim of the EVAW program is to change attitudes and prevent violence so that women and girls can be safe in their homes, in the workplace and in their communities.

There is no single cause of violence against women. Different forms of

violence are driven by a variety of factors and therefore need to be addressed through a variety of interventions. The EVAW program has focused on responses aimed at preventing domestic violence and sexual assault, building on available opportunities, learning from emerging prevention and response programs and taking into account recent research and evidence.

The EVAW program seeks to support MOWA recognizing their key role in leading and coordinating a multi-sectoral response to prevent violence against women. It considers two key MOWA policy initiatives and Australian Government policy.

► *The second National Action Plan on Violence Against Women (NAPVAW) 2014–18*

The second NAPVAW is the primary government policy that sets out key strategies for government, national institutions, civil society, development partners and international organisations to work together to prevent and eliminate violence against women and provide protection to victims of violence.

► *The Neary Rattanak (NR) IV 2014–18*

The NR IV is the five-year strategic plan for gender equality and the empowerment of women in Cambodia. It supports the reform process of MOWA in providing effective gender analysis, institutional advocacy and policy advice across Government.



“Gender-based violence is the most severe expression of discrimination and disempowerment of women and girls. We must facilitate access of women to the judicial system, and to other psycho-social service, and make perpetrators accountable for their acts and crimes.”

HE Dr Ing Kantha Phavi, Minister, Ministry of Women's Affairs, 2013.

► *Australian Government Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy (February 2016)*

The EVAW program activities are aligned to and support the three priorities of the DFAT Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy to guide work on gender equality.

- 1 Enhancing women's voice in decision-making, leadership, and peace-building: supported through encouraging and promoting women's representation and leadership for program implementation

26

Female Commune Chiefs, Deputy Commune Chiefs and commune committee members supporting and participating in the implementation of the Commune Alcohol Notification System in response to violence in their communes

42

Management committees where women are represented and participate in the decision making process

- 2 Promoting women's economic empowerment: supported through household income generation support as a violence prevention mechanism

In addition to counselling and awareness of women's rights, Banteay Srei assisted Leakena with support for vegetable growing and raising chickens for the family. Staff follow up regularly to follow progress and to provide domestic and economic advice. Now, Leakena's vegetable growing business is doing well and the family has a nice home and two motorbikes. They have also diversified the business into pig farming for additional income.

“When my family suffered from domestic violence, we had nothing, we lived hand to mouth. Now it is much different than before. Because we stop arguing, it makes our lives much better. Before I was hopeless and thought about committing suicide, but now my husband and I have new hope for the future. I feel happy.”

Case study, Banteay Srei,
Battambang Province

- 3 Ending violence against women and girls: supported through implementation of the EVAW program in partnership with the Royal Government of Cambodia

The purpose of the EVAW program is 'to contribute to an effective, systematic and accountable response to, and prevention of, violence against women in Cambodia'. To achieve this, the EVAW program has identified three core focus areas:

Services: aiming to ensure accessible, appropriate and quality service support for victims of violence.

Prevention: promoting positive change in community attitudes, behaviours and beliefs to prevent violence against women.

Justice: supporting the law and justice sector to be responsive to survivors of violence and hold perpetrators accountable.

These are complemented by two supporting focus areas:

Institutional support and coordination: working with government, the private sector and civil society to improve support and coordination of responses for victims of violence.

Research and evidence: enable research and evidence to be used for improved planning, service delivery and implementation of support services.

EVAW Partnerships

The EVAW program draws on the strengths, knowledge and skills of other implementing partners. The EVAW program commenced in 2012 with three partners. The 2016-17 implementation program has fifteen national and international agencies funded to provide a range of program services. Along with MOWA and DFAT, these implementing partners constitute the partnership for EVAW program implementation, a total of seventeen partners contributing to ending violence against women in Cambodia.

Partner Agency	Primary Outcome Area	Program Description
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	Prevention	Reduce the risk of sexual and gender-based violence against entertainment workers in Phnom Penh. ACTED works in partnership with Social Services Cambodia and Legal Aid Cambodia.
Hagar	Services	Provide assistance and case management to help survivors of human rights abuses experience safe reintegration into their families and communities.
Legal Aid Cambodia (LAC)	Justice	Enhance the rights of survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse through strengthening the existing legal and justice response mechanisms at the sub-national level.
Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO)	Services	Improve access to psycho-social services for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.
CARE	Services	Engaging with health care service providers, local authorities and community members to increase understanding and improve response to violence against women in their community.
German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ)	Services	Increase access to and quality of services for victims of gender based violence. GIZ works in partnership with LAC, TPO, Cambodia Women's Crisis Centre and Banteay Srei
United Nations Entity for Gender Equity and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)	Institutional Support & Coordination	Support MOWA to advance the 2nd National Action Plan for Prevention of Violence Against Women 2014-18 (NAPVAW) implementation through engagement at national and sub-national levels.
The Asia Foundation (TAF)	Prevention and Research & Evidence	Contribute to the Prevention of Intimate Partner Violence through the development of community-based interventions that reduce alcohol abuse and intimate partner violence and to reduce television content that condones violence against women. TAF works in partnership with TPO, Open Institute, Punleu Komar Kampuchea Organisation and People Centre for Development and Peace.
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	Services	Provide support to MOWA and Ministry of Health (MOH) to develop and implement a national and sub-national training strategy for the health sector response to violence against women and girls.
UNFPA	Research	To undertake secondary analysis of the Cambodian Demographic and Health Survey 2014 to allow an investigation of trends in violence over time.
Implementing Partners	2012 3	2013 9
	2014 13	2015 16
	2016 17	2017 17

Scope of Program Activity

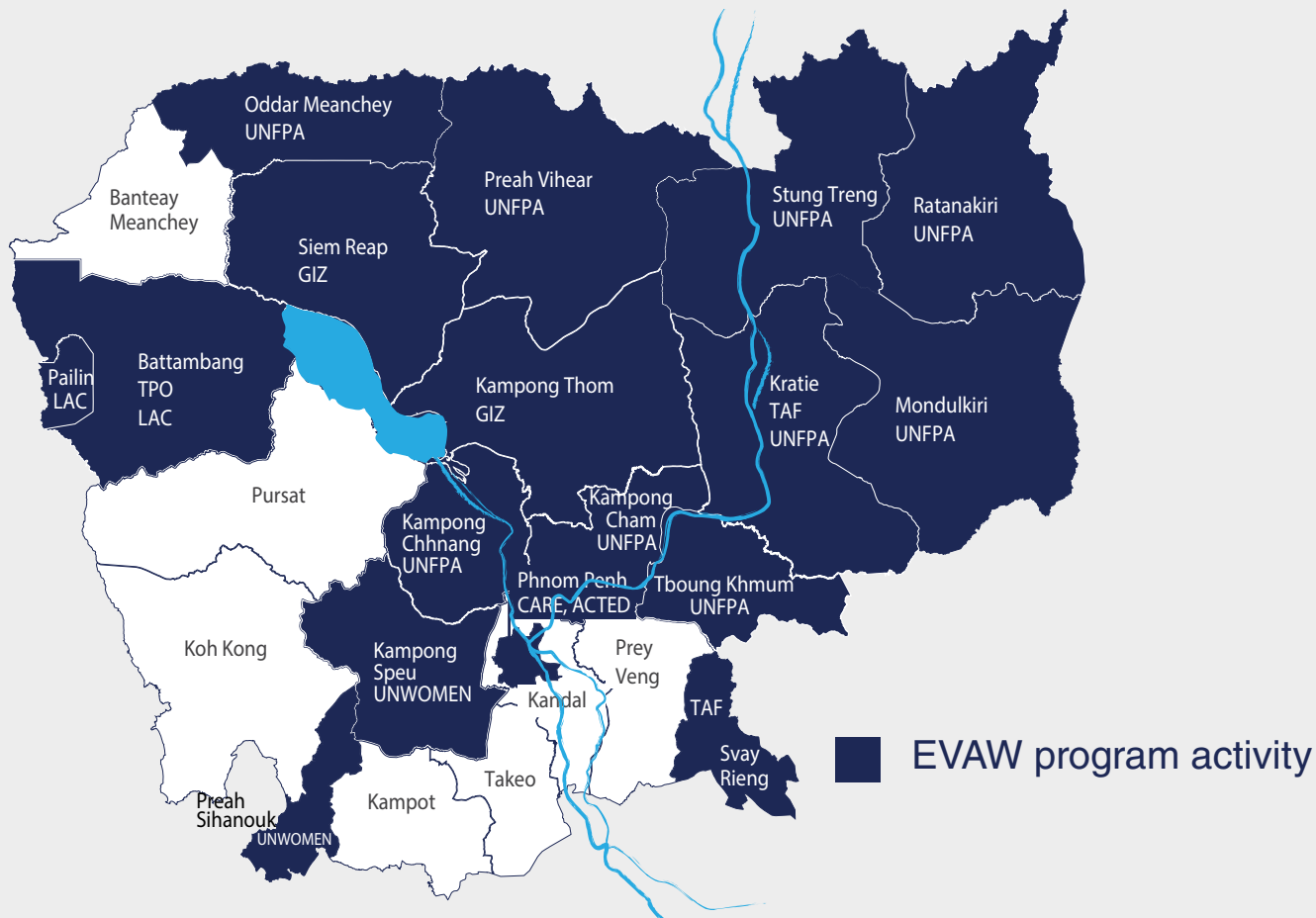
Services for survivors of violence are available throughout the country, but they are not available consistently or accessible for all women. The range of services include both state and non-state service providers of legal support, safe accommodation shelters, psychosocial support, health and medical support and volunteer support networks.

The EVAW program is being delivered across a number of Provinces, Districts and Communes.

This has increased during 2016-17 with the inclusion of

- UNFPA 9 provinces
- UN Women 2 provinces
- CARE 19 communes within the capital of Phnom Penh
- TAF expansion to an additional 11 communes.

		Districts	Communes
CARE	▶	4	19
TAF	▶	4	30
GIZ	▶	20	181
TPO	▶	1	3
LAC	▶	6	45
ACTED	▶	4	25



Hagar : All Provinces except Mondulkiri

EVAW Progress Results:

Services, Prevention and Justice

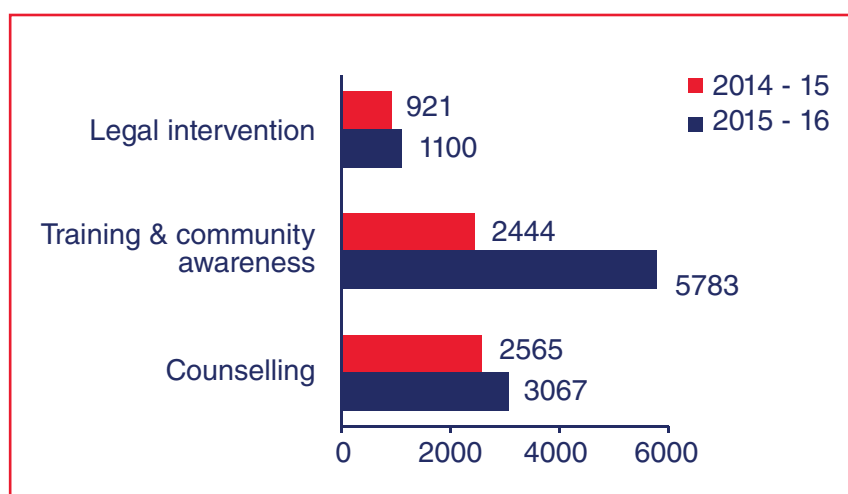
The EVAW program funded the first National Survey on Women's Health and Life Experiences in Cambodia, 2014. This study provides national data on the prevalence and consequences of violence against women and reinforces the multiple and complex needs of survivors of gender-based violence. This study found that:

- ▶ 21% of ever-partnered women aged 15-64 reported having experienced physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime
- ▶ 8% reported experiencing physical and/or sexual violence in the past 12 months
- ▶ 90% who reported being injured by their intimate partner had been hurt severely enough to need health care
- ▶ only 24% reported seeking help from a formal service

The EVAW program has sought to engage a variety of response services in recognition of the scope of services required to respond to gender-based violence.

The following results and impacts of activities from the three outcome areas of Services, Prevention and Justice have been collated from 2014-15 and 2015-16 implementing partner progress reports.

Number of recipients of EVAW activities



40%

There has been a 40% increase from a total of

5,930

recipients in 2014-15 to a total of

9,950

recipients in 2015-16

Counselling defined as services to victims of violence and includes responses to mental health problems, support, information and referral for sexual harassment, domestic violence and sexual assault.

Training and community awareness defined as events and forums where the purpose has been to influence knowledge, attitudes and behaviours in responding to and understanding the impact of violence against women.

Legal intervention combines capacity building activities for local authorities to better understand their legal obligations in responding to violence against women and the provision of legal services for victims of gender based violence.

Community strengthening in responding to violence against women

The EVAW program provides support to both the leadership and the members of the community to address the impact of violence on individuals, families and their community.

Training, self-help programs and community awareness activities increase understanding of the impact of gender based violence.

“ Now, living in the commune is better than before. People are not afraid, and know how to resolve the situation when there is trouble. ”

Case study, TPO, Battambang Province

7

Child Advocacy Networks established to increase awareness about personal and community safety

30

Commune Chiefs supported to lead implementation of the Commune Alcohol Notification System

35

Self-help groups established for survivors of gender based violence, sexual assault and alcohol abusers who suffer from mental health and psycho social problems



Self Help Group, Battambang Province, TPO program

59

Clients reintegrated to family with support from Commune Chief and Commune Committee on Women and Children

82

Community Resource Persons trained in psychological and mental health care

229

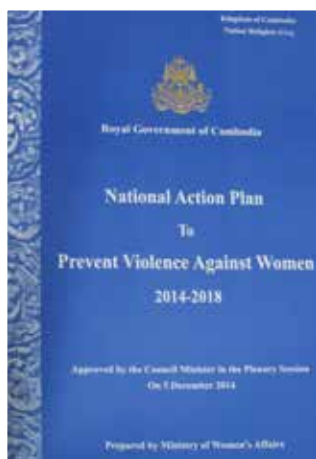
Clients and their families received counselling, case management and economic empowerment services

415

Peer educators engaged to improve personal safety and freedom from violence and sexual harassment for entertainment workers

EVAW Progress Results: Institutional Strengthening

Policy and Practice Guidelines



A key objective of the EVAW program is to support MOWA in leading and coordinating a multi-sectorial response to prevent violence against women.

A significant achievement has been the development and implementation of the second National Action Plan on Violence Against Women 2014-18.

The collaboration and coordination between key service providers and agencies has resulted in the development and implementation of a

number of practice guidelines to support service providers in delivering services to the victims of violence. The suite of guidelines complement the existing legal framework in Cambodia. Definitions and guiding principles are consistent to facilitate an intra-agency and inter-agency approach to referral and service provision.

► **Referral Guidelines for Women and Girl Survivors of Gender Based Violence:** Promote access to services through a system of case registration, assessment and referral based on the individual needs and agreement of the survivor, recognizing that survivors of GBV have multiple needs that cannot be met by any one service provider.

► **Data Management System:** A common system of reporting on service provided and referred to better understand service requirements, service gaps and blockages.

► **Minimum Service Standard for Basic Counselling of Women Survivors of Gender Based Violence:** Guidance to all service providers to ensure a common set of principles to facilitate privacy, confidentiality and respect for the rights of the survivor to information and to make decisions about their future.

► **Clinical Handbook Health Care for Women Subjected to Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence:** Guidance for health care providers in health centres and referral hospitals to increase understanding of VAW and to provide first line support and clinical management for women victims of sexual violence.

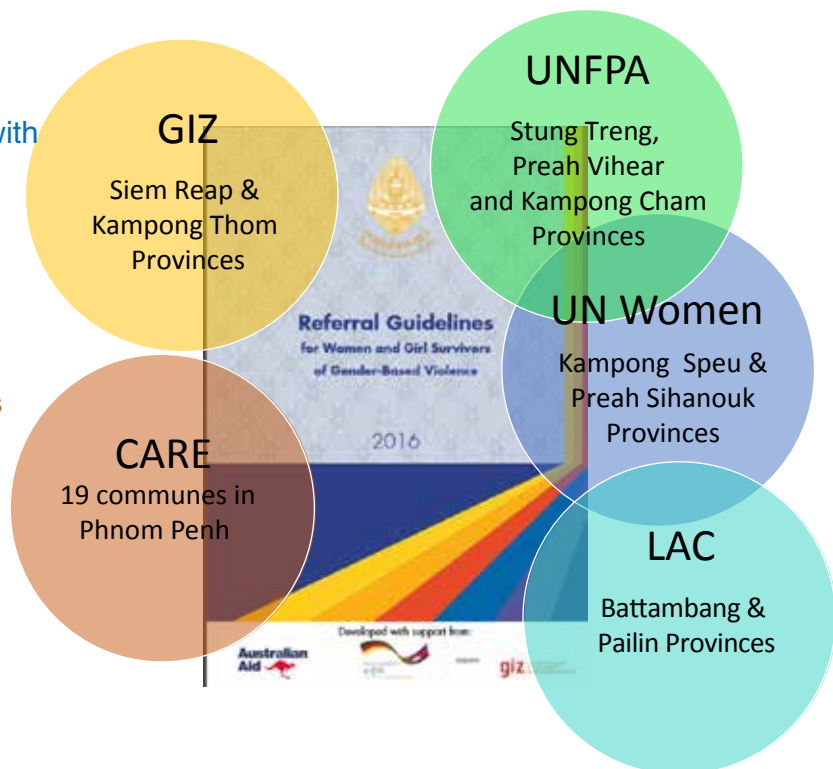


Women's and children's consultative committee meeting in Battambang Province, LAC program

The EVAW program helped coordinate service providers and partners

The EVAW program began with one partner working in two provinces to implement the referral guidelines.

Today, there are five partners working in nine provinces and a capital city location to implement the referral guidelines.



Key Networks

Government functions are increasingly moving to the sub-national levels. Through the EVAW program activities, many government partners, at both a national and sub-national level are increasing knowledge and further developing capacity through participation in networks and forums aiming to strengthen the support and coordination of responses for victims of violence.

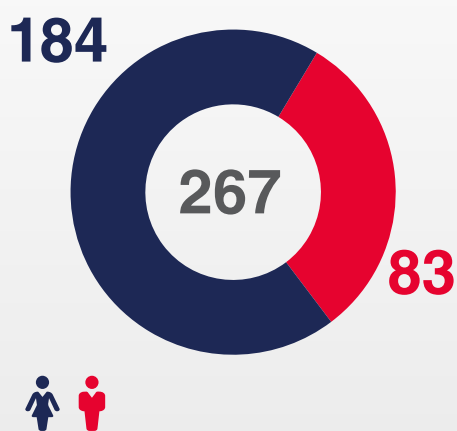
Technical Working Group Gender-Based Violence (TWGG-GBV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 15 line ministries ▶ 10 development partners ▶ 30 civil society members
Inter-Ministerial Working Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ MOWA and MoH to develop the minimum service standards for basic counselling for women and survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) ▶ MOWA, Ministry of Information and Ministry of Culture and Religion to consider the portrayal of violence against women in television content
Gender Based Violence Networks and Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Support to the provincial women and children consultative committees to improve understanding of the domestic violence law and conflict resolution ▶ Support to the district and commune committees for women and children to promote rights of women and children ▶ Support to the provincial gender network as a platform for exchange of information, learning, coordination and follow up cases of GBV ▶ Support the criminal justice network to effectively promote and manage women and children legal issues ▶ Support the GBV working group to bring together stakeholders to address GBV issues at the provincial level
MOWA and PDOWA staff capacity development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ MOWA Young Professional Network comprising 80 MOWA staff members ▶ MOWA Judicial Police Agents supported with training in Siem Reap and Kampong Thom provinces ▶ MOWA and Provincial Department of Women's Affairs (PDOWA) staff trained on Policy and Practice Guidelines

Training

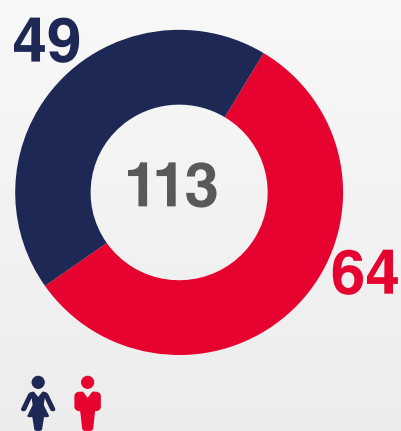
The EVAW program has supported targeted training programs to institutionalize a gender sensitive approach in responding to violence against women. The aim of the training is to increase the knowledge and understanding of

local authorities, health service providers and law and justice officials in order to improve the service response to victims of violence. Data has been collected for the period of January - August 2016.

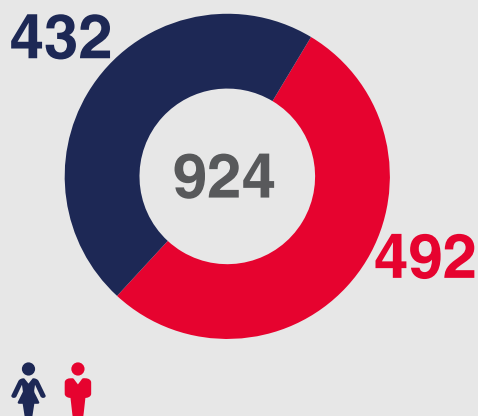
Law and Justice Officials



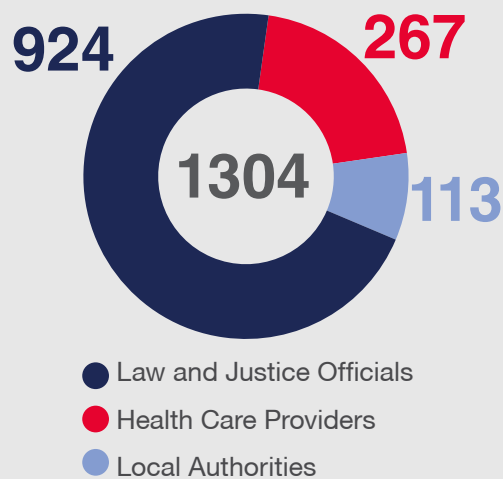
Health Care Providers



Local Authorities



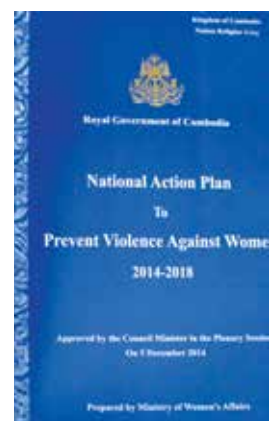
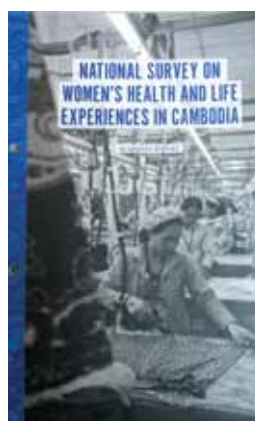
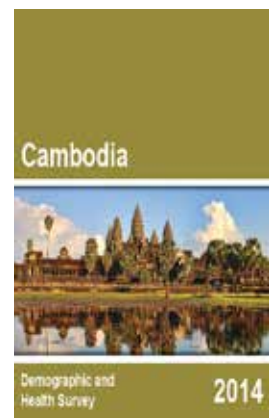
Total Participants attended training 2016




EVAW Progress Results: Research and Evidence

The EVAW program has supported a range of research activities in order to better understand the Cambodia context, identify trends in violence over time and provide options for how this data can contribute to violence prevention policy.


- ▶ Cambodia Gender Assessment, 2014 Policy Brief 7 Violence against Women and Girls: <http://bit.ly/mowaCGA2014en>
- ▶ Targeting Brief 1: Alcohol Abuse in Cambodia: <http://asiafoundation.org/publications/pdf/1584>
- ▶ Targeting Brief 2: Media Exposure In Cambodia: <http://asiafoundation.org/publications/pdf/1585>
- ▶ Targeting Brief 3: Childhood Exposure to Violence in Cambodia: <http://asiafoundation.org/publications/pdf/1586>
- ▶ Targeting Brief 4: Educational Attainment in Cambodia: <http://asiafoundation.org/publications/pdf/1587>
- ▶ Cambodia Demographic Health Survey (CDHS), 2014: http://countryoffice.unfpa.org/cambodia/drive/2014CDHSKIR_2-20-2015.pdf
- ▶ National Survey on Women's Health and life experiences in Cambodia; 2015 (Prevalence Study): http://www.wpro.who.int/mediacentre/releases/2015/vaw_full-en.pdf
- ▶ Ending Violence Against Women in Cambodia (EVAW). First report on EVAW progress, 2015: <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/cambodia-ending-violence-against-women-program-summary-achievements-2014-15.PDF>
- ▶ Second National Action Plan on Violence Against Women (NAPVAW) 2014-18: <http://cambodia.unfpa.org/publications/national-action-plan-prevent-violence-against-women-2014-2018>



Case Studies

 “The school principal did a special session about alcohol abuse to a group of students. I can really see the reduction of all types of violence in the commune. Youth used to drink a lot and cause trouble, you don’t see them doing that anymore.”

Commune Councilor, Svey Rieng Province, TAF program

 “Now the victims have confidence. They know that when they have problems, there is someone to assist them. In addition, the procedures of the district police have been greatly improved, the court procedures are more efficient resulting in justice for the victims of domestic violence and abuse.”

Court official, Battambang Province, LAC program

 “Before I didn’t understand what gender-based violence was so I would just treat whatever injury the patient showed me. Now I know to be more alert to a woman’s situation and I can offer more comprehensive care.”

Midwife, Pochentong Referral Hospital, CARE program

Case Study

Hostess, Karaoke Establishment, ACTED program, Phnom Penh.

Rumdol is 24 years old. She is originally from Prey Veng Province and comes from a big family with seven brothers and sisters. To help her family, she moved to Phnom Penh to look for a job so that she could send money back to them. She has been working at a karaoke establishment for four years. While at work, she has witnessed cases of verbal and physical violence happening to her friends and has experienced violence herself, sometimes resulting in injury. She has been insulted by clients for being an entertainment worker. She did not know what to do, she did not know who to contact for help.

Rumdol has been attending ACTED's outreach sessions and she now realises how important it is for her to understand about sexual and gender based violence (SGBV). 'I realise that cases of SGBV have previously occurred to my friends and I in the entertainment establishments; I just didn't know that it was SGBV. I just endured it, put up with it and blamed it on fate or bad fortune. By attending the sessions, I have compared what I learnt with what was happening to me and I know that some of my rights had been abused. Today, I know how to respond to these situations if they happen to me again.'

Rumdol has learnt a lot from the outreach sessions conducted by ACTED's social workers. She has learnt

how to access help when she needs it. "Now, I feel very confident and ready to apply the solutions I have learnt in cases where a client misbehaves towards me. For example, one day, a client tried to force me to go out and sleep with him. I rejected his offer which made him very angry. He forcefully asked me how much money I needed. I told him that even though I was an entertainment worker, I benefit from rights that are protected by government law and that what he was doing was abusing my rights and was against the law. As a result, he left the establishment. He was angry, but I was able to keep on working without issue." She is confident that if he kept giving her any trouble, she would complain to her manager and would also seek support from the police hotline.

“Previously, I just endured it, put up with it and blamed it on fate or bad fortune. Today, I know how to respond to these situations if they happen to me again”





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