The Advocacy and Policy Institute

Annual Progress Report
01 January - 31 December 2010

Contents

Acronyms

Acronym	Description-Stand for
ADHOC	Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association
ANSA-EAP	Affiliated Network for Social Accountability in East Asia and the Pacific
API	Advocacy and Policy Institute
CCC	Cooperation Committee for Cambodia
CCHR	Cambodian Centre for Human Rights
CCIM/VOD	Cambodian Centre for Independent Media / Voice Of Democracy.
CCSP	Commune Council Support Project
CCTU	Cambodian Confederation of Trade Union
CDCF	Cambodian Development Coordination Forum
CDGG	Government Donor Cooperation Committee
CDPO	Cambodian Disabled People's Organisation
CEDAC	Cambodian Centre for Study and Development in Agriculture
CHEC	Cambodian HIV/AIDS Education and Care
CHRAC	Cambodian Human Rights Action Committee
CIMS	Cambodia Institute for Media Studies
CISA	Coalition for Integrity and Social Accountability
CJR	Centre for Justice and Reconciliation
CODO	Community Development Organisation
COMFREL	Committee for Free and Fair Election in Cambodia
COWS	Cambodian Organisation for Women's Support
CLEC	The Community Legal Education Centre
CRC	Cambodian Red Cross
CSD	Centre for Social Development
CSLG	Civil Society Lobby Group
CSO	Community Support Organisation and Development
CTC	Coalition for Transparency Cambodia
CTN	Cambodian Television Network
CWS	Church World Service
DPA	Development in Partnership and Action
GAD/C	Gender and Development for Cambodia
HACC	HIV/AIDS Coordinating Committee
HCC	Health Care Centre for Children
HRTF	Housing Rights Task Force
HU	Health Unlimited
KID	Khmer Institute for Democracy
LAC	Legal Aid of Cambodia
LWF	Lutheran World Federation
MEDICAM	Membership of Organisation for NGOs Active in Cambodia's Health Sector
MODE	Minority Organisation for Development of the Economy
MoNASRI	Ministry of National Assembly Senate Relation and Inspection
MSIC	Marie Stopes International, Cambodia
NA	National Assembly
PAC/S	Provincial Association of Commune/Sangkat
PCC	Press Council of Cambodia
PDP Centre	People Centre for Development and Peace

PSAD	Samakum Phnom Srey Derbei Akphiwat
SK	Star Kampuchea
SN	Senate
SPDA	Samakum Phnom Srey Dembei Akphiwat
TCS	Technical Coordination Secretariat and Interaction between Parliament and CSOs in Cambodia
TDSP	Tekdey Sovan Phum
TT	Think Tank
UNIAP	United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region
VSG	Village Support Group
WP	Wathnak Pheap
VSO	Voluntary Service Overseas
WVC	World Vision Cambodia

1. INTRODUCTION

This is the third (the final year of the three year strategic plan, 2008-2010) annual report of the Advocacy and Policy Institute (API). The report demonstrates that API has made considerable progress toward contributing to Cambodia's long-term democratic and social development. API has played a significant role in the building capacity for advocacy, as well as promoting policy dialogue and community forums. In addition, API played a leadership role in the campaign on developing access to information in Cambodia.

This report provides detailed information of API accomplishments. The report includes the following sections:

- Three-Year Strategic Plan 2008-2010
- Statement of Results in 2010
- Programme Reporting (table: planned activities, actions, outputs, and immediate outcomes)
- Organisational Excellence
- Funding and Resources
- Challenges and Lessons Learned
- Conclusion

2. THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN (2008-2010)

The Strategic Plan commits API to concentrate on three main programmes with specific results:

1. Grassroots Democracy Programme (GDP) – aims to promote democratic participation and human rights at the grassroots level by educating and supporting community-based organisations, local government (commune councils) and local NGOs, to improve their effectiveness in advocating their communities' needs.

Specific Results:

1.	Increased knowledge, skills, confidence and contacts of grassroots advocates to increase awareness of their rights and to improve effectiveness of advocacy campaigns.
2.	Increased engagement and cooperation between local citizens and government on important community human rights, democracy and development issues.
3.	Increased cross-community activity in support of advocacy by grassroots community activists to regional and national level decision makers.
4.	Increased appreciation for community activists among Cambodian citizens.

2. Freedom of Information (FOI) Programme – aims to increase public access to public institutions, public information and the legislative process through a coordinated campaign that will foster a culture of maximum information disclosure and encourage the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) and the National Assembly to adopt a Freedom of Information (FOI) Law which reaches an international standard.

Specific Results:

1.	Mobilised civil society organisations with increased capacity to support and lead FOI advocacy campaign activities.
2.	Promoted cooperation between civil society and government and secured space for community input into the development of the RGC's FOI policy and legal framework.
3.	Increased public awareness of FOI and its role in the protection of livelihoods and human rights.

4.	Mainstreamed access to information within the political centralisation and decentralisation of Cambodia.

3. Advocacy Capacity Building Programme (ACP) –aims to increase the number of Cambodian civil society organisations proficient in the design, management, implementation and evaluation of lobby and advocacy campaigns and initiatives.

Specific Results:

1.	Increased number of advocates initiating and participating in advocacy activities to address important community needs.
2.	Targeted Cambodian NGOs, professional associations, trade unions, networks, and other important social groups are skilled in the design and implementation of advocacy campaigns.
3.	A culture of effective lobbying and advocacy established through the promotion of best practice and outlining common intra and cross-sector goals and cooperative measures.
4.	A professional group of Cambodian lobbyists and advocates working together to achieve RGC public policy outcomes which serve the best interests of Cambodian citizens.

3. STATEMENT OF RESULTS IN 2010

2010 was the last year of API's three year strategic plan. API achieved the following results in 2010:

Grassroots Democracy Programme:

1. Enhancing grassroots advocacy capacity

Finding sustainable solutions to cross-cutting public issues and the protection of community people's human rights depends upon these people being able to effectively advocate for themselves. API has worked towards strengthening grassroots advocacy capacity by building up the confidence and contacts of grassroots advocates, encouraging community activists to become increasingly aware of their rights and supporting the more effective advocacy campaigns.

In response to the needs of community people, in 2010 API cooperated with provincial NGOs and local government partners to organise two-three days grassroots advocacy training sessions in two different provinces for a total of 64 participants, including 19 women (37 commune councillors, 2 NGO partners' staff and 24 community leaders) from six communities from 27 communes in Kampong Chnnang and six communes in Banteay Mean Chey province. API conducted a survey entitled Grassroots Advocacy in Cambodia, Analysis of 109 Case Studies. The findings and recommendations of the survey were presented to around 400 grassroots advocates in Cambodia and used in API grassroots advocacy trainings. As a result of the training, four advocacy plans were produced on diverse issues involving forestry, land and fisheries. Two of these plans have already been successfully implemented. First, a community forestry named Tamang, Beong Tasrey and Prsat Tbeng in Kork Romeat commune, Thmor Pouk district and the Banteay Meanchey province has implemented their advocacy plan by writing letters to commune, district and provincial governor, conducting a non-violent demonstration and writing a letter to the President of the Cambodian Parliament. Then the 132.4 hectares of state land and 30 hectares of deforestrated land was officially provided to 75 families as a social land concession. Second, 100 hectares of flooded forest in Dounlek village, Sambour commune, Mongkol Borey district, Banteay Meanchey, has been given to the community forestry after a series of advocacy actions by community leaders with commune councillors and members of the Fishery Administration.

As a result, local communities are increasingly aware of their rights and the role that communities can play in supporting their own development. API's effective activities with rural communities can be divided into direct capacity building through training sessions and workshops, and indirect capacity building through community forums. Work with grassroots (rural) community organisations (community-based organisations, provincial NGOs and more recently commune councils) is a vital core activity of API. Previously, Grassroots Democracy Programme activities primarily encouraged community advocacy action to protect livelihoods; currently, this programme focuses more intensely on the Freedom of Information Programme to support communities and their commune councillors to understand the roles and responsibilities of commune councils and encourage these councils to disclose, promote and gain access to public information.

2. Community and local government dialogue
In Cambodia the opportunities and mechanisms for dialogue between citizens and the state are slowly increasing, along with communication and cooperation between local citizens and the RGC and opportunities for community members to raise their concerns. However, there is still a need for improvement.

To support dialogue and citizen participation, API collaborated with its partners to conduct two district and three provincial forums with 895 participants, including 271 women, in three provinces. Participants discussed the roles and responsibilities of sub-national government officials, their needs and challenges in addressing community issues and better supporting commune councilors. In addition, API developed and printed 28,000 copies of a handbook on Roles and Duties of
Sub-National Administration in Promoting Access to Information.

3. Strengthening community and local government partnerships
Cooperation between community-based organisations and local authorities, particularly commune councilors, requires strengthening partnerships and increasing cross-community networks and opportunities for people to learn effective advocacy strategies from each other.

To support these actions, API organised a two-day, annual grassroots exchange forum, which brought together 65 people from community forests and fisheries, commune councils and provincial partners in Kampong Thom, Banteay Meanchey and Kampong Chhnang provinces. Participants shared three-year achievements, lessons learned, experiences, good practices and mechanisms for partnerships between community members and commune councilors and partner organisations to address community issues and future partnership strategies.

Freedom of (Access to Public) Information Programme:

1. Support for an Access to Information Law in Cambodia
To support the RGC's commitment and to promote awareness, cooperation and input from civil society, government and the community into the development of an Access to Information Law, API in 2010 organised five provincial consultative forums. Participants included 281 key stakeholders (including 82 women) from 173 institutions and NGOs. Members of Parliament, Senators, national and provincial government officials and citizens and who attended the API forums and workshop said they strongly supported passage of an Access to Information Law soon. The participants' understanding of the right of access to information increased at these forums, and participants were also able to express their opinions linked on access to public information. Inputs and effective mechanisms to increase the flow of information

for the Access to Information Law were produced and documented. API also reviewed 310 Cambodia laws and 188 sub-decrees to identify relevant articles on access to information. These finding were presented to the RGC and other lawmakers. The Access to Information Law has been discussed by senior government officials, lawmakers, donors and civil society organisations at both sub-national and the national levels.

2. Promoting awareness of the value of access to public information
As noted above, the right of access to public information is a very new concept in Cambodia and there is little public awareness its role in the protection of livelihoods and human rights. Furthermore, this issue is often confused with freedom of the press.

To support an increase in public awareness, API produced posters and a series of educational songs and dramas in cooperation with 18 members of the working group. In addition, a media campaign used newspapers, radio, television and various electronic media at opportune times as the Right to Know Day. The outcome of this concerted effort has resulted in a notable increase in people's interest in and understanding of access to information.

3. Leading the Freedom of Information Working Group
An efficiently organised, high-status working group with an effective network is needed for a successful advocacy campaign to ensure passage of a law on access to information that reaches an international standard. To meet this need, API leads the Freedom of Information Working Group (FOIWG), consisting of 18 member organisations. The working group has developed an achievable work plan focusing on sectoral consultations on access to information on education, health, decentralisation and deconcentralisation, labor and media law. The group's achievements and results of consultative meetings are documented. Additional sectoral NGOs, media and UN agencies are interested in joining the working group, which holds monthly meetings

4. Promoting disclosure of commune information
The RGC is currently implementing a decentralisation and de-concentration policy which integrates the principles of access to information in instructions to commune councillors.

In addition, API has piloted the Commune Information Disclosure Project in eight communes in five provinces to promote a culture of information disclosure. In collaboration with commune councillors, API organised eight workshops, eight public hearings and eight training sessions on commune council's mandates, access to information and commune information management. API's support materials including filing cabinets, law books and other relevant documents. API also provided technical support, direct coaching and information dissemination meetings. These events involved thousand of commune councillors and clerks, village chiefs, heads of health centres, school principals, police, community-based organisation staff and community people. API also published materials to raise awareness on access to information issues and provide support to commune councilors.

An external project evaluation was conducted in the eight target communes in late 2010. It confirmed that public access to information is increasing, with a good degree of motivation for information exchange among commune councillor members. More space was provided to community people to ask questions and make requests of their elected representatives. Local groups and community people said they were satisfied that they had the opportunity to raise issues to commune councils, district and provincial officials. Community people reported increased participation in their communities, and increased confidence in communicating with elected representatives. The evaluation found increased mutual trust and understanding between commune councils and community people. Some NGOs said they would replicate the CID project's IEC materials for use in their own programmes. Provincial and district government officials

also noted their support and commitment to promote access to information. Provincial partners have an increased understanding of access to information and commune council mandates, and they increased their support to commune council efforts to share information with community-based organisations.

API stakeholders reported that the API programmes were highly relevant to their work. Grassroots advocacy and access to information was identified as a mechanism for strengthening good governance in the RGC's decentralization and de-concentration process. Advocacy and access to information concepts have the highest potential for a positive impact and sustainability if they are implemented using a realistic timeframe and supported by a national framework.

Advocacy Capacity Building Programme:

1. Issue-based advocacy publications
Cambodian advocates, both community members and NGO staff, are increasing the need and strengthening their advocacy and policy capacity to address specific issues such as natural resource management, economic land concessions, child rights, D&D, health, education, etc. In 2010, API with the support from local experts, conducted:

a). an assessment on natural resource management and capacity needs regarding advocacy. 102 people responded the questionnaires during the National Advocacy Conference in Dec 2010 and several focus group meetings were held on the draft of the findings. Based on the result of the assessment, API is developing a training curriculum for targeting community-based organisations and other civil society organisations.

b). an assessment on understanding the public policy with the aim of seeking to identify as well as gauge the degree of understanding on the public policy, policy development process and policy analysis, both from theoretical and practical perspectives, particularly, but not exclusively, among API's current district and commune council partners including governors, deputy governors, and councillors of districts, councillors of commune/sangkat councils, NGOs and academic institutions. It also aims to identify challenges and gaps which constrain the policy implementation and law enforcement in Cambodia. The findings of the assessment will enable API to develop the public policy analysis short course training.

2. Building capacity of Cambodian advocates
As the value and effectiveness of peaceful advocacy methods becomes better known and understood there is a rising demand for advocacy training.

Based on an assessment of the broader need for advocacy training, API targets specific groups from civil society, the labor union, the media and government for training. API's Advocacy Expert Training involves diverse groups of participants and focuses on issue-based advocacy. The Programme is responsible for the national image of API and works with Cambodian and international NGOs, the RGC and Parliament. This programme is also responsible for the Civil Society Lobby Group and the Think Tank.

As a result of the intensive Advocacy Expert Training (AET) Course of 18 days of six training modules, 23 out of 29 participants graduated successfully with a remarkable increase in advocacy skills and knowledge. The results of the post tests show a significant increase in the skills and knowledge of all participants: skills increased by 45% in the last module. Understanding and knowledge of participants increased from the first to the sixth module as most of the topics were relevant to their work.

AET participants developed a total of 17 advocacy plans on specific issues, involving 15 civil society organisations. Based on the participants' reports, 77% of these advocacy campaigns were successfully undertaken following the training.

3. Policy implementation

During the four mandates of the present Cambodian Parliament many laws have been adopted, however law and policy enforcement are limited for various reasons, including a lack of understanding and communication among officials at the provincial level.

API not only participates in policy dialogue at the national level but also leads policy discussions at the provincial level. API organised forums in two provinces on priority laws (the Tourism Law and the Suppression of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation Law). A Senator, a Member of Parliament presided over the Siem Reap and Kompot forums, which included 197 representatives of commune councils and district provincial government offices. These forums generated further reports and recommendations, which API submitted to the National Assembly, the Senate and RGC agencies.

4. Strengthening civil society engagement with the Cambodian Parliament

Communication and dialogue among civil society and the Cambodian Parliament are the most effective mechanisms to increase democratic space and reduce the exclusion of civil society in Cambodia.

API established the Civil Society Lobby Group (CSLG) and took on the role of coordinating engagement between civil society and Parliament by working with the Parliament's Technical Coordination Secretariat. As a result, the CSLG and API now have effective communication and collaboration with members of Parliament in Commissions 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9 of the National Assembly; Senators in Commissions 1, 6 and 9 of the Senate; the Secretary General of National Assembly; the Secretary General of the Senate and assistants of each Commission. These relationships provided opportunities for NGOs to submit recommendations, concerns and contributions to lawmaking and implementation, particularly on the Anti-Corruption Law passed in March, 2010. The group is now supporting RGC efforts to formulate legislation on access to information.

5. National advocacy forums

In collaboration with national and international organisations,[1] API organised its 5th annual national advocacy forum on "Working Together for Good Governance of Natural Resources.'' In the forum, 350 Cambodian advocates and representatives from NGOs, donors, the RGC and the media from more than 200 communities had the opportunity to reflect on community issues, advocacy efforts, input into government plans and policies and the RGC's responses. The forum provided space for discussion, sharing issues, challenges, experiences and knowledge, case studies and research. The conference recommendations relating to land, forestry, fisheries, mining, evictions and good governance have been sent to the respective key agencies and responsible line ministries.

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[1] Other organisers included: Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association (ADHOC), Centre for Justice and Reconciliation (CJR), Gender and Development (GAD/C), Development and Partnership in Action (DPA), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), NGO Forum on Cambodia, Star Kampuchea, Housing Right Task Force (HRTF), Vigilance, Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and World Vision Cambodia.

In addition to above three programmes, API has also:

a). Lead The Access Initiative (TAI) Cambodia. API leads The Access Initiative (TAI) Cambodia Coalition[2]. The Access Initiative (TAI) is a global network, a coalition of civil society organisations promoting good environmental governance by developing indicators to assess national performance on its implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration. It focuses on access to information, public participation, and access to justice. API together with the CLEC; the Culture and Environment Preservation Association [CEPA]; the Centre of Development Oriented Research in Agriculture and Livelihood Systems [CENTDOR]) and other researchers produced an assessment report on environmental issues in Cambodia. A total of 18 case studies were prepared by a TAI-Cambodia Research Team of 24 researchers: from five participating organisations. Government institutions, environmental organisations and other interested parties were consulted on the draft report and their input was reflected in the final report. A high quality Cambodia Assessment Report on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice was produced and submitted to the Thailand Environment Institute and Global TAI.

b). Identified its role to work and support the Extractive Industries (EI). In 2010, API conducted analysis to explore the possibility of working on Extractive Industries (EI) in the Mekong Delta countries. On 30 March and 01 April, 2010, Oxfam America organized the regional Southeast Asia strategy on Governance of EI in Southeast Asia and its recommendations were that we work together on EI issues. In order to avoid overlapping with Oxfam America, API tries to understand its strategies and explore what role API can play to bring Cambodia, Vietnam and Lao, together for the first time to work on EI. So far, API and CODE have discussed the possibility of cooperation and the actual project activity needs.

At the same time, API became a core member of the Cambodians for Resource Revenue Transparency (CRRT) and it plays a key role in developing the members' skills on the advocacy and access to information in EI. In November and December 2010, API in cooperation with CRRT conducted training needs assessment (TNA) with members of CRRT and EISEI and staff. The TNA has informed API and CRRT is going to develop training materials on advocacy and EI in early 2011.

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[2] This coalition includes: Community Legal Education Centre (CLEC), the Culture And Environment Preservation Association [CEPA]; the Centre of Development Oriented Research in Agriculture and Livelihood Systems [CENTDOR])

4. PROGRAMME REPORTING: Planned activities, actions, outputs and outcomes and impacts.

The following table describes programme progress during 2010. The first column identifies key planned activities; the second refers to the number of specific results in the current three-year Strategic Plan; the third notes the actual activities implemented; the fourth describes the known Outputs[3] for this third year of the Strategic Plan and the fifth column states the changes (outcomes and impacts) from each activity.

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out in 2010	Outputs in 2010	Outcomes and Impact
I. Grassroots Democracy Programme				
1. Provide Grassroots Advocacy Training courses (for 50 participants)	1	API incorporation with Provincial Association of Commune/Sangkhat, (PAC/S), Tekdey Sovannphum (TDSP) and Village Support Group (VSG) delivered training courses for leaders of community-based organisations and commune councillors who are members of Provincial Association of Commune/Sangkat.	Report of Training Needs Assessment produced. Based on Training Needs Assessment and grassroots advocacy the training curriculum was revised twice. Curriculum includes updated training session plans, training materials, handouts and presentations. Based on the average of pre and post training tests, participants' advocacy knowledge, skills and confidence increased by 23.30% (49.82%-60.74%). Participants' knowledge and skills increased in the following key topics: rights- based advocacy; practical advocacy steps, the advocacy cycle; how to identify community problems,	After training, four advocacy action plans were developed by the participants to address issues in their communities on fishery, forestry and land issues. Two of four plans have already been successfully implemented. 132.4 hectares of state land and 30 hectares of deforestrated land was officially provided to 75 families as a social land concession. 100 hectares of flooded forest in Dounlek village, Sambour commune, Mongkol Borey district, Banteay Meanchey, has been

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[3] **Output** is defined as information and products resulting directly from activities or projects. It relates to the completion of one or more activities and reflects results achieved in a relatively short time period (0-2 years).

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out in 2010	Outputs in 2010	Outcomes and Impact
			mobilising communities, facilitating effective meetings, selecting good advocacy leaders, collecting evidence and information, setting objectives, analysing stakeholders and targets; defining methods and developing advocacy plans, lobbying, analysing possible risks and threats and making plans to reduce them. Two three-day training courses were held for 64 participants, including 19 women. Trainees included 37 commune councillors, 2 NGO partner staff and 24 community leaders from six communities in Kampong Chnnang and Banteay Meanchey provinces.	given to a community forestry.
2. Develop, print and distribute materials Roles and Responsibilities of Commune Councillors and Rights of Citizens booklet	2	Following consultation with district and commune councils, API finalised and printed a booklet on commune councils and citizens. API distributed copies through API forums and trainings. API reviewed the Organic Law[4] and its relevant sub decrees with regard to issues surrounding rights of communities, roles and responsibility of district and provincial councils and governors and commune councillors and civil society roles in	1,100 copies of the booklet were distributed to 20 INGOs and local NGOs, one university, 25 government officials, 407 commune councillors, district governors and community people in 45 communes through API forums and trainings in Banteay Meanchey, Kampong Thom, Kampong Chhnang, Kampot and Kampong Speu provinces. 28,000 copies of a new booklet on the Role and Duties of Sub-National	The booklet on commune councillors and citizens contributed to increased knowledge of community people on their roles and rights, increased participation in monthly commune council meetings and an increased voice of citizens in local governance and community development. The booklet has been used in all

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[4] The Organic Law is on decentralization and de-concentration.

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out in 2010	Outputs in 2010	Outcomes and Impact
		promoting access to information and addressing community issues. API also developed and distributed 28,000 booklets on the Role and Duties of Sub-National Administration in promoting access to information.	Administration in promoting access to information was finalised and printed	API target communes. It has been used to help increase understanding by community people of the roles and responsibilities of commune councillors, as well as for engaging and improving participation of community people in local governance.
3. Conduct citizen and local government forums	2	Community forums were upgraded to district and provincial forums. In collaboration with provincial partners (Cambodian Organisation for Women's Support, Minority Organisation for Development and Economic, Provincial Association of Commune/Sangkat and the Village Support Group) API organised five forums on "Understanding Roles and Responsibilities of Provincial, District/City Councillors and Governors." Participants included commune councillors, district and provincial governors, government staff and community-based organisation leaders. Speakers were from Provincial and Local Administration Unit of the Ministry of Interior, which is responsible for enforcing the law in this area.	Five forums were held. They included 431 participants, including 105 women. Findings from the group discussions were used as the basis for API's Three Year Strategic Plan Development (2011-2013). Provincial and district governors and councillors, commune councillors and community people increased their understanding of changes in the roles and duties of sub-national government officials. This contributes to improve implementation of new roles and duties.	The relationship between district councillors and governors has improved, and they carry out their duties more effectively. In the past, Sandann district councillors and governors often argued and failed to perform their functions well. After the API forum, they hold regular meetings in the district office, and carry out their duties in accordance with the law. District councillors have also participated in monthly commune meetings.

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out in 2010	Outputs in 2010	Outcomes and Impact
		Participants raised a total of 70 specific questions and issues in the forums. They were related to the roles and responsibilities of district councillors in supporting to commune councillors and in resolving community problems. Notably, all participants did not understand the new Organic Law. They said that they did not clearly understand lines of authority between governors and councillors at the district and provincial offices.		
4. Annual two-day grassroots forum		API organized an annual grassroots exchange forum on the theme of "Working Together for Promoting Democratic Development." District governors and councillors, commune councillors and community representatives and provincial partner representatives were invited. .	A two-day forum was held. The 67 participants (including 15 women) included commune councillors, district governors, district councillors and community representatives from five provinces (Kampong Thom, Kampong Chhnage, Banteay Meanchey, Kampot and Kampong Speu) in the API target areas. Strategies to address challenges and to improve partnership were identified. All participants increased their understanding on the importance of working together for positive change.	The engagement and relationships among community people with commune councillors and district governors and district councillors improved. Officials listened to community representatives as they presented information on their problems and needs. Target communities have improved their networks and resolved their community issues more effectively. More local authorities supported the community advocacy campaign at higher levels. A best practice of forming a cross

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out in 2010	Outputs in 2010	Outcomes and Impact
				community network of six community forests in Thmor Pouk district, Banteay Meanchey province was shared in the previous exchange forum in 2009; now 3 community fisheries (in Doun Lek, Thmor Dop and Kork Balang) have begun forming a cross-community fishery network. The network conducts regular meetings and members provide assistance to each other. For example, members intervened in a case of illegal clearing of a flooded forest. Leaders of community fisheries, local government officials, fishery and forest officials and provincial military officials improved their cooperation to resolve illegal fishing issues. Community people, leaders of six community forests and commune councillors from three communes in Thmor Pouk district, Banteay Meachey province improved their cooperation to advocate on land issues and organised a cross community land network to conduct monthly meetings to

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out in 2010	Outputs in 2010	Outcomes and Impact
				discuss and solve problems together.
5. Monitoring, participation, and supporting grassroots initiatives	3	API staff conducted field visits and provided coaching to grassroots advocacy trainees in Banteay Meanchey province. API collected information during these visits and also encouraged community members to continue implementing their advocacy plans API participated in a workshop organised by the Mongkol Borey district governor and district councillor on "Raising Awareness on the Roles and Responsibilities of the District Governor and Councillors."	API conducted three field visits and coaching sessions. Activities implemented by communities were shared and documented.	Good relationships between API and district governors, as well as district councillors in target areas were strengthened. The officials said that they appreciated API's partnership and committed to support all API programme activities.
6. Establish the Grassroots Human Rights and Democracy "Appreciation Awards".	4	API has developed the award concept paper and announced to the public to mobilize inputs from the interested institutes and individuals. Around ten leaders of local and international organisations provided input on the concept note including: general review, objectives, who will be awarded, process and mechanisms. API then invited all individuals who had given their input on the concept note to attend a meeting of which 8 attended.	API is well known both at national and sub-national levels of its expertise.	

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out in 2010	Outputs in 2010	Outcomes and Impact
		They included people from the Commune Council Support Project, The Asia foundation, Village Focus Cambodia, Cambodia Legal Education Centre, East West Management Institute and API. Two main points, a). to learn from others' lessons learnt – successes and failures – based on similar awards development process; and b). to further discuss the contents and process of this award development initiative. Many critical questions were raised among key interested institutions but it seems no clear answers have been made. Instead leading the initiative by API. API participated in the Commune Sangkat and Civil Society Organisation Award Project. This project is led by CCSP, Ministry of Interior, National League of Commune Sangkat funded by EU and UNDP. API is a National Technical Award Committee. API participated in all process to select the best applicants from all provinces and CSOs applicants in Cambodia.		

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
II. Freedom of Information Programme				
1. FOI Working Group Set work plan and work together to promote access to information; networking to promote A2I on national level	1	API led the FOIWG, which included members from ADHOC, the Community Legal Education Centre (CLEC), Voice of Democracy (VOD) and Women's Media Centre (WMC). The group explored approaches to encouraging adoption of an access to information law, including use of networking and cooperation with NGO sector networks, media, CSLG, NGO Forum, Legal Aid of Cambodia (LAC), UN agencies and development partners.

API became a core member of Cambodian for Resource Revenue Transparency (CRRT) to promote access to information in the extractive Industry and to become a member of the Working Group for Partnership in | The FOIWG was established. A total of 12 meetings and an annual meeting were held. The annual meeting identified a clear direction and strategies to improve effectiveness.

The group completed a 2010 work plan with participation and commitment from members.

A position paper and statement on monitoring progress of an access to information policy framework was developed and submitted to the RGC, development partners and Cambodian Development Cooperation Forum though the coordination of CCC, MEDiCAM and NGO Forum.

Briefed LAC[5] for their presentation on access to information to the Technical Working Group on Legal and Judicial Reform (TWG-LJR). | More members played more active roles to promote access to information within their organisation and partners.

UN agencies recognised the work of the group. UNDP has expressed interest in integrate this issue into its strategy from 2011- 2015.

Legislators selected access to information in a celebration of Human Rights Day held in the Senate Meeting Hall.

A member of the National Assembly[6] proposed a draft law on access to information to the chair of national-assembly.

The Ministry of National Assembly-Senate Relations and Inspection (MoNASRI) promised to take action toward the adoption of an access to information framework by 2013 through a comment in the Phnom Penh |

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[5] This organisation is the NGO representative on the working group.
[6] The author of the legislation is a member of an opposition party.

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
		Decentralization to promote A2I in decentralization and de-concentration reform.	API cooperated with NGO Forum to seek a seat in TWG-LJR and to identify the availability and accessibility of education budget information. Briefed the CSLG to help them prepare for lobbying members of parliament on access to information. Mobilised NGO sector networks (MEDiCAM, NEP, labor union, Commune Council Support Project [CCSP]) and the media to raise awareness on access to information. Delivered three training sessions to TV and radio staff, including Cambodia National TV (equity program), WMC and VOD. Gained support from UNDP, UNESCO, UNOHCHR for efforts to hold a national workshop on access to information. The UN agencies agreed to help the working group communicate with MoNASRI and to provide human and financial resources. UNDP also supported the group to organise the echo training for their partners and beneficiaries.	Post. NGOs and development partners raised the issue on 3 April 2010 in the Cambodian Development Cooperation Forum at the Council for the Development of Cambodia. However, government officials did not include a Joint Monitoring Indicator on access to information. A wide range of stakeholders, including media, NGOs, local government and development partners, expressed interest in access to information and began working to promote this concept.

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
2. Training on access to information	1	API hired a local expert to revise the training curriculum/manual with additional practical experience and best practices on from the region. Certain members of the working group members (API, Pact, COMFREL and CEDO) were selected to become trainers and they received additional support by the local expert and representative from UNDP. A training for trainers was delivered by API on 28-30 July 2010 at Sea Side hotel in Kampong Som province. The training built capacity of FOI Working Group members to campaign for access to information effectively, using a range of training methodologies.	27 participants (13 women) representing members of the FOIWG were trained. Based on the pre and post tests, a full 95% of trainees gained knowledge and skills and an average of 43.3% increased their knowledge on access to information. Specifically, 48% demonstrated increased understanding of the definition and importance of access to information, 71% could define clearly the roles of NGOs and government to implement a law as soon as it is enacted.	Most participants demonstrated an improvement in facilitation skills. For the first time, most are able to conduct training and to serve as guest speakers on radio talk shows. Some members provided echo training to their network and partners on a housing rights task force on both August and October 2010. Some trainees mainstreamed access to information issues into their activities. For example, they raised the access to information agenda on Constitution Day on 22 September 2010. Some trainees proposed two trainings on Access to Information to their partners and beneficiaries; this training would be supported by UNDP.
3. Consultation meetings on Access to Information law development	2	In cooperation with an education network (NEP), a health network (MEDiCAM), labor unions (CLEC), commune councils (CCSP), media (PCC), consultative meetings on access to information were organised. The purpose of these	Five consultative meetings were held from August to November 2010 in Phnom Penh and the provinces. There were 281 participants (82 women), representing 173 institutions and organisations.	NGOs and media were satisfied and interested in cooperation. They contributed funds, human resources and facilities to support these events. They expressed their strong interest to cooperate further in the future and to mainstream these issues into their work.

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
		meetings was to develop capacity on this issue and to identify what kinds of information in each area are relevant to the needs of public.	Participants demonstrated increased understanding: a full 70% of participants clearly understood access to information issues based on the evaluation form. Key challenges and highlights of relevant information in these five sectors were identified and documented. Key recommendations for an access to information policy framework and mechanisms to ensure such access in these fields were produced. The following IEC materials were distributed: 8,070 copies of an Access to Information handbook, brochure, and stickers were distributed to participants with instructions to distribute them to others.	Participants actively engaged in the discussions and stated that this topic is not only relevant to their work but also their personal lives. Participants stated that information on relevant laws (the Labour Law, the Press Law and laws on education, commune administration and health) and their implementation is not available, despite the existence of laws requiring information disclosure.
4. Access to Information Educational materials Access to Information training manual and curriculum;	3	With support from UNDP for design, layout, translation and printing, API printed a training manual and curriculum and a handbook. The training manual includes sections on the meaning and	The following documents were printed and distributed to working members and target groups through workshops and consultative meetings on access to information: • 200 copies of training manual/curriculum in Khmer	Working group members reported that these IEC materials are useful, interesting and they meet professional levels of quality. They said that they will serve as foundation documents in their efforts to promote access to Information in Cambodia. Participants in API events requested more

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
Introduction on Access to Information hand book		importance of access to information, national and international legal background, nine principles, exemptions from the law and with three-part test for identifying the exemptions, and tips on campaigning for access to information in Cambodia. The handbook included key concepts from the training manual in simple terms, in order to be useful to members of the public. It introduces key principles, explains the importance of this issue in Cambodia. The handbook provides more detailed information than existing API brochures on this topic.	• 200 copies of handbook in English • 2000 copies of handbook in Khmer	copies of the handbook for their organisations and their members.
5. Sponsor FOI round table radio discussions	3	To expand awareness of access to information and its importance, FOIWG members did several different radio shows. An entertainment show focused on the link between access to information and livelihoods using	A total of 19 radio talk shows were produced and broadcast live from August to December 2010 on 102 MHz & 106.5 MHz . Three radio drama shows were produced and broadcast through 106.5 MHz and Angkor Ratha based in Siem Reap	Responses indicate that greater numbers of people see the importance of access to information. Increased national and international media interest, including by Equity TV program, Phnom Penh Post, Cambodia Daily, Radio Free Asia, Women's Media Centre and Voice

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
		songs and a question and answer period. The show also posed a question to listeners via text message and a winner was awarded a price. The educational programs included round table discussions to clarify their messages. The shows were broadcast three times per week from October to December. FOIWG members marked international Right to Know Day by participating in press conferences and radio talk shows.	province. The radio coverage areas included 12 provinces. On average, seven people from nine provinces called the shows with questions and comments and 300 people from 12 provinces sent text message to answer the questions. A full 94% of the text message had correct answers. Overall the responses from radio audiences demonstrated that they had increased understanding about access to information. A press conference with a journalist and two round table discussions were held on 27-28 September 2010 to raise awareness on access to information on international Right to Know Day.	of Democracy radio programs. The international Right to Know day and Access to Information policy framework were publicised by Radio Free Asia Radio and the Phnom Penh Post on 28 September 2010. These stories noted that MoNASRI views this policy as a priority but it has no budget available for further efforts.
6. The Commune Information-Disclosure Pilot Project				
6.1 Prepare a commune plan for the project	4	In collaboration with commune councils and provincial partners (CEDAC, Mlub Baitong, PNKS, FLD. LWF, ARD, COWS and SCW), API organised participatory planning meetings with commune councillors, district governors and	Eight planning meetings in Kampot, Kampong Speu and Kampong Thom provinces included 151 participants (25 women) representing CBOs, schools and health centres. Provincial and district facilitators were also involved in this planning process.	Participants from both sides (demand side and supply side) provided support and expressed satisfaction. Relationship with local authorities and project participants were strengthened.

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
		CBOs in three provinces in order to design work plans for the Commune Information Disclosure pilot project to mainstream access to information practices into Cambodia's decentralisation and de-concentration framework.	Project work plans were designed and acknowledged by commune councils and community people. Five MOUs delineating clear roles and responsibilities were agreed to and signed by commune councillors and API with endorsement by provincial governors.	
6.2 Conduct workshops in communes	4	In cooperation with provincial partners and commune councillors, API organised commune-level workshops. The objectives of workshops were to provide a clear understanding to commune councillors, CBOs and provincial partners on commune council mandates on access to information. They also sought to publicize commune councillors' efforts to promote such access. Representatives from the Provincial Local Administrative Unit facilitated sessions related to commune council' mandates.	Eight workshops were held from May to July 2010 in five provinces. They included 472 participants (94 women). Participants understood key concepts, including the type of information at issue, the bodies entitled to disclose information, roles and duties of commune councils, to whom this right guarantees access and why it is important. Around 65%-70% of participants were able to correctly analyze a case study.	Participants recognised that lacking access to information (such as information on water pollution, land law, domestic violence, forestry issues, child labour exploitation issues, gambling and drug issues, gangsters, gender, and illegal fishing) can affect their livelihoods. Monitoring and coaching on the roles and responsibilities of the supply side revealed that, commune councillors have actively increased their efforts to disclose information, especially on the right to participate in the monthly commune council meetings. They have raised awareness on access to information issues, organised public hearings and provided more opportunities for citizens to express their opinions in meetings. Commune councillors made a commitment

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
				to put access to information on the agenda in the monthly commune meeting. Participants demonstrated increased information sharing information among commune councils.
6.3 Provide information management training	4	API designed a new training curriculum on commune information management for commune officials. The curriculum addresses five main topics, including skills on recording and filing commune documents, commune administrative letters, conflict resolution, facilitation and information dissemination. API delivered the two-day training sessions to commune councillors, village leaders, chief of health centre and schools, commune police, district local administrative staff, Community Mobilization Committee (CMC) and provincial partners in eight communes in five provinces Facilitators included staff from Provincial Unit for Local Administrative.	Two revised training curricula on commune information management training were produced. A total of 220 participants (29 women) in a total of eight trainings in eight communes (five were new to the project) were equipped with new skills and strengthened on information management system. Participants increased their knowledge and skills, as well as their understanding of the importance of information management.	Some commune councillors improved their ability to take minutes and write reports. They were able to write a two-year report on the CID project and to keep commune log books. Commune documents were better prepared and easier to find. Monitoring and coaching exercises revealed that the information management in the three communes where API has worked in the past has significantly improved. Information cabinets were displayed and easily accessible for both commune councillors and community people. However, the additional five communes have shown less significant improvements so far. Community members expressed increased satisfaction with the information available in communes: reports and minutes were helpful to those who did not attend meetings.

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
				Participants made a commitment to file documents in a systematic manner. Participants demonstrated a noticeable increase in understanding of conflict resolution and facilitation skills. They demonstrated the ability to solve domestic violence issues during role play exercises where they investigated cases and provided reasonable advice.
6.4 Conduct public hearings	4	API organised public hearings with cooperation with provincial partners. The objective of the hearings was to promote dialogues between commune councils and citizens on commune issues such as the 2010 & 2011 commune investment plans and ways to strengthen collaboration in commune development. The hearings included guest speakers from the Provincial Investment and Plan Unit, fishery unit, forestry unit, district chiefs and district councillors, commune councils, health centres, schools, police, CBOs, NGOs key informants in villages.	Eight public hearings in eight communes in five provinces were held. They included 1,054 participants (281 women). At the hearings, many questions were raised on commune financial management, construction and maintenance of roads and dams, animal and fish raising, small business, vocational training, education scholarships, and access to public information.	Participants gained increased knowledge on the process and results of the commune investment plan for 2010 and 2011. The hearings expanded space for community people to ask questions and make requests of their elected representatives. CBOs and community people said they were satisfied with the opportunity to express themselves. Community people said it increased their confidence to communicate with elected representatives and deal with the commune affairs. Most guest speakers and commune councillors provided helpful answers to the questions the people raised. Speakers strongly encouraged citizens to participate.

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
				Commune councillors, district level and the investment and plan unit at the provincial level recognised the importance of the public hearings as a method to obtain public comments.

Increased mutual trust and understanding among commune councils and community people.

A large proportion of commune councillors made a commitment to increase citizen participation, access to information, and good collaboration among commune council, CBOs, NGOs, sub-national government, and stakeholders to improve responsiveness to citizens. |
| **6.5 Support commune officials** | 4 | API provided technical support and materials to help commune councils provide information to community people in a timely manner. API also assisted them in communicating with partners/ ministries to obtain additional information such as international conventions, leaflets and booklets to educate people about the effects of smoking cigarette, and Cambodian laws. | Many documents and materials provided to officials in eight the communes such as:

- Office equipment and supplies including filing cabinets, white boards, tables, desk organisers, box folders, etc…
- 419 copies of relevant laws and sub-decrees. These laws and sub-decrees are related to the laws on natural resource management, agriculture, education, health, penal and civil codes | Commune councils encouraged the people to access information from communes and other public institutions. Some communes reported an increase in the number of community people coming to the commune office to read laws and other documents.

Commune councillors have a higher capacity to disseminate information on commune service, laws, and other information as shown by their good preparations for local meetings. |

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Outputs	Immediate outcomes
		API also supported CCs to do the outreach activities such as disseminating meetings to share information related to civil registration certificates, public order and security, illegal fishing and other relevant information. API also discussed ways to disseminate information through loud speakers. Furthermore, API conducted follow-up and coaching activities to support commune councils in carrying out their duties. API mentored commune councils on ways to organise an effective disseminating meeting, facilitation skills, preparing agendas and logistics.	and procedures, and administrative affairs, etc… - 17,933 copies of leaflets, booklets, stickers, posters, CDs related to the mandate of commune councils, access to information and other public services. 165 dissemination meetings between commune councils and citizens were held. With API support, the eight communes obtained photocopies of relevant articles and documents (commune reports, minutes) for circulation to the public.	Monthly commune council meetings were held regularly with increasing public participation and better follow up by commune councillors on issues raised by the public. Citizens place a higher value on the importance of commune councils. Increased number of people using the civil registration and other public services. Most interactions are on administrative matters rather than natural resources management. The CID project was awarded second class commune for commune award in a best practice project in Kampong Chhnang province. National officials invited project staff to make a presentation on the national level within the Working Group for Partnership in the Decentralisation. Some NGOs (GTZ, CCSP and UNDP) conducted a study visit to observe the project. Finally, Equity TV program produced show on the importance of access to information in promoting public participation in the commune development process.

6.6 Produce, print and distribute communes posters, booklets, and stickers	4	API provided technical support to produce IEC materials for eight communes in five provinces. In this process, commune councillors involved relevant stakeholders such school directors, health centre directors, police chiefs and CBOs to identify the main issues ensure relevance to their needs. The materials were targeted to the needs of specific communes. The contents for the IEC material included: - The official price, timeframe and documents for civil registration certificates, identity cards and health services. - Commune Investment Plans, the schedule for commune council meetings and contact numbers of local authorities. - Certain key articles in laws and policies that relevant to local needs, such as land, forestry, fisheries , traffic control, domestic violence, child protection and environmental protection. - Roles and duties of the local administration to promote access to information.	Three forms of commune IEC materials (stickers, poster and booklets) were approved by commune councils. Nine different booklets, three different posters and one sticker were designed for eight target communes. Different versions of the booklets and posters were designed specifically for each commune due to different needs for information. 15,000 copies of commune information booklets were printed and distributed to eight target communes. 25,500 copies of a booklet on the roles and duties of local administration to promote access to information were printed. 5,000 copies of posters about commune investment plans, the schedule for commune monthly meeting, contact numbers of authorities in the communes were printed and distributed in three target communes. 35,000 copies of a sticker showing the amount of fines for road traffic violations were printed and distributed to target communes and throughout Cambodia. IEC materials were also shared with media, local and international NGOs,	The materials were effective in providing easy access to information in general and in assisting community people in monitoring the work of officials, and ultimately make them more accountable. For example, one villager in Sethey commune questioned a health centre as to why he was charged 15000R for an injection while the commune booklet listed the price as 5000R. The materials also helped community people solve their problems. One villager in Sethey village said that as soon as she got the contact numbers of the authorities she called them to ask for help in finding her stolen cow. Commune councillors in Kork Balaing commune noted that the materials gave them credibility by demonstrating transparency. A representative from the Provincial Association of Commune/ Sangkat in Kampong Chhnang said: "It is helpful for community people who could not attend the meetings on access to the information. It can help them to remember because people find it easy to forget if they do not have this material." The commune chief added "It was not so effective if we organise the meetings without IEC materials."

			governments and development partners.	The media and NGOs working on good governance said that before they have not known the official price for civil registration certificates. They requested these materials to display in their workplace. Donors and NGOs also requested these materials to replicate for their own work.

Key planned activities	Specific result number	Actions carried out	Output	Immediate outcomes
1. Civil Society Development *Provide administrative support to Civil Society Lobby Group*	4	API monitored the need for building capacity of the CSLG. API prepared for meetings to brief and lobbying members of the National Assembly. CSLG became involved with the Anti-Corruption Coalition/Coalition for Integrity and Social Accountability, the FOIWG, Committee for Cooperation of Cambodia, NGO Forum and MEDICAM. API actively communicates and cooperates with the Technical Coordination Secretariat of the	Between four and six members actively lobbied the Commissions of the National Assembly, Senate and Assistants of Commissions twenty six times. Between four and six members participated in the five CSLG membership meetings. CSLG members shared concerns, strategies and recommendations at four meetings of other groups (mentioned in the column on the left). API participated in 13 regular meetings with INGOs focusing on legislative matters.	The CSLG is better prepared to carry out its lobbying tasks. The CSLG has stronger relationships with key lawmakers. The CSLG has a higher profile among civil society and INGOs who focus on the lawmaking process.

		National Assembly supported by the UNDP Legislative Assistant Project. Please note that this project which also discourages pre-meetings or open public policy dialogues by civil society organisations. However, this has been accepted at the present in order to maintain key relationships.		
2. Support think tanks	4	In 2010, think tanks and working groups have been formed by other NGOs. API has worked with these diverse groups to assist them in communicating with the National Assembly about ongoing national policy and law development and emerging issues. In total, 13 think tank meetings, led either by API or in collaboration with other NGOs, were held to discuss the following six issues: 1. Passing the Anti-Corruption Law 2. Changing aid effectiveness to development effectiveness framework among government and development partners 3. The draft NGO and Association Law	Research and analysis on relevant issues, policies and laws were conducted by civil society organisation stakeholders including API. Recommendations on relevant emerging policies and laws were submitted to the National Assembly, the Senate and relevant government ministries. API understands that these recommendations were considered by the legislative and executive branches of the government. Civil society recommendations, although very limited, for further law enforcement were also forwarded to and accepted by the RGC and National Assembly.	Increased capacity by civil society groups to provide substantive input into lawmaking process. Stronger relationships between CSLG and the RGC and parliament.

		4. The proposed Access to Information Law In most situations lawmakers provided very little time for NGOs to contribute to discussions before the policies or laws were officially debated and approved by the National Assembly. Therefore at five of the 13 meetings, members of CSLG were invited to participate and to convey the concerns expressed at the think tank meetings to the National Assembly as a matter of urgency.		
3. Deliver Advocacy Expert Training (AET) Course	2	Following screening and interviews of 35 applicants API accepted 29 participants, including five members of the National Assembly staff, one Senate staff member, 22 people from 13 NGOs and media and one person from a labor union. The training included the following three modules out of six in 2010: Module 4: Building and Maintaining Coalitions Module 5: Advocacy through	An 18-day training programme for 29 participants was held. Pre and post tests showed a significant increase in skills and knowledge among all participants. Skills increased by 45% in the last module. Understanding and knowledge of participants increased on most topics, except on legal services, due to the limited experience of participants with the judicial system. Five case studies of successful advocacy campaigns on land conflicts, health policy changes and garment factory issues were documented.	Of the 29 participants, 23 graduated successfully with a remarkable increase in advocacy skills and knowledge. Participants from 15 organisations developed a total of 17 advocacy plans for use following the training. Most reported that they used the training handbooks to guide them. Based on the participants' reports 77% of these advocacy campaigns were successful, as noted below: 1. Reduced health service charges for peer educators from around 5,000-40,000

| | | Legal Services
Module 6: Community Mobilisation

The training employed different methodologies to create an active learning environment: technical presentations, plenary discussions, brainstorming, working in pairs, small group work, role play, games, case studies, video, and study visits on topics such as leadership and community mobilisation. The training was facilitated by 20 Cambodian experts with diverse skills, experience and knowledge.

Between training courses participants undertook assignments to gain experience. The API team provided follow-up and coaching for 16 participants. (Please see attached AET completion report) | The training was concluded with a graduation ceremony with 100 guests, including H.E. Mrs. Chou Bun Eng, Secretary of State, Ministry of Interior (who presided), H.E. Mrs. Lesley Saunderson, Deputy Head of Mission of British Embassy, Phnom Penh, and a National Assembly representative. | Riels (1.25USD to 10.00 USD) per peer educator to free of charge.
2. Returned 15 hectares of land to community people from powerful people in Teuk Phos district, Kampong Chhnang province.
3. A social land concession was provided to the poorest families in Memot, Kampong Cham province.
4. Reduced illegal fishing in Stung Trong, Kampong Cham province.
5. Increased the number of local people using local rice seeds.
6. Improved the accountability of commune councillors regarding a hidden Commune Fund.
7. Shoe Premier II Cambodia., Co.Ltd. accepted a collective bargaining agreement. The Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training official recognised and signed the agreement.
8. Social land concessions were granted to vulnerable groups including people with disabilities. Among 230 people, 130 of the poorest households received 20mx40m of land in Kratie province. Land for the remaining families will be discussed in the second step of the negotiations.
9. More than 4,000 hectares of an economic land concession held by a Vietnamese company which was considered to be a community forest was given to more than 3,000 families in three communes in |

				Sandan district, Kampong Thom province.
				10. Three AET trainees from the National Assembly contributed to solving a land case related to a road construction project in Phnom Penh Thmey, Sangkat Sen Sok, Phnom Penh. In addition, participants from several organisations[7] provided 28 advocacy training sessions for a total of 862 people in their target communities.
4. Annual national advocacy conference	3	API and other stakeholders[8] organized the 5th National Advocacy Conference on "Working Together for Good Governance of Natural Resources.'' At the conference, participants had the opportunity to reflect on existing community issues, advocacy efforts, input into government plans and policies and the RGC's responses. The forum provided space for discussion, sharing issues and challenges, experiences and knowledge, case studies and relevant research.	A national conference was held with 350 Cambodian advocates and representatives from NGOs, donors, the RGC and the media from more than 200 communities. Mechanisms to promote best practice in advocacy were established. Mechanisms to strengthen cooperation among different communities were established. Advocacy recommendations on land, forestry, fisheries, mining, evictions and good governance issues were documented and sent to the respective key agencies and responsible line ministries. An assessment on Natural Resource	Community advocates improved their skills in designing and implementing advocacy campaigns. Increased numbers of community advocates are initiating and participating in national advocacy activities to address community needs. API strengthened relationships with government agencies by providing them with feedback from participants.

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[7] These organisations include the Cambodian Disabled People's Organisation, the Cambodian Centre for Study and Development in Agriculture, the Cambodia Centre for Human Rights, Cambodian HIV/AIDS Education and Care, and LWF in Battambang and Kampong Chhnang.

[8] Other organisers included ADHOC, CJR,CHRAC, COHRE, GAD/C, DPA, LWF, NGO Forum on Cambodia, Star Kampuchea, HRTF, PACT, Vigilance, VSO and World Vision Cambodia.

			Management issues and advocacy capacity building were produced..	
5. Provincial forms	4	In collaboration with the National Assembly, the Senate, the Ministry of Tourism and provincial governors, API organised provincial forums on two laws and their implementation (The Tourism Law; The Suppression of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation Law). The forums were aimed at a broad range of representatives from the RGC, National Assembly and civil society in Siem Reap and Kampot provinces.	Two provincial forums were held in Siem Reap and Kampot in January and August. Participants included 197 representatives of commune councils, district offices and provincial departments. Reports and recommendations were prepared. These were submitted to the National Assembly, the Senate and the RGC law enforcement ministries by the CSLG in its lobbying meetings with members of the National Assembly.	Participants gained increased understanding of the provisions of the laws on tourism and trafficking. The forums contributed to more owners of guest houses and hotels in Siam Reap province applying for official business licenses and the reduction of human trafficking cases in Kampot province.
6. Organize workshop on Access to Information and the Cambodian Parliament	4	API organised a workshop on access to information and the Cambodian Parliament jointly with the Secretariat General of the Senate. The aim of the workshop is to ensure that parliamentarians understand the provisions of access to information policy and their potential impact on social development. The workshop also sought to stimulate an exchange of ideas with and among	A workshop was held with 149 participants, including chairpersons of parliamentary commissions, parliamentarians, representatives of the RGC, diplomats, development partners and journalists. API collected opinions and suggestions on ways to gain passage of an access to information law from participants through an anonymous survey.	Comments in the anonymous survey from members of the National Assembly and Senate demonstrated significant interest in adopting an access to information law. However, with regard to actions by parliamentarians to promote the law, responses were very general.

		parliamentarians on strategies to gain passage of such a law, particularly strategies involving parliamentarians. Topics included: the importance of the right to access to information and the development of the law, the draft Access to Information Policy Framework, related provisions in existing Cambodian laws and the roles of the Cambodian Parliament in promoting this law. Guest speakers included the Second Vice President of Senate, Chairperson of Commission 1 of the Senate, API advisors and Director and Deputy Head of Mission of British Embassy and Minister of Ministry of Information.		
7. Meetings with National Assembly Commissions	# 4	API and CSLG followed up on issues identified by the Think Tank and the forums with meetings with key lawmakers. The issues discussed at these meetings included: policy recommendations on increasing democratic space in Cambodia; improving communication and engagement between civil society and the National Assembly and	A total of 26 briefing and lobbying meetings were held by API and CSLG with specific commissions, assistants of the National Assembly and the Senate.	API and CSLG have a positive relationships and with effective communication with key lawmakers: parliamentarians in Commissions 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9 of the National Assembly; Senators in the Commissions 1, 6 and 9 of the Senate; the Secretary General of National Assembly and the Senate and Assistants of each Commission. These relationships provide opportunities for NGOs to submit comments on lawmaking and implementation.

		the RGC; passage and implementation of the Anti-Corruption Law; integrating an Access to Information Law into the updated NSDP 2009-2013; changing Aid Effectiveness to Development Effectiveness through further legal implementation; integrating civil society recommendations into the draft NGO and Association Law; enforcing the Road Traffic Law; status of several existing laws (the Civil Servant Law, the Suppression of Human Trafficking and Sexual Trafficking Law and the Organic Law on Sub-National Administration).		Civil society made positive contributions to the provisions of the Anti Corruption Law approved on 17 April 2010 through comments and advocacy actions. The National Council for Anti-Corruption and the Anti-Corruption Unit are established and functioning. The Anti-Corruption law is being implemented and already a few key corrupt provincial judges and members of the police and the military have been arrested. Civil society groups now support passage of a law on access to information. Procedurally, there have been two separate developments. MoNASRI developed a draft policy framework in 2007, and a draft law was submitted to the Cambodian National Assembly on 23 December 2010 by the opposition political party.
8. API Advocacy Publication Development: **Issues-based publications** *The Advocacy Best Practice Handbook*	**3**	An assessment on natural resource management and capacity was conducted. An assessment on understanding the public policy was conducted. In order to improve capacity and share lessons learned, API documented, analysed and published the results of 109	A report in English was completed with recommendations for training materials developed to support the community-based organisations. A report in English was completed with suggested areas for further training materials development to training District and Commune Councils and organisations. A report focusing on lessons learned from 109 grassroots advocacy campaigns was produced.	

		grassroots advocacy cases. In order to compile further best practices and lessons learned, API, in cooperation with 5th National Conference Committee, collected 82 questionnaires on advocacy and natural resource from 350 conference participants, consisting of 70% community representatives, 19% CSOs and NGOs, 10% government officials and 1% media.	The report was distributed to 350 grassroots advocates who participated in the national advocacy conference and other advocacy trainings. In addition, 82 questionnaires on advocacy and natural resources were collected from conference participants. The report is used for developing training curriculum on advocacy on natural resources.	
Additional activities:				
1. Consultancy services		API provided consultancy services to Association of the Blind in Cambodia, DanChurchAid/Christian Aid, Danish Red Cross/Cambodian Red Cross and NGO on Education and Partnership.	Consulting services were provided to four NGOs for a total of seven training courses. These services generated USD18,340 in income for API.	
2. Assessment to identify API role in working on Extractive Industries (EI)		In 2010, API conducted analysis to explore the possibility of working on Extractive Industries (EI) in the Mekong Delta countries. Several organizations in Phnom Penh that work on EI came together. API also met with EISR from Indonesia on the regional strategy of EI.	API became a member of CRRT. Role of API was identified in work completed with CRRT. Training needs assessment conducted with CRRT and EISEI members.	The participation of API in CRRT is a positive step in bringing together the expertise and experience in advocacy, access to information and working with the Parliament.

		On 30 March and 01 April, 2010, API attended Oxfam America's regional Southeast Asia strategy workshop on the Governance of EI in Southeast Asia. It was recommended that all parties work together on EI issues. In order to avoid overlapping with Oxfam America, API reviewed the outcomes of the regional workshop and identified its strategies and the role it will pay in working on EI. API participated with CRRT and also held informal discussions with CODE from Vietnam about the possibility of cooperation and the actual project activity needs. At the same time, API became a core member of the Cambodians for Resource Revenue Transparency (CRRT) and it plays a key role in developing the members' skills on the advocacy and access to information in EI. In November and December 2010, API in cooperation with CRRT conducted a training needs assessment (TNA) with members of CRRT and EISEI and staff. The TNA has informed API and CRRT that it	

		is going to develop training materials on advocacy and EI in early 2011.	
3.Legal review		API cooperated with the Royal University of Law and Economic to hire their students to conduct a legal review on Cambodian laws and sub-decrees to analyze their access to information provisions. API then hired lawyers to provide a deeper analysis. To ensure high quality and professional results, a legal consultant was hired to review, coordinate and finalise the work by the students and lawyers. API believes that this study will help build a foundation for policy makers to develop a Cambodian law on the access to information.	The project produced a study detailing access to information provisions in existing Cambodian laws, as summarized below. A total of 310 of the 358 Cambodian laws approved from 1993-2010 were reviewed. Of these, 184 laws had access to information provisions of some kind. The study also analyzed 188 sub-decrees, of which 133 sub-decrees included principles related to access to information. The provisions varied. Some included the maximum disclosure exemption while the others required the government to publish and conduct consultations. However, these provisions provided no clear mechanism to ensure full public access to information. Results were presented the national workshop on access to information and roles of parliament.	Participants in the national workshop saw value in the study and responded positively to the suggestions of passing an access to information law. They demonstrated their interest and general willingness to promote such a law, and to encourage the executive branch to move forward on this work.
4. The Access Initiative (TAI)		On behalf of the National TAI Cambodia Coalition (CLEC; the Culture And Environment Preservation Association [CEPA];	The Access Initiative (TAI) Cambodia was established. A total of 18 case studies were prepared	Staff in the participating organisations improved their assessment skills and ability to write case studies.

the Centre of Development Oriented Research in Agriculture and Livelihood Systems [CENTDOR]), API produced an assessment report on environmental issues in Cambodia. The report focused on access to information, public participation and access to justice and capacity building.

The project objectives were to:

1*:* Improve the assessment skills of participating organisations to enable them to effectively use the tools and guidelines required to conduct Cambodia's first assessment on environmental issues.

2*:* Produce a country assessment report on environmental issues that is based on Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on the Environment and Development (1992)

by the TAI-Cambodia Research Team of 24 researchers[9]: from five participating organisations. Government institutions, environmental organisations and other interested parties were consulted on the draft report and their input was reflected in the final report.

The case studies were consolidated and synthesized by Dr. Raymond Leos, in cooperation with Mr. Neb Sinthay and Mr. Lam Socheat, along with all the researchers, using the assessment method developed by The Access Initiative, a global network of civil society organisations. A high quality Cambodia Assessment Report on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice was produced.

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[9] The researchers included Mr. Am Sokha; Mr. Chay Keartha; Mr. Ea Dara; Ms. Heng Thou; Mr. Hong Chhay; Ms. Katie Spencer-Smith; Ms. Khim Nina; Mr. Kok Sothea; Mr. Lam Socheat; Ms. Lim Sereyroth; Mr. Moeun Tola; Mr. Neb Sinthay; Mr. Oeung Jeudy; Mr. Peak Saven; Mr. Roeun Narith; Ms. Sek Sarom; Mr. Sam Chanthy; Mr. Sarin Say; Mr. Sek Sokha; Mr. Suon Seng; Mr. Tek Vannara; Mr. Throeung Roth; and Mr. Vy Phalluy

5. ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE

API is committed to maintaining its record of organisational excellence both in its internal and external activities. API plans to continue making improvements as necessary.

API Evaluation: API produced and finalised the Term of Reference for its evaluation with inputs from Board members. The evaluation was undertaken by VSO's advisor, Lin Collis and local consultant, Mr. Lay Samkol from April to June, 2010. The draft report was discussed by the staff and the Board. The final report was produced as attached in **Annex A**.

API Strategic plan 2011-2013: Based on key evaluation findings, API produced it's the next three years strategic plan 2011-2013.

Funding proposal: API has produced three funding proposals: a). to the Thailand Environment Institute (TEI) in Bangkok, Thailand for conducting the assessment country report on environmental issues under the name of The Access Initiative (TAI); b). to the British Embassy for working with the Cambodian Parliament to progress the passage of an Access to Information Law; c) to Danida for supporting the Access to information programme in the next three-year, 2011-2013; c). to EED and ICCO for core fund supporting the strengthening Cambodian sub-national democratic development, promoting access to information and supporting civil society for change the next three-year 2011-2013. API worked with DCA/CA to develop funding concept to apply for funding from UNDEF for the next two years.

Reports: API's progress reports are produced quarterly, every six months, annually and project completion report. API also produced a two-year progress report for 2008-2009 and a three-year narrative report for 2008-2010, as well as a donor's project completion report for internal and external use. These reports are written in English and available for each programme and finance and administration.

Regular API staff meetings: These meetings strengthen API's networking and ensure that the API team works efficiently and effectively. The annual staff retreat 2010 in Kampong Som province was particularly successful in generating reflection on: API's work and progress of staff, programmes and organisational achievements; API's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats; work plan for 2011; budget plan for 2011; policy; procedure review and clarification on staff's date to tax payment on the 13th month salary. Facilitated by API's management committee, the retreat was valuable to all staff.

Board and Management Committee meetings: At the Board meeting on 21 August 2010, members discussed and approved API's three-year strategic plan, budget, structure and employment contracts for staff and the director. A total of six Management Committee meetings were held. Main agenda items included: API three-year evaluation and strategic plan development, program achievements and remaining activity plan for the last quarter of 2010, API office move to a new location, tax payment on API's staff 13th month salary, staff incentive for Bun Pchum Ben, staff retreat, staff performance review, M&E tool development workshop for build staff capacity, establishing a staff loan (PRF) committee, updates information on IT and API web hosting and staff compensation for annual leave balance 2010.

Organisational development support: Ms. Lin Collis (VSO volunteer), Ms. Katherine De Bruyn, Arcadia Associates Inc. and Organisational Development Advisor to API supported the Director and Board members to promote a sustainable API by developing an API Income Generation/Self Reliance Strategy (14 pages) and reviewed and updated of API policies and procedures.

Volunteers: API Advisor Ms. Lin Collis assisted API by conducting a three-year evaluation of work from 2008-2010, developing a three-year strategic plan for 2011-2013 and revised API's structure and staff's job description and fundraising plans.

API Staff: In 2010, total staff of API includes eight members, as one member has resigned.

Training and education for staff: All staff members are eligible to receive USD $600.00 per annum to support their studies and training.

In 2010, API staff attended local and international workshops and training, including: The Cambodia Delegations Workshop in Malaysia; Platform HD2010-Towards a People's Multilateralism in the Asia and Pacific in Thailand; National Consultation Workshop on ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights; Financial Leadership Management Training with Integrating Human to Quality organisation; Training of Trainer on Access Information Training and EED's finance workshop. Five staff members are pursuing Masters and Ph.D. degrees and other three staff members have already completed their Masters degree.

6. FUNDING AND RESOURCES

With the funding agreements for 2010, API has received the financial support from:

The Interchurch Organisation for Development Co-operation (ICCO): US$98,129

The Danida (Royal Danish Embassy): US$105,301 (already reimbursed for 2009 expenditure of US$15,872 to API Current Account)

The Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED): US$26,356 (Excluded US$31,200 budget plan 2011)

The British Embassy (BE): US$39,759

The Asia Foundation (TAF): US$53,564

The Thailand Environment Institute (TEI): US$15,000 (yet received final instalment of US$15,000)

The budget for 2010, approved by the API Board on 11 Dec 2009, provided US$302,364. It was increased to USD376,396, including the USD36,797 additional for FOI activities, supported by Danida and USD7,235 for the campaign for information disclosure and an access to information law, supported by British Embassy and USD30,000 for TAI project (The

access initiative assessment in Cambodia) , supported by TEI (Thailand Environment Institute).

As of 2009 the balance for income generation was US$39,651

In 2010, API generated income by providing training services. Income totalled USD18,340 (including the final payment from CODE-VN= USD 1,472, Bank Interest= USD 200, AET=$300, Sida in Sweden =$3,580, and NEP = USD4, 000, Danish Red Cross=USD2, 355, DCA=USD3, 095, fee from TEI's for API's administration and management of TAI=USD1, 933 and ABC=$1,405).

API's total expenditure from January to December 2010 was USD316,621 (including the expenses of API's efforts to generate income).

A copy of the financial audit report for 2010 is in the **Annex B.**

7. CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

API has faced several challenges. Through its activities API gained experiences and identified lessons learned as follows:

1. Current grassroots advocacy handbook was mainly designed for both communities and staff of civil society organisations who are grassroots advocates; every grassroots advocacy training, some commune councilors had attended and some training materials and handout were revised to fit all participants' background. It is more effective if training and materials on grassroots advocacy are revised and redesigned only for commune councilors from different political parties.
2. API has made a positive start towards working on the RGC's decentralisation and de-concentration initiative, building civic engagement policy with commune councils as well as at district and provincial levels. There is an opportunity to expand the project to further enhance the delivery of council services (gradual shifting from administrative issues to medium and long-term matters of sustainable local resources management, people's participation, transparent and accountable local governance); to encourage understanding about the roles and responsibilities of the RGC and government officers, particularly regarding access to public information and its value.
3. Many commune councilors find it difficult to absorb new skills and knowledge and particularly to understand their roles and responsibilities and the law. The inability to record commune information and manage a filing systems contribute to a lack of transparency and information sharing. Regular and effective monitoring and mentoring of the commune councils is required. Commune councils need to strengthen monitoring of service delivery and technical aspects and to regularly share information on funds and decision making.
4. A shortage of knowledge, skills, and human and financial resources on access to information within the RGC as well as other sectors is a big challenge in the promotion of access to public information. A sustained long term commitment from donors is necessary for the resources required to build capacity on access to information.

5. There has been no progress, support or commitment from the RGC, especially from MoNASRI, on promoting or preparing a draft Rights Access to Information Policy Framework. There is a need for the FOI Working Group to communicate and build relations with MoNASRI to support the passage of this law. Support is also needed from UN agencies and donors and crucially from the Cambodian Parliament.

6. The FOI Working Group needs to be reconstituted to allow it take a more proactive role in the access to information campaign. Currently there is a high turnover of members. Some members hold junior positions in organisations which do not have a core commitment to this, and they are not prepared to support the group with resources: staff, time and funding. The working group needs to be strengthened by an assessment of its membership (including membership from an issue-based network representative), consideration of a more supportive role for API and increased ownership of its own budget.

7. The low levels of education of local people means that they have a restricted knowledge on public issues and awareness of their right to access public information and minimum interest and/or capacity to access and retain information. Campaigns to raise awareness, through local public hearing, forums/workshop and development of IEC materials, are still needed.

8. Minimal transparency throughout the government from the top to commune councilors acts as a disincentive for the public to seek information/advice from government officials. For instance: commune councilors could not receive sufficient information on the identity card policy from the police so it is hard for them to respond to their constituents.

9. The decentralisation and de-concentration is not independent of the political parties, and this is a challenge for local governance. Commune councilors often have to wait a long time for decisions to be made by their line managers. Good two-way communication and relationships from the top to bottom, from the RGC to commune councils, should be encouraged.

10. IEC material is useful to raise awareness on access to information. It is particularly effective in reaching a mass audience. Additional financial support enabled leaflet and sticker distribution to reach rural and urban groups. The opportunities which arose for further explanation of the educational materials during their distribution increased effectiveness. However, there is a need for more contemporary means to disseminate information and additional activities to monitor the impact and effectiveness of all IEC materials.

11. Mobilising the interest of media, private sector and sectoral NGO networks in access to information is an effective way to promote this issue and to draw the attention of policy makers. As soon as they see the importance of access to information, they can mainstream it into their work, raise awareness among their colleagues as well as among relevant ministries. In addition, the media could increase related coverage. Currently, the FOIWG cooperates with NGOs Education Partnership, CLEC, MEDiCAM, the Press Council of Cambodia and CCSP to organise consultative meetings on access to information within the education and labour sectors. Members of these sectors noted that this is very important to their work and said they are pleased to join hands to call for an access to information law in Cambodia. So far there has been limited engagement with these sectors and additional efforts are needed to encourage involvement.

12. Participation of Cambodian parliament members and high ranking government officials in NGO activities is minimal and difficult to achieve. It depends to some extent on each NGO's strategic communication, their cooperation with their own institutions, their

understanding of the Cambodian system of government and their personal relations and background. API understands that jointly organised activities between NGOs and the Cambodian Parliament and the RGC lead to improved cooperation between the three, greater participation and more positive results. API has learned through experience that patience and being prepared to put aside a larger amount of time and good preparation are essential for strategic communication with government officials.

13. We learned that it can make our activities easier if we are able to identify the MPs and their provincial base and invite them to participate in the civil society organisations' activities. MPs often go to their station and meet with their constituents. If there is an issue which we had discussed MPs could follow it up and take any action forward. As invitations to MPs representing the provinces where the forums are being organised enables greater cooperation and interaction during the forum and subsequent discussions. This also led to most MPs indicating that they would attend to the identified necessary changes after the forum. For example, in the Kampot provincial forum on 10 August 2010, H.E Som Chen, one of MPs representing Kampot province, attended the forum in order to speak, share, intervene and listen to what the participants had to say and took part in discussions during the forum. The MP heard the issues and concerns being voiced by the local authorities and the people. These MPs have put forward forum recommendations and results to more MPs and the Commissions of the National Assembly. MP participation has given encouragement for future cooperation between organisers like API and the provincial offices and MPs.

14. Briefing meetings by the CSLG with key Secretaries and Assistants of the Commissions of the National Assembly and Senate were considered an important way to indirectly lobby the Chairman and other members of the Commissions. These meetings fostered a greater understanding of CSLG and its work, as well as the work of API and civil society organisations. This built trust, which led the legislative staff to transmit positive messages to the Chair and members of the Commissions. Over time this improved communication and stronger relationships. These relationships are absolutely critical to successful lobbying in the future.

8. API STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2011-2013

Throughout the participatory planning processes, API we would like to introduce you to API's work in the next three years, 2011-2013.

Programmes 2011-2013
1. The Local Democratic Development (LDD) Programme promotes transparency and accountability within the decentralisation and de-concentration framework in Cambodia by improving the capacity of sub-national officials and elected council members in the three target district councils and strengthening the voice of local organisations and people to participate in local government.

2.The Access to Information (A2I) Programme promotes access to information by supporting the legislative process leading to an access to information law and encouraging a culture of information disclosure by assisting the RGC's initial steps towards a culture of maximum disclosure of public information and creating an ethos of access to and disclosure of public information in the target communes.

3. Supporting Civil Society (SCS) Programme enhances the capacity of civil society to engage and establish mutual trust in a partnership environment with the Government, the Cambodian Parliament, the RGC's development partners and donors and supports civil society networks to collaborate to improve democratic space, good governance and human rights in Cambodia through training and participatory platforms.

See detailed in **Annex C**, API Three Year Strategic Plan 2011-2013

Training Services
API supports and strengthens Cambodian advocates from across all sectors and community levels to improve their knowledge and skills about advocacy, policy development and ways to influence policy.
There are eight categories of advocacy training:

> 1). An Advocacy Expert Training Course
> 2). Advocacy Skills Training or Customised Advocacy Training
> 3). Lobby Skills Training
> 4). Grassroots Advocacy Training
> 5). Advocacy and Gender Discrimination Training
> 6). Advocacy on Access to Information
> 7). Advocacy and Natural Resources Management, and
> 8). Public Policy Analysis Training.

9. CONCLUSION

By December 2010, API had achieved its expected results. The API annual activity plan and additional activities were completely implemented. In general, there seems to be a growing solidarity and more interaction between and among commune councillors and community-based organisations and local people in the target communes. Advocacy training with rural communities seems to be most effective. It contributes towards successful advocacy campaigns and has altered attitudes towards the word 'advocacy'.

> API has positively changed people's attitudes towards commune councils in the target communes. There is more cooperation and trust in the target communes: people are actively participating at commune council meetings and this is having an encouraging indirect affect on transparency and responsiveness. Commune councils appear to be gaining an understanding about their roles and responsibilities. API places commune councillors and representatives from community-based organisations and provincial NGOs together in the same training where they all work together on an equal basis. Such training with diverse participants has created a precedent promoting greater understanding, communication and ultimately cooperation among participants after the training.
>
> A number of advocacy campaigns[10] have been successful in the provinces and their impact contributes to sustainable livelihoods and reduced concerns on issues ranging from land, forestry and fisheries, to improved natural resource management.

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[10] Appendix six: anecdotes of successful advocacy campaigns.

Freedom of Information Programme activities support understanding and change people's perception about the concept of freedom of information. This promotes awareness that access to public information is essential for good governance.

Forums on policy, community issues and access to information are providing democratic space to solve concerns and promote further understanding of law implementation.

Capacity training on advocacy, access to information and policy is empowering people, contributing to sustainable livelihoods and natural resource governance, promoting people's rights, and encouraging democratic participation.

API's staff, its advisor, working groups, provincial partners, Board of Directors and particularly donors have been crucial in providing the necessary support for API to successfully carry out activities toward its goals. API would like to express its gratitude to all its donors, including ICCO, Danida, the British Embassy, The Asia Foundation, EED and Thailand Environmental Institute for their generous financial support. API also thanks the organisations who have worked with API's consultancy service. Without the strong contribution and commitment of API staff, leaders, partners and government officials alongside financial support from all donors, the above accomplishments would not be reached.

10. APPENDICES

Annex A. API Evaluation Report
Annex B. Financial Audit 2010
Annex C. API Three Year Strategic Plan 2011-2013