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TRANSPARENCY  
INTERNATIONAL  
Cambodia



# WOMEN AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT IN LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME



# PROJECT INFORMATION

## Contract/Agreement Number

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## Final Report

01<sup>st</sup>. Jul. 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup>. December. 2024

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01<sup>st</sup>. Jul. 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup>. December. 2024

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## Report By

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# ACRONYMS / ABBREVIATIONS

-  **A2I:** Access to Information
-  **A2IWG:** Access to Information Working Group
-  **UPR:** Universal Periodical Review
-  **CSO:** Civil Society Organization
-  **IDUA2I:** International Day for Universal Access to Information
-  **NRM:** Natural Resource Management
-  **CSR:** Corporate Social Responsibility
-  **ICT:** Information Communication Technology
-  **CBO:** Community Based Organization
-  **NGO:** Non-government Organization
-  **DP:** Development Partner
-  **PR:** Public Relations
-  **ACWG:** Anti-Corruption Working Group
-  **WG:** Working Group
-  **BWG:** Budget Working Group
-  **DRWG:** Digital Right Working Group
-  **TWG:** Tax Working Group
-  **SP4ALL:** Social Protection for All
-  **TOR:** Term of Reference
-  **CPP:** Cambodia People Party
-  **CLP:** Candlelight Party

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Dialogue meeting with key stakeholders to push the draft of the A2I law:** 3 dialogue meetings were conducted with 75 participants (F=43). The API representative of A2IWG submitted letters to key ministries requesting a meeting to discuss the progress of the draft law on Access to Information, such as H.E. Neth Pheaktra, Minister of Information, and H.E. Pheap Kol, Minister attached to the Prime Minister. As a result, in the dialogue meeting, H.E. was promised a brief recommendation regarding the A2I draft law update from civil society organizations (CSOs) to the Ministry of Information directly or through letters. H.E. Preap Kol stays ongoing to support and request hosting two high-level dialogue meetings (technical and leadership meetings) to push and activate the draft A2I law through, and he will be involved with coordinating all processes.

**National workshop on jointly celebrating the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUA2I),** 3 national workshops were conducted with a total of 488 participants (F=214), As a result, on 28 September 2022, government representatives, 3 top political parties, CBOs, DP, international NGOs, and CBOs recognized the importance of access to information. Government representatives accepted the input from CSOs. The social media campaign reached 21.067 accounts and 724 reactions on A2I promotional video, Facebook contents posts and through radio talk shows. There were strong commitments from H.E Kim Kumavath, Secretary of State Ministry of Information, and H.E Pheap Kol, Minister Attached to Prime Minister to strongly promote the adoption of the Access to Information law during the IDUA2I. 3.5K viewed the live event on September 28, 2023. H.E. Ty Sokun of Commission 5 of the National Assembly and H.E. Preap Kol, Minister attached to the Prime Minister, confirmed support for adapting the draft A2I during the national workshop on jointly celebrating the IDUA2I 2024 under the theme "The ACCESS TO INFORMATION LAW boosts Investments and Economic growth in Cambodia" on September 27, 2024. 26 video Vlog competitions were submitted, 06 video vlogs were selected for the shortlist, and 03 videos were selected to be a championship. All these videos were posted on the A2IWG member's Facebook. These videos highlighted the view on input from the public on the draft of the Law on A2I to meet international standards and principles for such legislation and were displayed to target audiences during the celebration of access to information day. As a result, those videos have 46,700 views, 466 shares, 207 comments, and 491 likes. 4 radio programs were conducted to celebrate Access to Information Day, draft Access to Information Law, and highlight the importance of A2I.

**The Access to Information Working Group (A2IWG)** conducted 14 meetings with 225 participants, of which 90 were female. These meetings aimed to enhance capacity and cooperation among the members of A2IWG. There are overachievements based on the target plan. API led the A2IWG, which successfully developed a Universal Periodical Review (UPR) report on Cambodia's Access to Information issue, which was digitally submitted to the United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. The report of UPR was briefed to development partners and preventatives of USAID, EU, UK Embassy, SDC, SIDA, UNOCHR, EWMI, FHI-360, and A2IWG. A2IWG submitted the draft A2I law and CSO inputs to the top 5 political parties in the national election in 2023 to request support for A2I adapted with international standards and released two statements of national workshop results that top 5 political parties' commitment to support A2I law pass were released to media

and public. A2IWG members agreed to contribute the resources in the A2IWG work plan to advocate with both national and subnational levels to adopt the draft of the A2I law. The API secretariat of A2IWG is actively advocating for the Cambodian government to adopt the Draft Access to Information law, which aims to enhance transparency and accountability. The group has presented an updated advocacy strategy and discussed it with seven development partners and ambassadors, focusing on promoting public disclosure and addressing issues of internet censorship.

**The youth debate on fundamental freedom and the importance of the Law on Access to Information** was conducted 5 times by TI Cambodia and API with a total of 170 participants (F=116): Based on the results from the pre- and post-tests, youth increased in average 32% on their understanding of the A2I concept. The youth were fully engaged and researched the topics attentively. They conducted extensive research to gather evidence and proof to support and challenge the viewpoint. They were well prepared for speeches in support of the motion, having defined essential terms, established burdens, and provided substantive support.

## INTRODUCTION

API sees the Right to Information as a crucial vehicle for citizen empowerment and the promotion of Good Governance. Promoting information through ICT is part of the strategy. The following areas have been provisionally selected as being of special importance regarding the Right to Information and the A2I law, and will therefore be the focus of demands for public information disclosure over the next 5 years:

1. Government budget information from both national and sub-national levels – enhancing citizens' possibilities of holding the government authorities accountable.
2. Information on current business investment (contract disclosure), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), private sector investment, and public-private contract disclosure.
3. Information on Natural Resources Management – citizens' access and user rights to natural resources and transparency regarding NRM revenues – crucial to many communities' livelihoods.
4. Information on service delivery and policy implementation at the local level on basic public social services including health care, education, and others – Because it directly affects local people's livelihoods and because education and health care spending can be a huge financial burden for poor people.

# ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

## Objective 1: Increase Civic Participation Relating To National Budget Transparency And Government Accountability.

Output 1.1: Enhance Coordinated Advocacy On Public Budget Formulation And Expenditure Monitoring. Work With The Existing Budget Working Group, A CSO Coalition, To Monitor The National Budget Process

Activity 1.1.5: Enhance the capacity and cooperation of the Access to Information Working Group.

### OUTPUT

Advocacy and Policy Institute (API) Led and engaged in monthly meetings that consist of the Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG), Budget Working Group (BWG), Digital Right Working Group (DRWG), Access to Information Working Group (A2I), Working Group on Social Protection for All (SP4ALL), and Tax Working Group, which have regular monthly WG meetings for CSO-led Working Groups to promote information disclosure and advocate for the enactment of access to information law with the view of broadening democratic space and increasing public transparency and accountability in Cambodia. It works to advocate for the government, mobilize stakeholders, hold seminars and conferences, and raise awareness on access to information issues. In total, 14 access-to-information (A2I) working group meetings were conducted and facilitated by API with a total of 225 participants/organizers (90 females).



**Result:**

- ☑ Submitted the draft Access to Information law and CSOs inputs to the top 5 political parties in a national election in 2023 to request support on Access to information adapted with international standards.
- ☑ Drafted Term of Reference (TOR) of Access to Information WG (A2IWG): The goal of A2IWG focused on pushing for the adoption of A2I Law. However, A2IWG TOR has been updated to promote sectoral public information disclosure based on the existing laws/policies that benefit citizens and ensure transparency. A2I WG intends to include an International Organization and a Community-Based Organization, which need further discussion and input from the membership.
- ☑ There were two statements of national workshop results that the top 5 political parties' commitment to supporting the A2I law pass were released to the media and the public.
- ☑ Initiative of Media Taskforce: Re-call media working group to support Public Relations (PR) to promote the works of the 5 WGs (A2I, Budget, Social Protection, Digital rights, Anti-corruption), especially for the activity's implementation and campaigns.
- ☑ A2IWG members and CBOs submitted their inputs to the Ministry of Information representative.
- ☑ The Ministry of information representative gave an update on the A2I draft Law status and committed to discussing the provided inputs at the ministry level.
- ☑ A2IWG successfully developed the UPR report on the Access to Information issue in Cambodia which was digitally submitted to the United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. The report of Universal Periodical Review was briefed to development partner preventatives of (USAID, EU, UK Embassy, SDC, SIDA, UNOCHR, EWMI, FHI-360, GIZ,), Advocacy and Policy Institute (API) and member of Access to Information Working Group(A2IWG). A2IWG
- ☑ A2IWG discussed, reflected, and got input from A2IWG members on the A2I strategy Plan 2024-2025 to advocate our tactics to promote access to information law pass and public disclosure.

Developed the work plan to advocate with both national and subnational levels to adopt the draft of the A2I law, and A2I members agreed to contribute the resources for activities that are relevant to their sector.

- ☑ Finalized the TOR of A2IWG, and strategy work as well as completed the contribution resource from A2IWG. Updated the meeting between the A2IWG and H.E. Preap Kol, continued discussing the strategy plan, and discussed the concept note of the National Workshop on Celebrating Right to Know Day on September 29, 2024.



- ☑ Disseminated and shared the Code of Environment and Natural Resources, which focuses on disclosure of information and citizen participation, shared by His Excellency Soth Ya, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment. Increased awareness of the new Code of Environment and Natural Resources among CSOs, CBOs, media, and youth, and created an opportunity for them to express their concerns and contribute to the effective implementation of this law. In total, there were 19, including questions and suggestions raised during the meeting.
- ☑ Finalized the concept note and preparation of International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) 2024 with the topic “The Access to Information Law Boosts Investments in Cambodia.
- ☑ The advocacy strategy of the A2IWG to push the government to adopt the Draft Access to Information law and promote public disclosure and Internet Censorship Report 2024 was presented and updated to 7 development partners and Ambassies during 2 access to information working group meetings and joint CSO working group meeting.



**Activity 1.1.6: Engage with the Access to Information Working Group and relevant stakeholders to push for the adoption of the draft law on access to information and its enforcement when the law is passed.**

## OUTPUT

The API representative of A2IWG submitted letters to H.E Neth Pheaktra, Minister of Information, and H.E Pheap Kol, Minister Attached to the Prime Minister, requesting a meeting to discuss the progress of the draft law on Access to Information. As a result, the minister of information did not respond to our letter. H.E Neth Pheaktra agreed to have the dialogue meeting to discuss the draft law on access to information.

The API representative of A2IWG conducted three dialogue meetings to discuss the progress of the draft law on Access to Information with a total of participants 75 43 of them of women.



**Result:**

- ☑ Law and regulation framework. API hired consultant to review laws and sub-decree of Cambodia. Most laws and regulations open for access to information; however, some laws restrict access to information.
- ☑ H.E. Preap Kol was promised to present the recommendation on the A2I draft law update from CSOs to the Ministry of Information directly or letter.
- ☑ H.E. stays ongoing to support hosting two high-level dialogue meetings (technical and leadership meetings) to push the draft A2I law through, and he will be involved with coordinating all processes. In the dialogue meetings, he wants to encourage local, international NGO and other relevant stakeholders involved in.
- ☑ H.E. also stated that the draft of the A2I law should be adopted by the end of 2024 or early in 2025 because this law is extremely important in promoting social accountability and transparency of information.
- ☑ H.E. Preap Kol responded and accepted requests, at the meeting, he stated that he will ask the Council of Ministers about the final version of the draft A2I law to check whether it could be published or not and then inform the A2IWG back.



### Activity 1.1.7: National Forum on Fundamental Freedom and Access to Information.

## OUTPUT

The Advocacy and Policy Institute (API), together with the A2IWG, co-organized with the government and other relevant stakeholders to celebrate the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) and was celebrated 3 times during our project implementation Jul 2022-Dec 2024 with a total 488 participants (F=214).

**Result:**

- Government representatives, 3 top political parties, CBOs, DP, International NGOs, and CBOs acknowledged the importance of access to information and the A2I law.
- Government representatives accepted the inputs from CSOs and CBOs (including some representing indigenous and people with disabilities) and committed to make the draft A2I law pass as soon as possible.
- The Cambodia People Party (CPP), Candlelight Party (CLP), and Funcinpec Party expressed high political commitment to support the passing of the A2I law.
- A total of 21,067 accounts saw the A2I video, Facebook content, and radio talk show throughout the social media campaign.
- Citizens received the message of the “Right to Know Day” through the cycling campaign that took place in Phnom Penh on 28 September and visited several famous landmarks as well as many political institutions relevant to the A2I law with many prominent participants including members of the Council of Ministers and the National Assembly. The subsequent broad media coverage further helped spread the message and raise awareness amongst the public.

- ☑ There were strong commitments from H.E Kim Kumavath, Secretary of State Ministry of Information, and H.E Pheap Kol, Minister Attached to Prime Minister to strongly effort to promote the adoption of the Access to information law during the celebration of International Day for Universal Access to Information on September 28, 2023.
- ☑ In the period, September 28, 2023- the messages/quotes of the importance of access to information through the media is 1050 visits and reached 2,696 to huge audiences.
- ☑ Government, CBOs, DP, International NGOs, CSOs, private sectors, youth, street vendors, medias, and other relevant stakeholders acknowledged the importance of access to information and the A2I law, and urgently urge for adoption of access to information law as soon as possible.
- ☑ National workshop on jointly celebrating the International Day for Universal Access to Information 2024: H.E Ty Sokun of Commission 5 of the National Assembly and H.E Preap Kol, Minister attached Prime Minister confirmed support to adapt the Draft Access to Information Law during the national workshop on jointly celebrating the International Day for Universal Access to Information 2024 under the theme “The ACCESS TO INFORMATION LAW boosts Investments and Economic growth in Cambodia” on 27 September 2024
- ☑ A Joint statement to push the draft Access to Information Law and increase the information disclosure released to the media, and public, submitted to Prime Minister.
- ☑ 26 video Vlog competitions were summited, 06 video vlogs were selected for the shortlist, and 03 videos were selected to be a championship, all these videos were posted on the A2IWG member’s Facebook. 06 video vlogs were selected and posted.
- ☑ The video vlog competition on the three topics, such as the importance of the draft Access to Information Law, the importance of access to information on economics, environment, and climate change, as well as the importance of access to information on disclosure budget and public procurement. These 06 videos highlighted the view on input from the public on the draft of the Law on A2I to meet international standards and principles for such legislation and displayed to target audiences during the celebration of International Day for Universal Access to Information. As a result, those videos have 46,700 views, 466 shared, 207 comments, and 491 likes.
- ☑ 4 Radio programs were conducted to celebrate Access to Information Day, draft Access to Information Law, and the importance of Access to Information.



## Activity 1.1.8 Provincial workshops on access to information, freedom of expression, and media freedom.

### OUTPUT

Two provincial workshops in Battambang and Kampot will be held in partnership with CSO networks in the two provinces to raise awareness and stimulate meaningful discussions on fundamental freedom, transparency, and the need for the Law on Access to Information in Cambodia. Conduct 2 provincial workshops on access to information, freedom of expression and media freedom in Battambang and Kampot, on 22nd- Nov. 2022 and 25th Nov. 2022 have total 60 individuals and representatives from relevant stakeholders who joint the provincial forums from CSOs Battambang 26 participants, female 16 people and CSOs from Kompot have 34 participants female 22 people. Total participants: 60pax/F: 38pax

### Result

- Based on the result from evaluation, all participants were increased their understanding Understand basics of human rights and extremely focus on transparency, access to information, and access mechanisms for citizens, benefits of access to information and the evolution of access to information in Cambodia, public and private information and public and private institutions, roles and responsibilities of sub-national administrations in promoting access to information, as well as purposes of the right to information act and go on access to information and the jurisdiction of district officials regarding information disclosure to the citizen best practices and lesson learned.



## Activity 1.2.2. Youth debate on Fundamental Freedom and the importance of the Law on Access to Information.

### OUTPUT

API conducted 03 youth debate activities on Fundamental Freedom and the importance of the Law on Access to Information in Cambodia. The action aims at increasing awareness and engaging inclusive youth in principle of Access to Information (A2I). In total, # 5 youth debates were conducted, and in total 170 youth (116 females).

#### Phase 01:

- Orientation and training for A2I Awareness and Short-List Round: WYEL of API short-list the youths who applied and filled in the application form based on the criteria of announcement and successfully selected youth applicants are invited to attend the full-day training session on A2I concept and advocacy skill.
- Youth participants formed as groups, either randomly or voluntarily in 4 separate groups for 2 slots.
- During the “Shortlist Round”, the 4 Youth Groups are allowed to randomly choose the side (Oppose or Pro) on the proposed topic prepared by WYEL of API. The 04 Youth Groups are divided into different 02 slots.



**Phase 02**

- The final round, 4 separate groups for 2 slots, was completed on two different topics. The 1st slot is completed for winner 3 and winner 4, and the 2nd slot is completed for winner 1 and winner 2.

**Judgement Criteria**

- Evidence-Based: argument, reason, example, evidence, rebuttal, and logic each debater makes.
- Logical Response & Reply: addressing the right question with convincing messages.
- Coherent Manner: The way they demonstrate their speeches is very important
- Structure of speech and teamwork (team participation)



### **Committees for the final Round:**

The committee members from different backgrounds and institutions were extremely careful and analytical in their discussions to guarantee that the scoring adheres to the guidelines. Following the conclusion of the debating in each group, committees took around five minutes for reflection before reaching a final decision.

### **Result**

- Based on the results from the pre and post-tests, youth increased on average 32% on their understanding of the A2I concept through attending a short orientation on the A2I concept and advocacy skills.
- Youth engaged and researched on the topic attentively. They deeply researched to collect information and proof to support or oppose the idea. They were well prepared for speeches in support of the motion, defining key terms, establishing burdens, and providing substantive backing to strengthen their points of view.
- Youth received an update on the draft A2I law, inputs from CSOs working with their beneficiaries.
- Recorded two videos on WYEL Youth Debate to highlight the importance of the law on access to information to the public. Video.
- At the end of the debate, each group was thrilled with their results. Lam Soheat, Executive Direct, awarded certificates, money, bags, and T-shirts to the winning groups as well as delivered a speech to encourage youths to be involved and contribute to society. API provided certificates and awards in cash to all the winning groups and had group pictures together.

# INTEGRATION OF CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

- Inclusive Development, Gender Equality and Female Empowerment (activity 1.2.2)
- Sustainability Mechanisms (including local solutions and partnerships) (activity 1.2.2)
- Science, Technology, and Innovation (activity 1.2.2)
- Transparency and Accountability (activity 1.2.2)

# IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

- A few of the A2I members didn't participate in the A2I meeting regularly due to their conflicting schedules and have a mission with their organization.
- Meeting with relevant ministries to push draft of law on A2I: The team submitted invitation letters several times to the Ministry of Information, but it didn't proceed as planned because of scheduling conflicts and the Ministry of Information's delayed response with our summation letter.
- Provincial Workshop: There are severe time constraints for CSOs to provide comments/inputs for the new draft laws on public procurement, the macroeconomic framework, and the national budget law because the government provided short notice of the meeting schedule.
- Youth debate: Due to the budget being limited, there is not much chance for youth from the province to attend our short training on advocacy skills and the concept of access to information. Work with youth; we must be flexible and conduct the event on Saturday and Sunday due to most of the youth studying or working on the weekdays.

## **Lesson learned:**

- Before the A2I meeting day, the team had already emailed to invite A2I members to participate in the meeting, and for those who didn't confirm the email, the team approached them directly via call to ask for their confirmation.
- Youth debate conducted on a weekend day; it is a flexible schedule in following the youth because most of them have class on a weekday.
- In the target plan, youth debate has to be conducted 3 times with a total of 180 participants. Three young debates were held; however, the participation was still below the target. To meet a greater number of participants, the team has adjusted the budget for the third year.
- Advocacy to government institutions needs to have proper preparation, develop precise inputs/recommendations, and quality are added value to CSOs for effective advocacy and professional work.

# CASE STUDY

## AND VIDEOS



Women and Youth in Leadership Program (WYEL) is raised awareness among women and youth on accountability, transparency, and empower them to engage in decision making process.

Channy is a young influencer who has volunteered to work as a youth analyst of world events at Seeds of Cambodia and as a coach at the Cambodia-Australia Freedom Project. She is a member of the Asian Youth Advocate Network as well. She takes part actively in several youth debate events on a variety of topics including the Unpaid Work event hosted by CEDAW NGO, Let Save by FWD Life Insurance Cambodia, the Youth Assembly Model Program on the protection of individuals report hosted by TIC NGO, and the Important of Right to Information that the API NGO-organized.

She was born in a remote area where some of her fellow villagers didn't know much about the value of education. After completing grade 12, she sought a scholarship to continue her education since her family was in a difficult situation. Luckily, all her hard work paid off, and she is currently a scholarship student in year 3 and majoring in Law at Rule University.

With the Women and Youth in Leader program, Channy applied to join the youth debate organized within the Project YWEL, and was selected to join the program. She attended one full-day training session on the Access to Information (A2I) concept to increase youth's knowledge of international standards of ATI. She and her team members learned a lot. They worked together to search for evidence based with logical reasons to support their topics.

On September 29, 2023, Channy was invited to join the International Day for Universal Access to Information 2023 under the theme "The Importance of Online Spaces for Access to

Information". She spoke on behalf of Cambodian youths. She stated that "the government should adopt the Access to Information Law urgently because it is very essential for the citizens and the same government. She strongly believes that the Access to Information Law will bring Cambodia to be a more developed Country.



"I've gained a lot of knowledge about youth debating events, particularly about presenting arguments in a moral context, and using trustworthy sources. I have learned various topics of discussion in the debate event, such as women's rights, freedoms, and empowerment. I thus urge the government to pay attention to these issues and enhance the rule of law, as it is very important. Through my research, I now recognize the weaknesses in Cambodia's implementation of the laws, rights, and freedoms. Especially for our Country, which is headed toward being a developed nation with high income in 2050.



She has a positive thought for Cambodian youth, they are now developing themselves into human resources. However, the youth's interaction with the government is still lacking. "I urge the government to pay more attention. As part of their social engagement", she said. "Some young people now desire to become involved with non-governmental organizations to improve their public engagement, as well as to voice their concern with government bodies."

"Since I am aware that discrimination, inequality, and injustice exist in Cambodia and that human rights are not yet fully enforced, my long-term goal is to become a lawyer with a focus on protecting human rights. In my opinion, Cambodia would be a peaceful nation with a strong rule of law. Furthermore, I believe that my abilities will contribute to the advancement of human rights, particularly for those living in the Kingdom of Cambodia's more isolated areas."

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*Nothing I think is more important than working with young people, as they will be society's future leaders. And if the youth are left behind, the youth will face loneliness and be unable to contribute to the development of the country.*

Stated by Channy



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ADVOCACY AND POLICY INSTITUTE

## ADVOCACY AND POLICY INSTITUTE

**A leading Cambodian NGO active in advocacy,  
policy influencing, capacity building,  
good governance and dialogue facilitation  
between citizens and state actors**

*The Advocacy and Policy Institute (API) is a Cambodian non-governmental organisation active in advocacy, policy influencing, good governance and civic engagement. Capacity building and dialogue facilitation are at the heart of our efforts towards democratic and sustainable development.*

*We have received widespread acclaim from both local and international organisations for our reliability, relevance and professionalism. Over a time span of almost two decades, API has helped institutionalise advocacy skills and has been striving to make local democratic and accountable governance a reality. To these ends, we have been conducting more than 300 training courses for over 10,000 participants affiliated with civil society and community-based organisations, local councils, media outlets, trade unions, Government institutions and the Cambodian Parliament.*

*API is unique in the Cambodian civil society in serving as a connector and facilitator for citizens' empowerment in their interaction with government at all levels. API has acquired first-hand experience on policy issues like access to information (A2I) through its grassroots work. Based on this vast experience, we are in the best position to make the voices of ordinary citizens count in policy-making at the national level. Here we have been trying to support government actors serve citizens according to the law and contribute to an enabling environment for citizens and civil society to express their concerns. Finally, we have been playing an important role in helping citizens understand their rights, access to information and make use of the opportunities for engagement offered by various laws and government policies.*

*Our programmes are guided by a human rights based approach. API serves all Cambodians and values the diversity of gender, sexual orientation and identity, (dis)ability, ethnicity, faith and political opinions. At the same time, we are especially committed to supporting the most disadvantaged in their efforts to make their voices heard.*

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