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Cambodian Center for Human Rights

**CCHR Fundamental Freedoms Alert – Phnom Penh, 17 June 2021**  
**Four Environmental Activists Arrested in Phnom Penh and Kandal Province**

**Date of the incident:** 16 June 2021  
**Category of HRD:** Environmental activists  
**Location:** Phnom Penh and Kandal Province  
**Nature of threat:** Freedom of Association

On 16 June 2021, three environmental activists were arrested in Phnom Penh's Duan Penh district at around 11am after they filmed sewage in the river near Royal Palace. The three activists are Sun Ratha, Seth Chhiv Limeng and Ly Chandarvuth. Another activist was arrested in Kandal province's Koh Thom district after he was summoned by authorities. All four are members of Mother Nature Cambodia. According to the latest information we received, the three arrested in Khan Duan Penh were brought to the Anti Cyber Crime Department for questioning. In the afternoon of 17 June 2021, the three individuals were still being detained for questioning at the National Police. They will be sent to the Phnom Penh Municipal Court for further proceedings once the questioning is over. There is no information on the whereabouts for the arrested activist in Kandal province.

In September 2020, three environmental activists, Thun Ratha, Long Kunthea and Phoun Keo Reaksmey, all of whom are also members of Mother Nature Cambodia, were arrested in Phnom Penh for their plan to organize a one-woman march from Wat Phnom to the Prime Minister's residence to share their concerns over the development of Bueng Ta-mouk, one of the last remaining lakes in Phnom Penh. The three were charged with incitement and sentenced to 18-20 months' imprisonment and fined four million riels each by the Phnom Penh Municipal Court in May 2021. All three remain in Prey Sar Prison.

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