Many of these rights are protected under Cambodian Domestic law as well:

**THE RIGHT TO TRADITION** (Art. 9)

Indigenous peoples have the right to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs.

This includes the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures.

**THE RIGHT TO FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSENT**

(1) Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.

(3) These lands, territories and resources shall be given legal recognition and protection by the State.

**THE RIGHT TO DUE RECOGNITION** (Art. 27)

States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources.

**THE RIGHT TO LAND** (Art. 26)

(1) Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.

(2) These lands, territories and resources shall be given legal recognition and protection by the State.

**THE RIGHT TO RELIGION** (Art. 12)

Indigenous peoples have the right to manifest, practise and teach their spiritual and religious traditions, customs and ceremonies.

**Protection against Forced Evictions** (Art. 10)

Indigenous peoples shall not be forcibly removed from their lands or territories.

**Key rights of Indigenous People**

*Indigenous people are inheritors and practitioners of unique ways of relating to people and the environment.*

*They have retained social, cultural, economic & political characteristics that are distinct from those of the dominant societies in which they live.*

**Cambodian Constitution**

*Khmer citizens shall be equal [...] regardless of race, color, sex, language, religious belief, political tendency, national origin, social status, wealth or other status.* Constitution, Art. 31

**2001 Land Law**

defines what indigenous people are, protects their rights to manage their land according to their traditional customs, and regulates what constitutes "indigenous land".

**2002 Law on Forestry**

defines the framework for management, harvesting, use, development and conservation of the forests. It includes special provisions regarding the use of forests by indigenous people who have been registered.

**2008 Law on Nature Protection Area**

defines the framework of management, conservation and development of protected areas to ensure the management, conservation of biodiversity, & sustainable use of natural resources in protected areas. Chapter 6 specifically deals with the involvement & access rights of indigenous communities.

**2009 National Policy on Development of Indigenous Minorities**

sets out government policies related to indigenous peoples in the fields of culture, education, vocational training, health, environment, land, agriculture, water resources, infrastructure, justice, tourism & industry, mines and energy.

**2009 Sub-Decree 83 on procedures of registration of lands of indigenous communities**

complements the Land Law & aims to protect indigenous peoples' rights to property, as well as to recognize their right to collective ownership. It details the process for indigenous communities to obtain collective land title.

*Other relevant laws include, amongst others:*

- 1996 Law of Protecting Cultural Heritage;
- 1996 Law on Environment Protection and Natural Resource Management;
- 1999 Law on Establishment of the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction;
- 2001 Law on Management and Exploitation of Mining Resource;
- 2004 Policy on Registration and Right to Use of Land of Indigenous Communities in Cambodia.


*Indigenous Minorities*