Strengthening CSOs to Advocate for Increasing Respect for Human Rights by Corporate Actors in the Land Sector (the “BHR Project”)
BHR Project: 2016 - 2020

**Overall goal:** to increase respect for human rights by corporate actors in the land sector.

**Objectives:**
1. Improve the land rights situation in selected cases through corporate and government engagement
2. Empower local communities and CSOs to advocate for their rights, particularly land rights
3. Increase public demand for corporations and government to respect and address land rights issues
Overview of Cambodia’s Land Situation

• Land rights violations: most prevalent human rights abuse
  • Including illegal land grabbing, forced evictions, inadequate compensation and intimidation and harassment of activists
• 2001 Land Law protects land rights, but lack of enforcement
• Flawed land registering and titling process → insecurity of land tenure
• Over 2 million hectares granted in economic land concessions to private companies
• CSOs have key role in introducing innovative strategies to challenge corporate abuses
• Upcoming local and national elections in 2017 and 2018 → presents opportunity

BUT
• Significantly shrinking space for civil society in past year
  • NGO Law
  • Imprisonment of civil society members
Expected Impacts

By 2020, we hope to have:

• Created an enabling environment for land rights activists;
• Strengthened the capacities of civil society;
• Developed alternative models/processes;
• Influenced government and stakeholders’ agendas;
• Changed policies; and
• Changed corporate practices.
Thank you for your attention.

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