Human Rights Defenders Project
Executive Summary

• The situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cambodia, including the freedoms of thought, expression, assembly and association, is dire.

• Along with the increase of political and social mobilization in the country, there has been an increase in the array of repressive tactics; including harassment, threats of violence, and arbitrary arrest, to suppress political rivals, opposition journalists, land rights activists and trade unionists.

• The number of victims is greater than the support that is provided.
Human Rights Defenders in Action

Protesters ask the release of land rights activist Yorm Bopha

Police crackdown on a demonstration

International Human Rights Day

World Teacher’s day at Freedom Park
Human rights defenders are people who:

- individually or collectively,
- work peacefully,
- on behalf of others,
- to promote and defend internationally recognised human rights.
Project Goal

The HRDs Project is established to serve two goals:

• **To protect** HRDs who, as a result of their activism in the promotion and protection of human rights, find themselves the subject of legal- or humanitarian threats;

• **To promote** the rights of HRDs through research and advocacy to promote legal, structural and policy changes to ensure respect for the right to defend human rights.
Project Objectives

• The main objective of the project is to promote and protect the rights of HRDs who are at threat.

• Mobilize and optimize available resources from civil society organizations and private sectors to support HRDs who are at threat - including for legal representations, humanitarian aid and other forms of assistance through the HRD Fund.

• Through research and analysis, CCHR identifies institutional failings and legislative shortcomings that the RGC can address to and improve the situation of fundamental freedoms and rights in Cambodia.
Project Values

• To ensure that HRDs can continue their work by protecting them from being harmed.

• Seek to support HRDs and value their work and strengthen the spirit of HRDs.

• Provide a clear understanding of the situation of HRDs.
Project Activities:

• Determine HRDs who are at threat
  • Media follow-up
  • Identify the needs for HRDs
  • Secure necessary assistance to HRDs

• Provide protection to HRDs under threat, determining the kind of support necessary and the mechanism for redress
  • Legal aid/fee
  • Humanitarian aid
  • Emergency aid (physical and psychological)
  • Providing safety/security
  • Allocate assistance at best
Project Activities:

- Monitoring the situation of HRDs across the country, raising awareness of the dire situation faced by HRDs:
  - Public events
  - Roundtables
  - HRDs alerts to inform about cases of harassment
  - Reports about the situation faced by HRDs in Cambodia

- Establish partnership with grassroots, national and international organizations
  - Disseminating the information
  - Organizing trainings for HRDs
CCHR Training of Trainers in Sihanoukville
Contact details

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• **Visit** CCHR’s website: [www.cchrcambodia.org](http://www.cchrcambodia.org)

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