



The Advocacy and Policy Institute

Annual Progress Report 1 January - 31 December 2008

I. INTRODUCTION

This is the first Annual Report of the newly established Advocacy and Policy Institute. The Advocacy and Policy Institute (API) is a Cambodian non-profit and non-government organisation with a mission to serve Cambodia's long term democratic and social development needs through the provision of advocacy and policy development services. API was localised from Pact Cambodia's Advocacy and Policy Programme which was established in July 2003 by nine NGOs¹. It became registered with the Ministry of the Interior on 17 July 2007. API has become known as one of the leading advocacy capacity building institutions in Cambodia and is increasingly becoming involved in direct advocacy and policy activities.

2. THE THREE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN (2008-2010)

The Strategic Plan commits API to concentrate on three main programmes with specific results:

1. Grassroots Democracy Programme (GDP) – aims to promote democratic participation and human rights at grassroots level by educating and supporting community based organisations, local government (Commune Councils) and local NGOs, so that they are more effective in advocating their communities' needs.

Specific Results:

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| 1: | Increased knowledge, skills, confidence and contacts of grassroots advocates so that they are more aware of their rights and more effective at conducting advocacy campaigns. |
| 2: | Increased engagement and cooperation between local citizens and government on important community human rights, democracy and development issues. |
| 3: | Increased cross-community activity in support of advocacy by grassroots community activists to regional and national level decision makers. |
| 4: | Increased appreciation for community activists among Cambodian citizens. |

2. Freedom of Information (FOI) Programme – aims to increase public access to public institutions, public information and the legislative process through a coordinated campaign that will foster a culture of maximum information disclosure and encourage the Royal Government of Cambodia and the National Assembly to adopt a FOI law to an international standard.

¹ The Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association (ADHOC), the Cambodia Women's Crisis Centre (CWCC), the Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation of Children in Cambodia (COSECAM), Project Against Domestic Violence (PADV), Star Kampuchea, Dan Church Aid (DCA), Forum Syd, Oxfam Great Britain, Development and Partnership in Action (formerly CIDSE), and Pact Cambodia
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Specific Results:

- 1: Mobilised civil society organisations with increased capacity to support and lead FOI advocacy campaign activities.
- 2: Promoted cooperation between civil society and government and secured space for community input into the development of the Government's FOI policy and legal framework.
- 3: Increased public awareness of FOI and its role in the protection of livelihoods and human rights.
- 4: Mainstreamed access to information within the political centralisation and decentralization of Cambodia.

3. Advocacy Capacity Building Programme (ACP) –aims to increase the number of Cambodian civil society organisations proficient in the design, management, implementation and evaluation of lobby and advocacy campaigns and initiatives.

Specific Results:

- 1: Increased numbers of advocates initiating and participating in advocacy activities to address important community needs.
- 2: The targeted Cambodian NGOs, professional associations, trade unions, networks, and other important social groups are skilled in the design and implementation of advocacy campaigns.
- 3: A culture of effective lobbying and advocacy established through the promotion of best practice and outlining common intra and cross sector goals and cooperative measures.
- 4: A professional group of Cambodian lobbyists and advocates working together to achieve public policy outcomes from the Cambodian Government which serve the best interests of Cambodian citizens.

3. STATEMENTS OF RESULTS IN 2008

API is considered as a new institution and indeed in many ways it is: however API continues to build on the work, expertise, skills and professionalism gained as Pact's Advocacy and Policy Programme. After a smooth transition to a fully independent organisation, API has grown from strength to strength throughout the year. It is building a powerful reputation as an effective advocacy organisation and today plays a significant role in the fields of Cambodian advocacy and policy development.

During this first year, 2008, API's staff increased from five to nine competent and committed employees and has had the assistance of a volunteer programme advisor from Voluntary Services Overseas.

The year has seen a greater understanding among beneficiaries, a strengthening of partnerships between provincial partners and the Grassroots Programme and FOI Working Group and an increased number of community issues solved collectively by community and local authorities relating access to information, Land, Fishery, Forestry and Traffic Laws and particularly Commune/Sangkat Administration Law.

Throughout the year API has marketed itself and increased its valued reputation through:-

- launching the new independent office and its own website;
- organising 18 workshops and conferences at provincial and national level;
- publishing FOI publicity educational materials (stickers and brochures), 'The Political Party's Platform on Access to Information' pamphlet, a 'Gender Discrimination and Advocacy' handbook, a booklet and 'The Roles and Responsibility of Commune Councilors and Citizens Rights';
- building partnerships with five provincial organisations and Provincial Commune/Sangkat Associations in Banteay Meanchey, Kampong Thom and Kampong Chhnang provinces;

- cooperating within eighteen FOI Working Group members and seven national conference organising committees;
- building the capacity of 216 Cambodian advocates, including 78 women, from community leaders and 59 NGOs by providing six grassroots advocacy skills and four intermediate advocacy training courses and an advanced advocacy skills training course;
- organising six community forums, seven provincial forums, three launches for API educational materials, one national advocacy conference in collaboration with API's partners to provide opportunities for 1,547 people (including 471 women) representing communities, NGOs and government institutions to discuss their community and access to information issues and national policies relating to their livelihoods; and
- effectively leading the FOI Working Group.

API's three programmes aim to contribute towards furthering human rights and democracy.

A. Grassroots Democracy Programme

Five provincial partners. The Provincial Commune/Sangkat Association, the Cambodian Organisation for Women Support, the Minority Organisation for Development Economy, the Tek Dey Sovannaphum and the Village Support Group were selected to be API's GDP partners based on organisational assessments and consultations with their donors. The partnerships have proved satisfactory for both parties and have positively contributed towards achieving common programme objectives through clear planning, communication, highly participation and ownership. In addition to the provincial NGO partners interest is coming from fishery and forestry community leaders, community people, village leaders, Commune Councilors and District Governors to know more about and participate in the Grassroots Democracy Programme.

Grassroots advocacy training courses. Demand exceeds supply for grassroots advocacy training as the value of the skills gained becomes recognised. The Programme organised a three day advocacy skills training course for selected active community leaders (Commune Councilors and staff from the provincial partner organisations living and working in communities with crucial social and livelihood issues). The skills centred on: a rights' based approach to mobilise communities; the necessity to prioritise community issues, collect evidence and information, collaborate with relevant stakeholders and produce advocacy plans; and integrating the advocacy concept into Partners' programmes. Partners learned for the first time how to strengthen partner organisational capacity by organising forums and training to mobilise, analyse and solve community issues and to raise awareness of the law. Participants are now using API's tools to coach and support community advocacy initiatives by facilitating advocacy meetings, developing petitions, filing law suits and liaising with higher level government officials. Many practical community issues concerning the roles and duties of Commune Councils and land and forestry were solved.

Produce, print and distribute the booklet. The booklet on the 'Roles and Responsibilities of Commune Councilors and Citizens' were produced with the aim of increasing understanding and use of the key articles of the Constitution and Land, Forestry, Fishery and Commune and Sangkhat Administration Laws relating to Commune Councilor roles and the duties and rights of citizens. It has created much interest among Cambodian community people, local and international organisations and local authority staff including the District Governors and Commune Councilors in Kompong Chhnang and Banteay Meanchey provinces and has been in great demand from organisations for their target audiences.

Citizens and Local Government Forums. The six community forums created invaluable opportunities for frank discussion, increased understanding and creating networks. The forums provided the opportunities commune councilors and local authorities to meet grassroots people to solve community issues and identify concerns in the development agenda. There is increasing recognition of the importance and advantages of participation and cooperation and more community forums have been requested in different communes. An increasing number of

Commune Councilors would like to organise forums and have committed to attend grassroots advocacy training.

The Annual Grassroots Forum. The two day annual forum in Siem Reap provided a space to discuss, share and consider old as well as new ideas and to foster networking and trust. This year community stakeholders from different communities and provinces unanimously agreed to work together towards better participation and collaboration between fishery and forestry communities, land networks, local authorities (Commune Councilors) and provincial partner organisations. The annual forum increased community understanding of citizen's and Commune Councilors' rights, responsibilities and roles in addressing community issues, particularly those involving community forestry, fishery and land and helped to raise people's self confidence to speak out, share concerns and demonstrate in front of their local authority. The discussions about the roles and responsibilities of commune councilors and citizens has led to an increase in communication and cooperation between local citizens and the Government on important community human rights, democracy and development issues with clear recommendations and commitments from all the relevant stakeholders. Many practical community issues and concerns have been raised, discussed and solved satisfactorily through cross community learning and support.

Monitoring, participation and supporting grassroots initiatives. Ninety advocacy cases with varying degrees of success, relating to land, forestry, fishery and mining concerns were collected and recorded from grassroots advocates throughout Cambodia. The documentation positively contributes to the future effectiveness of Cambodian advocacy training including API's training and publications and to the importance of sharing good practice and lesson learned.

B. Freedom of Information (FOI) Programme

The Freedom of Information Working Group. API took on the responsibility of strengthening the Freedom of Information Working Group at the beginning of 2008 with the following results: the FOI working group now meets on a monthly basis; members hold constructive discussions on FOI issues; there is a realistic and achievable work plan and strategy to work with MoNASRI; provincial consultative forums are organised; efforts have been taken to increase FOI publicity and attempts made to support and encourage the Royal Government of Cambodia to pass a Freedom of Information Law are ongoing. Additionally API and FOI Working Group members organised a FOI Working Group annual meeting to reflect and enhance the Group's strategies and best practice.

Work with the Cambodian political parties to develop their platforms on the rights access to information. A booklet (15,000 copies) about the eleven political parties' platforms on access to information. A booklet was produced to coincide with the National Assembly elections in July 2008 and distributed among the political parties, the media, universities, NGOs and the public at large. Political parties, especially the ruling party, 'The Cambodian People's Party', promised to pass an FOI law in their fourth term of government.

Publications and publicity material. The FOI Working Group with the support of API produced: 176,800 FOI stickers and 211,428 FOI brochures which were distributed throughout the whole country, a booklet (10,866 copies) about the role and responsibilities of Commune Councilors and citizens concerning the concept of FOI.

A position paper and statement on the 'Access to Information Policy Framework' for the December 2008 Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum meeting was compiled by the Cooperation Committee for Cambodia, the NGO Forum, MEDiCAM and the Working Group as a part of the NGO Statement. This was aimed at encouraging the Royal Government of Cambodia to pass a Freedom of Information Law.

Five provincial consultative forums were attended by 313 people (95 women) representing provincial government, NGOs, private sectors, students and citizens. The forums raised awareness

of the concept of freedom of information and discussed the nine key principles of the international FOI policy framework and the process of making a FOI policy framework for Cambodia.

Four live roundtable discussions on freedom of information and a specific, one hour, FOI radio programme were broadcast in November and December. Many people phoned into the programme to clarify ideas and share FOI related issues. The public response to the programmes illustrated an increase in people's interest and understanding of FOI.

Collaboration in Kampong Thom, Kampong Chhnang, Battambang and Banteay Meanchey provinces initiated between the local organisation partners, National League of Communes/Sangkats and Commune Councils in thirty two communes with the specific purpose of integrating the principles of access to information into their respective frameworks.

Three workshops on access to information with Commune Councilors and community people organised in Kampong Thom, Kampong Chhnang and Banteay Meanchey provinces to build capacity and assess the possibility of those communes mainstreaming access to information practices into Cambodia's decentralisation and centralisation movement.

C. Advocacy Capacity Building Programme

A 'Gender Discrimination and Advocacy' Handbook researched and written during the year and printed and launched in December 2008. 12,000 copies were produced (6,000 in English and 6,000 in Khmer) and widely distributed across Cambodia. The handbook is aimed at supporting people to understand gender issues and discrimination and encouraging individuals to advocate themselves through their organisations, communities and the Government to reduce gender discrimination in Cambodia while working towards a law prohibiting gender discrimination.

Five advocacy courses provided training for NGOs, national institutions and for API to improve the quality of its human resource. The courses strengthened participants' advocacy skills and was aimed at increasing the number of advocates initiating and participating in advocacy activities to address vital community needs. Over the total of twenty training days 109 trainees, fifty women, learned advocacy techniques particularly how to design and implement advocacy campaigns for people with disabilities; older people, human trafficking, child rights and indigenous rights. Results show a marked improvement in health efforts and best practices at community level.

An **Advocacy Expert Training** course is planned for 2009 and is at the design stage along with an information package and recruitment schedule.

'Working Together for the Positive Change', a National Advocacy Conference was organised jointly by API and six organisations (NGO Forum on Cambodia, ADHOC, Development in Partnership and Action; Centre for Social Development, Lutheran World Federation and Star Kampuchea) with the aim of supporting emerging advocacy leaders and practitioners. 151 participants from NGOs, government and community based organisations in sixteen provinces and two municipalities shared experiences, best practice, challenges and lesson learned. The conference is an effective way for API and other NGOs to use to set goals for government change and reduce and avoid conflict on advocacy in Cambodia.

A Provincial Forum on Road Traffic Law was held on 12 December 2008 with 88 participants from commune councils, communes, district and provincial police and military police, the Provincial Department of Public Transport, provincial governors, NGOs and donors. The forum aimed to improve road safety through boosting knowledge and greater public awareness of the Road Traffic Law and its proper implementation.

'A Strengthened Civil Society to Actively Engage with the National Assembly' is a new API project introduced at the end of 2008 to improve capacity for future public cooperation with the Secretary General of the National Assembly. To date it is too early to assess its impact.

4. PROGRAMME REPORTING: Planned activities, actions, outputs and immediate outcomes.

The following table describes Programme progress during 2008. The first column identifies the key planned activities; the second refers to a Specific Result number in the current three year Strategic Plan; the third notes the actual activities implemented; the fourth describes the known Outputs² for this first year of the Strategic Plan and the fifth column states the immediate changes (outcomes) from each activity.

| Key planned activities | Specific result number | Actions carried out in 2008 | Outputs in 2008 | Immediate outcomes |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---|
| I. Grassroots Democracy Programme. | | | | |
| 1. Identify Partner NGOs | 1 | Identified five provincial NGO partners and selected four in provinces around the Tonle Sap where there are community issues involving forestry, fishery, land and human rights violations at the commune level. Banteay Meanchey, Kampong Thom and Kampong Chhnang recognised as priority provinces. The Commune Councilor Association in Kampong Chhang selected as a partner in late 2008. | Five partner organisations formed (the Cambodian Organisation for Women Support (COWS) and the Minority Organisation for Development of the Economy (MODE) in Kampong Thom province; the Village Support Group (VSG) and Tekdey Sovann Phum (TDSP) in Banteay Meanchey province and the Provincial Association of Councilor/Sangkat in Kampong Chhnang in Kampong Chhnang province). The latter is officially supported by the Kampong Chhang Governor, District Governor and Commune Councilors. | All partners welcome selection as an API partner as they see benefits from: API's clear MOU plan and guidelines; API's ability to strengthen their staff capacity and API's capability to give effective support to communities to raise and solve community issues. Some of the issues raised have reached discussion at national level. |

² **Output** is defined as information and products resulting directly from activities or projects. It relates to the completion of one or more activities and reflects results achieved in a relatively short time period (0-2 years).

| Key planned activities | Specific result number | Actions carried out in 2008 | Outputs in 2008 | Immediate outcomes |
|---|------------------------|---|---|--|
| <p>2. Provide two, three day, Grassroots Advocacy Training courses for 50 participants (25 at each).</p> | <p>1</p> | <p>Training needs assessment undertaken with all participants before training.</p> <p>Two, three day, Grassroots Advocacy, Training courses provided in (Banteay Meanchey and Siem Reap) in cooperation with the Village Support Group (VSG) and the Minority Organisation for Development of the Economy (MODE).</p> | <p>Grassroots Advocacy Training curriculum revised based on the Training Needs Assessment results.</p> <p>53 participants attended from 25 villages including ten forestry, fishery and land conflict communities in Banteay Meanchey and Kampong Thom provinces.</p> <p>Participants increased their advocacy skills and knowledge by an average of thirty percent.</p> <p>Fourteen case studies put together on forestry and land issues and shared during the training and at the annual forum. Sixty community participants and guests speakers attended.</p> <p>Eight advocacy plans produced during the training are now being implemented on forestry, land, fishery, domestic violence and loan issues.</p> | <p>Participants continue to implement the advocacy plans produced at the training and have started to use their new skills to: mobilise people to make thumb print petitions, demonstrations and meetings with local authorities; cooperate with authorities and government officers; submit complaints to court; educate communities; consult with NGOs; deliver posters and messages and cooperate with the local police to stop illegal fishing, tree felling and community land grabbing.</p> <p>Based on the annual monitoring report from provincial NGOs partners some community advocacy efforts are still in progress while others have been remarkably successful.</p> <p>A day's grassroots advocacy echo training for eighteen participants (including three women, Commune Council members and the Village Chief) conducted by a Council member in Sandann commune, Kampong Thom province after attending this training..</p> |

| Key planned activities | Specific result number | Actions carried out in 2008 | Outputs in 2008 | Immediate outcomes |
|--|------------------------|---|--|--|
| | | | | <p>Commune Councilors, community leaders and other community representatives who had attended API advocacy training, and the Annual Grassroots Forum and community forums organised two information sessions to share their new knowledge at Commune Council monthly meetings and village meetings. 386 people including, 233 women attended.</p> |
| <p>3. Produce, print and distribute the booklet: 'The Rights of Citizens and the Responsibilities of Government'.</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>Consultation held with partners and staff across API Programmes to identify the booklet's content.</p> <p>Collaboration with the FOI Programme team to revise and produce booklet.</p> <p>Draft booklet tested with NGO partners, Commune Councilors and community representatives.</p> <p>Booklet finalised, printed, launched and distributed.</p> | <p>Several drafts of the booklet in Khmer produced and commented on by stakeholders.</p> <p>The booklet aims to meet community needs especially Commune Councilors' and community people's.</p> <p>16, 886 copies printed. (10,886 supported by the FOI Programme and 6,000 by the Grass Roots Development Programme.</p> <p>A joint launch took place on 24 December with the 'Gender Discrimination and Advocacy' Handbook.</p> <p>By the end of 2008, 3,409 booklets had been distributed to NGOs, government officers, Commune</p> | <p>Through commune workshops members of Commune Councils and community people have become interested in the booklet and have remarked: "This booklet enables us to be aware of our role. It is a key tool for disseminating information within communities".</p> <p>Interest in the booklet has increased among local NGOs, international NGOs and government officers.</p> <p>There is a high demand of NGOs for the booklet for distribution to their target groups.</p> |

| Key planned activities | Specific result number | Actions carried out in 2008 | Outputs in 2008 | Immediate outcomes |
|---|------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | Councilors and community people in 16 provinces, two cities and the media. | |
| Conduct six Citizen and Local Government Forums. | 2 | <p>Six community forums organised in partnership with TDSP, COWS, MODE and VSG.</p> <p>Community and partners suggested each forum topic to ensure that it was relevant and a high priority for each community.</p> | <p>Six community forums held in communities in communes in Kompong Thom and Banteay Meanchey provinces where there is a necessity to discuss the roles of Commune Councilors, land and forestry issues.</p> <p>An unexpected high level of 461 (166 women) participants (some not invited).</p> <p>The forums provided valuable opportunities for local people and local government officials to meet and discuss community issues.</p> <p>Eighteen community issues identified for advocacy action: nine concerned land, six about forestry, one a fishery and two related to domestic violence.</p> <p>Local authority and communities successfully solved ten issues; two are in the process of intervention and six have been unsuccessful to date meanwhile the relevant stakeholders are being regularly informed.</p> <p>Some issues, which were unable to be</p> | <p>The manner in which participants raised issues and asked questions of the local authorities implies an understanding of their rights and the responsibility of the publicly elected local authority to respond.</p> <p>Participants gave an indication that they would question more about community issues in the future.</p> <p>A community forum speaker, the Governor of Kompong Svay district in Kompong Thom province, placed issues raised at the forum on the district meeting agenda.</p> <p>Forum participants support more active communication and</p> |

| Key planned activities | Specific result number | Actions carried out in 2008 | Outputs in 2008 | Immediate outcomes |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| | | | <p>solved at a local level have been brought to the district and provincial authorities.</p> <p>1. A monkey feeding farm is polluting community water and the environment. The District Governor held a meeting with the Provincial Department of the Environment and representatives from the company owning the farm which has resulted in the submission of a written request for a community waste reservoir to the Government.</p> <p>2. Prime Minister Hun Sen, members of the National Assembly and Senate and the King are considering solutions to community forest and land issues in Banteay Chhmar Commune, Banteay Meanchey Province.</p> <p>Local authority speakers were very active and interested in the issues raised by the villagers. Whenever possible they tried to answer and they have given a strong commitment to intervene as necessary in the future.</p> <p>A thumb print petition prepared by the local authority in Banteay Chmar commune has been submitted to the King and the Hun Sen cabinet. The petition requests the King and the Government to save an area of land in</p> | <p>cooperation between local people and the Government particularly when the issue concerns community human rights, democracy and development.</p> <p>Communities recognise that a way of preserving forests and fisheries is by creating forestry and fishery communities to enable people to have daily access to natural resources.</p> <p>The increased knowledge and confidence and of many of the participants and the strengthened networks will help future advocacy campaigns.</p> |

| Key planned activities | Specific result number | Actions carried out in 2008 | Outputs in 2008 | Immediate outcomes |
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| | | | the Banteay Chmar conservation area as the legal property of the community which does not have enough farmland to make a living. | |
| 5. Monitoring, Participation and Supporting Grassroots Initiatives. | 3 | <p>API and partner staff participate in Grassroots initiatives meetings in Banteay Meanchey</p> <p>API and partner staff provided technical support for two grassroots initiative advocacy campaigns in Banteay Meanchey to solve school construction conflict in Koy Meang commune and forestry issue in Banteay Chhmar commune.</p> | <p>A set of community petitions with of thumb prints of 3,397 families and a negotiating minute sent to district, province and national offices.</p> <p>A conflict resolution meeting held between a pagoda committee and the head Buddhist monk on a school construction project.</p> | Programme staff are able to effectively monitor their work and progress and make changes as required. |
| 6. Organise a two day Annual Grassroots Forum for the exchange advocacy case studies, lessons learned and best practice. | 3 | Organise a two day annual Grassroots Forum for Exchange advocacy case studies, lesson learnt, best practices in Siem Reap in collaboration with the Programme's partners COWS, MODE, TDSP and VSG. | <p>The annual forum was attended by 48 participants (thirteen women), from 21 communities, four NGO partners and members of the Advocacy Network in Siem Reap.</p> <p>The topic was 'Cooperation between Communities and Local Authorities to Solve Community Problem'.</p> <p>Speakers shared interesting and useful case studies which were documented for future use.</p> <p>Participants gained experiences and knowledge relating to community management and strategy for the</p> | |

| Key planned activities | Specific result number | Actions carried out in 2008 | Outputs in 2008 | Immediate outcomes |
|---|------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | <p>protection of community natural resources.</p> <p>Participants discussed achievements, strength, weakness and challenges of the cooperation between local authority and community, making recommendations to respective parties to improve communication and cooperation.</p> | <p>A valuable educational resource ready for use.</p> |
| <p>7. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>Quarterly follow up with partners to report on issues, consult and give technical support.</p> <p>Six monthly partner meetings to review activity progress and achievements based on the agreed plan, the strengths of the partner and areas for improvement.</p> <p>Interview community advocates and document using questionnaires.</p> <p>Programme staff carry out monthly and quarterly reflections to update activity progress, monitor their work and enable reports to be written.</p> | <p>Detailed records of achievements, strengths, areas for improvement available for each activity for use in reports, training and future activities.</p> <p>Case studies collected and documented.</p> <p>Meetings with communities giving a valuable insight into an activity.</p> <p>Activity, quarterly, six monthly and annual progress reports produced.</p> | |

II. Freedom of Information Programme

| Key Planned Activities | Specific result number ³ | Actions carried out in 2008 | Outputs in 2008 | Immediate outcomes |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1. Organise FOI Working Group meetings | 1 | FOI Working Group (18 organisations) organised thirteen meetings to discuss FOI actions: the production, launching and distribution of stickers, brochures, booklets, the political FOI platforms and posters; the Working Group's work plan and implementation; letters to political parties requesting their platforms on the freedom of information before the national election; preparation and implementation of the FOI radio round table discussions and FOI radio programme; selecting FOI spokespersons and themes; deciding topics for the FOI consultative forum; research into monitoring the FOI development process; taking part in mapping the Government's education sector's financial information organised by the NGO forum; producing a strategy to promote FOI; building the capacity of Working Group members; identification of and instruction for new Group members; producing Terms of Reference for the FOI training curriculum consultant; writing an access to information position paper for the Cambodian Development Corporation Forum (CDCF) meeting and reflecting | <p>The 2008 FOI Working Group work plan implemented as a result of all members strongly collaborating and supporting each other and regular meetings.</p> <p>Three FOI spokespersons nominated.</p> <p>The Access to Information Position Paper submitted to the 2008 CDCF meeting. It was agreed by FOI working group that it would be separated from the Anti-Corruption Law.</p> <p>The Working Group strategy and 2009 work plan agreed.</p> | <p>The FOI Working Group is stronger and more active and its membership is increasing. Members are more actively supporting FOI activities, which as a result are more effective.</p> <p>The political platform is a reminder to the Government.</p> <p>The Working Group is able to rely on spokespeople being available as needed.</p> <p>The Working Group is ready and able to implement its work plan at the beginning of 2009.</p> |

³ The specific result number is referred to in API's Three Year Strategic Plan 2008-2010
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| | | on the FOI Working Group's strategy. | | |
| 2. A training course on FOI. | 1 | <p>Working Group meetings assessed the needs of members and the criteria for a consultant to provide training and to strengthen the capacity of members.</p> <p>Members decided to produce an access to information curriculum which would be a sustainable tool for present and new FOI Working Group members.</p> <p>Draft contents of FOI training curriculum discussed and agreed.</p> <p>Terms of Reference for a FOI consultant discussed and agreed.</p> <p>API working hard to identify a resource person to design access to information training for all Working Group members.</p> | <p>Draft contents of a FOI training curriculum available.</p> <p>Terms of Reference for a FOI consultant produced.</p> | |
| 3. Conduct five FOI consultative forums in the provinces. | 2 | <p>In collaboration with FOI working group members five FOI consultative forums took place in Kampong Cham, Svay Rieng, Takeo, Banteay Meanchey and Siem Reap provinces. Topics included: understanding FOI and its importance; the nine key principles of the FOI policy framework; participating in the development process for the policy framework for an FOI law in Cambodia.</p> <p>The forums through Equal Access, Voice of Democracy (VOD) and Women Media Centre (WMC) radio.</p> | <p>The 318 participants, including 95 women, ranged from government officials working in villages to provincial level employees, NGO staff and students.</p> <p>Participants increased their understanding of FOI: its importance, the nine key principles of the FOI policy framework and the development process of the policy framework in Cambodia.</p> <p>FOI challenges, needs and recommendations identified.</p> | <p>The Working Group will use in its future work the high level of interest cultivated in the concept of FOI and the useful suggestions on gathering knowledge about the rights access to information.</p> <p>The identified FOI challenges and needs will inform future strategies and work plans.</p> |

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| <p>4. Work with the Cambodian political parties to develop their platforms on the rights access to information.</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>API took a leading role in supporting the FOI Working Group to design, produce, launch and distribute a booklet on the FOI political platforms and seized the opportunity for an FOI advocacy campaign. Letters to the eleven political parties requested information from the political parties on their FOI platforms and a letter to the National Election Committee sought approval to publicise these platform summaries as a booklet.</p> <p>On 21 July 2008, a week before the National General Election, API and the FOI Working Group launched the booklet, 'The Platform Summary for Freedom of Information of the Eleven Political Parties Participating in the National Election on 27 July 2008'.</p> | <p>15,000 copies printed of the booklet 'The Platform Summary for Freedom of Information of the Eleven Political Parties Participating in the National Election on 27 July 2008'.</p> <p>The successful launch was an effective asset in the FOI campaign.</p> <p>Copies of the booklet were distributed fairly to the eleven political parties as well as NGOs and partners throughout Cambodia.</p> | <p>The booklet is recognised by all the political parties, especially the National Election Committee.</p> <p>Government officials and politicians in particular became more aware of the FOI concept.</p> <p>Political parties, especially the ruling party, 'The Cambodian People's Party', promised to pass an FOI law in their fourth term of government.</p> |
| <p>5. Produce, print, distribute and launch an FOI brochure, stickers and a booklet</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>FOI Programme staff and the Working Group worked together to produce, print, host a launch and distribute a publicity FOI brochure, 'The Right to Know is the Right to Live Cambodians Have the Right to Know' and stickers 'Disclose Public Information' with the aim of raising awareness about access to public information.</p> | <p>211,428 copies (162,857 in Khmer and 48,571 in English) of the FOI brochure and 176,800 FOI stickers produced.</p> <p>214 representatives from Cambodian and international organisations and the media attended the brochure and sticker launch.</p> <p>The launch was effectively publicised on five television networks (TV3, TV5, TV9, Bayon, and TVK), the local newspaper, 'Reasmey Kampuchea' published an article about the launch and the radio 'Voice of Democracy',</p> | <p>Cambodian society, local and international organisations, government officials and political parties are beginning to understand and recognise the importance of the FOI concept.</p> |

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| | | <p>The Grassroots Democracy and Freedom of Information Programmes jointly compiled and published the booklet: 'The Roles and Responsibilities of Commune Councillors and Citizens'. The publication is aimed at raising public awareness of the roles and responsibilities of Commune Councilors to disclose and disseminate information to communities while citizens are accountable for requesting and receiving information from local government and acting responsibly.</p> <p>API and the Working Group designed an FOI poster using ideas collected from Working Group members and</p> | <p>transmitted a live, five minute, interview with a Working Group member.</p> <p>A video documentary of the launch was produced for future FOI training, forum use and discussion.</p> <p>The brochure and sticker distributed to 24 provinces and cities through the FOI Working Group's network of organisations, Cambodian and international organisations, government institutions, private companies, friends, the British Embassy, donors, MONASRI, NGOs, trade unions, local authorities and the media.</p> <p>10,886 copies of the booklet in Khmer printed and distributed to government institutions, community people, local and international NGOs and the media throughout Cambodia through workshops, the launch and the national conference in 2008.</p> <p>Estimates are in the process of being sought for printing the poster.</p> | <p>People's enthusiasm for the FOI concept has resulted in FOI stickers being posted voluntarily on motorbikes, bicycles, tuk-tuks, public buildings and other public places in Phnom Penh City and the provinces.</p> <p>Several organisations and educational institutions have requested this FOI brochure and stickers to distribute in their target areas.</p> <p>Many organisations and institutions have requested large numbers of the booklet to distribute to their members and target people.</p> <p>District and commune authorities are welcome and appreciate API's FOI. They are much in demand because they are useful, easy to read and understandable.</p> |
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| | | community people to ensure its message is applicable, easily accessible and able to be understood. | | |
| 6. Sponsor FOI round table radio discussions. | 3 | <p>Broadcast twelve live radio FOI roundtable discussions.</p> <p>Broadcast twelve pre-recorded audio documentaries of the live discussions.</p> <p>Produce and broadcast two radio dramas during the live discussions.</p> <p>Broadcast 104 spots and announcements.</p> | <p>The FOI agenda is increasingly broadcast through different media, especially radio and TV.</p> <p>12 radio live discussions conducted weekly and monthly.</p> <p>Four at 7:30-8:30am and 5:00-6:00pm on FM 105 and 93.5 MHz and FM 106.5 MHz and coordinated by API, ADHOC, COMFREL, VOD and other Working Group members. Topics revolved around the importance of FOI to Cambodian society and stressed the differences between FOI and freedom of the press; FOI relating to employment; the importance of information for voters including political platforms, election details and procedures and FOI and livelihoods</p> <p>Eight roundtable discussions were live on VOD every Tuesday in November and December 2008 with different weekly topics. They were repeated-(record audio) every Friday. API and Working Group members worked with the media, taking turns to broadcast at least once a month.</p> <p>The target audience was particularly interested in the FOI dramas which highlighted the importance and impact of FOI on livelihoods and demonstrated the impact on current</p> | <p>The radio programmes encouraged audiences to question and gain a greater understanding of the importance of FOI. This was apparent through the large number of people calling into the programmes and sharing ideas.</p> <p>Audiences were attracted to listen to the FOI broadcasts by the spots and announcements and the dramas aired during roundtable discussions.</p> |

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| | | | <p>society of not having a FOI law.</p> <p>People in the provinces and municipalities of Kandal, Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Kampot, Takeo, Kampong Speu, Kampong Chhnang, and Kampong Cham provinces heard about the FOI radio discussions.</p> | |
| <p>7. Information disclosure pilot project:</p> <p>7.1. Conduct commune assessments for the information disclosure pilot project.</p> | 4 | <p>Conduct assessments in thirty two communes in four provinces: twelve communes in Kampong Chhnang; three in Battambang; eight in Kampong Thom and nine in Banteay Meanchey provinces to identify appropriate communes to mainstream freedom of information (how to gain access, disclose and distribute information) in the community.</p> <p>Hold meetings with the National League of Communes, Sangkat and the Provincial Commune Association to</p> | <p>The assessments were conducted through 27 completed questionnaires, 23 focus group discussions, seven field visits and consultations and three workshops. The assessments allowed staff to gain an understanding of commune development issues and the importance in these communes of public information and its management.</p> <p>The assessments involved people at all levels of the local authority including commune clerks, commune leaders and forestry and fishery community leaders.</p> <p>Commune assessment reports produced.</p> <p>One commune in each of the three provinces, Kampong Thom, Kampong Chhnang and Banteay Meanchey selected for the pilot information disclosure project.</p> <p>The Commune Councils showed an interest and willingness to work with API to develop freedom of information</p> | <p>The growing interest and knowledge about access to public information is a growing positive factor in local government and community communications.</p> |

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| | | identify a sustainable way to integrate access to information within the decentralisation framework. | systems. Memoranda of Understanding between API and the new partners drafted. | |
| 7.2. Conduct three FOI workshops with Commune Councillors. | 4 | <p>Conduct three workshops on FOI with Commune Councillors and community people.</p> <p>API in collaboration with Kampong Chhnang's Provincial Governor, Samaki Meanchey's District Governor, Commune Councillors, Provincial Associations, the Village Support Group (VSG), the Cambodian Organisation for Women Support (COWS) and members of the Working Group organised three FOI workshops in three provinces (Kampong Thom, Kampong Chhnang and Banteay Meanchey). These workshops were conducted to identify specific issues in the communes as well as to provide FOI capacity building for Commune Councillors.</p> | <p>91 Commune Councilors and community people gained knowledge and understanding about FOI. This is quite new in a Cambodian context.</p> <p>Local authority staff, including Provincial and District Governors and Commune Councillors, became knowledgeable about the FOI pilot project.</p> | <p>Local authority staff, including Provincial and District Governors and Commune Councillors are interested in the FOI pilot project and are enthusiastic for future cooperation.</p> |

| III. Advocacy Capacity Building Programme | | | | |
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| Key planned Activities | Specific Result number ⁴ | Actions carried out in 2008 | Outputs in 2008 | Immediate outcomes |
| <p>1. Develop Gender Advocacy Handbook and Curriculum</p> <p>1.1. Produce a Gender and Advocacy Handbook</p> | 1 | <p>Produce a Gender Advocacy Handbook and training curriculum in English and Khmer by working with a Programme Advisor from Voluntary Service Overseas.</p> <p>Consultation with fifteen individuals working on Cambodian and international gender issues, API staff and communities in Svay Chouk Commune, Kampong Chhnang Province to identify the main gender issue for the handbook. Two drafts were commented on by NGOs working on gender, the Ministry of Women Affairs and API staff.</p> <p>The handbook was written in English and translated into Khmer.</p> <p>The handbook launched on 24 December 2008. 80 guests from different organisations in Phnom Penh and the provinces attended.. This publication was additional funded by World Vision Cambodia, Development in Partnership and Action, Forum Syd, Danchurch Aid, Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO) and Voluntary</p> | <p>The results of the consultations and meetings were analysed and gender discrimination identified as a priority topic for the handbook.</p> <p>12,000 copies of the 'Gender Discrimination and Advocacy' handbook printed, 6,000 copies in Khmer and 6,000 copies in English.</p> <p>At the launch the handbook was requested by 32 international and national Non Government Organisations and the Government for use in offices, with projects, in communities and in libraries</p> <p>2,903 handbooks distributed to international and national NGOs working on gender issues in addition to communities, training participants and their NGOs and to Voluntary</p> | <p>The handbook is creating much interest as advocacy on gender discrimination is a new thing in Cambodia.</p> |

⁴ # of Specific Result in the API 3-Year Strategic Plan 2008-2010

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| 1.2. Produce a gender discrimination and advocacy training curriculum | 1 | <p>Write a gender discrimination and advocacy training curriculum to accompany the handbook.</p> <p>The curriculum uses the handbook as a foundation and focuses on definitions (gender, discrimination and advocacy); existing national and international laws and legal instruments associated with gender and human rights, current gender discrimination in Cambodia and actions which people, communities, organisations and the Government can take to reduce gender discrimination.</p> | <p>A training curriculum in English on gender discrimination and advocacy ready for use and for translation into Khmer.</p> | <p>The curriculum was used on 3,4,5 December 2008 and will guide future gender discrimination and advocacy training sessions.</p> |
| 1.3. Conduct training on gender discrimination and advocacy for senior NGO staff and relevant API employees. | 1 | <p>API placed two newspaper advertisements calling for training participants.</p> <p>Training from 3- 5 December 2008 aimed at senior employees to support them to improve their policies and actions and to advocate more effectively against discrimination both locally and nationally.</p> | <p>Seventeen participants took part in the first gender discrimination and advocacy training: eight staff from Church World Service staff, one from Wolic Development Organization, one from CARE, a VSO volunteer working at the Cambodian Organisation for Women Support and six staff from API.</p> <p>Participants showed a particular interest in the course because it was very different from other gender awareness/mainstreaming training available currently in Cambodia.</p> <p>Based on the average results of pre-test (75.29%) and post-test (85.33%), trainees increased their knowledge by 10.04%. The training is, however, more</p> | <p>The training fills a need for people to understand gender discrimination and to act and be instrumental in encouraging everyone to realise that gender means everybody and the word is not exclusive to women.</p> |

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| | | | concerned with changing attitudes and sharing ideas than factual knowledge. | |
| 2. Advocacy Expert Training (AET) | 2 | <p>Prepare an Advocacy Expert Training course with necessary documents in English and Khmer for twenty five participants to undertake during 2009 and 2010.</p> <p>The training to consist of six courses of 3 days: a total of eighteen days.</p> <p>Prepare information package.</p> <p>Publicly announce training programme.</p> | <p>A set of AET information packages prepared containing an application form, support documents and training description including: objectives, topics, methodologies, time frames, fees and scholarships, the selection process, venues, facilitators and trainers.</p> <p>The training announced in newspapers and distributed electronically. Hard copies circulated at advocacy national conferences and to all members of Cambodia Cooperation Committee and potential organisations in Phnom Penh and the provinces.</p> | |
| 3. Organise an Annual National Advocacy Conference | 3 | <p>In cooperation with other advocacy organisations jointly organise an annual advocacy conference.</p> <p>Conference committee set up consisting of: Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association (ADHOC), Lutheran World Federation, NGO Forum, Star Kampuchea, Development in Partnership and Action (DPA), Centre for Social Development (CSD) and API.</p> <p>API staff worked with the conference committee to identify topics for the third annual advocacy conference.</p> <p>Five committee meetings worked on the concept papers, topics, budget,</p> | <p>The National Advocacy Conference was held on 25-26 December at the Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh.</p> <p>Compared with previous years the conference increased committee member ownership and support, both technical and financial: NGO Forum on Cambodia, 3,476\$; Lutheran World Federation, 300\$; Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association, 1,000\$; Development in Partnership and Action 304\$ and API 4,700\$.</p> <p>The 151 participants including 29 women were from NGOs and local authorities from sixteen provinces and two cities.</p> | <p>Participants have an increased understanding of land, fishery and mining laws and commune and sangkat administration.</p> <p>This National Advocacy Conference not only provided new knowledge and support to delegates to take action and report back after the conference but has also encouraged them to record new issues and innovative learning experiences and feedback at the 2009 Annual Advocacy Conference.</p> <p>The conference's ability to strengthen networking supports not</p> |

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| | | <p>participants, speakers, logistics, sharing of roles and responsibilities and the budget required from each committee member.</p> <p>Organise the National Advocacy Conference for 25-26 December at the Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh.</p> <p>Invite guest speakers.</p> | <p>The seventeen guest speakers were grassroots advocates in Cambodia or from the Government Departments of Land Management, Mining and Fishery Administration and NGOs.</p> <p>His Excellency. Sabu Bacha, Member of Senate, opened the conference and His Excellency Sak Setha, Secretary of State for the Ministry of the Interior closed the conference and, received participants' recommendations made during the two day group discussions.</p> <p>The topics discussed included advocacy on land disputes, land concessions, fishery, forestry, good governance and mining. Participants and speakers shared their experiences, ideas and best practice.</p> <p>Cambodian case studies were shared, discussed and documented: two on land issues in a community in Kampong Speu, two on forestry issues in communities in Kampong Speu and Banteay Meanchey and one case on indigenous rights relating to natural resource rights in Mondulkiri.</p> <p>The promises of national government officials at the 2007 forum were considered and monitored by communities.</p> <p>The conference gave a useful opportunity to share and distribute</p> | <p>only the many participants but their communities, NGOs and Commune Councils.</p> <p>The conference acted as a catalyst enabling community issues to be heard at the national level.</p> <p>The National Advocacy Conference report will be published as a hand book for future learning.</p> |
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| | | | education materials including: 400 copies of a booklet on fishery law and regulation; 300 copies of the 'Gender Discrimination and Advocacy Handbook'; 1,000 copies of 'The Roles and Responsibilities of Commune Councils and 200 copies of 'Law of Mine Management'. | |
| 4- Organise a provincial forum. | 4 | <p>Organise a provincial forum</p> <p>The Governor in Kampong Chhnang suggested that the priority topic for the provincial forum should be the road traffic law.</p> | <p>On 12 December 2008 API, in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, held a provincial forum on the Road Traffic Law and its implementation.</p> <p>88 participants attended including the Senior Provincial Governor, representatives from the British Embassy, relevant local authority and provincial departments, commune councilors, traffic police, the military and NGOs.</p> <p>All participants received a traffic hand book and traffic sign posters for use themselves and with colleagues and communities.</p> | <p>Participants have a clearer understanding about the traffic law and are expected to transfer their new knowledge to other people in Kampong Chhnang province.</p> <p>With new more effective and proper implementation of the traffic law, road accidents causing disability and death should decrease in Cambodia.</p> <p>Due to the variety and number of influential participants attending the conference many people hoped that road penalties would become fairer, gangsters who make trouble on the roads would stop and there would be justice without corruption.</p> |
| 5. Civil Society Lobby Group Development. | 2 | <p>Draft the Terms of Reference (TOR) for establishing the Lobby Group.</p> <p>Collect relevant information from local and international NGOs to learn from their experience and enable a draft concept note to be drawn up.</p> | <p>A draft of TOR produced.</p> <p>On 22 December 2008, API, in the expectation of future cooperation, introduced His Excellency Leng Peng Long, Secretary General of National Assembly to the new project: 'Strengthening Civil Society to Actively</p> | <p>Preparation for this project is ongoing.</p> |

Engage with the National Assembly'

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| <p>6. A Think Tank for supporting the Lobby Group.</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>Introduce the concept of a Think Tank to support the Lobby Group and make a survey of relevant stakeholders, especially National Assembly members and government officials.</p> <p>Identify which NGOs work with the National Assembly.</p> | <p>The National Assembly informed of the proposed work of the Lobby Group and Think Tank.</p> <p>A report produced mapping relevant NGO work.</p> | <p>The National Assembly are aware of API's actions to create a Think Tank with supporting lobby group.</p> <p>API are able to identify suitable members for the Think Tank.</p> |
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| <p>Additional activities:</p> | | | | |
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| <p>1. Consultancy Service.</p> | | <p>The Advocacy Capacity and Grassroots Democracy Programmes together provided seven individually commissioned advocacy training courses for: Handicap International, HelpAge International, Oxfam Quebec, Health Unlimited, Christian Reformed World Relief Committee and the partners of Every Child Cambodia.</p> | <p>Training varied from three to ten days and focused on advocacy for people with disabilities, older people, the health of indigenous people, human trafficking, child rights and integrated community development.</p> <p>121 staff, of which 46 are women, from local and international organizations and provincial government participated.</p> <p>Sixteen advocacy work plans focusing on people's rights were worked on during the training.</p> <p>Ten advocacy case studies were shared and documented for future used.</p> <p>API increased its generated income.</p> | <p>More NGOs and private sector organisations have become interested in the API advocacy training course and are actively approaching API to provide services.</p> <p>Participants' increased advocacy skills and knowledge has enabled their organisations to implement and improve activities in their working areas.</p> <p>The advocacy work plans are being incorporated into the respective organisation's work plans to support sustainable advocacy to achieve organisational objectives and goals.</p> |

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| <p>2. API Staff Capacity Building</p> | | <p>In addition to API's financial education allowance available to all employees to increase their professional skills, API is constantly building its staff capacity. This is done through staff meetings and the staff retreat and by developing crucial skills through the advanced advocacy skills training and the gender discrimination and advocacy training.</p> | <p>API senior staff have gained confidence and improved the skills necessary to accomplish their work to a high standard.</p> <p>Both training courses provided the comprehensive understanding and skills required by all programme officers to undertake their responsibilities effectively.</p> <p>The training courses were not exclusive to API: staff from sixteen national and international organisations, mainly World Vision and Church World Services shared experiences and lessons learned and enabled lively debate.</p> | <p>Staff are able to pass on their new skills when planning activities and providing training.</p> <p>Staff have used the knowledge and skills gained from the training to make improvements to the advocacy consultancy services for Every Child, Health Unlimited and the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee.</p> |
| <p>3. Conducting Advocacy Research</p> | | <p>Carry out an analysis of grassroots advocacy case studies and write up the findings in a report.</p> <p>During the two days, 25-26 December 2008, the Advocacy National Conference, API in cooperation with NGO Forum, ADHOC, CSD, Star Kampuchea, LWF, and DPA, conducted the grassroots advocacy research with the participants the following objectives: to know the success /failure of grassroots advocacy on land, fishery, forestry and mining issues; to support API's advocacy training both its tools and knowledge; to identify useful examples for a future API advocacy handbook and to share</p> | <p>Eighty grassroots advocacy cases documented and analysed.</p> <p>Eighty questionnaires, focusing on open questions, completed on every advocacy campaign started by a community.</p> <p>Eight focus group discussions conducted on topics not used in the questionnaires.</p> | <p>It is already apparent that this research will be invaluable for donors, API's strategy and work plan preparation, planning events and training and future advocacy campaigns.</p> |

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| | | <p>common issues with local and national advocates.</p> <p>Compile questionnaires and distribute,</p> <p>Arrange focus group discussions.</p> <p>Review National Advocacy Conference reports for 2006, 2007 and 2008.</p> <p>Investigate additional funds to publish the report.</p> | | |
| 4. API Website development | | <p>API contracted Open Forum to work with the VSO volunteer to develop an API website (www.apiinstitute.org).</p> <p>VSO supported API with USD200 towards training staff to update the website.</p> | API website launched and operating well. | As more people use the internet API can use this tool to market its activities. |

5. ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE

API is committed to maintain its record of organisational excellence both in its external and internal activities and will take measures to make improvements as necessary.

- **Reports** on progress are produced quarterly, six monthly and annually for internal and external use. They are written in English and are available for each programme and finance and administration.
- **Regular staff meetings** strengthen networking and ensure that the API team works efficiently and effectively. The annual staff retreat in Koh Kong province was particularly successful in reflecting on: API's development since independence; the progress of the staff, programmes and organisational achievements; API's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and the final touches to the 2009 work plan. The retreat was enjoyed and of value to everyone and was facilitated mainly by the VSO Programme Advisor and API's management committee.
- **Six monthly partner meetings** review activity progress based on the agreed plans, evaluate achievements, strengths and areas for improvement. Interviews with community advocates were conducted and documented using questionnaires. As a result, partnership with API is appreciated because there is clear MOU, plan, guidelines and opportunities to strengthen and build staff and beneficiaries' capacity.
- **Management Committee and Board of Director Meetings:** The Management committee consists of the programme coordinators, the administration and finance officer, the director and programme advisor. It tries to meet regularly on a monthly basis although with the heavy work commitment this is not always possible. Seven API management committees were held in 2008 to discuss and approve important items such as policies requiring to be put before the Board of Directors, API's progress reports 2008 and the 2009 work plan. At the Board of Directors meeting on 5 November 2009 the API 2009 work plan and budget, income generation policy, personnel and finance policies were approved and the Director's performance reviewed.
- **Programme monitoring and evaluation:** Six monthly partner meetings with quarterly follow up meetings, in addition to regular community interviews and annual monitoring in the field are used to provide accurate assessments of programmes and to produce periodical reports.
- **A Memorandum of Understanding** between Pact Cambodia and API has enabled API to adapt Pact's policies and procedures including financial procedures and personnel policies for its own use.
- **API's new office premises:** API moved from Pact to a new independent office in the Phnom Penh Centre. The office was officially launched in March 2008, in combination with the launch of the FOI Programme's publicity brochure and sticker.
- **Organisational development and support:** Ms. Katherine De Bruyn, Arcadia Associates Inc. and Organizational Development Advisor to the Advocacy and Policy Institute supports the Director and Board members to promote a sustainable API.
- **API staff** have increased throughout 2008 from six in January to nine by December. Staff annual performance review conducted in order to ensure quality of work and identify any staff training needs.
- **Volunteers:** A Cambodian volunteer working as an office technical assistant resigned to take up a full time position with Pact Cambodia. A Voluntary Services Overseas volunteer worked with API to produce the gender discrimination and advocacy handbook and training curriculum and support management capacity.
- **Education:** all staff can receive USD 600.00 per annum to support them to continue their graduate studies by attending international training such as 'Human Rights Peace and Human Security' in Sweden; 'Social Accountability and a Study Tour' in India and 'Human Rights' in Hong Kong or furthering their English language education.

6. FUNDING AND RESOURCES

API signed funding contracts with the British Embassy, Forum Syd, Dan Church Aid, the Interchurch Organisation for Development Co-operation and Danida. In the year of 2008, API has

received financial support from:

The ICCO of US\$76,451.89 (excludes US\$63,285 for budget plan 2009).

The DanChurchAid of US\$15,795.59.

The Forum Syd of US\$25,000.

The Danida of US\$64,209.44 and

The British Embassy of US\$22,993.17 (excludes US\$7,327 for budget plan 2009).

In the same year, 2008, API also received:

One off funds from the Development in Partnership and Action Fund of US\$1,500; World Vision Cambodia of US\$2,000 and DanChurchAid of US\$2,150 to publish the 'Gender Discrimination and Advocacy' handbook.

Income generation funds in 2008 totalled US\$29,825.93 (this includes the total bank interest US\$ 35.43 and other contribution of US\$400).

In 2008 API therefore had total budget of **US\$240,326** and total expenditure was **US\$185,957**.

The financial audit report will be available at the end of March 2009.

7. SOME CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED

Grass Roots Democracy Programme

- **The high demand for advocacy consultancy services and training** from national and international organisations requires staff to not only effectively implement API's planned activities but to commit time and energy to the extra services and responsibilities. API understands this dilemma and only some contractual training requests are accepted.
- **The National Election in Cambodia, 27 July 2008** was won by the Cambodian People's Party (CPP). The CPP decided to form a coalition government which it controls with a majority in the National Assembly and the Government: there is not any necessity to join with the other political parties for strength. Civil society is working hard to advocate to the Government because it has absolute power. The democratic space has narrowed yet some NGOs still have difficulty working together to advocate the Government on common issues.
- **API has strict financial procedures** to ensure that expenditure is restricted to the planned budget. This can mean difficulties in implementing planned activities at a time of high inflation.
- **The need for more community forums and grassroots advocacy training** for Commune Councillors is urgent and increasingly necessary. Currently there are frequent requests for more forums in more communes as their usefulness becomes recognised for the first time.
- **The necessity for advocacy skills training for local government officers** in forestry and fishery administration, provincial departments of the environment and other local government sectors is essential. Many officers have not had the opportunity to attend advocacy training and find it difficult to understand and support community advocacy campaigns.

Freedom of Information Programme

- **Limited FOI resources in Cambodia** due to FOI being a new concept in the country. It is very time consuming gaining an understanding of the international and national FOI picture and carrying out quality FOI activities to everyone's understanding.
- **The challenge of working with the political parties** to integrate FOI into their platforms took up much time.
- **Training resource person required** to design an access to information training initiative for members of the Access to Information Working Group: the majority of the resource people in the Working Group changed employment in the middle of 2008 leaving very few members with any FOI expertise. API is looking at producing an access to information curriculum which would be a sustainable tool for new FOI Working Group members now and in the future. API is trying

to communicate with other stakeholders to support an expert person to design this training curriculum but has had no success to date, partly because of funding. API has defined the curriculum contents and the consultancy terms of reference (TOR) and continues to work hard to identify the right person.

- **Team working with the Working Group** results in some activities requiring more time as a general consensus of opinion is required for such activities as sponsoring radio programmes, producing and printing information and designing posters and stickers.
- **Identifying communes to mainstream the principles of access to information** into their frameworks took longer than expected because it was essential to be absolutely sure that the most appropriate communes were selected. It was a slow process leading workshops which has led to other activities such as information management training and supporting commune council information management being postponed until early 2009.

Advocacy Capacity Building Programme

- **The National Advocacy Conference** needs to take place in October or November because by December most NGO staff have a lot of work to accomplish and are challenged to find time to participate.
- **Communication between API and the Government**, the National Assembly and Provincial Government for cooperation and to organise events is very time consuming.
- **The advocacy training curriculum requires** updating in response to future participants' changing needs, different areas of work and Cambodia developing in the modern world.
- Provision of separate and different advocacy courses for participants from communities and NGO staff would be more effective than mixing the two disparate groups together.

Administration and Finance

- **The large increase in API staff** in 2008 has been a challenge for orientation, capacity building and implementing activities to remain as agreed on the set plan.
- **The financial system failed to operate and function smoothly** as the financial staff were involved with preparing the new office and with the many administrative tasks involved in making the first six month period of API's independence a success. The financial report for the API Board of Directors and donors was delayed.

7. CONCLUSION

For the twelve month period, January to December 2008, API successfully achieved its expected results adding to the increased interest in and awareness of the reputation of the new independent API. The Institution is recognised as a leading grassroots to national advocacy capacity building institution and a foremost FOI protagonist leading to a raised public awareness of the right to access public information; a positive indication of law development being advanced through a coordinated advocacy campaign. These encouraging results are in part due to the contribution and commitment of the staff, working groups and partners alongside the valuable support given by donors and external supporters.

A summary of the year shows that all Programmes were challenged with additional initiatives to their planned work load. The Grassroots Programme achieved all the expected outputs and immediate outcomes from both planned and unplanned activities. The Freedom of Information and Advocacy Capacity Programmes were hindered by both Programmes having a full new compliment of staff yet they still managed to accomplish the majority of their key planned activities and some crucial unplanned activities with the expected results.

The Grassroots Democracy Programme implemented planned and additional activities and met its expected outputs and outcomes. Participant numbers on the training courses and at the community forums were above expectation reflecting the fact that these activities were in response to people's and Commune Councilors' needs. GDP's partners and the Commune Councilors have

requested more community forums in the other communes. Both partners and API express satisfaction at the effective mutual cooperation.

The Freedom of Information Programme instigated additional activities (working with the political parties on the FOI political platform booklet, its launch and distribution and organising an additional consultative forum) leading to the postponement of some of the 2008 activities until 2009 (Information Management training and supporting Commune Council information management). The end of year result indicates that the extra activities made a positive contribution towards the Programme's final outputs and outcomes. Throughout the year API saw an increasing interest and awareness on the rights access to information which is partly due to the contribution and commitment of API staff and members of the FOI Working Group but also to the effective cooperation and communication of the Working Group and the valuable support of donors.

The Advocacy Capacity Programme's main achievement was to present API as the organisation providing advocacy capacity building in order to empower people and to change society in a positive way. In addition the Programme built bridges between the Government, civil society and the private sector to realise the best possible, sustainable outcomes. The results which ACP accomplished in 2008 were good, if not complete, as the planned schedule was disrupted due to financial actions needed to employ an identified lobby consultant. The remaining 2008 activities are added to the 2009 work plan.

API's staff, the advisor, working groups, provincial partners, Board of Directors and particularly donors have been crucial in providing the necessary support for API to successfully carry out activities toward its goals. API would like to express its gratitude to all its donors including DanChurchAid, Forum Syd, Interchurch Organisation for Development Cooperation (ICCO), Danida, the British Embassy, World Vision, and Development and Partnership in Action for their generous financial support and to the organisations who have worked with API's consultancy service.

API's second year, 2009, activities will be effectively implemented by the existing staff who are fully committed to the 2009 action plan. (see Appendix 5)

8. Appendices

1. Photographs of activities.
2. List of API's detailed activities in 2008
3. Activities partly or fully supported by Forum Syd, ICCO and DCA.
4. Case studies.
5. API's action plan 2009

Annex 1-Pictures of API Activities in 2008

Some Pictures of Activities of Grassroots Democracy Programme in 2008



The commune forestry administrator and Deputy of district governor are reading the forestry regulation in the Community forum in Kror Yea commune on 30 April 2008, on Community Forestry issue.



A participant presenting the problem and objective tree in Grassroots advocacy training in Siem Reap on, 25-27 September 2008.



API & partner directors and representatives welcomed in the grassroots annual forum for exchange in Siem Reap province on 28-29 September 2008



Mr. Chann Bunthorm, a disabled, forest community leader is asking the speakers about his community land and forest issue in the community forum in Banteay Chmar Commune on 13 October 2008.

Some Pictures of Activities of Freedom of Information Program in 2008



The guest speakers, H.E Mao Vuthy, Deputy Provincial Governor, FOI Working Group members, are opening the FOI consultation meeting in Siem Reap province on 06 November 2008.



H.E La Davuth, National Election Committee Representative, Mr. Neb Sithay, Director of API and Mr. Yong Kim Eng, President of PDP-Center and FOI Working Group Representative are cutting the ribbon launch the booklet on political parties' platform of freedom of information on 27 July 2008.



A youth of FOI consultative meeting in Takeo province is expressing opinion on FOI issue and asking to the guest speaker on the advantages of FOI to communities' livelihood on 26 August 2008.



All commune councillors are looking the meanings of the roles & responsibilities of CC and Citizen in API booklet in FOI workshop in Kampong Chhnang province 19 Dec 2008.



Commune councillors and community leaders are playing a game of “access to information” in Banteay Meanchey province FOI workshop on 22



A participant of FOI workshop in Kampong Thom province is selecting the information card and asking the other participants to categorise the public information and private information.



This is the action of FOI IEC materials as sticker and brochure with API's office lunching. There are three important peoples as Representation of British Embassy cutting the ribbon, Mr. Rick Snell, Chef of MEA party and Mr. Neb Sinthay, Director of API.



This is the stand poster of FOI materiel. It has five types difference as the last page, produced 20 sets displayed in every FOI activity.

Advocacy Capacity Building Program



H.E Touch Marim, Kompong Chhnang Provincial Governor, British Embassy, Chief of provincial public work and transport are opening the provincial workshop on Traffic law on 12 Decemeber 2008.



H.E Sak Setha, Secretary of State, MOI & Directors of API and ADHOC are wrapping up and closing the 3rd national advocacy conference on 25-26 Dec. 2008 at Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh.



API staff and other participants are discussing on key factors of successful advocacy in Advanced Advocacy Skill Training on 11-16 August 2008.



A group photos of all participants in the Gender Discrimination and Advocacy Training conducted by Lin Collis, adviser of API, on 3-5 December 2008.



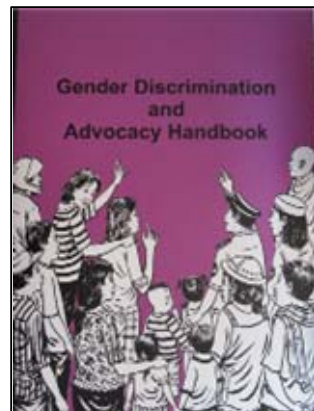
The sticker of FOI IEC materiel included the message **Disclose public information**, produced 176,800 copies.



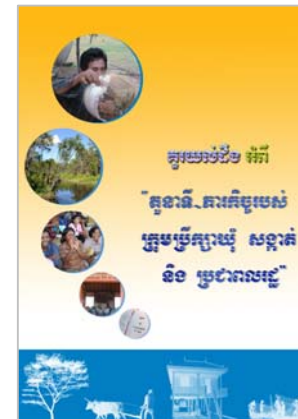
The brochure of FOI IEC materiel included the message: **The right to is the right to live and Cambodian have the right to know**, produced 211,428 copies (162,857 in Khmer and 48571 in English)



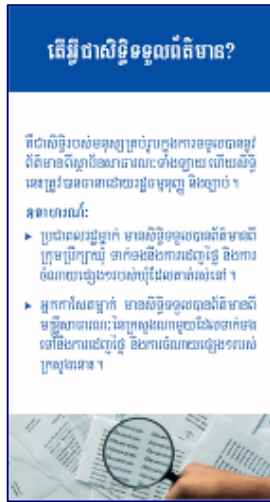
15,000 copies of the booklet of platform summary for freedom of information of the eleven political parties participating in the National Election on 27 July 2008



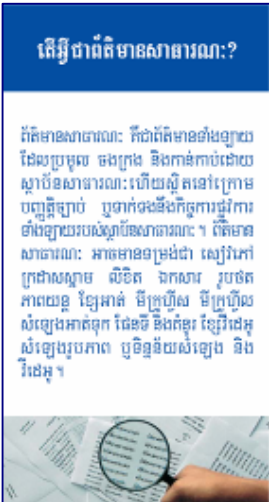
The handbook on gender discrimination and advocacy produced 12,000 books (6,000 in Khmer and 6,000 in English)



Booklet on 'Role and responsibility of Government and Citizens' rights', produced 16886 books



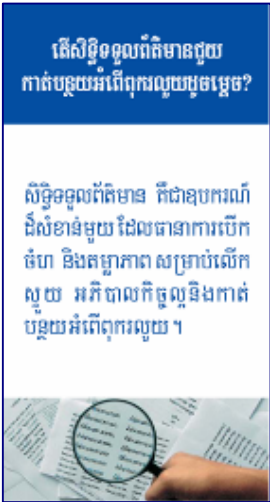
The stand poster on FOI included the question **what is the freedom of information** with definition of FOI and some examples.



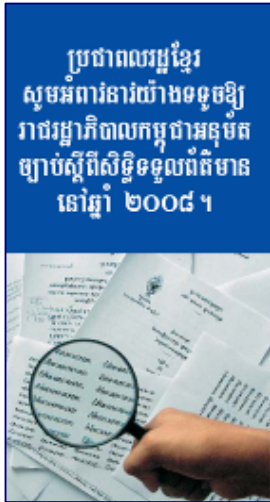
The stand poster on FOI included the question **what is the public information** with definition of FOI and some examples.



The stand poster on FOI logo included the question **Disclose public information**.



The stand poster on FOI included the question **How FOI to fight the anti-corruption?** And answer.



The stand poster on FOI stated the message **Cambodian invoke strongly the government to approve the FOI law in 2008**.

Annex 2: List of API activities implemented in 2008

| No | Date | Activity | Location of activity |
|----|---------------|--|---|
| 1 | Jan-Dec 08 | Developed Gender Discrimination and Advocacy Handbook and Training Curriculum, which has been discussed with NGO partners in Phnom Penh and has finished in December 2008. | Phnom Penh |
| 2 | Jan to Dec 08 | Developed and published 16,886 booklets on Roles and Duties of Commune Council's and Citizen's Rights and has distributed 3,409 booklets to NGOs, Government officers, media, commune councilors and community in 2 cities and 16 provinces. | Phnom Penh |
| 3 | 21-23 Jan 08 | Conducted Grassroots Advocacy Training to Handicapped International, NGO partners and target group for 3 days. There were 19 participants from Kampong Speu, Svay Rieng and Phnom Penh. | Phnom Penh |
| 4 | 1 Feb 08 | Set up new office in Phnom Penh Center Room 484, Floor 4 | Phnom Penh |
| 5 | 26-29 Feb 08 | Conducted Grassroots Advocacy Training to HelpAge International and NGO partners for 3 days. There were 25 participants, including 3 commune councilors from Battambang and Bantey Meanchey provinces | Battambang |
| 6 | 21 Mar 08 | Published 176,800 FOI stickers and 120,000 FOI brochures in Khmer and 42,857 FOI brochures in English. | Phnom Penh |
| 7 | 28 Mar 08 | Introduced and distributed FOI stickers and brochures and new office opening of the API for a half day. There were 214 people from Government institutions, embassy, students and NGO partners totaling over 100 institutions. | Phnom Penh |
| 8 | 31 Mar 08 | Organized FOI Consultative Forum for a half day. There were 53 people, including provincial officers, district officers, commune councilors, and village leaders. | Kampong Cham |
| 9 | Apr 08 | Assessed and selected NGOs partners in Kampong Thom and Bantey Meanchey | Kampong Thom and Bantey Meanchey |
| 10 | Apr 08 | Conducted research and identified communes to mainstream freedom of information in Battambang, Kampong Thom, and Kampong Chhnang. | Battambang, Kampong Thom, and Kampong Chhnang |
| 11 | 30 Apr 08 | Organized a community forum on Community | Kampong |

| | | | |
|----|--------------|--|-----------------|
| | | Forest Issue in Kro Yea commune in cooperation with COWS. There were 63 participants, including provincial officers, district officers, commune councilors, and village leaders. | Thom |
| 12 | 19-22 May 08 | Conducted Anti-human trafficking Advocacy Training to Oxfam Quebec, NGO partners, and target group for 4 days. There were 23 participants, including Officers from Women Affair Department in Steung Treng. | Phnom Penh |
| 13 | 26-28 May 08 | Conducted Grassroots Advocacy Training to partners, VSG and TDSP and target groups. There were 26 participants. | Bantey Meanchey |
| 14 | 30 May 08 | Organized a community forum on Land Issue Awareness in Kro Yea commune, Kampong Thom province in cooperation with TDSP. There were 84 participants, including provincial officers, district officers, commune councilors, and village leaders. | Kampong Thom |
| 15 | 06 June 08 | Organized a community forum on Roles and Responsibilities of Commune Councilors in Tek Mleang village, Sandan commune, Kampong Thom province. There were 64 participants, including provincial officers, district officers, commune councilors, and village leaders. | Kampong Thom |
| 16 | 21 Jul 08 | Launched a-half-day platform summary for Freedom of Information of the eleven political parties participating in the National Election on 27 July 2008. There were 76 participants, including 23 women, from National Election Committee, Parties representatives, media, NGOs, private sector and students. | Phnom Penh |
| 17 | 11-16 Aug 08 | Conducted Advanced Advocacy Skills Training for 6 days. There were 25 participants, including 11 women. The participants were Advocacy and Policy Institute staff and other NGOs in Phnom Penh. | Phnom Penh |
| 18 | 18 Aug 08 | Organized a consultative forum on Community Forum for 1 day. There were 46 participants, including 13 women, being district governor, commune councilors, commune police and community. | Kampong Thom |
| 19 | 25-27 Aug 08 | Conducted grassroots advocacy training for 3 days. There were 28 participants, including 8 women, being forestry and fishery community, community inspection committee, commune councilors and NGOs partners. | Siem Reap |
| 20 | 26 Aug 08 | Organized a consultative forum on Freedom of Information for a half day. There were 65 participants, including 17 women, being | Takeo |

| | | | |
|----|---------------|--|-----------------|
| | | provincial officers, commune councilors, commune clerk, NGOs, media, teachers, students and community. | |
| 21 | 28-29 Aug 08 | Organized a consultative forum on Annual Exchange Forum in cooperation with local authorities and community in Siem Reap for two days. There were 48 participants, including 13 women, being district governor, commune councilors, NGOs staff and community. | Kampong Thom |
| 22 | 22-26 Sep 08 | Conducted Advocacy Skills Training to Health Unlimited for 5 days. There were 16 participants, including 4 women, from Preah Vihea, Modolkiri, and Ratanakiri provinces. | Ratanakiri |
| 23 | 23 Sep 08 | Organized a consultative forum on Freedom of Information for 1 day. There were 57 participants being provincial departments, commune councilors, village leaders, provincial governor representative, royal arm forces, NGOs, media and community in Bantey Meanchey. | Bantey Meanchey |
| 24 | 13-14 Oct 08 | Organized a community forum on Forest and Land Issue for 2 days. There were 204 participants, including 56 women, being district governor, commune councilors, village leaders, and community in Bantey Meanchey province. | Bantey Meanchey |
| 25 | 3 Nov 08 | Organized workshop on Freedom of Information in cooperation with NGO partner in Kampong Thom for 1 day. There were 24 participants, including 5 women, being commune leader, commune councilors, community forest members and NGOs. | Kampong Thom |
| 26 | 06 Nov 08 | Organized a consultative meeting on Freedom of Information for 1 day. There were 68 participants, including 23 women, being deputy provincial governor, deputy district governor, provincial telecommunication department, provincial department of public works and transport, provincial department of National Assembly-Senate relation and inspection, provincial department of commerce, provincial department of rural development, provincial department of education youth and sports, department of health representative, police chief, community, NGOs, teachers, students, private sector and media. | Siem Reap |
| 27 | 03-05 Dec 08. | Conducted a Gender Discrimination and Advocacy Training. There were 17 participants included 10 women from API, Church World Services(CWS), CARE, | Phnom Penh |

| | | | |
|----|--------------|--|------------------|
| | | Cambodian Organization for Women Support, And Wolistic Development Organization. | |
| 28 | 12 Dec 08 | Organized a provincial forum on Road Traffic Law and Its Implementation for a half day. There were 88 participants, including 14 women, being provincial governor, provincial hall, provincial department of public works and transport, department of education youth and sports, royal arm forces, community representative and NGOs. | Kampong Chhnang |
| 29 | 19 Dec 08 | Organized a workshop on Freedom of Information in cooperation with NGO partner and FOI working group for 1 day. There were 31 participants, including 2 women, being district governor, commune leader, commune councilors from 9 communes, community and NGOs. | Kampong Chhnang |
| 30 | 22 Dec 08 | Organized workshop on Freedom of Information in cooperation with NGO partner and FOI working group for 1 day. There were 36 participants, including 3 women, being district governor, commune leader, commune councilors, community forest members and NGOs. | Banteay Meanchey |
| 31 | 22 Dec 08. | Organized a briefing meeting with General Secretary of National Assembly to introduce API's Project. There were 4 persons included 1 woman. | Phnom Penh |
| 32 | 24 Dec 08 | Had written, published and launched Gender Discrimination and Advocacy Handbook on 24 December 2008 for a half day. There were 79 participants, including 30 women, being representatives from Ministry of Women Affairs, 54 NGOs and 3 media. | Phnom Penh |
| 33 | 25-26 Dec 08 | Organized a conference on "The Third Annual Conference: Working Together for Positive Change" for 2 days. There were 151 participants, including 30 women, from 5 government institutions (Senate, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Industry Mines and Energy, Ministry of Land Management Urban Planning & Construction, and Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries), 26 LNGOs and INGOs and community from 18 provinces and cities. | Phnom Penh |
| 34 | Jan to Dec | Monthly FOI Working Group Meeting | Phnom Penh |
| 35 | Jan to Dec | Monthly FOI Ratio talk | Phnom Penh |

Annex 3: Activities party or fully supported by Forum Syd, ICCO and DCA.

These activities are reflected to Forum Syd's results.

Please, note that your Results should be linked to Forum Syd's results 1-4 below.

Result 1 (Strengthen participation of marginalized youth, women, men and minorities in decision making processes in communities).

Result 2 (Free and secured advocacy for human rights and rights to access natural resources)

Result 3 (Effective, professional, ethical, functioning of law enforcement judiciary)

Result 4 (Strong and effective cooperation and networking among communities, CBOs, and NGOs at local and national levels).

Activities:

Please, list your activities, location, target group and number of males (M) and females (F) participating.

| Date | Activity | Location of activity | Target Group | Result 1 | | Result 2 | | Result 3 | | Result 4 | |
|------------|---|----------------------------------|--|----------|---|----------|----|----------|---|----------|---|
| | | | | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| Jan-Jun 08 | Developed Gender Discrimination and Advocacy Handbook, which has been discussed with NGO partners in Phnom Penh and has finished the first draft. | Phnom Penh | International NGOs, local NGOs in Phnom Penh and senior government officer from Ministry of Women Affair | | | 3 | 7 | | | | |
| Apr 08 | Counselled and selected NGOs partners in Kampong Thom and Bantey Meanchey | Kampong Thom and Bantey Meanchey | International NGOs, Provincial NGOs and donors | | | | | | | 15 | 6 |
| 30 Apr 08 | Organized a community forum on Community Forest Issue in Kro Yea commune in cooperation with COWS. There were 63 participants, including provincial officers, district officers, commune councilors, and village leaders. | Kampong Thom | Provincial NGOs, district governor, Commune councilors, provincial forestry administrators, forestry | | | 38 | 25 | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--|------------------|---|--|--|----|----|--|--|--|--|
| | | | community leaders, and communities' people. | | | | | | | | |
| 26-28 May 08 | Conducted Grassroots Advocacy Training to VSG, TDSP and target group. There were 26 participants. | Bantey Meanchey | Provincial NGOs, Commune councillors, forestry and fishery community leaders, and communities' representative. | | | 20 | 6 | | | | |
| 30 May 08 | Organized a community forum on Land Issue Awareness in Thmor Bak commune, Banteay MeanChey province in cooperation with TDSP. There were 84 participants, including provincial officers, district governor, commune councillors, village leaders and communities' people | Banteay MeanChey | Provincial NGOs, Vigilance, provincial officers, district governor, commune councillors, communities' people, and village leaders. | | | 36 | 48 | | | | |
| 06 June 08 | Organized a community forum on Roles and Responsibilities of Commune Councilors in Tek Mleang village, Sandan commune, Kampong Thom province. There were 64 participants, including provincial officers, district officers, commune councilors, and village leaders. | Kampong Thom | Provincial NGOs, provincial of local administration officer, district governor, commune councillors, commune police officer, communities' | | | 40 | 24 | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--|-----------------|---|--|--|----|----|--|--|----|----|
| | | | people and village leaders. | | | | | | | | |
| 11-16 Aug 08 | Conducted Advanced Advocacy Skills Training for 6 days. There were 25 participants, including 11 women. The participants were Advocacy and Policy Institute staff and other NGOs in Phnom Penh. | Phnom Penh | NGOs in Phnom Penh | | | 14 | 11 | | | | |
| 25-27 Aug 08 | Conducted grassroots advocacy training for 3 days. There were 28 participants, including 8 women, being forestry and fishery community, community inspection committee, commune councilors and NGOs partners. | Siem Reap | Provincial NGOs, Commune councilors, forestry and fishery community leaders, and Commune Monitoring committees. | | | 20 | 8 | | | | |
| 28-29 Aug 08 | Organized a consultative forum on Annual Exchange Forum in cooperation with local authorities and community in Siem Reap for two days. There were 48 participants, including 13 women, governor, commune councilors, NGOs staff and community. | Kampong Thom | Provincial NGOs, Commune councilors, forestry and fishery community leaders, Commune Monitoring committees, chief of advocacy network in Siem Reap. | | | | | | | 35 | 13 |
| 13-14 Oct | Organized a community forum | Bantey Meanchey | Provincial | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|--|--------------------------|---|--|--|---------|----|--|--|---|---|
| 08 | on Forest and Land Issue for 2 days. There were 204 participants, including 56 women, being district governor, commune councilors, village leaders, and community in Bantey Meanchey province. | | NGOs, ADHOC, Vigilance, Commune councilors, forestry and fishery community leaders, district governor, and communities' people. | | | 14 8 | 56 | | | | |
| 03-05 Dec. 08 | Conducted a Gender Discrimination and Advocacy Training. There were 17 participants included 10 women | Phnom Penh | API, Church World Services(CWS), CARE, Cambodian Organization for Women Support, And Wolistic Development Organization. | | | 10 | 17 | | | | |
| 08 Dec 08 | Counselled and selected partners in Kampong Chhnang province. | Kampong Chhnang province | National League of Commune/ Sangkat, District and provincial governors, Chief of commune council association | | | | | | | 5 | 2 |
| 12 Dec 08 | Organized a provincial forum on Road Traffic Law and Its Implementation for a half day. There were 88 participants, including 14 women. | Kampong Chhnang province | Provincial Governors, provincial Commune council association, department of public works and | | | 74 | 14 | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--|---|--|--|--|-----|----|--|--|-----|----|
| | | | transport, department of education youth and sports, Police, Military Police, community representative and NGOs. | | | | | | | | |
| 15 Dec 08 | Developed and published 16,886 booklets on Roles and Duties of Commune Council's and Citizen's Rights and has distributed 3,409 booklets to NGOs, Government officers, media, commune councillors and community in 2 cities and 16 provinces. | Phnom Penh | International NGOs, Provincial NGOs, Media, Government officers, and community representative. | | | | | | | 161 | 69 |
| 22 Dec 08 | Conducted a meeting with General Secretary of the National Assembly to Introduce API's Project | Phnom Penh (National Assembly Secretariat Office) | National Assembly | | | | | | | 3 | 1 |
| 24 Dec 08 | Had written, published and launched Gender Discrimination and Advocacy Handbook on 24 December 2008 for a half day. There were 79 participants, including 30 women, being representatives from Ministry of Women Affairs, 54 NGOs and 3 media. | Phnom Penh | International NGOs, local NGOs in Phnom Penh and provinces and donors. | | | 40 | 39 | | | | |
| 25-26 Dec 08 | Organized a Third Annual Conference on "Working Together for Positive Change" for 2 days. There were 151 participants, including 30 women, from 16 provinces and | Phnom Penh | National institutions (Senate, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Industry Mines and Energy, Ministry of Land Management Urban Planning & | | | 121 | 30 | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|--|--|--|--|------------|------------|--|--|------------|-----------|
| | 2 cities. | | Construction, and Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries), 26 LNGOs, INGOs and communities | | | | | | | | |
| Sub-total | | | | | | 564 | 275 | | | 219 | 91 |
| Total = 1149 beneficiaries, Men 783 (68%); Women 366 (32%) | | | | | | | | | | | |

Note: This statistics are only for Grassroots Democracy Programme and Advocacy Capacity Building Programme which are supported by Forum Syd, ICCO and DCA. An other Programme "Freedom of Information" 100% supported by DANIDA is not included in the tables.

Target Groups and Areas

Please list the name of province and district, and number of commune and village.

| Target Group | Name of Province | Name of District | No. of Communes (#) | No. of Villages (#) |
|---|-------------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Grassroots Democracy Program's target groups are participants of grassroots advocacy trainings, community and provincial forums, and IEC materials target audiences in three provinces, Kampong Thom, Banteay Meanchey, and Kampong Chhnang. They are Grassroots Advocates, Community Activists, and Community Actors, Community Based Organizations, Local Government as Village Chief and Commune Councillors, Community Groups, Commune Monitoring Committee, Commune/Village Development Committee, Village Networks, Local NGOs and staffs based in districts and provincial levels and local citizens. Equal men and women are considered as beneficiaries. | Kompong Thom | Sandann, Staung, Stung Sen, Kompong Svay, Baray, Sanntok, | 18 | 58 |
| | Banteay Mean Chey | Serey Sor Phorn, Svay Chek, Thmor Pouk, MongKol borey, Prah Neth Prah | 7 | 28 |
| | Kompong Chhnang | Samaki Mean Chey, Baribour, Chol kiri, Kompong Chhnang, Kompong Leaeng, Kompong Trorlach, Rolea Bier, Tuek Phos, | 69 | 553 |

| | | | | |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Advocacy Capacity building Program's targeted groups are participants who participated in booklet development, provincial forum and national conference. There are the government officers, senate, provincial governors, grassroots advocates, community representatives, provincial department, police, military police, international and national NGOs. | Kompong Chhnang | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| | Phnom Penh, Kandal, Takeo, Kampot, Koh Kong, Kampong (kg) Som, Kg Speu, Kg Cham, Kg Thom, Kg Chhnang, Prey veng, Pursat, Battambang, Banteaymeanchey, Preah Vihear, Ratanakiri, Mondulkiri, Takeo. | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Total | | 18 | 94 | 639 |

Annex 4- Case study

Land and community forest in Kror Yea commune, SannTok District, Kompong Thom province

1. History and cause of the problem

Community forest for 4500 hectares protected by community and people could access and used for custom livelihood. After that, the increasing of investment the land price was extremely increased. Therefore, the Commune councillors and District governors have been influenced by the business people and other powerful men. They planned to seize the community forest land equal to 4500 hectares to reserve as a social land concession because they would get a lot of benefit from land trading. As a result, there was an increase in illegal logging on the community forest land since April 2008 in Ohkdey village, Kro Yea commune, Sanntok District. Six thousand families in the community could not get access to the community forest and illegal logging has also been increased dramatically.

2. Community In Action

After conducting a community forum on forest issue in Kror yea commune, the community forest representative gained some ideas how to tackle the problem and has continued to work with Commune forestry administrator, API, and COWS and seek financial and technical support from other NGOs such as Mlop BayTong and JICA.

The community forest representative cooperated with Commune Forestry Administrator to organise a village meeting for the purpose of disseminating recent information and educating community people from 5 villages. The discussion was focused on advantages of community forest, reflection of the constitution, setting up boundary of the community forest, ways of protecting the community forest and the community forest committee setup. There were 268 participants, including 86 women, attending this fruitful meeting,



Kror Yea community forest chief is describing the forest issue and asking for support in front of commune, district, provincial forestry department chief and community people in the API forum.

The community forest representative frequently participated in the monthly commune meeting and at that time this issue was put on the top meeting agenda. After the discussions, commune councillors were aware of the problem and its impact. Kror Yea commune councillors had cooperated with Commune forestry administrator and other NGOs to watch dog for 6 times in order to prevent the illegal action.

3. The result

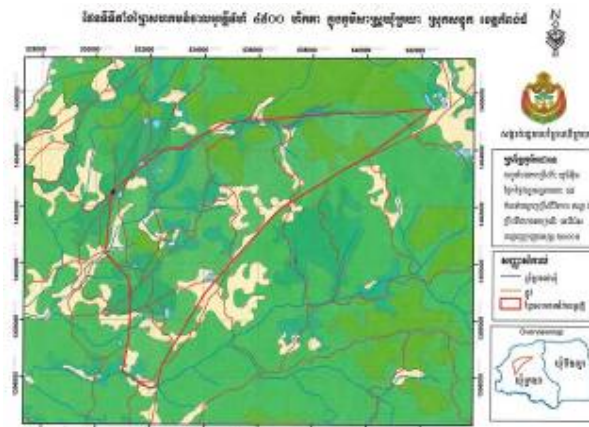
After the intervention, 4500 hectares of community forest land was officially signed as the community forest area on 07 November 2008 and acknowledged by forestry administrator. In addition, the community forest was formed officially, illegal logging has been under control and the community forest is being protected by the community.

4. Lesson learnt

Our success resulted from strong commitment and contributions of community forest leaders and community people and good collaboration with commune forestry administration.

5. Challenges

The Community leaders face the lack of funding support, materials and means of transportation to disseminate information to the community and to guard the community forest. Education and knowledge of the leaders are still limited, especially on law and rights.



The map of Ohkdey community forest in Krour Yea commune, Santok district, Kompong Thom province

Annex 5: Advocacy and Policy Institute (API) Annual Activity Plan: January – December 2009

I. Grassroots Democracy Program (GDP)

| Year | Year Two: 2009 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Month | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| <u>GDP Result #1:</u> Increased the knowledge, skills, confidence and contacts of grassroots advocates so that they are more aware of their rights and more effective at conducting advocacy campaigns. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Conduct two, 3-day Grassroots Advocacy Training courses for 50 representatives from CBOs, Commune Councils, and local NGOs | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>GDP Result #2:</u> Increased engagement and cooperation between local citizens and government on important community human rights, democracy and development issues. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Distribute "The Rights of Citizens and the Responsibilities of Government" booklet | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3. Organize 6 Citizens-Local Government Forums | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>GDP Result #3:</u> Increased a cross-community activity in support of advocacy by grassroots community activists to regional and national level decision makers. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. Monitoring, Participation, and Supporting Grassroots Initiatives | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5. Organize Two-day Annual Grassroots Forum | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>GDP Result #4:</u> Increased the value of and appreciation for community activists among Cambodian citizens. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6. Establish the Grassroots Human Rights and Democracy "Appreciation Awards" | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Others: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Conduct grassroots advocacy research | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Meeting | | | | | | | | | | | | |

II. Freedom of Information Program (FOI)

| Year and Month / Key Outputs and Activities | Responsible person | 2009 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Output #1: Capacity of civil society organisations to support and lead access to information advocacy campaign activities is strengthened | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Activity 1.1 Lead and support regular meeting of FOI working group to raise public awareness</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ▪ Lead and support regular meetings of the FOI working group | FOI program staff | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Activity 1.2 Design a FOI training initiative for FOI working group members and civil society organization including media</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ▪ Design a FOI training initiative | Technical Consultant, FOI program staff, FOI members and API Director | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ▪ Provide training on FOI | Technical Consultant, FOI program staff and API director | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output #2: Cooperation between civil society, the private sector and government in developing access to information policy and legal framework | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Activity 2.1 Host consultative meetings on the development of a FOI law</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ▪ Host consultative meetings | FOI program staff and FOI members | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ▪ Develop recommendations and follow up FOI law development | FOI program staff and FOI members | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output #3: Public awareness of access to information and the understanding of how important it is in the protection of livelihoods and human rights are increased | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Activity 3.1 Design and produce FOI posters and stickers to promote FOI awareness</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ▪ Design and produce FOI poster and stickers | FOI program staff, FOI members, API Director and printing-houses | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ▪ Print and Distribute | FOI program staff, FOI members, printing-house and admin staff | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Activity 3.2 Establish the feasibility of sponsoring a monthly one-hour FOI roundtable discussion</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ▪ Sponsor FOI members for radio roundtable discussion | FOI program assistant and FOI members | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output #4: Access to information within the decentralisation and deconcentration process in Cambodia is mainstreamed | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Activity 4.1 Develop and pilot commune Information Disclosure campaign in a number of selected communes to integrate FOI practices | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Organise workshop on FOI for commune councillors | FOI program staff and API Director | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prepare and conduct information management training | FOI program staff | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Develop and print information | FOI program and Admin staff | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Support and follow up to communes for information disclosure activities | FOI program staff and commune councillors | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Monitoring and Reporting | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yearly review meeting with partners | FOI program staff, FOI members, and API Director | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Writing progress report | FOI program staff, API Director and Finance Officer | | | | | | | | | | | | |

III. Advocacy Capacity Building Programme

| Month | Jan | | | | Feb | | | | Mar | | | | Apr | | | | May | | | | Jun | | | | Jul | | | | Aug | | | | Sep | | | | Oct | | | | Nov | | | | Dec | | | |
|--|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|
| Week | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Program/Result/Activity | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ACP Result #1: Increased the number of advocates initiating and participating in advocacy activities that address important community needs. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 1. Issue-Based Advocacy Handbook: Advocacy in NRM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Develop concept note for the hand book | █ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Do assessment to identify the needs | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | █ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Develop advocacy handbook in NRM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | █ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 2. Conduct Advocacy skills in issues-based training | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gender Advocacy training | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | █ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ACP Result#2: Built a professional group of Cambodian lobbyists and advocates to work together to achieve public policy outcomes from the Cambodian Government that serve the interests of Cambodian citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 2.1: Civil Society Lobby Group Development | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOR to set up Lobby group | █ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hire Consultant | █ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

