

I. Introduction

1. Cambodia was reviewed in 2009 and 2014. Over two cycles, 51 recommendations addressed CR (48 supported, three noted). Cambodia received 31 recommendations addressing the rights of the child. Out of these, three were noted, # 118.5, # 118.57, and # 118.161. A list of 2nd cycle recommendations related to this theme is included in the annex of this report.
2. For this UPR, CRC-Cambodia's members and partners held several meetings plus two workshops with all members including CYLNs to collect inputs on CR and identify priority issues regarding suggested recommendations. Furthermore, a representative of CRC-Cambodia participated in a larger workshops organized by CCHR, OHCHR and UPR Info on intersectional issues. The findings of Child Rights Situation Analysis in 2017 developed by CRC-Cambodia and ADIC are reflected in this report. Additionally, data from the State Report 2008-2018 on the ICRC-C contributed to this report.

II. CHILD RIGHTS THEMATIC ISSUES:

A. Family Environment and Alternative Care

1. Cambodia made significant progress in development and implementation through laws and policies such as National Action Plan for Child Development (NAPCD) 2016-2018, Positive Parenting Strategy 2017-2021¹, Action Plan for Improving Child Care with the Target of Safely Returning 30% of Children in Residential Care to Their Families 2016-2018 with the aim of reintegrating 30% of children in residential care by 2018 in the five priority provinces.²
2. There are 639 Residential Care Institutions and Facilities (RCIFs) operating in Cambodia with the combined total of 26,187 child residents (48% female).³ A total of 144 among 267 facilities are routinely monitored by MoSVY. A total of 16,579 children (47% female) were reported living in 406 RCIFs, about one in every 350 Cambodian children.⁴ The 5-Year National Strategic Plan on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (2013-2018) set up the National Multi-Sectoral Orphans and Vulnerable Children Task Force as the coordinating body. In 2015, Cambodia issued Sub-Decree No. 119 on the Management of Residential Care Centres.
3. MoSVY transformed Por Senchey Vocational Training Center into the DOSVY Transit Center and then issued Prakas⁵ to revise the composition of the Technical WG to increase effectiveness in addressing street people issues. The Phnom Penh DOSVY cooperated with Phnom Penh City Hall on infrastructure improvement in the Transit Center such as renovation of dormitories, offices, kitchens, dining areas, water systems, electricity, toilets and roads in and around the center, additional food supply and equipment, sleeping materials, ambulances and stand-by nurses and a food allowance increase to 4,000 Riels daily per person.⁶
4. However, the limited budget, human resources and Monitoring & Evaluation mechanisms were the main issues. Low budget spending missed geographical areas where there are concentrations of poor children in need. Increasing the budget for implementation of the NAP and action plans within relevant ministries is imperative.
5. The majority of children reintegrated from RCIFs still face risks as many fathers and/or mothers have limited knowledge about child protection and disregard children's education and social welfare as vital. Family poverty, migration for employment, and adverse social behavioral patterns may be other factors that adversely affect the development of children, especially school drop-out rates and finally.⁷ As many 'other' types of RCIFs fail to provide care for children shows a need for greater policy reform and monitoring. MoSVY needs to expand its purview to better respond to the increased number of RCIFs in Cambodia.⁸
6. There were at least 4,086 homeless children, including street children under 18, in the seven cities where data was collected. This estimate covers all the major concentrations of homeless children in Cambodia.⁹ The existing programs for assisting street children are underfunded, thus State-run RCIFs for street children and children with HIV and disabilities are poorly maintained. Children are often referred to RCIFs operated by NGOs.¹⁰
7. The number of Cambodian social workers is limited. The study found that one social worker covers 1-2 districts¹¹. This is too large an area for effective social protection. Correspondingly, the number of

trained social workers at both national and sub-national is inadequate and the ministry has not approved new hiring.¹²

Recommendations

- 1) *Increased budget and human resources to implement the Positive Parenting Strategy 2017-2021 nationwide, current strategy prioritize only five provinces; and set up the better coordination and clearer roles and responsibilities among relevant ministries such as MoWA, MoSVY, CNCC, and MoI; (SDG 1.1 and 16.2).*
- 2) *Develop National Action Plan for Improving Child Care (2019-2023) with a specified budget for implementation, current action plan prioritize only five provinces; regularly conduct monitoring and evaluation of Residential Care Institution and Facilities based on MOSVY's standards to ensure effective of reintegration of children to their families and communities; the action plan should specify clear role and responsibility of each relevant mechanism within reintegration process including strengthening case management system, providing support to family through livelihood program and positive parenting; (SDG 11.7).*
- 3) *Increase budget by 2020 to improve child friendly environment, education, and food in Residential Care Institution and Facilities so children living in Residential Care Institution and Facilities and transit center of Department of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation receive better education, nutrition and less violence; (SDG 2.1).*
- 4) *Provide professional social workers for every commune and district in Cambodia to respond the needs of communities through recognizing the existing community social workers, expand recruitment and formally include as a member of the CCWC by 2020; (SDG 11.1).*

B. Basic Health and Welfare

8. In 2016, MoH developed the 3rd Health Strategic Plan 2016-2020 (HSP3). HSP3 addresses the risks of reproductive health and other communicable diseases among youth and adolescents. MoH intervened focusing on individual behavior through enhancement of sexual act control such as delaying in sexual intercourse among adolescents, avoiding multiple partners, avoiding early pregnancy and improving health care seeking behaviors. In 2016, 718 health facilities provided reproductive health to youth and adolescents.¹³
9. Cambodia has the youngest population in Southeast Asia with 22 % 15 to 24 years-old. Young people face many sexual and reproductive health concerns such as STIs, unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortion and HIV and AIDS. These health concerns are exacerbated by the lack reproductive health information, knowledge, youth friendly services, and poor education attainment, and rural-to-urban migration for employment often placing young people at a social and economic disadvantage, especially those living rurally. 1 in 8 girls aged 15-19 in Cambodia have already become a mother or are currently pregnant with their first child. Furthermore, girls living in rural areas are twice as likely to begin childbearing compared to those in urban areas. Teenage pregnancy poses both health and socioeconomic challenges for girls, and hinders their ability to break out of poverty and achieve their full potential.¹⁴
10. Child marriage has a multifaceted and profound impact on children's lives, affecting their health, education, psychological development, social life, relationships and increased risk to future adversities. The majority of teen brides don't receive any information about sexual and reproductive health, family planning, or childcare before they become pregnant which adds an extra dimension to the complexities of motherhood. Child marriage affects both genders, but it is most potentially damaging to a girl's

development. Child brides often drop out of school and become pregnant, and these early pregnancies have a greater risk of ending in maternal or infant death.¹⁵

11. Children under 5 suffering from malnutrition has remained high with 32% of these children showing sign of stunting, 24% being underweight and 10% being wasted.¹⁶ Unfortunately, these levels are above the malnutrition targets of the MDGS.¹⁷ Malnutrition also reveals an equity gap in Cambodia with stunting being more common in rural areas (34%) than urban areas (24%) and is least common among the children of more educated mothers and wealthier families.¹⁸ A primary cause of malnutrition in Cambodia is diarrhea as result of poor sanitation in households and the community (e.g primary school). When a child experiences repeated bouts of diarrhea, accompanied by food that has low nutritional value, they can become chronically malnourished.¹⁹

Recommendations

- 1) *Increase budget and human resources in commune health centers, raise awareness among community people on negative impact of teen pregnancy and child marriage, and educate community people on safety sex and reproductive health by 2020; (SDG 3.7).*
- 2) *Strictly enforce the legal age for marriage to prohibit child marriage through take the certain measures to promote awareness-raising and to strictly prohibit child marriage ceremonies and prevent children from being an illegal couple living together by 2020; (SDG 5.3).*
- 3) *Lead the development and adoption of multi-sectoral National Strategy on Food Security and Nutrition 2019-2023, ensuring adequate funding and implementation and progress of commitments to the Scaling Up Nutrition movement; (SDG 2.1).*
- 4) *Adopt updated Community Participation Policy and Primary Health Care Policy and integrate Village Health Support Groups (VHSGs) into the formal national health system by 2020; (SDG 3.8 & 16.7).*

C. Education

12. Cambodia has reformed the educational system and adopted several laws, policies and NAP to strengthen and ensure the quality and equality of education such as Education Strategic Plan 2014-2018, Master Plan for Child Friendly School 2015-2018, Teacher Policy Action Plan 2015, Policy on Child Protection in School 2016, Provision of the Education Quality Insurance at Pre-school and General Education Level in 2015, the National Policy on Early Childhood Care and Development in 2010 with accompanying Action Plan 2014–2018, and the Sub-decree on the Management of Community Pre-School in 2017, etc.
13. 2015-2017 saw the educational budget grow by 53%. However, much of this increase was absorbed by staff salaries and other staff-related costs, with 78% of total education budget allocated to staff salaries in 2017. This was more pronounced in the provinces, with an average of 86% of the budget going to staff salaries 2017.²⁰ While improvements in teacher remuneration is positive, the high rate of salaries in the provincial education budget creates a risk for insufficient funding of non-salary costs. The modest resources available for non-salary costs indicates that education providers may need other resources for operational costs and learning materials.
14. 2017-2018, the number of three to five years old children accessing any form of education was 374,770 or 43.10% of the population of this age group including 187,251 or 44.20% girls.²¹ This data indicates that overall participation in early childhood education by children 3-5 years old is still low - especially for children in remote areas, ethnic minority children, children with disability, and children from poor families.²²
15. 2017-2018, there were 12,631 education staff for early childhood education (90.43% female), an increase of 1,480 persons (12.4% female) including 5,398 state-preschool staff (95.25% female), an

increase of 314 persons (5.7% female); 3,170 community-preschool staff (95.71% female), an increase of 156 persons (5.2% female) and 4,063 private pre-school staff (79.91% female), an increase of 1,010 persons (34.2% female). Although there has been an increase, they have not yet been responsive to the local needs. This requires a proper study on the requirements for and training of pre-school teachers.

16. The lack of age-appropriate reading and play materials for young children – especially children under the age of six - poses a great challenge in improving learning and emergent literacy for children. A baseline conducted by Save the Children in 2017 with families in the Floating Villages of the Tonle Sap area showed that only 9% of households have access to reading books for children aged 0-6, only 2% of caregivers read books to children under the age of three, and only 6% had purchased books in the last year, due to both the high cost of children’s books and a lack of access to locations selling age appropriate reading materials.²³ In 2017, WVI–Cambodia conducted a market survey of books from 26 publishers. Of these books surveyed, none were appropriate for children under three years old.²⁴
17. The Inclusive Education Programs (IEPs) was implemented in 98 schools in 12 districts, 6 provinces, covering 105 students (35% girls) and provided education to children with visual and hearing impairments in 5 special schools with 116 teachers (44.8% female) and 688 students with disabilities (26.3% girls). IEPs for children with intellectual impairment was implemented in 165 schools covering 1,737 students (39.6% girls).²⁵ Figures provided by the government on students with disabilities are not readily available, and they are typically not included in larger government educational reports. For example, the 2016–2017 Educational Statistics and Indicators provided by the MoEYS does not include data on students with disabilities.²⁶ Approximately half of the parents indicated that their children were either never enrolled in school or dropped out. The reasons for school dropout of children with disabilities include the costs associated with school, concerns for safety, bullying, and the student not feeling welcome or supported.
18. 2017 Teacher Study supported by JICA, among of 448 teachers surveyed, only 20.5% reported having received any training related to inclusive education. The surveyed teachers indicated that they found the cascade model (i.e., the training of one teacher who subsequently trains other teachers) ineffective as the teacher trainers often did not sufficiently share the training material.²⁷
19. The educational needs of students with disabilities are typically not addressed by textbooks and learning materials in Cambodia. Most classroom activities are not adapted to incorporate the needs of various types of disabilities (e.g., recognizing the need to engage students who are blind or deaf in the classroom). A recent study conducted by All Children Reading-Cambodia reviewed one Grade 1 Khmer textbook with illustrations of 89 people; there were two men wearing glasses and one boy with a possible physical disability who was crying. Another similar study of textbooks found that textbooks don’t reflect gender equity and that there is only minor inclusion of persons with physical disabilities in textbooks. Often, this inclusion consisted of a man or boy with a physical disability (typically leg amputation) and did not reflect the diversity of disability.²⁸
20. Based on the Study on Occurrence and Perceived Acceptability of Violence Against Primary School Students 2018 conducted by WVI-Cambodia from 75 primary schools in 28 communes across 6 municipal and provinces with 1,050 children (567 females) enrolled in grade 1 to 6, there were 46% of children experienced corporal punishment and 47% experienced verbal abuse from teachers. The reasons that student received the corporal punishment from teachers such as speaking with classmates during lessons, don’t understand lessons, don’t their homework, and don’t pay attention to teaching, etc. The perception of the violence against children in school, teachers and school directors made distinction between punishment and violence. Corporal punishment by teachers is regarded as a disciplinary action to “help” students to better behave and learn faster. The Sub-Decree No. 127 on Teacher Professional Code and Prakas No. 922 was limited enforcement. Commune Council for Women and Children and School Support Committee also did not have explicitly mandated responsibilities for children violence/child protection in school.

Recommendation

- 1) *Ensure funding is available to cover non-Personal Emolument costs of education to increase the quality of teaching with sufficient learning materials and child friendly schools by 2020; (SDG 4.1).*
- 2) *Develop the national guidelines on book levelling for publishers to ensure that all books published for first readers (aged 0-3) and early readers (aged 4 to grade 3) are appropriate in terms of size and layout, narrative structures, illustration, vocabulary and words, phrases and sentences, and content and theme, by 2020 (SDG 4.2);*
- 3) *Increase government resources and investment for development of age-appropriate reading and play material for children 0-6 years of age, and especially to increase access to reading resources for young children in rural, remote, and hard to reach areas, by 2020; (SDG 4.2).*
- 4) *Strengthen the implementation of Sub-Decree No. 127 on Teacher Professional Code and Prakas No. 922 on Problems relating to Imposing Penalties on Pupils through training, establishment of a complaint mechanism for students, clear roles and responsibilities for monitoring and supervision of implementation, by 2019, etc.; (SDG 4.1).*
- 5) *Enforce the implementation of Child Protection in School through developing its 5 years operational plan and establishment of its monitoring mechanism, by 2019; (SDG 4.a).*
- 6) *Make quality education more inclusive and equitable for the most vulnerable children including children with disability by training teachers about inclusive education for all and integrate the inclusive education into the curriculum of pedagogy school, and developing comprehensive tools and methodologies for teaching disability students, by 2019; (SDG 4.a).*
- 7) *Increase accessibility of early childhood under six years old, especially under three years old by 2020; building more Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) centers; and adequate enough school facilities by 2020; (SDG 4.1).*

D. Special Protection Measure

(i). Child Labor

21. Cambodia has made significant progress in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. With this regard, many policies and regulations were adopted and implemented by government such as NAP on the Reduction of Child Labor and Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labor 2016-2025, Policy on Child Development and Protection in the Agricultural Sector 2016-2020; Policy on Child Labor Migration 2014, Guidelines for addressing child labor in the fisheries sector, and Regulation on Work Condition for Domestic Workers in 2018. In 2015, MoLVT established the regulation on the recruitment of young workers to strengthen the protections against hazardous work for children ages 15-18.
22. Cambodia adopted a NAP on the Suppression of Human Trafficking, Smuggling, Labor, and Sexual Exploitation, and allocated funding to the National Committee for Counter Trafficking (NCCT) to ensure its implementation. MoSVY also approved guidelines to standardize procedures for identifying and protecting victims of human trafficking.
23. The Child Labor Survey 2013 remains the most recent nationwide study on child labor in Cambodia. It estimated 755,245 economically active children in Cambodia, more than half (429,380) were child laborers and nearly one third (236,498) were children in hazardous labor. By sector, most are concentrated in agriculture (62%), followed by services (22%), industry (15.7%) and Child domestic

workers (0.9%). Because of their engagement in work, many dropped out of school. Children in Cambodia perform dangerous tasks in agriculture and domestic work. Children engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation. Education is free, but not compulsory, through grade nine.

24. In 2015, 24 out of the Department of Child Labor's 58 inspectors were based in Phnom Penh, with an additional 9 inspectors responsible for investigating urgent complaints. One child labor inspector was also stationed in each of Cambodia's 25 provinces to conduct local and regional inspections. Although inspectors from the Department of Child Labor are trained on relevant laws and inspection techniques to identify child labor, the MoLVT lacks standardized guidelines for conducting labor inspections. In 2015, the Department of Child Labor reported that it did not receive any funding for inspection-related costs and that due to these financial constraints, the inspectorate was only able to conduct inspections in and around the capital city of Phnom Penh.²⁹
25. At least 80% of domestic work in Cambodia performed by women (88% of child domestic workers are girls) in Cambodia, they are highly vulnerable as many enter into domestic work at a young age, have little-to-no education, often grow up in difficult family situations and migrate from rural communities into urban areas, far from their families and support networks. The disconnection from home breeds loneliness and isolation and makes domestic workers vulnerable to abuse; whilst the legal and policy framework to protect their rights are very weak. Most of the children who do domestic work have no chance to go to school, to get the education that could help them to have other vocational options. And because they are working so many hours, girls are missing out on the developmental tasks of forming social relationships. The Cambodian Labor Code explicitly excludes domestic workers from nearly all provisions of the Code.³⁰

Recommendation:

- 1) *Establish and implement Standardized Guideline for Labor Inspections to increase effectiveness of child labor inspection and enforce relevant laws and policies by 2020; establish clear mechanisms for inspecting the working conditions of child laborers (over 15 years old) including the number of working hours per day/week for informal sector, mainly domestic work, car wash garage, agriculture and restaurant by 2020; (SDG 8.8).*
- 2) *Provide the authorization to labor inspection of the Department of Child Labor of the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training and Provincial Department of Labor and Vocational Training to monitor and inspect at workplace who have domestic workers, particularly child domestic workers working with the proper tools and approaches; and establish the data tracking system of domestic workers to be monitored and controlled, by 2020; (SDG 8.8).*
- 3) *Build capacity to Commune Committees for Women and Children to enhance child labor monitoring and social services provision at community by 2019; (SDG 8.8).*
- 4) *Ratify the ILO Domestic Workers Convention No. 189, and implement its measures, by 2019; (SDG 8.8).*
- 5) *Amend the Labor Law by stipulating the specific provisions to protect workers' rights mainly focus on children in domestic work, car wash garage, restaurant, and agriculture (over 15 years old) such as working hours, freedom of expression-rights in creation or participation in labor union, effective labor dispute and inspection mechanisms and procedure, by 2020; (SDG 8.8).*

(ii). Trafficking, Exploitation and Abuse

26. Cambodia demonstrated increasing efforts by convicting a significantly higher number of traffickers by increasing law enforcement, allocating more funds to the NCCT and its subsidiary provincial committees, and establishing new action plans to curb child debt bondage and other forms of labor

exploitation. Cambodia also increased number of staff members to the NCCT and allocated a budget of more than 4 billion riels (\$974,896) in 2014 as compared to 3.6 billion riels (\$877,407) in 2015. Provincial Committee for Counter Trafficking coordinated efforts at the provincial level, with five out of nine provincial committees received some funding, compared to four committees in 2014.³¹

27. However, the government has not collected comprehensive data on anti-trafficking law enforcement efforts, particularly among provincial courts. But, the information authorities provided, augmented by media and NGO reports, indicated the government prosecuted 53 individuals under its anti-trafficking law or comparable provisions in the penal code in 2016, compared to 69 prosecutions in 2015. The NCCT reported courts convicted at least 100 traffickers—including some whose trials began in the previous reporting period—up from 43 in 2015 and 29 in 2014. Authorities noted that labor officials' failure to sufficiently inspect private recruitment agencies, and the ability of these agencies to sub-license their names to other independent brokers, likely perpetuated labor exploitation during the reporting period in 2017.³²
28. Rates of childhood sexual abuse are significant: 4.4% of females and 5.6% of males aged 18 to 24 experienced some form of sexual abuse prior to age 18. More than 6% of females and 5% of males aged 13 to 17 reported at least one experience of childhood sexual abuse. These results have significant implications for the design and implementation of prevention and response programs in Cambodia. If its underlying causes are identified and addressed, violence against children is entirely preventable.³³
29. MoSVY reported 195 Cambodian repatriated labor trafficking victims from Vietnam and reported receiving and referring 38 Cambodian internal trafficking victims and 24 sex and labor trafficking victims from Thailand to NGO services. An NGO recorded accepting 218 potential Cambodian trafficking victims deported from Vietnam alone, including 152 children. However, it was unclear if this figure was captured in the statistics provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), and to extent the MFA data included cases received by MOSAVY.³⁴

Recommendations:

- 1) *Vigorously investigate and prosecute the trafficking offenses in order to convict and sentence those labor and sex traffickers including complicit officials as well as authorize greater use of undercover investigative techniques in the enforcement of the anti-trafficking law; within this, referral and supported case management should be created at all levels in order to monitor the addressing progression of the trafficking case, by 2020; (SDG 16.2).*
- 2) *Increase public awareness on proper travel document application procedures to facilitate safe, legal migration and promote safe migration through the strengthening of safe migration manual to the relevant communities, particularly the migrant policies, by 2020; (SDG 16.a).*
- 3) *Develop a specific child protection guidebook for Commune Committees for Women and Children to enhance child protection by 2020; (SDG 16.2).*
- 4) *Review and amend the laws and procedures to allow restitution upon conviction of the trafficker; implement a system for monitoring, collecting, and reporting data on anti-trafficking prosecution and victim protection efforts, and disseminate data among the relevant government agencies in a manner that protects victims' identities and privacy, by 2022; (SDG 16.2-3).*
- 5) *Establish and implement a comprehensive, coordinated and effective system of data collection that simplify for the stakeholders to input data/information regarding to the child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism. The data should be disaggregated, inter alia, by sex, age, nationality and ethnic origin, region and socioeconomic status, with particular attention to children who are at risk of becoming victims of crimes, by 2021; (SDG 16.6).*

(iii). Violence Against Children

30. MoSVY & MoWA adopted the Joint Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence Against Children 2017-2021, mainly in the strategy IV has planned to amend the Art.1045 & 1079 of the Civil Code and some articles of DVL³⁵ that allow their parents/guardian to provide legally corporal punishment on their children. We express concern that physical punishment is frequently viewed as a culturally acceptable form of discipline by parents and teachers and is widely practiced in the Cambodia.³⁶ Based on the findings of Cambodia's Violence against Children Survey (CVACS) in 2014, more than 50% of children in Cambodia had experienced physical violence, 25% had experienced emotional abuse, and 5% had experienced sexual abuse. The economic burden of the health consequences of violence against children in Cambodia is estimated to be around 1% of the GDP of Cambodia.³⁷
31. The data collection is insufficient in some areas such as the children with disabilities, child migration, child labor, and child trafficking and many data collection mechanisms remain fragmented. We have further concerned that there is insufficient coordination among these relevant ministries to ensure the setting up of a systematic and comprehensive disaggregated database covering all the areas of the UNCRC.
32. Following the concluding observation of the UN Committee on CRC in 2000 and 2011, the committee recommended that an independent human rights institution for children should be established. The main task for such institutions is to close the gap between the rights rhetoric and the realities of children's lives, ensuring that children's rights are translated into law, policy, and practice.

Recommendations:

- 1) *To amend Article 1045 & 1079 of Civil Code and Article 8 of the Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Protection of the Victims, by 2019; (SDG 16.2).*
- 2) *To develop a Child Protection Law in different settings in consultation with civil society organizations and development partners within the development process, with a sufficient budget allocation for implementation in all relevant ministries, by 2020; (SDG 16.3).*
- 3) *To set up a comprehensive data collection system and to analyze data collected as a basis to assess progress achievement in the realization of child rights and to help design policies and programs to implement the Convention. The data should be disaggregated by age, sex, geographic location, ethnicity and socio-economic background to facilitate the analysis of the situation of all children; and to inform a national plan of action and program development to ensure that data can drive the effective programming for the best benefit of children and their families. This data should be consistent standard and realizable for both government and NGOs to identify or use in the implementation stage, by 2021; (SDG 16.6).*
- 4) *Establishment of an independent national human rights institution, including child rights unit, well-resourced in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the "Paris Principles"), by 2023; (SDG 16.6).*

(iv). Juvenile Justice

33. The Law on Juvenile Justice (JJL) promulgated by Cambodian King in 2016. The JJL is a comprehensive legislation concerning children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with the law. The Police Academy of Cambodia was integrated the Child Friendly Police Procedure into their curriculum at all police regional school across the country..³⁸ This is very significant achievement of RGC that recognized the important role of judicial police official that have to get knowledge and skills on child friendly police procedure for their practice with their daily work.
34. The justice system in Cambodia is not yet fully equipped to respond to the needs of children who conflict with the law – whether as victims, witnesses or suspects.³⁹ Necessary procedures and facilities for dealing with minors in the criminal justice system are lacking. As a result, children are routinely

processed through the criminal justice system and prosecuted as adults.⁴⁰ In October 2015, 590 minors (32 female) were in detention across the country.⁴¹ According to the 2011 Legal Aid of Cambodia (LAC)'s baseline study, almost 41% of children were placed in the cell mixed with adults.⁴² Additionally, there is still no independent mechanism to receive and address complaints from children concerning violations of their rights.⁴³

Recommendations:

- 1) ***Integrate the Juvenile Justice law into the curriculum of law degree in bachelor, lawyer school, Judge school; and also speed up the implementation of this law at all levels through mobilizing the resources from all development partners and also budget allocation from RGC to make sure that this law has been aware and complied, by 2020; (SDG 16.a).***
- 2) ***Enforce the implementation of Juvenile Justice Law through developing its operational plan and adequate sufficient recourse, instantly set up the child friendly court procedure and facilities; and make availability of Juvenile Justice Expert; and expert child friendly judicial police official at least one in all police stations in charge of criminal justice both subnational and national level; and separate of child prisoners from adult prisoners; and set up the child friendly prison for children prisoners, by 2021; (SDG 16.3).***

¹ In collaboration with eight other ministries, MoWA will implement the Strategy with toolkits in five priority provinces (Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Battambang, Preah Sihanouk and Kandal) and highly-disadvantaged communities in the Northeast.

² The five priority provinces: Phnom Penh, Battambang, Siem Reap, Kandal and Preah Sihanouk.

³ Report: Mapping of Residential Care Facilities in capital and 24 provinces of the Kingdom of Cambodia, MOSVY 2017, page 10.

⁴ Stark L., Rubenstein B.L., Pak K. and Sok K. (undated) National estimation of children in residential care institutions in Cambodia: a modelling study.

⁵ Ministerial Orders or Proclamations (Prakas) are executive regulations made at the ministerial level to implement and clarify specific provisions within higher-level legislative documents and give instructions. Their scope is limited to the focus and subject matter of the ministry that enacted them.

⁶ Royal Government of Cambodia 4th, 5th and 6th National Report on the implementation UNCRC in Cambodia, #124.

⁷ Child Rights Situation Analysis 2017, CRC-Cambodia, page 16.

⁸ Stark L., Rubenstein B.L., Pak K. and Sok K. (undated) National estimation of children in residential care institutions in Cambodia: a modelling study, page 11.

⁹ Estimation of Homeless Children Across Seven Cities in Cambodia, January 2017, NIS & MOSVY.

¹⁰ Child Rights Situation Analysis 2017, CRC-Cambodia, page 30.

¹¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Administrative_divisions_of_Cambodia

¹² Child Rights Situation Analysis 2017, CRC-Cambodia, page 16.

¹³ Royal Government of Cambodia 4th, 5th and 6th National Report on the implementation UNCRC in Cambodia, #106.

¹⁴ Sexual and Reproductive Health of Adolescents and Youth: Analysis of 2000-2014 Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey Data, National Institute of Statistics with technical and financial support from UNFPA Cambodia, Sept 2016

¹⁵ Child Marriage Rate in Pakistan, Myanmar and Cambodia, by Pablo Diego-Rosell and Jacqueline Joudo Larsen, October 2017

¹⁶ CARD (2016). National Action Plan for Zero Hunger Challenge in Cambodia (NAP/ZHC 2016-2025).

¹⁷ The MDGs targets were 25% stunting, 6% wasted and 19% underweight.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Policy Brief on Nutrition, World Vision 2018

²⁰ Education Budget Analysis-Policy Brief 2017, Cambodian Budget Working Group

²¹ Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (2018). Education Congress: The Education, Youth, and Sport Performance in the Academic Year 2016-2017 and Goals for the Academic Year 2017-2018, p. 24.

²² Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (2018). Education Congress: The Education, Youth, and Sport Performance in the Academic Year 2016-2017 and Goals for the Academic Year 2017-2018, p. 24.

²³ Save the Children International-Cambodia (2017). Early Childhood Care and Development: Baseline Survey of the Tonle Sap Floating Villages, p. 24.

²⁴ World Vision International in Cambodia (WVI-C) (2017). Market Survey of Reading Materials for Early Readers, p. 2-3.

²⁵ Royal Government of Cambodia 4th, 5th and 6th National Report on the implementation UNCRC in Cambodia, in Appendix III.

²⁶ RTI International (2018): Cambodia Situational Analysis of the Education of Children with Disabilities in Cambodia Report, p. 22.

²⁷ RTI International (2018): Cambodia Situational Analysis of the Education of Children with Disabilities in Cambodia Report, p. 34.

²⁸ RTI International (2018): Cambodia Situational Analysis of the Education of Children with Disabilities in Cambodia Report, p. 37.

²⁹ U.S. Embassy-Phnom Penh. reporting in 2015.

³⁰ Out from Behind Closed Doors: A study on Domestic Workers in Cambodia, 2015, UN Women.

³¹ Child Rights Situation Analysis 2017, page 51, CRC-Cambodia.

³² Trafficking in person report 2017.

³³ Ministry of Women's Affairs, UNICEF Cambodia, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Findings from Cambodia's Violence Against Children Survey 2013. Cambodia: Ministry of Women's Affairs, 2014.

³⁴ Trafficking in person report 2017

³⁵ DVL: Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Protection of Victims.

³⁶ Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding Observation: UN document CRC/C/KHM/CO/2 of June 2011, para. 40

³⁷ UNICEF (2013) available at https://www.unicef.org/cambodia/results_for_children_23119.html.

³⁸ Training Department of Police Academy of Cambodia (2018). Schedule of Training on Administration Police Post

³⁹ UNICEF. *Child Protection*. Available at http://www.unicef.org/cambodia/2.Child_Protection.pdf

⁴⁰ *NGOCRC (2013). UPR Submission on Cambodia Child Rights.*

⁴¹ *World Vision (2016). The Status of Children in Conflict with the Law in Cambodia and Vietnam.*

⁴² *Ibid*

⁴³ *NGOCRC (2013). UPR Submission on Cambodia Child Rights.*