Open Institute Annual Report

October 2014 – September 2015

Open Institute

#8, STREET 352
SANGKAT BOENG KENG KANG 1
KHAN CHAMKARMORN
PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA
P.O. BOX 1552
PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA
PH: +855 (0) 23 224 821
WWW.OPEN.ORG.KH

Annual Report

1 October 2014 – 30 September 2015

Executive Summary 3
About Open Institute 5
Mission, Goals, and Organizational Management 6
Projects and Goals 7
Project Highlights
SPICE Program 8
Open Schools Program 10
Khmer OS Program 11
Research Program 11
Health Program 12
Women Empowerment for Social Change 13
The Women's Web Portal 13
Assessment on Women Leadership and Politics in ICT 14
Media Monitoring for Ending Violence Against Women 14
Strengthening Capacity for Young Women's Leadership Network 15
Prevention to Intimate Partner Violence 16
ICT4D Cambodia Network 17
Open Institute's Online Tools 19
Our Project Partners 20
Our Donors 21

Executive Summary

Over the last year, the Open Institute continued its dedication to applying feasible technological solutions that promote change and sustainable development towards a better and more equitable Cambodia. These technological solutions have the undeniable potential to improve access to high quality education, information, and communication in both urban and rural communities, leading to advances in social development and gender equality.

Key program run by the Open Institute during this period was the USAID-funded SPICE program, which facilitated social and business innovation using communications technology and improves communications in Khmer. It has supported Cambodian NGOs on the use of technology to better reach their beneficiaries with information and services. Its Interactive Voice Response (IVR) platform has created 32 services—3 times more than expected at the start of the project. The program has reached 1,200,000 Cambodian citizens through direct outreach or contact through its partners. The program has also helped connect many civil society organizations, and unite youth in support of technological development; there have been over 16,000 participants in events organized by SPICE.

The Open Schools Program worked with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to develop a goal-oriented approach to integrating ICT in education. In the past year, the program completed and tested the textbook for ICT Grade 12. In collaboration with VSO, Open Institute developed phone applications that include the English pronunciation of all words and sentences that teachers need in order to teach primary English courses.

The 10-year old KhmerOS program continued to ensure that new versions of key open-source applications are translated to Khmer. In 2015 the Open Institute supported Google Inc. in its development of Khmer-language technological tools that it will use in upcoming products.

The Research program is helping the Open Institute become a hub for social research in Cambodia, During the last year, the Open Institute has acquired extensive information regarding the use of tablets and phones for data collection. The project has also started helping development organizations create their own electronic tools for data collection.

This year, through the Health program, Open Institute has advanced on the use of tablets in health centers to collect patient registration information. It has worked on development of an IVR system where new mothers will receive pre-recorded voice messages with health information.

The Women's Empowerment for Social Change program has continued to ensure that necessary information is available in the Khmer language in order to facilitate communication among gender activists, and give women a place to communicate with each other. One of its main activities, the Women's Web Portal, sees almost one million page viewers per year.

Under funding support from UN Women, Women Program has conducted Media Monitoring for Ending Violence Against Women that has helped improve Cambodia's capacity for monitoring and analyzing the way in which forms of violence against women are portrayed in media.

The Program also strive it best for the Strengthening Capacity of Young Women's Leadership Network, also funded by UN Women, supports the collaboration of women from marginalized groups, including Young Women and Girls living with HIV (YW/GLHIV) and Lesbian Bisexual Transgender (LBTs), to make their voices heard. Through these activities, young women were able to express their concerns to representatives from more than four ministries and other relevant organizations.

The Women Program also conducted an online campaign for the *Prevention of Intimate Partner Violence.* The Open Institute partnered with the Asia Foundation to engage TV media professionals, authors, journalists, Cambodian citizens, and others to cultivate collective responsibility for the propagation of IPV on TV and in society, and to decipher new approaches to eliminate IPV.

The ICT4D Cambodia Network has made significant achievements in strengthening the collaboration among government agencies, private organizations, and NGOs. In September 2015, it developed a Strategic Plan to guide the Network's work in a focused way.

Through these programs and activities, Open Institute has reached its objectives by creating awareness about the available channels of communication for delivering services across the country, and by helping NGOs use technology to maximize their impact.

ICT Innovation

The Open Institute successfully uses information communication technology (ICT) to help civil society organizations (CSOs) and government agencies better communicate with their beneficiaries, helping to deliver information and services in a way that would have been too difficult otherwise. The Open Institute achieves this by applying well-established technologies in new ways, or by developing the appropriate technology by itself. The organization adheres to two solid principles of adequacy and sustainability; it only proposes technological solutions to its partners when these are the option that will produce the best results, and only when their application is sustainable, not requiring constant infusion of new funds.

Open Institute works with all of its partners to help improve the messages that are delivered through these technologies. It bases the application of technology on a clear understanding of how Cambodia society communicates and how different channels might produce behavioral change.

Promoting Gender and Social Equality

The promotion of social and gender equality forms the foundation of all of the Open Institute's project and activities. The Women Empowerment for Social Change has been highly active this year, with the Women Web Portal that serves as an empowerment tools for thousands of Cambodian women and in "Strengthening Capacity of Young Women's Leadership Network", that bring together members of the Young Women, with young women and girls living with HIV (YW/GLHIV) and Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender (LBT) to coalesce around a common set of agenda for joint strategic advocacy to address their collective concerns. The program has also created tools for media monitoring to end violence against women and shared the finding to wider audience. Another catalyst efforts are to monitor TV's programs. Social media account also gained popularity this year, particularly the face book " Ending Violence Against Women". This has been contributed to the reduction of negative portrayal of women through all form of media.

Empowering young people is another critical step towards social and gender equality in Cambodia, as nearly 70% of the population is under age of 35 (more than 50% are women). Over the year, the Women Program of the Open Institute has delivered 20 trainings and workshops to more than 500 of Youth, young women, YW/GLHIV and LBTs, on Human Rights, CEDAW, CEDAW Concluding Observation, Gender &ICT and Online advocacy, and VAW/GBV.

Challenges and Looking Forward

The Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the UN in September 2015 recognizes the important of ICT as it has been stated in goal 17. The United Nations General Assembly declares access to the Internet a basic human right which individuals to "exercise their right to freedom of opinion and expression". It was clear that there is no longer a question about whether the Internet is a critical enable for sustainability development or not, but that it is important to provide people with quality and type of access and how such factors impact and enable human rights, particularly women rights. The Open Institute has been organizing forums and seminars to provide an open space for discussion on how Cambodian people reap the benefits from the growth of the Internet. The Open Institute has been striving in finding applications of this technology that produce sustainable and inclusive solutions with real benefits for Cambodian people.

Strategies and Priorities for 2015- 2020

The guiding principles for the Open Institute for the next five years will be:

- Facilitating the use of technology in Khmer language
- Discovering new uses of technology that produce sustainable solutions that have a meaningful impact on development.
- Promoting youth and women participation in social development and democracy through the use of technology.
- Collaborating with the Cambodian government to develop and implement policies on education, technology, access to information, and gender equality (NAPVAW, CEDAW, Concluding Observations, Neary Ratanak, Beijing Platform for Action and Sustainable Development Goals).
- Increasing financial stability by accepting contract for technological services need by the development sector, and by becoming a research hub.

About the Open Institute

The Open Institute is a non-governmental organization, not-for-profit organization founded in Cambodia in September 2006 by a group of people committed to the belief that access to information and improvement of communication among difference stakeholders are essential for the effective development of a more just and democratic Cambodia.

To work towards its vision, the Open Institute continuously analyses how technology can be used to improve access to information and lead to better education and health, promote women's empowerment, gender equality and enhance business development. The organization also aims to facilitate participation in political and social movements, helping Cambodians freely express their opinions.

In 2014-2015, the Open Institute implemented the following programs: SPICE (Structuring Partnerships for an Innovative Communications Environment); Open School; KhmerOS; Research; Women Empowerment for Social Change; and the ICT4D Cambodia Network.

Our Vision

A country in which widespread access to high quality education, information, communication, and technology leads to a more developed and just society.

Adequate technology and a spirit of quality and innovation enable a competitive industry that can compete in the global economy, in a framework of equitable economic development.

Our Mission

To ensure that the benefits of technology for social and economic advancement are usable in Cambodian society by:

- Enabling widespread use of technology through the use of local language.
- Improving access to education and the quality of education through the use of technology;
- Using technology to facilitate information sharing and communication as tools to build a more equitable society, including the promotion of gender equality.

Our Goals

- To uncover sustainable solutions for development that require the use of technology;
- To make available - in the Khmer language - affordable key computer applications, content management systems, training materials, and related knowledge resources to enable all Cambodians to fully benefit from information and communication technology;
- To enable the integration of ICT in the Education System;
- To improve social and gender equality through advocacy and the promotion of information sharing and communication.

Organizational Management

Board of Directors

The Open Institute works under the guidance of a Board of Directors whose duty is to approve the budget and yearly action plan of the organization.

The current Board was elected for a two-year period in December 2014. Board members are well-respected, local professionals who offer guidance and advice where necessary. Board Members include:

Chair:

- Mr. Raymond Leos - Dean of Faculty of Communications and Media, Pannasastra University

Vice Chair:

- Ms. Kasumi Nakagawa - Gender Expert, Lecturer at Pannasastra University

Members:

- Ms. Keo Keang - Country Director, Heifer International, Cambodia
- Mr. Aoki Kenta - Country Representative, Kamonohashi Project

The day-to-day operations of Open Institute are overseen by the Executive Director, Ms. Chim Manavy, supported by an Executive Committee.

Ms. Chim Manavy was selected as the Change Agent of the Month for August 2015 of the LIFE Academy in Sweden.

Staff

At the end of the 2014-2015 financial year, Open Institute employed 34 paid staff members (13 Females, 20 Males and 1 expat). Open Institute is an equal opportunity employer and prides itself on developing staff to their full potential, offering a range of career development opportunities for their valued members.

Volunteers

National and international volunteers play a key role in the organization's operations, particularly in their unique contribution of knowledge and experiences from all over the world. Volunteers may work between 3 to 8 weeks and assist the organization with data collection, policy development, English translation and writing. This year, Open Institute accepted 42 volunteers (32 national and 10 are international).

PROJECTS AND GOALS

SPICE Program (Structuring Partnerships for an Innovative Communications Environment)

To increase the capacity of Cambodian civil society organizations and government to access their beneficiaries through the use of technology.

Open Schools Program

To ensure the development of all the necessary tools required to improve the quality of education through the use of ICT. The partnership with MoEYS supports the effective use of ICT to improve the quality of education by integrating the use of ICT in the education system, providing skills to students, improvement of pedagogy and modernization of the Ministry's administration.

KHMER OS Program

To ensure that language will never be a barrier to access technology, development and learning. Assure local language technology is available to as many people as possible and it is used for cultural, educational and economic growth.

Research Program

To improve the ability of Cambodian NGOs to do technology-supported research.

Health Program

To develop technology and research that will help improve the delivery of health services in Cambodia.

Women Empowerment for Social Change

To improve social and gender equality through advocacy and the promotion of information sharing and communication; to help women to exercise their rights in a balanced way and to empower them to become self-sufficient by improving their participation in social, economic and political life. It also provides capacity building through discussions on key women's issues and research on women and ICT.

In 2014-2015, the Women Program implemented the projects: Media Monitoring for Ending Violence Against Women, Strengthening Capacity of Young Women Leadership Network:, and Prevention of Intimate Partner Violence (PIPV).

ICT4D Cambodia Network

It works to strengthen the voice of the poor, disadvantaged people and marginalized groups in the decision-making processes that are relevant to the issues of democracy, health, education, and human rights.

SPICE PROGRAM

During the first six month of the fiscal year, Open Institute completed the 30-month USAID-funded SPICE program. The goals of the program were to promote and deliver a greater diversity of information and services to the Cambodian public, to improve communications in Khmer using mobile devices, and to increase the capacity of civil society organizations and government to use communication technologies for development purposes.

As part of SPICE Open Institute has delivered 37 technology solutions that have helped Civil Society organizations working in Cambodia, as well as the Cambodian government, magnify the impact of their programs on their target beneficiaries. The program has reached directly or helped these partners reach over 1,200,000 Cambodian citizens with information, services and training. The program has also reinforced the connection of civil society organizations among themselves, and succeeded in creating a strong youth movement centered on technological development with over 16,000 participants in events organized by SPICE.

Specifically, the program has widely attained its goals by accomplishing the following objectives:

1) To increase the capacity of Cambodian CSOs to disseminate information via telephony voice-based systems or SMS as mass media

Based on the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) infrastructure created during the first year of the project, SPICE has supported CSOs, government and political parties in the creation of their own IVR services. The number of IVR services created (32) is three times larger than the expectations at the beginning of the project. The partners creating these services included CSOs working in most of the sectors covered by development cooperation. A public-private partnership with the ISP EZECOM ensured the sustainability of the IVR platform and the continuity of all projects after SPICE was completed. As a result of its experience working in IVR, Open Institute has developed **Self-IVR**, a new technology through which similar services to IVR can be offered using smartphones, without requiring any phone calls or Internet after the applications have been downloaded to the phones.

2) To increase the access of Cambodian citizens - via mobile phone technology in their own language - to information and to new means of communication

A successful public-private partnership with Google led to Khmer script being supported natively in the Android operating system for phones using Android versions above 4.2. For previous versions, Open Institute developed applications that integrate Khmer support inside the application, and which were downloaded by users over 400,000 times during the program period. Open Institute also contributed to the acceleration of the market penetration of Khmer-language phones through an awareness campaign in phone shops, helping to raise the number of Cambodians who had Khmer-enabled phones by 2 million in one year - four times the expected result for the whole program.

3) To help citizen journalists overcome their reluctance to report on current events for online crowdsourcing platforms by ensuring their anonymity

The program has completed development, deployment and publishing of its citizen-journalism crowdsourcing application for reporting on human-rights violations. The system includes a website where all reports are posted and a tool for smartphones that can be used to see reports by other citizen journalists or to create and send anonymous reports including pictures, video or sound captured by the smartphone. One human rights youth network has already adopted the platform, creating its own website for it; the network is already reporting on its chosen topics. Other large CSOs are also considering establishing their own websites with this platform.

4) To support the implementation of innovative products using the program's platforms and to encourage innovation through intensive networking and training of innovators, young students and professionals

A series of sectorial brainstorming workshops on CSOs' use of technology has facilitated the implementation of IVR services, increasing the impact of USAID partner CSOs. The Open Institute used its network of technologists and CSOs to increase technological literacy of young users at all stages through the organization and interconnection of 20 BarCamp and mini-BarCamp events around the country, which have attracted over 14,000 participants, triplicating participation each year of the program, an amount several times larger than originally expected. Knowledge and advice on the correct use of the Internet and social networks has also been shared with schools through a roadshow that reached 4,500 students at 42 schools in 18 provinces. Finally, SPICE has reinforced the network on CSOs working on human rights and trafficking in Cambodia through a highly interactive 4-day training camp focusing on e-advocacy and security.

While largely achieving its overall program objectives, SPICE has also established and demonstrated the value of a technical platform that offers CSOs, government and political parties a new channel to access most of their beneficiaries or followers using pre-recorded voice messages. It also demonstrated that it is possible to better prepare the public to use phones as a means of communication by supporting rapid adoption of local-language-enabled phones and boosting the number of technology-savvy youth, who act as a bridge between sources of information and that segment of the population that is not yet connected.

In two and a half years the program has opened new channels for Cambodians to access information and services, while enabling civil society and government to use these new communication channels to develop the country. This success demonstrates how USAID's strategy on the use of Science, Technology, Innovation and Partnerships for development can be effectively applied to support effective and sustainable development.

A video with the highlights of this program is available at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2QyjV2HYtQI

As part of SPICE, Open Institute has delivered 37 technology solutions that have helped Civil Society organizations working in Cambodia, as well as the Cambodian government, magnify the impact of their programs on their target beneficiaries.

Open Schools Program

Since 2007 the Open Schools Program has worked with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to develop a goal-oriented approach to integrating ICT in education that is aligned with the government's overall development policies. This approach - reflected in the Master Plan for ICT in Education - helps students to develop technical and critical thinking skills that will help them adapt to employment market in the age of information technology. The Master Plan also helps the Ministry to increase the use of ICT to standardize and modernize administration and pedagogy, with a strong focus on using the technology for teacher training. In application of the Master Plan, technology classes in schools use only open source software that is in Khmer language.

The Open Institute has helped write all the ICT curricula for teachers and students. Students study ICT in the last two years of high school. The Grade 11 course focuses on understanding what is expected from them in the employment market in terms of critical thinking, communication skills and technical skills, while the Grade 12 curriculum concentrates on vocational orientation towards ICT careers. The Grade 11 textbook was completed last year and the Ministry is printing 100.000 copies for distribution

During this year Open Institute has completed and tested the textbook for ICT Grade 12, its last contribution to the plan made in 2009. During the coming year it will continue to develop supplementary materials for the teaching of this course and will do further testing.

In collaboration with VSO, and in order to solve the problem of primary school teachers having to start teaching English (with a very low level of knowledge of this language and much lower of its pronunciation), Open Institute has developed several phone applications that include all the pronunciation of all words and sentences that teachers need to learn in order to teach each one of the primary English courses. Through this applications teachers can immediately access all the sounds and sentences requires to teach a given activity of a lesson. The application for Grade 4 has already been tested in some primary school teacher training centers and is expected to be deployed to all of them. In addition, Open Institute is supporting the Ministry and VSO by recording a series of videos demonstrating techniques that can be used by primary school teachers for teaching specific aspects of the curriculum.

In a new innovative effort, Open Institute is collaborating with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports by developing a mobile game aimed at supporting the teaching of Biology in Grade 2. The game asks students one question about biology each day, and will provide the correct answers, all using only voice messages. The application will also allow the student to review the contents on which she or he will be quizzed and to have quick quizzes on the content. Students will be able to see how they compare to other students in the same class, school, district or province, or to their Facebook friends.

Work is being planned to develop a Mobile Technology for Education Plan for the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.

KhmerOS Program

Starting in 2004, and assumed by the Open Institute in 2006, the KhmerOS program aims at standardizing the use of Khmer script in computers and the production and use of free open source software in Khmer for the most usual applications of computers (e.g., word processing, spreadsheet, Internet, or the operating system).

This effort has made possible the standardization of the use of Unicode to represent Khmer script by the Council of Ministers, as well as by the Ministry of Education, which has also made the use of software in Khmer mandatory in schools. As no proprietary software in Khmer exists, this implies the use of the open source software translated by KhmerOS.

During this year KhmerOS has continued to ensure that updated versions of critical open source applications are translated to Khmer. These applications include the OpenOffice Suite, the UBUNTU and Open SuSE distributions of the Linux Operating System, and a large number of other open source applications used for different purposes, such as the Firefox web browser, the Thunderbird email client, VLC, Quantum GIS, GIMP, and Moodle.

The program also supports further deployment of the Unicode standard to represent Khmer deploying methodology for its use and participating in training sessions.
In 2015 Open Institute supported Google Inc. on the development of Khmer-language technological tools that this company will use in its upcoming Khmer-language products.

Research Program

The Open Institute is moving toward becoming a hub for social research in Cambodia.

Besides its own research on the use of phones and Internet in Cambodia, this last year Open Institute has acquired extensive technical and social know-how regarding the use of tablets and phones for data collection. During 2015 the project has started helping development organizations create their own electronic tools for data collection, teaching them also principles of research and simple data analysis using spreadsheets.

The research group has also undertaken impact and needs assessments for partnering civil society organizations.

The research group has also supported several other Open Institute programs, helping the Health group to develop data entry forms for Health Centers, and to prepare the tools that the Open Schools program will use in the coming year to monitor Child Friendly schools, as part of a partnership with UNICEF. In particular, working with People in Need and UNICEF, the program developed a Well Monitoring System formed by a tablet-based data-collection tool for mapping wells around the country, and a monitoring dashboard form which the Ministry of Rural Development could access all the data about the wells.

The Open Institute has completed drafting what will be the first textbook on Research Methodology in Khmer language, aimed at university students. The effort, started in the previous year, has involved researchers from 10 different universities, as well as the Department of Higher Education of the Ministry of Education. The textbook integrates terminology for research methodology in Khmer, developed by the Open Institute with the support of the Ministry and all 10 public universities. It is specially adapted to the expected academic level of Cambodian students in the first year of university. The textbook will be published during the first quarter of the coming year.

HEALTH PROGRAM

In 2014, the Open Institute started two five-year cooperation agreements with University Research Co. (URC) to develop technology that will help improve the delivery of health services in Cambodia. The two agreements correspond to the two programs for which URC has received funding from USAID: Social Health Protection and Quality Health Services.

Within the USAID Social Health Protection program, this year Open Institute has advanced on the use of tablets in health centers to collect patient registration information. As many of the health centers do not have electricity, tablets are a good solution. The tablets store all of the patient data for the district in which it is located, as well as IDPoor data, which allows the center to make payments related to the Health Equity Fund.

In the USAID Quality Health Services program Open Institute has worked on developing an IVR system through which mothers of newborn babies will receive pre-recorded voice messages with important health messages through periodical phone calls. Data on mothers who have just delivered babies and their phone numbers is received from the data collected through tablets in health centers as part of the USAID Social Health Protection program.

This last program takes the pre-recorded voice messages with health information from People in Need's Village Baby Care program, to which Open Institute provides technical support. This program has been awarded the highest award to an ICT in development program in ASEAN (Gold medal in the ASEAN ICT Awards to the best Social Corporate Responsibility project in ASEAN in 2015.

Regarding sexual and reproductive health, Open Institute has developed a mobile game that provides questions and answers on contraception for CARE's training programs in garment factories; it allows workers to compete on knowledge with factory colleagues and Facebook friends.

Women Empowerment for Social Change

The Women's Empowerment for Social Change program works to ensure that necessary information is available in the Khmer language in order to facilitate communication among gender activists. It also works to create awareness of how ICT can be used as a tool to help promote gender equality. To support its goal, the program implements four main activities: The Women's Web Portal, ICT Training, the Women's Forum, and Gender and ICT Research. The four well-coordinated activities work to lobby for policies that support gender equality and provide information about women's issues and the use of ICT to relevant organizations.

The program is organized based on a clear, pressing need for:

- A centralized place where organizations can find information in Khmer on promoting gender equality, and forums in Khmer where women can learn about their rights
- Tools for facilitating communication among organizations that work on women's issues
- Skills for sharing information and knowledge through electronic media.
- Awareness of how ICT can be used to empower women and increase the impact of women's organizations

The Women's Web Portal

Today, there are more than 5,383 articles available on our Women's Web Portal, a website covering a wide range of gender and development-related issues. Articles cover many topics including economic development, domestic violence, social security, IT, elections, human trafficking, gender, education, and even spotlights on certain talented men and women.

The Web Portal has more than 350,000 visitors and almost one million page viewers per year. The most-read article, read by 767 people, was "Cambodia Need to be computer literate staff approximately 2,400 people working voter registration data". The second most-read article had 614 readers; it was titled "The last comment of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women."

Ms. Toy Monireth, a staff of the Cooperation Committee Cambodia, mentioned that the portal is an essential and reliable resource for women, for those working on women and gender issues, or those looking to find news on women's issues in Cambodia. She and her friends always come to this portal whenever they need information for her analysis on developing issues. Another

frequent reader, Ms. Ket Mardy, Director of Legal Protection Department at the Ministry of Women's Affairs, said Women Web Portal has played an important role in providing necessary information to women, men who work on women and gender issues, and to academic people.

In 2014-2015, the Women Program also implemented some projects such as:

Assessment on Women Leadership and Politics in ICT

Communications and information exchange are critical means for women's empowerment and social development. It is very important that female leaders and young women share information and mobilize resources amongst each other to raise awareness and advocate for their cause. The Open Institute was commissioned by OXFAM to do an assessment on women's leadership and politics in the use of ICT. The objective of the assessment is to review the current opportunities and platforms that female leaders and young women use to communicate to promote women's rights and women's transformative leadership, both off-line and online, and to identify key success factors and challenges that women face in promoting women's rights and women's leadership through modern information and communication methods.

"The Women's Web Portal is an essential and reliable resource for women, for those working on women and gender issues, or those looking to find news on women's issues in Cambodia."

Ms. Toy Monireth, Cooperation Committee Cambodia

Media Monitoring for Ending Violence Against Women

The Media Monitoring to End Violence Against Women's (MMEVAW) project aims to improve Cambodia's capacity for monitoring and analyzing the way in which Violence Against Women and Girls (VAW/G) is portrayed in print media as well as through television and radio. The evidence generated from the MMEVAW project will help inform future strategies to improve practices in the Cambodian media to condone and prevent VAW. The project was funded by UN Women who have supported the development of the new National Action Plan to End Violence Against Women (NAPVAW) in Cambodia, which calls for greater attention on primary prevention of VAW by changing social norms, attitudes and behaviors.

The project has created a comprehensive plan to monitor and analyze Cambodian media in order to create a base of evidence from which we can ultimately develop strategies to address the ways in which the Cambodian media perceives and portrays VAW/G. It is impossible to monitor every article, broadcast or show that is created in the media, thus priorities need to be established so that we can be selective about what types of material we monitor in order to most effectively track VAW/G in the Cambodian media. Several media sources have been selected for monitoring due to their wide circulation and influence in Cambodia. The project tracked and record information about VAW/G so that we can start to develop strategies to significantly lower the tolerance for violence and reduce the negative portrayal of women in the media.

The monitoring revealed that newspapers primarily report on sexual violence and engage in victim blaming and downplaying. Radio and TV reported primarily psychological violence. They had the highest figures of victim blaming, downplaying, and gender bias, but also had the highest figures of violence condemnation. The data indicated that radio programs portray more gender bias, victim blaming, downplaying and condemnation of violence than TV and newspapers.

Strengthening Capacity of Young Women Leadership Network

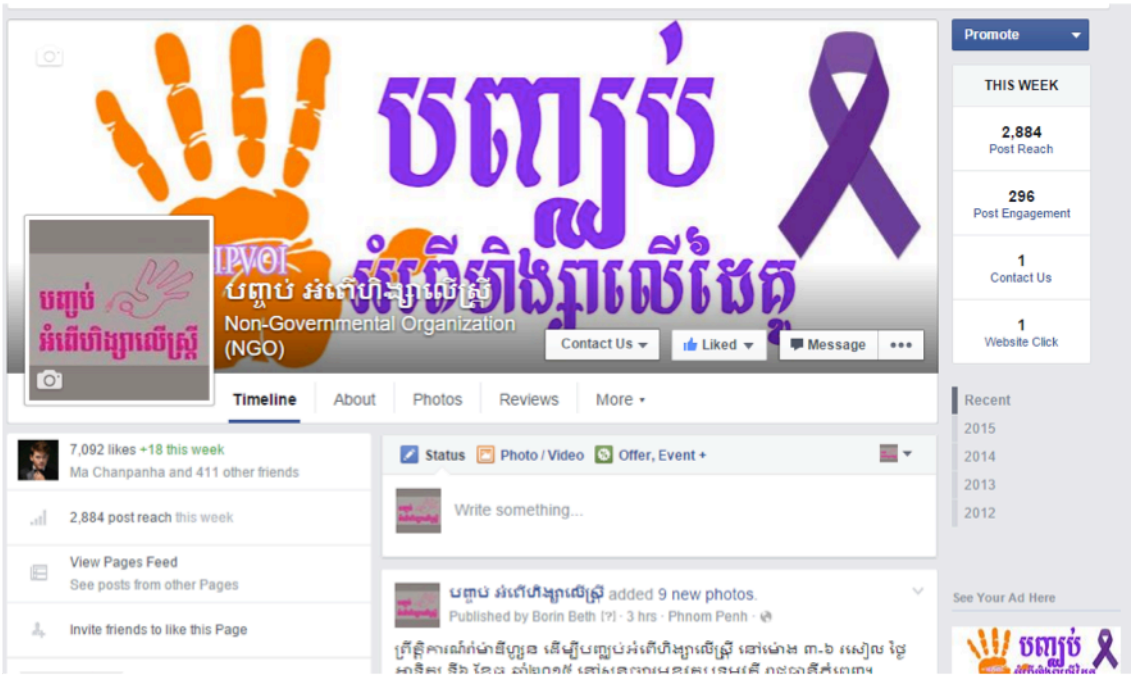
Ministries, community based organizations and development partners—especially UN Women—have supported the initiative to open and create a space to help young women learn about policy. In creating this, they have acknowledged the women's role in the country's development. The main purpose of the project is to encourage women to have a collective voice. It recognizes that women have common interests, and that despite their different needs and experiences, they must come together in order to effectively have their requests heard.

In order to help the voice of the Young Women Leadership Network (YWLN), Young Women and Girls living with HIV (YW/GLHIV) and Lesbian Bisexual Transgender (LBTs), Open Institute has designed a project Strengthening Capacity of Young Women's Leadership Network (SCYWLN) which uses an approach that brings members of the Young Women's Leadership Network and other marginalized groups of young women and girls together. In this group, they coalesce around a common agenda and set of messages, and build their capacity for joint strategic advocacy on policy issues to address their collective concerns. The project is funded by UN Women.

During the implementation of SCYWLN from December 2014- December 2015, 10 meetings, 7 trainings, 3 partner engagements and 3 dialogues with network/NGOs partners were conducted to identify the issues and needs of partners, and seek cooperation by implementing the SCYWLN project.

The following results were achieved. 1) The three groups: YWLN, YW/GLHIV and LBT, all representing different interests, voluntarily joined in the network together to share their knowledge and build the capacity of network members, 2) The groups voiced their concerns together, which were heard by representatives from Ministries and Institutional groups including the Ministry of Women' s Affairs, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Health, Ministries of Justice, National AIDS Authority, young members of parliament, etc., through the dialogues, meetings, and through the Position Paper. The main concerns were discrimination against those groups, lack of education and health support, and a request to restore physical infrastructure particularly in Roka Commune, Battambang province; 3) Young people were brave enough to join monthly meetings with commune councilors to challenge the councilors, to raise their concerns and request to have their concerns integrated into councilor meeting agendas.

At the same time this project was being implemented, information related to the project and to young women was shared widely to a larger audience through the Open Institute Women's Web Portal and websites of partner organizations. Online Advocacy was conducted in which 293 articles about YWLN and LBTs were posted and shared on the Open Institute web site: the Women's Web Portal specifically had 2729 views. More than a hundred articles were posted on the Gender Based Violence website and they were shared to a Facebook page on ending Violence Against Women (VAW); it had 130 likes and reached 30,896 people. Hundreds of articles on ending VAW were also posted on Tech Back The Tech' s (TBTT-a Facebook and Twitter page for posting and sharing information on the fight to end VAW both online and offline) Facebook and Twitter pages that reached 8,477 people.



Prevention of Intimate Partner Violence (PIPV)

Complex and interwoven factors are posited for Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in Cambodia ranging from community factors such as poverty, relationship factors such as extra-marital sex and individual factors such as alcohol consumption and gambling. Societal factors including the status of women, inequitable gender norms, notions of masculinity and acceptability of violence are also relevant. Linkages between the media and IPV include influencing attitudes by normalizing and desensitizing IPV, including portraying women as victims, low levels of IPV news coverage and the interplay of violence and humor. Some studies reveal that media violence consumption increases aggression, incites copycat crime including IPV murders, influences IPV prevalence and can lead to dating violence.

There is evidence that people are influenced by attitudes in the media. The media (television, radio and newspapers) was reported as being the third most influential factor of men's behavior toward women, and from women to men, after lack of law enforcement. In August 2015, The Asia Foundation partnered with the Open Institute to run a project to monitor TV programs. The main objective of the project is to engage TV media professionals, authors, journalists, Cambodian citizens, and other relevant social and government institutions to cultivate collective responsibility for the propagation of IPV on TV and in society, and to decipher new approaches to eliminate IPV.

The above image is from Facebook is an online campaign to prevent IPV. A Fast Reaction Group (FRG) has been created. They are 186 volunteer students from Royal University of Phnom Penh, Panhasastra University of Cambodia, University of Health and Science, and from other universities and NGOs in Phnom Penh. Their job is to monitor TV programs and to post comments where they see TV content condoning IPV. This is not a stand-alone activity, but together with other ministries such as Ministry of Women's Affairs and with other international organizations such as UN Women and Action Aid Cambodia, they have joined efforts with the 16 Day campaign to call for ending all forms of violence against women. The efforts also included various meeting with Media Advisory Group to discuss the way to approach the issue effectively, and to engage well-known Facebook users for a larger audience outreach on ending IPV. Until 12 November, the Facebook page had 2,287 Postings/Comments and 2,422 Likes.

ICT4D Cambodia Network

ICT4D Cambodia is a group of local and international NGOs working together with government and technology and grassroots organizations to promote and facilitate the use of different available communication technologies and access to ICT and to share appropriate and relevant information and knowledge. It works to strengthen the voice of the poor, disadvantaged people and marginalized groups in the decision-making processes that are relevant to the issues of democracy, health, education, and human rights. The ICT4D Cambodia Network facilitates in technology experienced organisations and grassroots organisations to meet and work together to respond to the various needs of civil society organizations in Cambodia through promoting the use of different available communication technologies (ICTs).

ICT4D Cambodia was initiated in 2012 by the Swedish Programme for ICT in Developing Regions (SPIDER). The original participating members include: Open Institute (OI), Association for Progressive Communication (APC), the Women's Media Centre (WMC), Innovative Support to Emergencies, Disease and Disasters (InSTEDD), and East West Management Institute (EWMI); with Open Development Cambodia (ODC) joining later on. Membership of the ICT4D Network has continued to grow, and more recently the Cooperation Committee Cambodia (CCC) and the Cambodian Centre for Human Rights (CCHR) became new partners. The partners benefit from the opportunities that the ICT4D Network provides in terms of networking, collaboration, coordination and expertise, skills and information sharing.

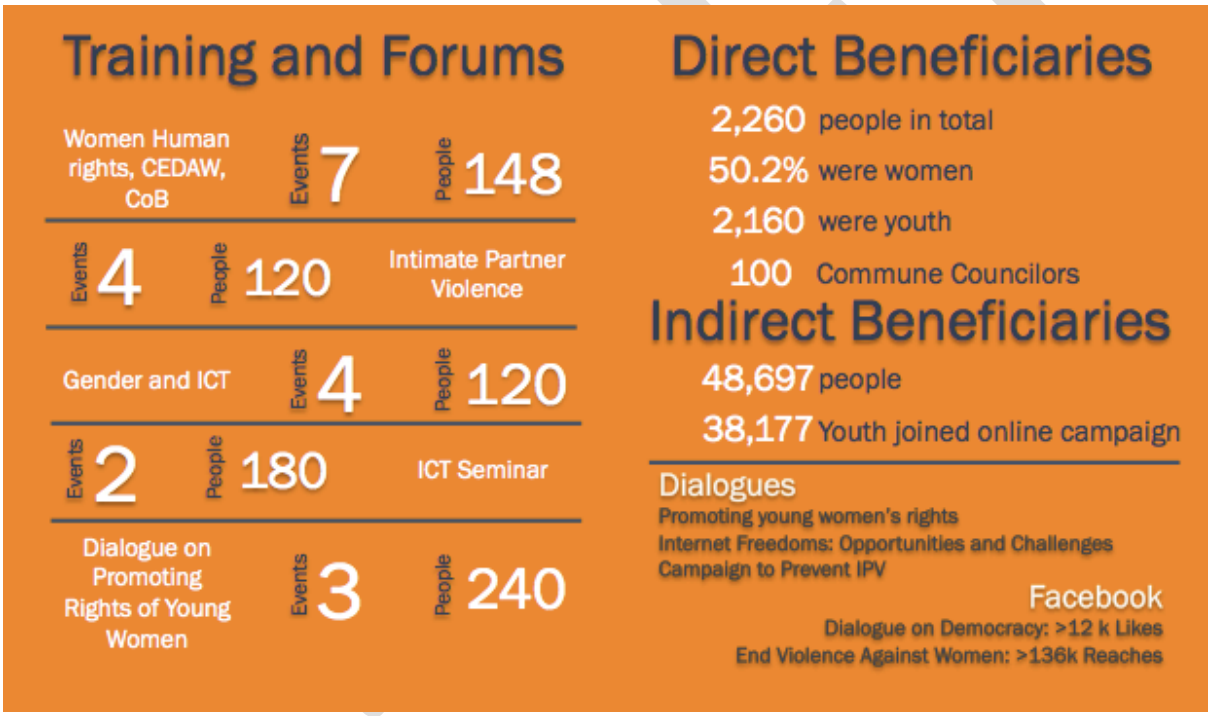
Outcomes

In the last twelve months, the ICT4D Cambodia Network has made significant achievements in strengthening the collaboration among government agencies, private organizations, and NGOs. By exchanging knowledge as well as having members participate in each other's events the Network is able to function more efficiently and ensure the increased access to information technology for Cambodians at a grassroots level.

In September 2015, the networked developed its Strategic Plan. The purpose of this Strategic Plan is to support the objectives of the Network and to guide their work in a focused way, ensuring that there is clarity about what they want to achieve throughout the duration of the plan, and what activities will be undertaken in response to emerging issues in Cambodia. The Strategic Plan will act as a useful tool for engaging with relevant stakeholders, donors and other potential partners alongside growing the Network membership. As access to information is a central issue that concerns many civil organizations, the Network also holds working groups and discussions with the Advocacy and Policy Institute (API) and engages in high-level dialogue on access to information.

During this time, 13 regular partner meetings took place and 2 national ICT seminars were held where young people, civil society organizations, government officials and the private sector were able to meet and discuss on Internet Freedom related issues.

A Joint Communiqué entitled: "Internet Freedom in Cambodia: opportunities and challenges" was published in 2015 to urge the openness of the government to release the ICT-related draft law for wider public discussion and participation of civil society in the development of the law. The Statement also asserted the importance of Internet freedom and a secure online network in order to share information, and promote development in Cambodian Society.



Open Institute's Online Tools

Open Institute Website

Open Institute web site remains a hub of information for Internet users. The web sites contains essential information about our organization, including details of our programs, up coming events, and news. This financial year, the web site had 19,708 visitors, 15,283 unique users, and 39,696 page view.

http://open.org.kh

The Women's Web Portal

The Women's Web Portal remains a significant tool created by the Open Institute to empower women to be better informed about their rights, gender equality policy, and social development. The Women's Web Portal bridges information gaps by making available and easily accessible nationwide information from many local media and information sources.

In this financial year, the Women's Web Portal has had 33,849 visitors to the site, 25,107 unique users and 73,534 page views.

http://women.open.org.kh

Social Media Sites

Social Media Site	Purpose	Activity
Dialogue on Development https://www.facebook.com/development.dd?fref=ts	To promote human rights, gender equality, and democracy	4,951 Friends 1,556 Posts 12,163Likes 2,650 Shares 1,170 Comments
Cambodia Tech Back the Tech (TBTT) https://www.facebook.com/CambodiaTbtt/?fref=ts	A global collaborative campaign to reclaim information and ICT to end violence against women.	Facebook: 7,033 Friends 478 Postings 136,926 Reached Twitter: 1,545 Friends 50,952 Reached 569 Postings
Gender-Based Violence http://www.gbv.open.org.kh	To map Gender-Based Violence in Cambodia from 2011 to present	Postings : 216 Visitors: 3151 Unique: 2836 Page views: 6962

DRAFT

Our Project Partners

Effective partnerships are essential to Open Institute's mission and strategy. In 2014 – 2015, Open Institute has collaborated with more than 40 organizations.

ActionAid	International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
Advocacy Policy Institute (API)	International Labor Organization (ILO)
Association of Progressive Communications (APC).	International Republican Institute (IRI)
Better Factories	Khmer Institute for National Development (KIND)
Building Community Voices (BCV)	Khmer Youth for Social Development (KYSD)
CamASEAN Future Youth (CamASEAN)	Khmer Youth Network (KYN)
Cambodia Center for Human Rights	Ministry of Cults and Religion
Cambodia Coalition Committee	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
Cambodia Community for Women (CCW)	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoYS)
Cambodia Health Education Media Service (CHEMS)	Ministry of Health
Cambodia Indigenous Youth Association (CIYA)	Ministry of Information
Cambodia Women Entrepreneurs Association (CWEA)	Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications
Cambodian Center for Independent Media (CCIM)	Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA)
Cambodian People living with HIV Network (CPN+)	National AIDS Authority (NAA)
Cambodian Water Supply Association (CWA)	National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM)
Cambodian Young Women's Empowerment Network (CYWEN)	National Institute of Posts, Telecommunications and ICT (NIP&ICT).
Cambodian Youth Networks (CYN)	Oxfam GB
CARAM Cambodia	People Health for Development Association (PHD)
Coalition for Road Safety (CRY)	People in Need (PIN)
Community Legal Education Center (CLEC)	Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia (RHAC)
Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC)	The Asia Foundation (TAF)
Coordination of Action Research on AIDS	The National League of Communes and Sangkats
Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI)	University Research Co. (URC)
Ezecom	Women's Media Center of Cambodia (WMC)
FHI 360	Working Group for Partnerships in Decentralization (WGPD)
Google	World Vision
Innovative Support to Emergencies	Young Women Leadership Network
Innovative Support to Emergencies Disease and Disasters (InSTEDD)	Youth Resource Development Program (YRDP)
Winrock International	

Donors

Open Institute would like to take this opportunity to thank our donors for supporting the organization throughout 2014-2015. Your support has enabled us to achieve the outcomes described in this report that have greatly benefited Cambodian society.

2014 – 2015 Income

USAID	$148,658.12
Contracts	$181,738.97
SPIDER	$28,704.74
UN WOMEN	$37,168.11
Asia Foundation	$16,000.00
Other Income	$34,604.38
Total Income	$446,874.32

Open Institute

#8, STREET 352
SANGKAT BOENG KENG KANG 1
KHAN CHAMKARMORN
PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA
P.O. BOX 1552
PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA
PH: +855 (0) 23 224 821
HTTP://WWW.OPEN.ORG.KH