



Country Card
Cambodia





General data of the country

a. General data

Country ¹	Cambodia	Neighbouring country (Vietnam)	France
Population	16.48 Millions	96.46 Millions	67.05 Millions
HDI	0.581	0.693	0.891
IHDI	0.92	1	0.98
Maternal Mortality	170	67	10
Gender Development Index	0.92	1	0.98
Population within UNHCR mandate	NA	NA	368.352
INFORM RISK	4.8	3.7	2.2
Fragile State index	80.3	63.9	30.5
GINI Index	NA	35.7	31.6
Development aid (in millions USD)	843	1633	

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Ratified 28/07/1999
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Non-Signatory
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified 20/12/2012

¹ https://hinside.hi.org/intranet/jcms/pl1_2540344/en/2020-update-country-indicators-2ndary-data/-/donnees-secondaires-mises-a-jour



c. Geopolitical analysis

Cambodia endured the radical communist Khmer Rouge's regime under the leadership of Pol Pot between 1975 and 1978 – when two million people died, and Vietnamese occupation between 1978 and 1992. The conflict ended in 1991 with the signing of the Paris Comprehensive Peace settlement. The country has since experienced relative stability, economic growth and some significant progress, the most striking being the decline in maternal and infant mortality rates. However, Cambodia is still one of the world's poorest countries.

1. Geographical/Demographical

Cambodia is located in the south west of the Indochina peninsula. The country shares borders with Thailand, Lao PDR and Vietnam and is divided into 25 provinces. Roughly 75% of the country consists of Mekong River lowlands and the Tonle Sap Lake basin, with elevations below 100 m. The tropical climate is monsoonal: the dry season runs from December to April and the wet season from May to November.

Cambodia's population remains predominately rural with about 76% living in rural areas and 24% in urban settlements. This distribution is currently evolving, due to a high rate of migration out of rural areas, to Phnom Penh and Thailand mainly. Cambodia's population is young: 65% is under 30 years.

2. Political elements

Prime Minister Hun Sen, a former Khmer Rouge commander, has been in power since 1985.

3. Socio-Economic elements

Cambodia has achieved strong economic growth rates and significant progress in poverty reduction in the past 20 years. Cambodia has attained the lower middle-income status as of 2015, driven by garment exports and tourism, leading to an average growth rate of 7.6%/year. However, in response of the ongoing human and labor rights violation, the European Union (EU) decided to partially withdraw Cambodia's Everything but Arms (EBA) status, which allows countries to pay fewer or no duties on exports to the EU.. This decision is effective since August 2020 and concerns approximately 20% of Cambodia's exports to the EU

While Cambodia has achieved the Millennium Development Goal of halving poverty in 2009, the vast majority of families who escaped poverty were only able to do so by a small margin.

Cambodia remains among the poorest countries in Southeast Asia. Inequalities are growing and democratic participation remains weak. Poverty is most widespread among the rural population and in ethnic minority groups. Agriculture provides livelihoods for approximately 80% of the population.

The COVID crises, poses a major treat to the socio-economic development of Cambodia. The three most affected sectors—tourism, manufacturing exports, and construction—contributed more than 70 percent of growth and 39.4 percent of total paid employment in 2019.



HI Team and intervention areas

The HI Cambodian program has 57 staff members.





Summary of HI presence in the country

HI has been working in Cambodia since 1982, however, between 1982 and 1986, HI worked under the umbrella of American Friend Service Committee. In 1987, HI started to operate under its own name. Today, HI is recognized in the country as a major disability actor. Although there have been many achievements, we can highlight the following:

- Rehabilitation sector: set up of 7 Physical Rehabilitation Centers and the para tetra rehabilitation center, creation of the school for physical therapists
- Mine sector: set up of the Mine/ Unexploded ordnance Victims Information System and transfer to the Cambodian Red Cross
- HI was one of the first international actors to work on Road safety and HI initiated the setup of the National Road Safety Committee (NRSC) and the Road Crash and Victim Information System and transferred the later to NRSC, developed the Road Safety curricula for primary and secondary education and has been an important contributor to the drafting of the traffic law and its enforcement.
- Mother and Child health: development of screening tools for new born and toddler, tools recognized by the Ministry of Health, and on their way to be implemented nationwide.



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Main sectors of intervention	Objective of project in the sector	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Final beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project and Donors funding it
Rehabilitation	Increased access to quality rehabilitation services	Modelization of Kampong Cham PRC management procedures; Provide quality rehabilitation services; development of innovative tools	1/ 20 mental health professionals 2/ 27 PRC staff 3/ 27 rehab sector stakeholders 4/10 DPO members 5/ 2 Focal users	Mixed beneficiaries, due to the holistic approach Year + 5 : 11,000 people with physical impairments 7 530 Adults with disabilities	PWDF/ MoSVY, Louvain Développement, TPO	Kampong Cham and Tbaung Khmum Provinces + National Level	Ongoing project since 1982. Funded by MAELUX (AC5), DFAT through ACCESS, big donor and Bild Hilfe
MCH	Increased access to health services especially early detection and early intervention for	Roll out the screening tools in the target Health facilities	1/ 168 health professionals 2/ 15 TWG members 3/ 2 DAC staff	2 800 Children and youth with disabilities (6 – 17 yrs)	MoH; University of Health Science	Kampong Cham and Tbaung Khmum Provinces +	Ongoing project since 2006. Funded by MAELUX



	children with disabilities			930 Young children with disabilities (0 - 5 yrs)		National Level	(AC5)
Livelihood/ Inclusive Local Development	Improved collaboration between sub-national administration, service providers and civil society allowing an increase access to (livelihood) services for vulnerable people	70% of people with disabilities in the target area have their needs better taken into account within the commune investment plans Support the integration of the need of the most vulnerable citizens in the Commune Investments plans, and pilot civil Society/LA partnerships for service delivery	1/ 38 staff of service providers and communes 2/ 1,548 family members of people with disabilities 3/ Service providers from civil society. 4/ Social Accountability Framework stakeholders.		Kampong Cham DPO; Tbaung Khmum District federation; Commune councils; Provincial vocational training centers	Kampong Cham and Tbaung Khmum Provinces	Project started in 2016, funding is ending in 2022 Funded by MAELUX (AC5), DFAT through ACCESS
Accessibility project	DAC capacities to advocate for and efficiently accompany the implementation of the National	Develop a training toolkit, ToT, cascade trainings, accessibility audits, advocacy	25 DAC staff from Phnom Penh + 10 provincial branches		Disability Action Council (DAC)	Phnom Penh + 10 other provinces	Project started in 2019, funded so far until mid-2021.



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	Accessibility Guidelines are strengthened					Funded by DFAT through ACCESS
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Donors

MAE Luxembourg

