

Cambodia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

An estimated 44.8 percent of children ages 5 to 14 years were counted as working in Cambodia in 2001. Approximately 45 percent of all boys 5 to 14 were working compared to 44.6 percent of girls in the same age group. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (76.5 percent), followed by services (17.7 percent), manufacturing (4.9 percent) and other sectors (0.9 percent).⁸³⁴ Children work in hazardous conditions on commercial rubber plantations, in salt production, in fish processing, portering, brick-making,⁸³⁵ and as garbage pickers.⁸³⁶ Street children engage in scavenging, begging, and shoe polishing.⁸³⁷ Children, primarily girls, also work as domestic servants. Most of these child domestics are girls ages 14 to 17, though it is not uncommon to find them as young as 8 or 9; they typically work 12 to 16 hours a day, 7 days a week.⁸³⁸ Child labor is one of many problems associated with poverty. In 1997, the most recent year for which data are available, 34.1 percent of the population in Cambodia were living on less than USD 1 a day.⁸³⁹

Cambodia is reported to be a country of origin, transit, and destination for trafficking in children for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and various other forms of work, including forced labor and begging. Cambodian children are trafficked to Thailand and Malaysia, and Vietnamese children are trafficked to Cambodia, for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation or forced labor.⁸⁴⁰ Children are also exploited in pornography.⁸⁴¹

Article 68 of the Constitution guarantees the right to 9 years of free, non-compulsory education to all citizens.⁸⁴² However, costs such as uniforms, books, fees, and teacher demands for unofficial fees make

⁸³⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005. Reliable data on the worst forms of child labor are especially difficult to collect given the often hidden or illegal nature of the worst forms, such as the use of children in the illegal drug trade, prostitution, pornography, and trafficking. As a result, statistics and information on children's work in general are reported in this section. Such statistics and information may or may not include the worst forms of child labor. For more information on the definition of working children and other indicators used in this report, please see the section in the front of the report titled "Data Sources."

⁸³⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Cambodian National Plan of Action on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour: A Time-bound Approach*, project document, Geneva, September, 2004, v. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Labor in Hazardous Work in Salt Production, Rubber Plantations, and Fish/Shrimp Processing Centers in Cambodia*, project document, Geneva, 2001.

⁸³⁶ Chea Pyden, "Children Working in the Garbage Dumps and as Domestic Child Workers in Cambodia," *Child Workers in Asia* 16 no. 1 (January-April 2000); available from http://www.cwa.tnet.co.th/Publications/Newsletters/newsletter16_1.html. See also Antonio Graceffo, *The Children of the Garbage Fields of Phnom Penh*, Tales of Asia, [online] n.d. [cited May 20, 2005]; available from <http://www.talesofasia.com/rs-36-garbage.htm>.

⁸³⁷ UNDP and Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, *Cambodia Human Development Report 2000*, Ministry of Planning, Phnom Penh, October 2000, 33, 39.

⁸³⁸ *Ibid.*, 40-41. See also ILO, *Child Domestic Labour in Cambodia: Why it has to Stop and How we can Stop it*, Phnom Penh, 2004; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/library/download/pub04-12.pdf>.

⁸³⁹ World Bank, *World Development Indicators 2005* [CD-ROM], Washington, DC, 2005.

⁸⁴⁰ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Report*, Washington, DC, June 3, 2005; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2004/33191.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004: Cambodia*, Washington, DC, February 28, 2004, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2004/41638.htm>. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database (Cambodia; accessed May 24, 2005).

⁸⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2004: Cambodia*, Section 5.

⁸⁴² *Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia*, 2nd Plenary Session (September 21, 1993); available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/cb00000_.html. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

schools unaffordable for many families.⁸⁴³ In 2002, the gross primary enrollment rate was 124 percent and the net primary enrollment rate was 93 percent.⁸⁴⁴ Gross and net enrollment ratios are based on the number of students formally registered in primary school and therefore do not necessarily reflect actual school attendance. In 2001, 69.5 percent of children ages 5-14 years were attending school.⁸⁴⁵ As of 2001, 61 percent of children who started primary school were likely to reach grade 5.⁸⁴⁶ Education is often inaccessible to minority groups who do not speak Khmer, as classes are conducted only in that language.⁸⁴⁷ While girls legally have equal access to schooling, many families with limited income choose to send male children rather than females, and the distance some must travel to school is a deterrent for families who fear for the safety of female children.⁸⁴⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The worst forms of child labor may be prosecuted under different statutes in Cambodia. The Labor Law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years,⁸⁴⁹ although a later 1999 ministerial decree set the minimum age at 14 years.⁸⁵⁰ The Labor Law allows children ages 12 to 15 years to perform light work that is not hazardous and does not affect regular school attendance or participation in other training programs.⁸⁵¹ Employers who violate the law may be fined 31 to 60 days of the base daily wage.⁸⁵² Night work is generally prohibited for children.⁸⁵³ The Labor Law prohibits work that is hazardous to the mental and physical development of children under the age of 18⁸⁵⁴ and prohibits all forced or compulsory labor, including in agriculture and domestic work.⁸⁵⁵ A *Prakas* (Ministerial Order) on the Prohibition of Hazardous Child Labor lists 38 types of hazardous work such as tanning, logging, chemical use in textile production, etc., in which children under age 18 are not permitted to work. The *Prakas* separately identifies domestic work as hazardous, states children under age 12 shall not carry out domestic work, and sets guidelines for children ages 12 to 14 undertaking domestic work. Additionally it states no one

⁸⁴³ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, November 6, 2003.

⁸⁴⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=51> (Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios, Primary; accessed December 2005). For an explanation of gross primary enrollment rates that are greater than 100 percent, please see the definition of gross primary enrollment rates in the "Data Sources and Definitions" section of this report.

⁸⁴⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁸⁴⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=55> (School life expectancy, % of repeaters, survival rates; accessed October 2005).

⁸⁴⁷ Asian Development Bank, *Health and Education Needs of the Ethnic Minorities in the Greater Mekong Subregion*, Manila, 2001, 9; available from http://www.adb.org/Documents/Studies/Health_Education_GMS/default.asp. See also Jan Noorlander, Khat Samal, Keo Sohout, *Highland Children's Education Project (HCEP): Ratanakiri Province, Cambodia*, 2003; available from http://www.sil.org/asia/ldc/parrallel_papers/noorlander_%20samal_and_%20sohout.pdf.

⁸⁴⁸ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2004: Cambodia*, Section 5.

⁸⁴⁹ *Cambodian Labor Law*, (March 13, 1997), Article 177(1); available from http://www.bigpond.com.kh/Council_of_Jurists/Travail/trv001g.htm.

⁸⁵⁰ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 30, 2005.

⁸⁵¹ *Cambodian Labor Law*, Article 177(4).

⁸⁵² The base daily wage is defined by the law as "the minimum wage set by a joint *Prakas* [Ministerial Order] of the Ministry in charge of Labour and the Ministry of Justice." *Cambodian Labor Law*, Articles 360, 368.

⁸⁵³ *Ibid.*, Articles 175-176.

⁸⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, Article 177(2). See also U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2004: Cambodia*, Section 6d. U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, November 6, 2003.

⁸⁵⁵ The law also prohibits hiring people to work to pay debts. *Cambodian Labor Law*, Articles 15-16.

under age 18 shall work in underground mines or quarries, or work during the hours of 10:00 pm and 5:00 am.⁸⁵⁶ Lists of working children must be kept by employers and submitted to labor inspectors, and children who have parents or guardians must have their consent in order to work.⁸⁵⁷

The Cambodian Constitution prohibits prostitution and the trafficking of human beings.⁸⁵⁸ The 1996 Law on the Suppression of the Kidnapping, Trafficking and Exploitation of Human Beings penalizes brothel owners, operators, and individuals who prostitute others with prison terms of between 10 to 20 years, depending on the age of the victim.⁸⁵⁹ The Law outlaws acts of debauchery, though the legal definition of debauchery does not explicitly include pornography. However, the courts have prosecuted several cases of child pornography under this law.⁸⁶⁰ The minimum age for conscription into military service is 18 years.⁸⁶¹

Since 1999, the Government of Cambodia has submitted to the ILO a list or an equivalent document identifying the types of work that it has determined are harmful to the health, safety or morals of children under Convention 182 or Convention 138.⁸⁶²

The Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MOLVT) is responsible for enforcing child provisions of the Cambodian Labor Law.⁸⁶³ Since 2000, questions on child labor have been incorporated into routine labor inspections.⁸⁶⁴ However, the Labor Law only applies to formal employer-employee relationships, not covering many areas of informal sector work, where the most serious child labor problems exist.⁸⁶⁵ No employer has ever been prosecuted for violating child labor laws.⁸⁶⁶ Local police are responsible for enforcing laws against child trafficking and prostitution;⁸⁶⁷ however, the U.S. Department of State reports that counter-trafficking efforts are hampered by corruption, a weak judiciary system, lack of transparency, inadequate resources, and staffing shortages. Some improvement was indicated in prosecution and conviction rates in 2004.⁸⁶⁸ In September 2005, the President determined that due to Cambodia's

⁸⁵⁶ A *Prakas* is a Ministerial Order. The government issues such orders, decrees, and circulars to clarify regulations that are not explicitly contained in existing relevant legislation. The Labor Advisory Committee has been tasked with defining the criteria for "light" and "hazardous" work in Cambodian legislation, but has not completed this task. See U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 30, 2005. See also Kingdom of Cambodia's Ministry of Social Affairs, Labor, Vocational Training and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSALVY), *Prakas on the Prohibition of Hazardous Child Labor*, Prakas No. 106, (April 28, 2004). In July 2004, there was a governmental reorganization and MOSALVY was divided into two ministries, including the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MOLVT), which is currently responsible for enforcement of child labor issues, and Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSAVY).

⁸⁵⁷ *Cambodian Labor Law*, Articles 179, 181.

⁸⁵⁸ The Constitution refers to "the commerce of human beings, exploitation by prostitution and obscenity which affect the reputation of women." *Constitution*, Article 46.

⁸⁵⁹ The Law also stipulates 10 to 15 years of imprisonment for traffickers and their accomplices. If the victim is under 15 years, violators face penalties of 15 to 20 years of imprisonment. *Law on the Suppression of the Kidnapping, Trafficking and Exploitation of Human Beings*, Royal Decree No. 0296/01, (1996), Article 3.

⁸⁶⁰ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 30, 2005.

⁸⁶¹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004: Cambodia*, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=848.

⁸⁶² ILO-IPEC official, email communication to USDOL official, November 14 2005.

⁸⁶³ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

⁸⁶⁴ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, December 6, 2001.

⁸⁶⁵ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, November 6, 2003. The Labor Law does not cover family business, begging, scavenging, hauling, day labor, the commercial sex industry, or participation in any illegal activities. See U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2004: Cambodia*, Section 6d.

⁸⁶⁶ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 30, 2005.

⁸⁶⁷ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

⁸⁶⁸ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2004: Cambodia*, Section 6d. See also U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Report*.

continued failure to meet standards established in the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act, it would be subject to restrictions on certain non-humanitarian and non-trade assistance.⁸⁶⁹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSAVY) Action Program 2004-2008 places strong emphasis on child welfare and protection. Specific issues include combating child labor and trafficking, development of national plans, and improving enforcement mechanisms for violators of child labor and trafficking laws.⁸⁷⁰ The Government of Cambodia is undertaking a final assessment of its first 5-year plan against trafficking and sexual exploitation of children in order to finalize and implement its second 5-year plan (2005-2009).⁸⁷¹ The 2005-2009 Plan would expand the scope of the initial plan to include trafficking for both sexual and labor exploitation purposes.⁸⁷² The 2003-2005 National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS) identifies combating child labor, trafficking and prostitution as a strategic objective and defines measures to address these problems.⁸⁷³

Selected Child Labor Measures Adopted by Governments		
Ratified Convention 138	8/23/1999	✓
Ratified Convention 182		
ILO-IPEC Member		✓
National Plan for Children		
National Child Labor Action Plan		✓
Sector Action Plan (Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking)		✓

The Government of Cambodia has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Government of Thailand on Bilateral Cooperation for Eliminating Trafficking in Children and Women.⁸⁷⁴ The Government of Cambodia also signed a similar MOU with the Government of Vietnam in October 2005.⁸⁷⁵ Additionally, Cambodia is signatory to a multilateral MOU pledging cooperation on trafficking. Other signatories to this “Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT)” include Burma, Laos, Peoples Republic of China, Thailand, and Vietnam. The members held their first meeting in March 2005 to draft their Sub-regional Plan of Action.⁸⁷⁶

The Government of Cambodia is participating in a USD 4.75 million USDOL-funded Timebound Program supported by ILO-IPEC to eliminate child labor in specified worst forms, and to create a platform for eliminating all forms of child labor. The program targets children involved in the brick-making, portering,

⁸⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons: Country Reassessments*, September 22, 2005; available from <http://state.gov/g/tip/rls/other/53913.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, *reporting*, September 1, 2005.

⁸⁷⁰ Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSAVY) Kingdom of Cambodia’s Ministry of Social Affairs, *Action Program 2004-2008*.

⁸⁷¹ ILO, *Cambodia Reviews Five Years of Counter Trafficking Efforts--Prepares for New Plan of Action*, [online] May 19, 2005 [cited May 19, 2005]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/child/trafficking/index.htm>. See also World Education, *OPTIONS: Combating Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation through Education*, status report, September 30, 2005, 5. As of the end of 2005, this plan had not been officially passed.

⁸⁷² ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Cambodia National Plan of Action on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor: A Time Bound Approach*, technical progress report, Geneva, March, 2005.

⁸⁷³ Kingdom of Cambodia’s Council for Social Development, *National Poverty Reduction Strategy 2003-2005*, December 20, 2002.

⁸⁷⁴ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, "Joint Cambodian-Thai Cabinet Retreat," *Information Bulletin* 58 (May 31, 2003); available from <http://www.embassy.org/cambodia/press/052003.pdf>.

⁸⁷⁵ U.S. Embassy-Phnom Penh official, email communication to USDOL official, August 11, 2006.

⁸⁷⁶ The MOU was signed October 2004. See Human Trafficking.org, *COMMIT Senior Officials Meeting 3*, [online] September 2005 [cited September 21, 2005]; available from http://www.humantrafficking.org/collaboration/regional/eap/events/2005_03/commit_mtg.html. See also Human Trafficking.org, *Six Asian Countries Cooperate in Fight Against Human Trafficking*, September 2005 2005 [cited September 21, 2005]; available from http://www.humantrafficking.org/collaboration/regional/eap/news/2005_03/six_countries_cooperate.html.

rubber-making, domestic work, salt production, fish processing, and services.⁸⁷⁷ Cambodia is also part of a USDOL-funded global project that aims to substantially reduce the engagement of children ages 5 to 17 in the worst forms of child labor.⁸⁷⁸ USDOL has also launched a USD 3 million project that focuses on providing education opportunities to those children who have been or have the potential to be trafficked.⁸⁷⁹

There are several governmental agencies that have on-going programs to address the needs of children vulnerable to exploitation in the worst forms of child labor. The Ministry of Women's Affairs (MWA) and the Ministry of Tourism (MOT), in collaboration with NGOs, work to combat sex tourism.⁸⁸⁰ In September, the MOT teamed with the ILO to promote "Child Safe" tourism policies to prevent trafficking of women and children for labor and sexual exploitation.⁸⁸¹ The Ministry of Interior operates an anti-trafficking hotline.⁸⁸² MOSAVY works with UNICEF and IOM to return trafficked children to their homes. In 2005, 1,082 child victims of trafficking, beggars, porters and other street children were returned to Cambodia and reintegrated into their community.⁸⁸³ MWA and MOLVT, in conjunction with UNICEF's Community-Based Child Protection Network, work to teach children and community members about the hazards of trafficking, and train individuals to identify potential victims and take action to protect them.⁸⁸⁴ MWA and IOM also collaborate on a public information campaign to raise awareness of trafficking.⁸⁸⁵ The Cambodian National Council for Children oversees adherence to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and is working with Save the Children to promote a national mechanism for coordinating all organizations working against child sexual exploitation and trafficking.⁸⁸⁶

Cambodia is included in a regional ILO-IPEC anti-trafficking project with funding from the Government of Japan and the UK.⁸⁸⁷ In addition to ongoing anti-trafficking funding from the U.S. Embassy in Cambodia, the U.S. Presidential Anti-Trafficking in Persons Initiative allocated USD 5.6 million to support

⁸⁷⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Cambodian National Plan of Action, project document*.

⁸⁷⁸ Winrock International, *The Regional Community-based Innovation to Reduce Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE)*, [online] September 2005 [cited September 28, 2005]; available from http://www.winrock.org/where/display_country.cfm?CountryID=360.

⁸⁷⁹ World Education, *OPTIONS: Combating Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation through Education in Cambodia*, status report, March 2005. The project is scheduled to close August 2007.

⁸⁸⁰ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Report*. See also U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2004: Cambodia*, Section 5.

⁸⁸¹ Ministry of Tourism and ILO, *Ministry of Tourism of the Kingdom of Cambodia and ILO Team Up to advocate Promotion of "Child Safe" Tourism Policies to Prevent Trafficking in Children and Women*, September 22, 2005; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/child/trafficking/downloads/camtourismnews.pdf>. See also People's Daily Online, *Cambodia Launches Action Plan to Promote "Child-Safe Tourism"*, [online] September 22, 2005 [cited December 14, 2005]; available from http://english.people.com.cn/200509/22/eng20050922_210183.html.

⁸⁸² U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 30, 2005.

⁸⁸³ Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation, trafficking database statistics provided to US Embassy-Phnom Penh, August 11, 2006.. See also International Organization for Migration, *IOM in Cambodia*, [online] n.d. [cited May 24, 2005]; available from <http://www.iom-seasia.org/index.php?module=pagesetter&func=printpub&tid=6&pid=44>.

⁸⁸⁴ MOSALVY and UNICEF, *Child Protection Network: Findings and Recommendations of the External Evaluation*, Phnom Penh, January 2004; available from http://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/files/Cambodia_2004_030_Report_Evaluation_CPN.pdf. Villages in the network also establish "village social funds" that provide vulnerable children with funds to attend school. See UNICEF, *Profiting from Abuse: An Investigation into the Sexual Exploitation of Our Children*, New York, 2001, 24, 26; available from http://www.unicef.org/publications/pub_profiting_en.pdf.

⁸⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2004: Cambodia*, Section 5.

⁸⁸⁶ HumanTrafficking.org, *Cambodian National Council for Children*, [online] May 2005 [cited May 24, 2005]; available from <http://www.humantrafficking.org/countries/eap/cambodia/govt/contacts/cncc.html>.

⁸⁸⁷ The project focuses on substantially reducing the trafficking of women and children for labor and sexual exploitation. The second phase extends through April 2008. ILO-IPEC, *Mekong Sub-Regional Project to Combat Trafficking in Children and Women: Project Overview*, [online] n.d. [cited May 20, 2005]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/child/trafficking/projectoverview-history.htm>. See also ILO, "A Global Alliance against Forced Labour: Global Report under the Follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work" (paper presented at the International Labor Conference, 93rd Session, Geneva, 2005).

programs to combat trafficking in Cambodia through 2006.⁸⁸⁸ Cambodia also participates in a project between ASEAN and AUSAID on the elimination of trafficking in women and children in four Southeast Asian countries and China's Yunnan Province.⁸⁸⁹

The Government of Cambodia is implementing its Education Strategic Plan (ESP) 2004-2008. The plan prioritizes expanding access to quality education, non-formal education skills training for young people, and upper secondary and post-secondary education opportunities.⁸⁹⁰ The ESP is carried out in conjunction with the Education Sector Support Program (ESSP) 2002-2006. The ESSP is considered a companion to the ESP, and focuses on programs and activities to achieve Education for All by 2015.⁸⁹¹ The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MOEYS) is implementing priority action programs through 2006 that operate nationwide and include activities such as HIV/AIDS education, non-formal education expansion, and program monitoring and capacity building.⁸⁹² The Non-Formal Education Department within MOEYS focuses on improving the reach, quality and impact of non-formal education to meet the needs of people of all ages, including working children.⁸⁹³

The government also works with various donors and NGOs on education issues, focusing on improving the quality of education and access to primary school.⁸⁹⁴ The ADB is providing support to MOEYS' efforts to implement its ESP 2004-2008, which includes technical assistance for nationwide policy reforms, community-based skills training for out-of-school youth, and an initiative to increase equitable access to education.⁸⁹⁵ ADB supports two other education projects. The first focuses on educational assistance to girls and indigenous populations through awareness raising and the development of scholarship programs for lower secondary schooling.⁸⁹⁶ The second aims to improve primary school access in disadvantaged communities through community mobilization, capacity building, and facilities

⁸⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

⁸⁸⁹ Under this project, special anti-trafficking units have been established with national law enforcement agencies. Additionally the project strengthens regional cooperation and legal policy frameworks. Australian Embassy Bangkok, *AUSAID Program in Thailand Overview*, [online] May 2005 [cited May 20, 2005]; available from http://www.austembassy.or.th/agency/ausaid/overview_eng.php.

⁸⁹⁰ Royal Government of Cambodia's Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport, *Education Strategic Plan 2004-2008*, Phnom Penh, September 2004, Foreword.

⁸⁹¹ Royal Government of Cambodia's Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport, *Revised Education Sector Support Program 2002-2006*, October 2002, 7-8.

⁸⁹² Royal Government of Cambodia's Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport, *ESSP Review 2002: Education Sector Performance Report*, Phnom Penh, August 2002, 26; available from http://www.moeys.gov.kh/education_sector_support_program/ESSP%202002/Main%20Review%20Documents/ESSP2002_MainReview.htm.

⁸⁹³ Royal Government of Cambodia's Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport, *Revised Education Sector Support Program*, 49-51.

⁸⁹⁴ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, November 6, 2003.

⁸⁹⁵ The ADB is providing a total of USD 62.9 million to these efforts. The first *Education Sector Development* is scheduled to end November 2007 and the follow-on *Second Education Sector Development* is scheduled to end December 2009. ADB, *Education Sector Development Program*, (LOAN: CAM 33396-01), [online] December 15, 2001 [cited May 20, 2005]; available from <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Profiles/LOAN/33396013.ASP>; ADB, *Education Sector Development Project*, (LOAN: CAM 33396-02), [online] December 15, 2001 [cited May 20, 2005]; available from <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Profiles/LOAN/33396023.ASP>. ADB, *Second Education Sector Development Program*, (LOAN: CAM 34388-02), [online] January 4, 2005 [cited May 20, 2005]; available from <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Profiles/LOAN/34388013.ASP>. ADB, *Second Education Sector Development*, (LOAN: CAM 34388-02), [online] January 4, 2005 [cited May 20, 2005]; available from <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Profiles/LOAN/34388023.ASP>.

⁸⁹⁶ The ADB provided a grant of USD 3 million from the Japan Fund for Poverty Relief; the project is slated to end in October 2005. ADB, *Cambodia: Targeted Assistance for Education of Poor Girls and Indigenous Children*, (GRANT: CAM 36152-01), [online] December 11, 2002 [cited May 20, 2005]; available from <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Profiles/GRNT/36152012.ASP>.

improvements.⁸⁹⁷ The World Bank launched a Basic Education Project in support of the government's ESSP, addressing access to education issues and targeting the most disadvantaged.⁸⁹⁸ The World Bank also signed a grant in September 2005, funded through the Japan Social Development Fund, which will support the government's efforts to provide basic education services to girls, disabled children, and other marginalized groups.⁸⁹⁹ The USAID has an ongoing basic education program focused on improving the quality and proficiency of the education system.⁹⁰⁰

⁸⁹⁷ The ADB provided a grant of USD 1.87 million from the Japan Fund for Poverty Relief; the project targets girls and ethnic minorities and is slated to end in December 2007. ADB, *Cambodia: Improving Primary School Access in Disadvantaged Communities*, (GRANT CAM: 38107-01), [online] March 7, 2005 [cited May 20, 2005]; available from <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Profiles/GRNT/38107012.ASP>.

⁸⁹⁸ The project was approved May 12, 2005 and is expected to close December 2010. World Bank, *Basic Education Project*, [online] n.d. [cited May 23, 2005]; available from <http://web.worldbank.org/external/projects/main?pagePK=104231&piPK=73230&theSitePK=40941&menuPK=228424&ProjectId=P070668>.

⁸⁹⁹ World Bank, *Cambodia: Grant Agreement Signed to Support Basic Education*, [online] September 13, 2005 [cited September 13, 2005]; available from <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/EASTASIAPACIFICEXT/EXTEAPREGTOPEducation/0,contentMDK:20644227~menuPK:444335~pagePK:34004173~piPK:34003707~theSitePK:444289,00.html>.

⁹⁰⁰ USAID, *Budget*, [online] January 14, 2005 [cited May 23, 2005]; available from <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/budget/cbj2005/ane/kh.html>.