

# KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA Nation Religion King

# **Royal Government of Cambodia**

# NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN 2025-2030

Un-official translation

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#### **PREFACE**

The Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia considers violence against children a priority that all ministries, institutions, the private sector and civil society must work together to prevent and respond in a timely and effective manner to achieve Sustainable Development Goals 2030 as set out in Goal 16.1 "Reduce all forms of violence and a significant level of violence-related mortality everywhere" and Goal 16.2 "Eliminate all forms of violence, exploitation, trafficking and violence against children and torture" and Goal 5.2 "Eliminate all forms of violence against women and children in public places; Private places include trafficking and sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of exploitation". At the same time, the prevention and response to violence against children has been incorporated into the Pentagon Strategy, the first phase of the seventh-term government.

Cambodia has ratified several international conventions, including the 1992 Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Additional Protocol on the Participation of Children in Armed Conflict 2004, and the Protocol on the Trafficking in Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography, 2002. Convention No. 138 on the Minimum Age for Admission to Work, 1999, Convention 182 on the Prohibition and Urgent Action for the Elimination of Serious Forms of Child Labor, 2005, and The Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and International Cooperation in Adoption in 2007. Meanwhile, Cambodia became a member of the Global Partnership for the Elimination of Violence against Children on 12 September 2019 and signed the WePROTEC Declaration in Abu Dhabi in 2015 on activities to prevent abuse and online child exploitation.

As a signatory to the international instrument, the Royal Government of Cambodia has put in place a national development strategy of the Royal Government, policies, laws and legal norms, action plans, and strengthened multi-sectoral child protection mechanisms at the national and sub-national levels to prevent and respond to disasters, poverty, domestic violence, and migration. The report of the first-ever Cambodia Violence Against Children Survey has brought a clear focus on the prevalence of violence against children, providing evidence and critical input for the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans Affairs, and Youth Rehabilitation to develop an action plan to prevent and respond to violence against children 2017-2021.

The Action Plan to prevent and respond to violence against children 2017-2021 has been postponed with the implementation of unfinished activities until the end of 2023 due to COVID-19. This action plan is evaluated based on the relevance, efficiency, interconnection, effectiveness, sustainability, impacts and inter-sectoral issues of the action plan, and makes 11 recommendations, including recommendations for the preparation of the "National Action Plan on Preventing and Responding to Violence against Children 2025, 2030", a roadmap for relevant ministries, institutions at the national, sub-national, development partners, civil society organizations and the private sector to prevent and respond to violence against children more effectively and efficiently Respond to the needs of vulnerable and vulnerable children.

In principle, the successful implementation of the National Action Plan on Preventing and Responding to Violence against Children 2025-2030 requires collaboration, resource sharing, provision of means, and joint commitment from all ministries, institutions, civil society organizations, development partners, the private sector, and all stakeholders, including the people and all children, to transform this National Action Plan into concrete actions in each sector. Therefore, I am confident that with high commitment and a sense of ownership in the

responsibility of the ministries, institutions, and collaboration with development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector, and all relevant parties, they will work with high responsibility and good partnership to achieve the main strategies and activities set out in this national action plan. The Royal Government is strongly committed to working with all partners to eliminate violence against children as outlined in the 2015 WePROTECT Declaration and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

On behalf of the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and my behalf, I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the Secretariat of the Cambodian National Council for Women, the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Inter-Ministerial Technical Working Group, Plan International, non-governmental organizations, and development partners who have provided financial support and techniques in preparing a national action plan on preventing early marriage and teenage pregnancy in Cambodia 2025-2030. I call on all ministries, institutions, development partners, and the public in all circles to continue supporting and jointly implementing this national action plan to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in ensuring the safety and well-being of the Cambodian people, especially girls.

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2025

PRIME MINISTER

Signed & Seal

Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN MANET

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#### **ABBREVIATION**

ACWC The ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the

Rights of Women and Children

CDHS Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey
CNCC Cambodian National Council for Children
CNCW Cambodian National Council for Women

CSAM Child Sexual Abuse Material

CVACS Cambodia Violence Against Children Survey
CCWC Commune Committee for Women and Children

EVAC Elimination of Violence Against Children

ICTs Information and Communication Technologies

LGBTIQ+ Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer/Questioning

MoINF Ministry of Information
MoI Ministry of Interior

MoSVY Ministry of Social Affairs Veteran and Youth Rehabilitation

MoWA Ministry of Women's Affairs

MoEYS Ministry of Education Youth and Sport

MoCAR Ministry of Cults and Religions
MCFA Ministry of Culture and Find Art

MoJ Ministry of Justice
MoH Ministry of Health
MoP Ministry of Planning

MPTC Ministry of Post and Telecommunications
MoLVT Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training

MPCCL Municipal-Provincial Committee for Countering Child Laboure

NCCL National Committee for Countering Child Laboure

NCCT National Committee for Counter Trafficking

NSDP National Strategic Development Plan

ASEAN RPA ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence Against

on EVAC Children

OCSE Online Child Sexual Exploitation

SOGIESC Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex

Characteristics

SDGs Sustainable Development Goals

UNIAP The United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking

UNICEF United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

WHO World Health Organization

WCCC Women and Children's Consultative Committee

#### 1- INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1-Policies

#### 1.1.1-National Frameworks

The Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia considers "children as bamboo shoots" and "children as the pillars of the nation." To protect and promote children's rights, especially to prevent and respond to violence against children, the Royal Government has issued many laws, regulations, and policies, including:

- a- The constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Article 48 states that "The State shall protect the rights of children as stipulated in the Convention on Children, in particular, the right to life, education, protection during wartime, and from economic or sexual exploitation. The State shall protect children from acts that are injurious to their educational opportunities, health, and welfare".
- b- Criminal Code of 2009, Criminal Procedure Code of 2007, Civil Code of 2007, and Civil Procedure Code of 2006.
- c- The Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence and the Protection of Victims 2005 Article 1 states that "This law has the objective to prevent domestic violence, protect the victims and strengthen the culture of non-violence and the harmony within the households in society in the Kingdom of Cambodia. This law is in the purpose to establish a legal mechanism to prevent domestic violence, protect the victims and preserve the harmony within the households in line with the Nation's good custom and tradition and in accordance with Article 45 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia, in addition to the regulations in effect". Article 3 states that "Domestic violence is required to be prevented in time effectively and efficiently and that it is required to take the most appropriate measures in order to protect the victims or the persons who could be vulnerable. Violence includes: acts affecting life, acts affecting physical integrity, tortures or cruel acts, sexual aggression". Article 6 states that "tortures or cruel acts include: - Harassment causing mental/psychological, emotional, intellectual harms to physical persons within the households, mental/psychological and physical harms exceeding morality and the boundaries of the law". Article 7 states that "Sexual aggression includes: Violent rape, Sexual harassment, Indecent exposures". Article 8 states that "It is also required to prevent threats aiming at frightening, shocking the victims and acts affecting individuality and properties of the persons living under the same roof of the house and who are dependent of the same households. Every disciplining by giving advice or reminding or appropriate measures taken to allow spouses or children or dependent persons to follow the good ways of living with dignity and the nation's good custom and tradition, if the disciplining and teaching are conducted with the noble nature (consisting of compassion, pity, joy at other's happiness, and sincerity) and in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Conventions on Human Rights and Child Rights recognized by the Kingdom of Cambodia, shall not be included as the use of violence or acts of domestic violence. Article 9 states that "The nearest authorities in charge have the duty to urgently intervene in case domestic violence occurs or is likely to occur in order to prevent and protect the victims. During the intervention, the authorities in charge shall make a clear record about the incident and then report it immediately to the prosecutors in charge". Article 10 states that "In the purpose to prevent

domestic violence and protect the victims, the officials of the Ministry of Women's Affairs who work in the fields regulated under this law shall obtain the legal qualification as the judiciary police and can act as the complaining party instead of the victims in accordance with the penal procedures in effect". Article 11 states that "In case of the absence of the officials who have already earned the legal qualification as the judiciary police, other officials in charge including police officials, police agents, Royal Gendarmerie, local authorities in commune /Sangkak, officials of the Ministry of Women's Affairs as well as village chiefs who have intervened to prevent domestic violence and protect the victims shall be empowered under this law to make a record to the court. This record has also the same value as the record made by judiciary police officials". Article 13 states that "In order to prevent domestic violence which is occurring or is believed to occur, the authorities in charge shall intervene urgently".

- d- The Law on the Suppression of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation in 2008 prohibits human trafficking, and other forms of sexual exploitation.
- e- The 1997 Labor Law, Article 15, states that "Forced or compulsory labor shall be prohibited in accordance with Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labor, adopted on June 28, 1930, by the International Labor Organization, and ratified by the Kingdom of Cambodia on February 24, 1969". This article shall apply to all persons, including domestic servants and workers and employees in agricultural enterprises". Article 16 states that "hiring people to work to collect debts is prohibited". The Labor Law and other related laws prohibit sexual harassment and inappropriate behavior in the workplace. As well as 13 prakas related to child labor.
- f- The Law on Juvenile Justice 2016, Article 14, Paragraph 2 Procedure concerning minors under 14 (fourteen) years of age, states that "Minor below 14 years old, who is suspected of committing an offence, shall not be apprehended and shall be referred to his/her designated representative by a judicial police officer. In case the minor needs care and protection, the judicial police officer shall refer the minor to the municipal, provincial, district department or office in charge of Social Affairs to take further action in accordance with the minor's social condition and welfare. The municipal, provincial, district department or office in charge of social affairs shall submit the report to the prosecutor on the admission of a minor from the judicial police. In case the minor is deemed by the municipal, provincial, district Department or office in charge of Social Affairs to be a minor in need of care and protection, the officer of the department or office shall request the court to suspend or withdraw parental authority or remove minor's guardianship or general guardian in case the minor has his/her designated representative for the court to decide the suspension or withdrawal or removal of designated representative or the guardianship on the minor. In case the designated representative of the minor does not exist, the department or office shall request the court to decide the guardianship of the minor. For all offences committed by a minor under 14 years of age, the Judicial Police officer shall refer the case file to the Prosecutor. In case of dispute as to the age of a minor at the time of commission of the offence, the Judicial Police officer shall immediately forward the case to the prosecutor". In this sense, violence against children must not be used against minors suspected of committing crimes.

- g- Pentagon Strategy-Phase I
- h- National Social Protection Policy Framework 2024-2035
- i-National Population Policy 2016-2030.
- j- National Policy on Child Protection Systems 2019-2029
- k- National Policy on School Health 2019
- I- Policy on Inclusive Education 2018
- m-Wat Sangkha Koma Policy 2020
- n- National Policy on Early Childhood Care and Development 2010
- o- Policy on Child Protection in Schools 2016
- p- Policy on Alternative Care for Children 2024
- q- Policy on "Safe Villages, Communes, and Sangkats" 2021
- r- Cambodia PROTECT is a strong family campaign, focusing on multi-media goals, interconnected communication, ICTs, community engagement activities, and support seeking.

#### 1.1.2-International Frameworks

The Kingdom of Cambodia has ratified international instruments and participated in several activities to protect and promote children's rights, including:

- a- International Convention on the Rights of the Child: The Declaration on the Rights of the Child, proclaimed by resolution 1386 (XIV) of the United Nations General Assembly on November 20, 1989, and to which Cambodia signed and ratified the International Convention on the Rights of the Child on September 22, 1992. The Convention on the Rights of the Child is an international treaty that sets out universal minimum standards and ethical principles for the treatment of children in society. According to the 10 principles in the Declaration on the Rights of the Child and in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, there are four fundamental rights: the right to survival, the right to special protection and special rights, the right to participation, and the right to development.
- b- Additional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict, 2004, and Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, 2002.
- c- International Labor Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labor, 1969
- d- International Labor Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1999.
- e- Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, 2005.
- f-Cambodia joined the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children on September 12, 2019, and signed the WePROTEC Declaration in Abu Dhabi in 2015 regarding actions to prevent online abuse and exploitation of children.
- g- United Nations Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, 2009.
- h- Committee on the Rights of the Child Completes observations on Cambodia's 4th and 6th periodic reports
- i-Universal Review Report, 4th Round, 2024.
- j-In the present report, submitted under General Assembly resolution 76/147, the Special Rapporteur on the sale, sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children describes the activities undertaken concerning the discharge of her mandate since her previous report to the Assembly (A/77/140). She also presents a thematic study on the exploitation and sexual abuse of children in the context of travel and tourism, including a closer look at the phenomenon of voluntourism.

In addition, the Kingdom of Cambodia has also joined regional commitments to protect and promote children's rights, the main commitments of which include:

- a- ASEAN Declaration on Combating Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, 2004.
- b- ASEAN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and Children 2013
- c- ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, 2015.
- d- ASEAN Regional Action Plan on the Elimination of Violence against Women and Children 2017
- e- ASEAN consensus on the promotion and protection of migrant workers

#### 1.2-Child abuse situation

According to the 2019 General Population Census of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Cambodia has a total population of 15.6 million, of which 5.4 million (34.8%) are children (aged 0-17). Among them, 1.4 million children are between the ages of 0-4, 1.5 million children are between the ages of 5-9, and 2.5 million are adolescents between the ages of 10-17. There are 1.2% of children with disabilities, equal to 169,225, for the group of children aged 5-14 years, out of a population aged 5 and above, numbering 14,102,052. According to the latest results of the 2024 census, the total population of Cambodia is 17,280,543.

Children suffer and experience violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect to a significant extent. Children's experiences of violence occur across all social classes, both rich and poor, but their exposure to violence is exacerbated by gender inequality, lack of attention to the urban and rural poor, family fragmentation due to migration in search of work, and negative attitudes and discrimination against children with disabilities. Children suffer and experience violence in public places, in private places, at home, in schools, in community and religious settings, and online. Violence against children often occurs by adults and older children who are in a caregiving role, including parents, siblings and relatives, teachers, friends at school, community members, religious leaders, and care providers in child care centers. Violence against children takes many forms and is driven by many factors at the family, community, and social levels, therefore requiring solutions using a variety of interventions.

#### 1.2.1-Violence against children

The Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey (CDHS) 2021-22 showed that overall, two-thirds (66%) of Cambodian children aged 1-14 years had been subjected to punitive discipline by adults in their families. Only 23% of children aged 1-14 have never been subjected to punitive discipline from adults in the family. Almost three in five (59%) of children have been subjected to psychological punishment, while 43% have been subjected to physical punishment, and 5% have been subjected to severe physical punishment, such as hitting or slapping on the face or head.

According to the Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey (CDHS) 2021-22, "Domestic Violence" report, more than 21% of Cambodian women have experienced physical, sexual, or psychological violence in their lifetime caused by their intimate partners. But it shows superiority in comparison with previous surveys. The percentage of women aged 15-49 who have experienced physical, sexual, psychological, or economic violence in their lifetime by an intimate partner or husband decreased from 29% in 2014 to 21% in 2021. In 2021-22, about a third of women (37% in 2021, compared to 50% in 2014)

and about a third of men (16% in 2021-22, compared to 26% in 2014) from the 15-49 age group agreed that a husband is justified in beating his wife under one or more specific circumstances. Young women or girls and women in urban areas are less likely to experience violence than older women and women in rural areas, varying from 33% to 45% and 27% to 45%, respectively. Young men or boys are similarly likely to experience violence as older men (17% vs. 21%), but men in urban areas are less likely to experience violence than those in rural areas (12% vs. 20%). Physical and sexual violence perpetrated by intimate partners has a high degree of overlap. The majority of women who have experienced sexual violence from an intimate partner have also experienced both physical and sexual violence from an intimate partner.

#### 1.2.2-Early Marriage

The Cambodian Demographic and Health Survey (CDHS) 2021-22 found that 1.8% of women married before the age of 15, 19% of women married before the age of 18, and 6% of men married before the age of 18. The 2024 Research Report on Early Marriage, Forced Marriage, and Cohabitation at an Early Age found that 13.93% of women married between the ages of 15 and 18, 14.44% of women married before the age of 18, while only 0.22% of men married before the age of 15, with 2.96% of men married between the ages of 15 and 18. In particular, in the world, there are approximately 640 million girls and women who are married as children, of which 290 million (45%) are in Southeast Asia, 127 million (20%) in Sub-Saharan Africa, 95 million (15%) in East Asia and the Pacific, 58 million (9%) in Latin America and the Caribbean, 37 million (6%) in the Middle East and North Africa, 20 million (3%) in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and 13 million (2%) in other regions.

Child marriage, forced marriage, and cohabitation at an early age have an impact on many factors, including early pregnancy, health consequences, poverty and low income, domestic violence, violations of girls' rights and freedoms, access to education, social isolation, participation as citizens, and participation in social work. Early marriage increases vulnerability to sexual and reproductive health, abortion, and childbirth complications, and continues to pose economic challenges by reducing investment in the education and health of young girls, further reducing productivity, and perpetuating the cycle of poverty. Teenage pregnancy causes social isolation and challenges in raising children, which leads to reduced participation in community affairs and decision-making forums.

#### 1.2.3-Child labor

The National Action Plan on the Reduction of Child Labor and the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2016-2025) defines child labor as any work, whether paid or unpaid, that is likely to impair the mental, physical, social, or moral development of children under the age of 18, and in particular, to hinder their education. Child labor, in particular, is any work that helps educate and train children to work in the future, which is part of the family profession, and is not considered child labor.

Child labor is a complex social phenomenon that is linked to Cambodia's socio-economic landscape and community attitudes. Poverty and low community awareness are the main reasons leading to child labor. Poor families with limited resources, lack of skills, low education, and low income are prone to using child labor to sustain their daily lives. For this reason, child labor is observed to be prevalent across geographical areas, economic sectors, and various forms of employment.

According to the results of the 2013 Labor Force and Child Labor Survey and the 2023 Cambodia Socio-Economic Outlook of the National Institute of Statistics of the Ministry of Planning, the situation of child labor in Cambodia has changed significantly, reflecting the great progress and achievements made by the Royal Government of Cambodia over the past decade. In fact, the number of children aged 5-17 years who participated in child labor decreased from 23.6% in 2012 to 17% in 2021 and 11.9% in 2023. Among children participating in child labor in 2023, 30.3% were both working and studying, and 69.7% were working but not studying. According to these figures, children who work and are not in school are a concern for child labor vulnerability, requiring the implementation of core interventions and labor inspection measures to prevent the use of child labor. With core interventions and labor inspection measures, intervention services to prevent and respond to violence against children are a priority.

#### 1.2.4-Child trafficking

Child trafficking is a challenge to the well-being of children and the livelihoods of their families, and member states must comply with international conventions related to the prevention and prohibition of child trafficking and the exploitation of child labor. Child labor migration with families must be strictly prohibited and cooperation with regional countries must be ensured to safely repatriate children and ensure the protection, well-being, and development of children.

#### 1.2.5-Child sexual exploitation online

Online Child Sexual Exploitation (OCSE) refers to the use of the internet or digital technology as a means to commit sexual exploitation or child sexual abuse that occurs when a child is online, such as child sexual abuse material (CSAM), online grooming, sexting, sextortion, and live online child sexual abuse. Globally, access to affordable internet, personal computers, and smartphones is rapidly increasing in poor communities and vulnerable communities, every five minutes, a website shows a child being sexually exploited and someone registers to use a website that distributes child sexual abuse images.

Online child sexual abuse and exploitation has become a global problem and in Cambodia, it has also become a new concern that requires stakeholders, including the public, guardians, civil society organizations, law enforcement officials, technology companies, and governments, to work together to prevent, curb, and protect children from these serious dangers. Internet connectivity in Cambodia has steadily increased, and more and more people, including children, have access to a wider range of digital technologies than ever before. The recently released Disruption Harm Global Study in Cambodia showed that more than 80% of children between the ages of 12 and 17 are using and connecting to the internet more than adults. While children and adolescents spend a lot of time online, most of them are unaware of the risks and dangers of online sexual abuse and exploitation. The tactics of perpetrators and the images of child sexual abuse are becoming increasingly complex and sinister, requiring a joint effort to address them.

Children who are victims of sexual abuse and exploitation suffer severe physical and psychological effects that can last a lifetime. Most child victims feel ashamed, have difficulty trusting others, are hopeless, depressed, frustrated, blame themselves, are easily frightened, and have an urgent need to solve problems. The impact of the rehabilitation process for child victims requires a long period and adequate support from parents, guardians, professionals, and the entire community.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> WePROTECT. (2016).

#### 1.2.6- Children at high risk of violence

Children are generally more vulnerable than adults because they are younger, have less life experience, are smaller in size, have less maturity, and have fewer resources than adults. However, some children are more vulnerable than others and have a higher risk of violence due to individual characteristics or being members of vulnerable groups and other risk factors that predispose children to violence.

#### 1.3- Achievements

The Royal Government, in collaboration with development partners and civil society organizations, has achieved many achievements in implementing the action plan to prevent and respond to violence against children, such as (1) the establishment of a national policy on the child protection system 2019-2029, procedures for implementing child protection, and a draft law on child protection and several legal documents, (2) Prepare training materials and disseminate information about online child safety to law enforcement officers, authorities, communities, parents, including children and youth, (3) Inclusion of the topic of responding to online child sexual exploitation and abuse into the training program of the Cambodian Police Academy and the curriculum of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, (4) Strengthening response, service delivery, case management, and raising awareness among social service workers and other service providers, (5) Take action on child protection issues, provide justice to children, provide health and psychological services to children who have been victims of sexual abuse and other forms of child abuse, (6) Launch an online emergency reporting system at the Department of Anti-Human Trafficking and Protection of Minors.

According to the evaluation report of the Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence against Children 2017-2021<sup>2</sup>, it was found that the implementation of (Strategy 1) Coordination and Cooperation was moderately positive (level 5 on a 6-point scale) and (Strategy 5) Monitoring and Evaluation was slightly negative (level 3 on a 6-point scale). (Strategy 4) Development and Amendment of Laws and Policy Implementation was slightly positive (level 4 on a 6-point scale) on policy implementation, while Amendment of Laws was slightly negative (level 3 on a 6-point scale). (Strategy 2) Primary Prevention and (Strategy 3) Multi-sectoral Response Services for Child Protection were moderately positive (level 5 on a 6-point scale)<sup>3</sup>. The evaluation focused on the relevance, effectiveness, coherence, efficiency, impact, sustainability, and coherence of the plan and provided 11 recommendations, including the development of a new action plan.

#### 1.4- Movement to eliminate violence against children

#### 1.4.1- Global movement to end violence against children

Cambodia's response is part of a global movement to end violence against children. The UN Secretary-General's independent study on violence against children, "The United Nations Study on Violence against Children," provided the first global study on violence against children. The study noted that violence against children takes several forms, including physical, psychological, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect. The study also reported that violence against children occurs in several settings, including homes, communities, schools, workplaces, recreational settings, including sports clubs, youth clubs, childcare facilities, detention centers, religious settings, and during law enforcement

<sup>2</sup> Evaluation report on the Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence against Children 2017-2021, dated April 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The rating scale is 1: very negative, 2: moderately negative, 3: slightly negative, 4: slightly positive, 5: moderately positive, and 6: very positive.

and court proceedings. Research has highlighted the many consequences of childhood violence, including impaired social, emotional, and cognitive development throughout life, as well as a higher association with health and mental health problems, intimate partner violence, and suicide attempts. The study recommends that "all states develop a systematic, multisectoral framework to respond to violence against children, integrated into the national action planning process."

#### 1.4.2- Sustainable Development Goals

Cambodia has adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda, which was adopted in September 2015 by 193 world leaders at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in New York. The agenda, which has 17 goals and 169 targets, entered into force on January 1, 2016. The United Nations in Cambodia continues to support the Royal Government of Cambodia in translating its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into local implementation, as Cambodia is expected to localize all 17 goals with the addition of a target on mine action, within the context of its national vision, strategy, and plan for sustainable development. The 2030 Sustainable Development Goals envision an inclusive process with consultations with all stakeholders, including communities and civil society groups, as well as development partners and the private sector. In response to the United Nations study on violence against children, the SDG goals include a new focus on child protection and addressing violence against children, including:

- SDG target 16.2 "End all forms of abuse, exploitation, trafficking and violence against children"
- SDG target 5.2 "Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spaces, including trafficking and sexual and other forms of exploitation."
- SDG target 16.1: "Reduce all forms of violence and violence-related deaths by a significant margin everywhere."
- SDG Target 8.7 on ending modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labor.

Other Sustainable Development Goals related to child protection also contribute to addressing further risk factors for violence against children, including poverty, health, gender equality, education, safe environments, and justice.

In support of the Sustainable Development Goals for Child Protection, the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children was established to support governments, UN agencies, civil society, educational institutions, the private sector and young people in promoting action towards achieving the new global goal to end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children.

#### 1.4.3- Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children (INSPIRE)

At the heart of the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children's strategy is INSPIRE, the seven strategies to end violence against children. INSPIRE<sup>4</sup> is an evidence-based package of interventions to prevent violence that the World Health Organization (WHO) developed in collaboration with experts from all sectors<sup>5</sup>, expanding on UNICEF's

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> INSPIRE http://www.who.int/iolence\_injury\_prevention/violence/inspire/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), End Violence Against Children: The Global Partnership, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the President's Emergency Program for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Together for Girls, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the World Bank.

six strategies for action<sup>6</sup>, The INSPIRE strategy has been considered and incorporated into this action plan, including activities, outcomes, and indicators that focus on implementing and strengthening laws, norms, and values, safe environments, support for parents and caregivers, income and economic empowerment, response and support services, and education and life skills.

#### 1.4.4- ASEAN response to violence against children

In 2011, the ASEAN Committee on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) identified the elimination of violence against children (EVAC) as a priority area in the ACWC work plan for 2012-2016. A 2012 systematic review of research on violence in East Asia and the Pacific, supported by UNICEF, estimated that rates of physical abuse among boys and girls in the region ranged from 10% to 30.3%, sexual abuse from 1.7% to 11.6%, psychological abuse from 31.3% to 68.5%, and child labor from 6.5% to 56%. Additionally, 3 out of 4 children in the region have been subjected to violent discipline by teachers or parents. In 2015, the ASEAN Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence against Children (RPAVEVAC) was adopted by the ASEAN Summit of Heads of State and Government. This regional action plan has a duration of 10 years (2016-2025).

#### 1.4.5- Cambodia's response to violence against children

Cambodia's policy and legal framework for preventing violence against children began with the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1992 and subsequent ratification of several other important international conventions aimed at protecting children's rights, including the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In addition, the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Articles 31 and 48, recognizes and respects the Convention on Human Rights and recognizes the rights of the child as stipulated in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, especially the right to life, the right to education, and freedom from economic and sexual exploitation. To prevent violence against children, the Royal Government of Cambodia has prepared and approved several legal documents, including those on abuse, exploitation, and neglect, education and family welfare, alternative care, and children involved in the justice system, as well as policies at the national and sub-national levels.

In addition, the Royal Government has prepared legislation, Legal documents, and policies related to children's rights and established a mechanism to coordinate child protection at both the national and sub-national levels. The mechanism at the national level is the Cambodian National Council for Children, which has a general secretariat and subcommittees, while ministries and institutions have established a number of committees. Meanwhile, at the sub-national level, the Cambodian National Council for Children (CNCC) was established in the capital and provinces, the Capital/Provincial Women and Children's Consultative Committee (WCCC) and Municipal, District and Khan(MDK) Women and Children Consultative Committee(WCCC) and Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC), and also established the Anti-Child Labor Committee at the capital and provinces and the mechanism for the protection and development of children at the subnational level, which is the backbone of the committee at the national level. However, the Royal Government of Cambodia also recognizes the need to move beyond policy and legal

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> UNICEF. Ending Violence Against Children: Six Strategies for Action. 2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child states that states parties must report on the situation of children's rights to the United Nations Committee.

frameworks to provide better-targeted interventions to address the issue of violence against children.

#### 1.5-Strategic framework for developing national plans

The National Plan on Preventing and Responding to Violence against Children 2025-2030 was developed based on 1) the National Policy on the Child Protection System 2019-2029; 2) Recommendations of the evaluation report of the action plan to prevent and respond to violence against children 2017-2021; 3) Recommendations of the mid-term review of priority areas under the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on the Elimination of Violence against Children 2016-2025; 4) Effectiveness of implementing functions as stated in policies, sub-decrees, proclamations, decisions, and instructions of sub-national administrations; 5) Review and analyze gaps in existing activities; 6) Key commitments of relevant ministries and institutions; 7) Review of practices and good experiences in responding to violence against children in Cambodia and other countries; 8) Focusing on an intersectoral approach and the cycle of violence; 9) Strategies and action plans in other relevant sectors and 10) Cambodia's commitment to achieving the goal of ending violence against children and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 and (11) Letter No. 1719, dated November 1, 2024, of the Council of Ministers, approving the draft commitment of the Royal Government of Cambodia to participate in the First Global Ministerial Conference to End Violence against Children<sup>8</sup>, as follows:

- 1. Strengthening the enforcement of UNCRC, existing national and international norms and standards, policies and action plan to promote children's welfare, protection as stipulated in the National Policy on Social Protection, National Policy on Child Protection System, etc. as well as accelerating the endorsement of draft Child Protection Law and National Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to VAC 2025-2030
- 2. Strengthening and expanding Cambodia PROTECT, Positive Parenting, Positive Discipline in School, Child Protection Pagoda Programme, and child online protection, to ensure that children are protected and live in a safe environment.
- 3. Strengthening child protection information management, data collection, data analysis, and usage to inform the national policy, national action plan, and programme monitoring and evaluation as well as the CRC and SDGs.
- 4. Commit to respond to children's concern through social service workforce strengthening to provide timely and efficient services to children who experienced violence, especially children with disabilities, diverse-gendered group of children, children in conflict with the law, neglected, abused, trafficked and all forms of threats, from community-based to national levels, including measures and mechanisms and expanding child friendly infrastructures that are responsive to children needs.
- 5. Promote and expand collaboration with all relevant partners within the Government, using existing mechanisms to promote children's wellbeing, and their protection, particularly strengthening coordination mechanisms for timely action and intolerable to all forms of violence against children.
- 6. Increasing national budget allocation for children within the social protection framework and social services, and mobilizing resources, including financial

Chairperson of the Cambodian National Council for Children

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Statement of the Royal Government of Cambodia in First Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children Bogota, Colombia, 7-8 November 2024 by Her Excellency Sopheap NHEP, Secretary of State, MoSVY and high representative of His Excellency Somethy CHEA, Minister of MoSVY, and

- resources from partners, the private sectors, to support and ensure the sustainability of ending VAC movements.
- 7. Promote participation to change perspective and social attitude and norm among adults and children, government officials, NGOs, and the private sectors to build well-being, a safe and responsible family, and society.

#### 1.5.1- Theory of Change on Violence Against Children

The Theory of Change on Violence against Children in Cambodia operates at the "systems level" and identifies how changes to Cambodia's child protection system can lead to the achievement of the goal of reducing or eliminating all forms of violence against children in Cambodia. The Theory of Change identified seven key determinants of violence against children that need to be addressed in the action plan: poverty and socio-economic inequality, education, norms that support violent discipline, gender-based norms, impunity, lack of awareness of existing laws, children's past experiences of violence, and lack of protective and responsive services for child protection.

In developing interventions to address the determinants of violence against children, the theory of change draws on existing good practices in preventing and responding to violence against children, including United Nations research on violence against children. The Global Partnership's 7 Strategies to End Violence against Children (INSPIRE) contribute to and receive support from action to achieve Target 4.7 by 2030, ensuring that all learners have access to knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development include, for example, education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and the contribution of culture to sustainable development and 5.1 End all forms of discrimination against women and girls in all areas of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The potential effects of changing norms and values on reducing violence against children include (1) reducing the acceptance of violence against women and children; (2) increasing the desirability of beliefs related to gender equality and a gender-equal division of labor. (3) More favorable attitudes toward nonviolent methods in parental discipline; (4) Greater recognition of the factors that contribute to abusive behavior toward intimate partners and children; (5) Increased intervention by stakeholders to prevent violence against children and intimate partners; and (6) Reduced physical or sexual violence perpetrated by parents or intimate partners.

#### 1.5.2- General principles and approaches

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child has explained what should be included in a coordinated framework to address violence against children, or in a national action plan<sup>9</sup>,<sup>10</sup> which should include legal action, administrative, social, and educational measures, as well as the stages of intervention (from prevention to recovery and reintegration).<sup>11</sup> The development of this action plan is guided by the following principles:

- Royal Government Ownership of the National Action Plan: The recognition of the Royal Government of Cambodia's ownership of this plan is based on the Royal Government's commitment to the right of children to be free from all forms of

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> UNCRC, The Rights of the Child to Freedom from all Forms of Violence, 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence Against Children, Toward a World Free from Violence: Global Survey on Violence Against Children, 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> UNCRC, The Rights of the Child to Freedom from all Forms of Violence, 2011.

violence, The development of the five-year national plan is the result of coordinated efforts under the responsibility of the Royal Government, with a strong commitment to the active participation and collaboration of ministries, institutions, non-governmental and international organizations, the private sector, and other development partners.

- Child rights approach: The recognition that children are the owners of rights and not the beneficiaries of the humanitarian actions of adults. The development of this national plan will involve children and adolescents as rights holders, and efforts will be made to include their participation in monitoring and evaluation processes (taking into account their age and capacities).
- Gender perspectives and violence against children: Consideration of the different risks that girls and boys face in different contexts, related to different forms of violence, and with the aim of addressing all forms of gender discrimination that contribute to violence against children.
- **Primary prevention:** Understand that prevention is the most important activity in any response to violence against children.
- The primary role of the family: Recognition of the primary role of the family in protecting children from violence and the recognition that violence can occur within the family context.
- Resilience and protective factors: Recognition of internal and external strengths and supports that promote children's personal security and reduce abuse and neglect and the negative impacts of these activities. For example: a stable family adults who are responsible for the care of the child, meeting the child's needs the use of positive and non-violent discipline, safe relationships with adults, supportive relationships with friends, social connections, and a non-violent environment in society.
- **Risk reduction:** Recognizing that proactive measures must be taken based on the actual situation to reduce the risk factors that each child faces, and children may be at risk, including substance use, mental health problems, and social isolation, as well as family risk factors such as poverty, unemployment, and discrimination.
- Children at high risk and in vulnerable situations: Recognizing children in vulnerable situations and children at high risk of violence. Example: Children in alternative care, Children who live and work on the streets, Children in conflict with the law, Children with disability, Children of indigenous groups, Same-sex children, Children who marry early, Children involved in hazardous labor, and migrant or displaced children and children living in poor families.
- Human, financial, and technical resources: Consideration should be given to the allocation of resources across the sector to the maximum extent possible and to the development of robust monitoring mechanisms to ensure accountability in the allocation and use of funds.
- **Effective coordination:** Understanding that mechanisms need to be in place to ensure effective coordination at the national, regional, and local levels between each sector and with civil society.

**Accountability Mechanism:** Establishing accountability mechanisms, along with systems and tools for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on obligations in implementing activities

#### 1.6-Priority issues

The main challenges that all ministries, institutions, sub-national administrations, development partners, civil society organizations, and the private sector must address include:

- The knowledge and practice of journalists and media institutions in preventing, responding to, and reporting appropriately on the issue of violence against children remains limited due to a lack of resources for training and collaboration from relevant institutions to strengthen this capacity.
- Resources are limited (funds, social service workforce, and materials) to support the prevention and response to violence against children and child protection.
- The dissemination of the action plan on preventing early marriage and teenage pregnancy and the consequences of early marriage has not been widespread due to the lack of joint work on this issue in areas with high rates of early marriage.
- The implementation of the three levels of positive parenting education programs still has limited participation from parents and caregivers due to difficult family living conditions, population migration, difficulty in identifying families with children with disabilities, and has not been included in the provincial, municipal, district, and commune investment plans for implementing this activity.
- The understanding of the community and local authorities is still unclear about services for caring for children who have been victims of violence against children, making it difficult for them to refer children to appropriate services, and there is still a blaming and discriminatory attitude towards children and families who have been victims of sexual abuse.
- The implementation of child protection measures on the online systems of internet service providers and domestic technology companies is still limited and has not yet responded to the problem.
- Services for victims of violence in the community are limited, and health centers or referral hospitals are difficult to find and refer to after child victims have received primary treatment, especially psychological counseling, legal advice, and other necessary services.

#### 2- STRATEGIES

The overall goal of the National Action Plan on Prevention and Response to Violence against Children 2025-2030 is to reduce violence against high-risk children through increased prevention interventions, increased response, increased access to quality and effective services, and multi-sectoral coordination and collaboration. Five key strategic goals have been identified as the main strategies to focus on, including:

Strategic 1: Coordination and Cooperation

Strategic 2: Prevention and containment

Strategic 3: Multi-Sectoral Child Protection Response

Strategic 4: Development of the legal framework and justice system

Strategic 5: Monitoring and Evaluation

Based on these five strategies, the Royal Government of Cambodia has introduced the following key cluster activities:

#### Strategic 1: Coordination and Cooperation

Cluster activity 1.1: Strengthen coordination mechanisms for implementing the national action plan at both the national and sub-national levels.

Cluster activity 1.2:	Strengthen and expand child protection mechanisms in
	public and private schools
Cluster activity 1.3:	Strengthen youth and children's networks to participate in
	coordinating efforts to prevent violence against children.

# **Strategic 2: Prevention and containment**

Cluster activity 2.1:	Increase awareness about preventing violence against children and online child sexual exploitation and abuse (OCSE)
Cluster activity 2.2:	Increase investment in child protection and internet safety programs in provincial, municipal, district, and commune investment programs
Cluster activity 2.3:	Increase awareness of preventing violence against children, preventing unnecessary separation of children from their families, and preventing exploitation of children in homes, schools, communities, workplaces, enterprises, institutions, and childcare facilities.

#### **Strategic 3: Multi-Sectoral Child Protection Response**

Cluster activity 3.1:	Strengthen the Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Violence Reporting System (OCSE)
Cluster activity 3.2:	Strengthen the intervention system for violence against children and online child sexual exploitation (OCSE)
Cluster activity 3.3:	Strengthen the response system and provide services to children who are victims of violence and online child sexual exploitation and abuse (OCSE)
Cluster activity 3.4:	Strengthen response systems by providing core intervention services, social security services, and skills training to those vulnerable to violence and child labor exploitation.

#### Strategic 4: Development of the legal framework and justice system

Cluster activity 4.1:	Review and fill content gaps in the legal framework
Cluster activity 4.2:	Promote the implementation of policies related to child
	protection and the Royal Government's commitment to
	eliminating violence against children.

#### **Strategic 5: Monitoring and Evaluation**

Cluster activity 5.1:	Establish a multi-sectoral monitoring and evaluation framework
Cluster activity 5.2:	Strengthen data collection and reporting systems to provide evidence for the preparation of policies, laws, legal norms, and guidelines.

#### 3- ACTION PLAN

The National Action Plan on Prevention and Response to Violence against Children 2025-2030 is based on the vision of the National Policy on Child Protection Systems 2019-2029, "ensuring that every child in the Kingdom of Cambodia enjoys equal rights as set out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Additional Protocols, including the right to survival, the right to protection, the right to development and the right to participation". Therefore, it is necessary to pay more attention to promoting child protection by

strengthening the implementation of a comprehensive and integrated child protection system from all relevant parties, aimed at responding to the protection of children from all forms of abuse and exploitation in the best interests of children.

#### 3.1-Scope

The National Action Plan on Prevention and Response to Violence against Children 2025-2030 covers:

- All relevant ministries and institutions
- Sub-national administration
- Development partners
- Civil society
- Faith-based organizations
- A group of victims and vulnerable children
- General public.

#### 3.2-Implementation activities

The approach for the National Plan on Prevention and Response to Violence against Children 2025-2030 aims to provide a clear basis for focusing on prevention and containment, intervention, and response services in a multidisciplinary, integrated, and coordinated manner, effective, and quality and on time, so that child victims can enjoy physical, mental, and well-being safety, and encourage changes in social attitudes towards the treatment of children.

Many effective responses depend on collaboration and coordination with other stakeholders, so accountability and clear responsibilities of stakeholders are essential. Collaboration and coordination must take place at all levels, national, sub-national, and between ministries, relevant institutions, the private sector, and individuals, and coordinated responses have the potential to create other positive changes necessary to reduce violence against children. Specific indicators are not highlighted in the National Plan on Preventing and Responding to Violence against Children 2025-2030; these specific indicators will be included in the annual operational and budget plans of the ministries, each relevant institution, and sub-national administrations in implementing this national plan.

General purpose:	Violence against children in all its forms is reduced and eliminated through increased prevention, intervention, and response
	services in a multi-sectoral manner that is integrated and coordinated, effective, quality, and timely.
Impact:	Every child has the right, including the right in the digital environment, to develop physically, mentally, and emotionally, and
	the right to be protected from all forms of violence to become human capital for sustainable national development.
Impact Indicator 1:	The prevalence of physical, psychological, sexual violence, and neglect experienced by children is reduced and moving
	towards elimination.
Impact Indicator 2:	The percentage of Cambodians who do not support all forms of violence against children in all contexts (homes, schools,
	communities, workplaces, enterprises, institutions, and childcare facilities) has increased.

Strategic 1:	Coordination and Cooperation
Strategic objective:	Strengthen the capacity of national and sub-national child protection mechanisms to coordinate and collaborate within a
	multi-sectoral institutional framework for primary prevention and response strategies with relevant ministries and
	institutions to target key actors and drive positive change.
Outcome:	Ministries, national institutions, and sub-national administrations can coordinate and cooperate in resolving cases of
	violence against children and online sexual exploitation of children.
Outcome Indicator 1a:	The Percentage of ministries, national institutions, and sub-national administrations that have incorporated activities and indicators
	as outlined in the National Plan on Preventing and Responding to Violence against Children into their strategic budget plans, budget
	plans, and annual action plans.
Outcome Indicator 1b:	The percentage of the state budget allocated to ministries, national institutions, and sub-national administrations to support activities
	and indicators as outlined in the National Action Plan on Preventing and Responding to Violence Against Children has increased.

## **Cluster activities and activities**

Clu	Cluster activities Indicators				Activities	Responsible	Period 2025-2030					0	Source of
Ciu	ister activities		indicators		Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
coo med imp nati both	engthen ordination chanisms for olementing the ional action plan at th the national and o-national levels.	1.1a	The number of relevant national child protection coordination mechanisms has been strengthened. Capacity	1.1.1	Strengthening the capacity of the CNCC and the General Secretariat of the CNCC in charge of coordination, implement the national action plan at the national level	CNCC	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				1.1.2	Strengthen the capacity of relevant committees led and coordinated by ministries and institutions to coordinate child	CNCC NCCL Related Ministries& Institutes	X	X	X				State budget and DPs

Clustor activities				Responsible		Peri	od 2	025-	2030	)	Source of	
Olusier activities		Indicators			institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
				protection, including aspects of child labor								
		1.1.3	Encourage ministries, national institutions, and sub-national administrations to increase resources to support activities and indicators proposed in the National Action Plan	CNCC Related Ministries& Institutes	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs	
			1.1.4	Review the high-level Government official responsible for CRC	CNCC	X	X					State budget and DPs
	1.1b	The number of sub-national child protection mechanisms has been	1.1.5	Strengthen the capacity of the capital/provincial CNCC and the secretariat	CNCC	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	X	State budget and DPs
		strengthened.	1.1.6	Strengthen the capacity of the child protection coordination mechanism at the sub-national level	CNCC NCCL Capital/ Provincial Administration	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			1.1.7	Strengthen the capacity of the Capital and Provincial Child Protection Working Groups to coordinate the intervention of cases of violence against children	Capital/ Provincial Administration	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			1.1.8	Strengthen the capacity of the provincial and municipal WCCC and the WCCC of cities, districts, and khans to coordinate on managing cases of	Capital/ Provincial Administration	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs

	Cluster activities Indicators				Activities	Responsible							Source of
	Oldster detryffies		- maicators			institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
				1.1.9	violence against children.  Strengthen the capacity of the provincial and municipal WCCC and the WCCC of cities, districts, and khans to coordinate on managing cases of violence against children.	Commune/ Sangkat administration	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				1.1.10	Urge sub-national administrations to increase their annual resources to provide services to prevent and respond to cases of violence against children.	Mol	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
1.2	Strengthen and expand child protection mechanisms in public and private	1.2a	The number of child protection committees has been strengthened to coordinate the implementation of action plans on child protection in	1.2.1	Collect data on the implementation of the Child Protection Action Plan in schools 20242028 (Baseline) from primary schools nationwide	MoEYS	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	schools	schools.	1.2.2	Prepare an annual report on child protection prevention and response in Cambodia	MoEYS	X	Х	Х	X	Х	X	State budget and DPs	
				1.2.3	Review and support the implementation of school policies, child protection and positive discipline practices.	MoEYS	X	X	X	X	Х	X	State budget and DPs
		1.2b	Number of child protection focal points in schools and stakeholders who	1.2.4	Disseminate guidance documents to focal points for child protection to	MoEYS	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	State budget and DPs

		Cluster activities	r activities indicators activities .				Responsible						2030 Source of 5 6 resources					
				participated in implementing the action plan on child protection in schools		respond to and report to the Secretariat from the Department, Department of Education, the District Education Office, and schools.	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources				
					1.2.5	Provide training courses on child protection, positive education, and classroom management for education departments, district education offices, school administrators, and teachers.	MoEYS	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs				
1	.3	Strengthen youth and children's networks to participate in coordinating efforts to	1.3a	The number of youth networks has been strengthened and encouraged to participate in	1.3.1	Disseminate the National Action Plan to youth who are members of the youth network	CNCC MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs				
		prevent violence against children.		preventing violence against children.	1.3.2	Training youth network members to participate in mediation and prevention of violence against children	CNCC MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs				
			1.3b	The number of children's networks has been strengthened, and encouraged to participate in	1.3.3	Disseminate the National Action Plan to children who are members of the Children's Network.	CNCC MoSVY	X	X	X	Х	Х	X	State budget and DPs				
				preventing violence against children.	1.3.4	Train child members to participate in preventing violence against children.	CNCC MoSVY	Х	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs				

Strategic 2:	Prevention and containment
Strategic objective:	To reduce violence against children in homes, schools, communities, and the media through primary prevention strategies coordinated in a multi-sectoral manner with ministries and institutions to target key actors and sectors to bring about positive behavioral changes toward children.
Outcome:	Cases of violence against children and online sexual exploitation of children have been reduced.
Outcome Indicator 2a:	The percentage of people in the community who have changed their behavior towards violence against children.
Outcome Indicator 2b:	The Percentage of violence against children in homes, schools, and communities that is prevented and controlled.
Outcome Indicator 2c:	Percentage of awareness about safe internet use and online child sexual exploitation (OCSE).

# Cluster activities and activities

Cluster activities Indicators					Activities	Responsible		Peri	od 2	025	-203	0	Source of
	Ciustei activities		Indicators		Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
2.1	Increase awareness about preventing violence against children and online child	2.1a	Number of media units participating in disseminating and promoting the prevention of violence against children	2.1.1	Encourage media organizations to participate in reporting on changing individual attitudes, gender norms, and society.	MoINF	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	sexual exploitation and abuse (OCSE)		and changing attitudes, gender norms, and society	2.1.2	Train journalists on child protection and ethics in publicizing images of child victims.	MoINF MoWA CNCW	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	2.1b	2.1b	Number of children, youth, parents, caregivers, teachers, law enforcement officers, policymakers, and the public gain knowledge about using the internet	2.1.3	Promote digital literacy and understanding of internet use in terms of risks, safety rules, privacy, and how to report and seek help to the public.	CNCC MPTC MoINF	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		safely	safely	2.1.4	Social media campaign to change social and gender norms related to risk (OCSE)	CNCC MoSVY MoINF MoWA CNCW	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				2.1.5	Develop a program to disseminate and raise	CNCC MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and

	Cluster activities		Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Peri	od 2	025-	203	0	Source of
	Ciustei activities		indicators		Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
					awareness about crimes and dangers related to (OCSE) in urban and rural areas, especially in ethnic minority areas.	MoINF							DPs
				2.1.6	Strengthen the capacity of child protection officers to prevent and combat all forms of child trafficking at national and sub-national levels.	NCCT CNCC	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				2.1.7	Produce educational and prevention materials (videos-images) about online child sexual abuse material and other forms of (OCSE)	CNCC MoSVY MoLVT	X	X	X				State budget and DPs
				2.1.8	Create an educational program for parents, caregivers, and teachers to understand the use of the Internet that will connect children and youth to online systems or the virtual world.	CNCC MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				2.1.9	Organize a television or social media campaign to educate children and youth, as well as the public, about the dangers of using the internet and ways to prevent risks.	CNCC MoSVY MoWA CNCW	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
2.2	Increase	2.2a	Number of Commune /	2.2.1	Increase the dissemination	Mol	Χ	X	Х	Χ	Χ	Χ	State

Cluster activities		Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Peri	od 2	025	203	0	Source of
Cluster activities		indicators		Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
investment in child protection and internet safety programs in provincial, municipal, district,		Sangkat Administrations that have increased the budget to implement child protection programs and secure internet access		of Prakas No. 3840 Prak dated September 22, 2022, on the organization and functioning of CCWC and the Safe Village- Commune-Sangkat Policy								budget and DPs
and commune investment programs			2.2.2	Training of CCWC and focal point of CCWC (primary social workers) on the implementation of:  - Child Protection Manual for communes and sangkats  - Manual on the implementation of commune and sangkat social service activities  - Article 7 of Sub-Decree No. 34 dated March 7, 2017 assigns the function of "Managing care services for victims and vulnerable children in the community."	Mol	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			2.2.3	Allocate funds to support the CCWC, implement the manual and Article 7 of Sub-Decree No. 34, and the Village-Commune- Sangkat Safe Policy	Commune/ Sangkat Administration	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	2.2b	The number of municipalities, districts and Khans that have increased	2.2.4	Increase the dissemination of assigned functions as stated in Annexes 1 and	Mol	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs

	Cluster activities		Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Perio	od 2	025-	203	0	Source of
						institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
			the budget for the implementation of the management of cases of children affected by violence against children and children with disabilities		3(d) of the Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation Sector of Sub-Decree No. 182, 183, and 184 and the Safe Village-Commune and Sangkat Policy.								
				2.2.5	Training officer in charge of social work (Para-Professional social worker) of MDK and case managers on the implementation of:  - Handbook on the implementing functions of social affairs veteran and youth rehabilitation for the officer in charge of social work, "Para-professional social worker" of MDK  - Guidebook on child protection operation procedures for MDK	Mol MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				2.2.6	Allocate budget to support officer in charge of social work (Para-Professional social worker) of MDK, to implement the Guide book on child protection operation procedures	Municipality District &Khan administration	X	X	X	X		X	State budget and DPs
2.3	Increase awareness of preventing	2.3a	Number of children and children with disabilities in	2.3.1	Increase training and promote community	MoSVY MoWA	Х	X	Х	Х	X	Х	State budget and

Cluster activities	Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Peri	od 2	025-	203	0	Source of
Ciustei activities			Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
violence against children, preventing	homes, schools, communities, workplaces,		outreach on positive parenting	CNCW							DPs
unnecessary separation of children from their families, and preventing exploitation of children in homes, schools,	enterprises, institutions, and childcare facilities receiving protection services from violence	2.3.2	Organize and implement the Strong Families Campaign to end violence against children and prevent unnecessary separation of children from their families in Cambodia, Phase 2 (2025-2030)	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	ថវិការដ្ឋនិង ដៃគូអភិវឌ្ឍ
communities, workplaces, enterprises, institutions, and childcare facilities.		2.3.3	Prepare and implement training documents on child care within the family (Gatekeeping) to prevent unnecessary separation of children from their families.	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		2.3.4	Identify victims and refer them to other social services necessary for families and children in line with the cash transfer program.	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		2.3.5	Develop and implement a specific framework for Community-Based Child Protection Mechanisms (CBCPMs) to prevent and prevent child protection issues before they occur	Mol MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		2.3.6	Educate and disseminate information about preventing and protecting children from all forms of	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs

Cluster activities	Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Perio	od 2	025-	203	0	Source of
Cluster activities			Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
			violence and abuse, including online, to volunteers in private care facilities, tourism agencies, and stakeholders.								
		2.3.7	Promote protection from all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and harassment online and offline, and provide an annual reporting and support mechanism for students in schools.	MoEYS	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		2.3.8	Organize national and sub- national awareness campaigns on the worst forms of child labor and raise awareness on preventing violence and sexual harassment in the workplace.	MoLVT	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		2.3.9	Promoting gender equality, safe communities, daycare centers and childcare facilities to prevent violence and increase labor productivity, with a particular focus on young workers and young children.	MoLVT	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		2.3.10	Strengthen the capacity of national and sub-national focal points and community	MoLVT	X	X	X	X	Х	X	State budget and DPs

Cluster activities	Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Peri	od 2	025-	-203	0	Source of
Ciustei activities	indicators		Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
			focal points on the elimination of child labor and the worst forms of child labor.								
		2.3.11	Increase the training of monks, abbots, Ta Chi, nuns, pagoda children and young people living in the pagoda on the policy of Wat Sanghak Komar	MoCAR	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs

Strategic 3:	Multi-Sectoral Child Protection Response
Strategic objective:	Providing intervention, response, and social services for violence against children and online child sexual exploitation.
Outcome:	Children who are victims and vulnerable to online violence and child sexual exploitation receive quality, multi-sectoral
	response services.
Outcome Indicator 3a:	Percentage of reported cases of child violence and child sexual exploitation online receiving case management services by a Para-
	professional social worker from the social services workforce.
Outcome Indicator 3b:	Percentage of children affected by online violence and child sexual exploitation receiving quality social services.
Outcome Indicator 3c:	Percentage of children who are victims of online child sexual abuse and exploitation whose cases are closed.

## Cluster activities and activities

	Cluster activities		Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Peri	od 2	025-	203	0	Source of
	Ciustei activities		indicators		Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
3.1	Strengthen the Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Violence Reporting System (OCSE)	3.1a	Number of children experiencing violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect who are served by professional social services	3.1.1	Increase training for village heads and relevant stakeholders on receiving reports of suspected cases of child violence, identifying homes where violence against children is taking place, and reporting cases to CCWC	Mol	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				3.1.2	Increase training for the	Mol	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Х	State

Cluster activities		Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Peri	od 2	025-	203	0	Source of
Cluster activities		indicators			institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
				focal point of CCWC on recording information on child violence cases and preliminary assessments	MoSVY							budget and DPs
			3.1.3	Promote the 1288 National Police and Sub-National Police hotline and the 1280 Child Helpline	Commune/ Snagkat Administration	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			3.1.4	Establish and coordinate a Child Hotline or Child Helpline	MoSVY MoWA CNCW	X	X	X	X	X	Х	State budget and DPs
			3.1.5	Implement the Master Plan on Social Service Workforce Training	MoSVY	Х	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			3.1.6	Adoption and roll-out of the National Case Management Framework	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	Х	State budget and DPs
			3.1.7	Implement the Strategic Plan on the Social Service Workforce 2022-2031	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			3.1.8	Implement Standard Operation Procedure for child protection (SOP-CP) rollout plan	MoSVY Mol	X	X	Х	X	X	Х	State budget and DPs
	3.1b	The number of cases of online child sexual exploitation (OCSE) recorded and assessed by expert bodies	3.1.9	Publish guidelines and measures to prevent illegal content related to CSAM displayed online or on social media that harms morals, national traditions, religion, and child safety.	CNCC MoINF MoSVY MoI	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			3.1.10	Disseminate and promote the implementation of	MPTC	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and

	Cluster activities		Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Peri	od 2	025	203	0	Source of
	Cluster activities		Hidicators			institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
					guidelines on child protection online for digital technology companies in Cambodia								DPs
				3.1.11	Promote and strengthen Internet Hotlines for CSAM and other cases of OCSE to the public	MPTC National Police	X	X	X	X	X	Х	State budget and DPs
				3.1.12	Disseminate the Code of Conduct for Child Protection to journalists and stakeholders working with children	CNCC	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				3.1.13	Promote the participation of children and youth in the process of formulating policies, strategies and action plans to prevent and respond to OCSE	CNCC	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
3.2	Strengthen the intervention system for violence against children and online child sexual exploitation	3.2a	The number of cases of violence against children is managed by social workers.	3.2.1	Manage, modernize and strengthen the implementation of the children's case management system using Primero technology	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	(OCSE)			3.2.2	Strengthen the capacity of child protection officers and social workers on case management and referral for children	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	Х	X	State budget and DPs
				3.2.3	Increase the budget to support the management of cases of violence	Municipality/ District/Khan Administration	X	X	X	X	Х	X	State budget and DPs

	Cluster activities	Indicators		Activities	Responsible	Period 2025				203	0	Source of	
	Oluster activities		maicators			institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
		3.2b	Number of online sexual abuse cases to be responded to by the OCSE	3.2.4	against children  Strengthen and expand existing information technology crime prevention mechanisms at the sub- national level to prevent and respond to CSAM cases on time	Mol	X					X	State budget and DPs
				3.2.5	Strengthen the capacity of law enforcement officers at the national and sub-national levels to combat information technology crimes, especially OCSE	Mol	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				3.2.6	Promote and promote the implementation of child-friendly procedures in the criminal justice process for cases OCSE	Mol	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				3.2.7	Increase resources and cooperation with relevant national and international partners in responding to OCSE cases.	CNCC Mol	Х	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				3.2.8	Educate student judges, prosecutors, clerks, and legal teams about the law against information technology crimes and (OCSE)	MoJ	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				3.2.9	Incorporate OCSE topics into training programs for middle school fine arts	MCFA	X	Х	X	Х	X	X	State budget and DPs

	Cluster activities				Activities				od 2	025-	Source of		
	olastor activities		Indicators			institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
				3.2.10	students Strengthen national and international communication networks between law enforcement agencies on identifying victims and managing perpetrators in cases of OCSE.	Mol MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
3.3	Strengthen the response system and provide services to	3.3a	Number of children affected by violence who received response services and	3.3.1	Establish national service standards to support children and their families	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	children who are victims of violence and online child sexual exploitation and abuse (OCSE)	ms of violence and ne child sexual oitation and abuse	related social services	3.3.2	Strengthen the quality of alternative care services for children and promote child care in families and communities	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			3.3.3	Promote the effectiveness of domestic and intercountry adoption practices	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	Х	State budget and DPs	
			3.3.4	Post-integration juvenile case management	MoSVY	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	State budget and DPs	
			3.3.5	Strengthening and expanding the child diversion program	MoSVY	X	Х	Х	X	X	Х	State budget and DPs	
				3.3.6	Provide rehabilitation services for children with disabilities	MoSVY	X	Х	Х	Х		Х	State budget and DPs
				3.3.7	Strengthen the effectiveness of the implementation of the	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs

Cluster activities		Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Peri	od 2	2025-2030			Source of
Cluster activities	- maicators				institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
				national social assistance program in family packages								
			3.3.8	Strengthen the effectiveness of the implementation of the National Social Assistance Program in vocational and technical training	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			3.3.9	Strengthen the effectiveness of the implementation of the National Social Assistance Program in response to emergencies	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			3.3.10	Provide bridge services to poor families and vulnerable people	MoSVY	X	X	X	Х	X	X	State budget and DPs
			3.3.11	Provide health services and health packages to children who are victims of violence against children.	МоН	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			3.3.12	Establish and operate a child protection hotline network and respond to all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, and genderbased violence with trained or certified professionals.	MoEYS	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	3.3b	Number of children victims of online sexual exploitation (OCSE) who received response services and	3.3.13	Increase capacity-building training for court officials, judges, and prosecutors on investigating and	MoJ	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs

	Cluster activities		Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Peri	od 2	025-	203	0	Source of
	Ciuster activities					institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
			related social services		prosecuting OCSE cases and methods of working with child victims and families								
				3.3.14	Provide a package of support services to children and youth victims of (OCSE) who are involved in legal proceedings	MoSVY MoWA CNCW	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	State budget and DPs
				3.3.15	Provide counseling, legal assistance, and rehabilitation services to children affected by (OCSE) and their families	MoSVY MoWA CNCW	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				3.3.16	Providing physical and psychological treatment services to children affected by (OCSE)	MoSVY MoH	X	X	X	Х	X	X	State budget and DPs
				3.3.17	Provide telephone counselling and information on protection from (OCSE) to abused and vulnerable children	CNCC	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				3.3.18	Facilitate emotional and financial compensation for children who have been victims of violence and (OCSE)	MoSVY	X	Х	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				3.3.19	Reintegration of children affected by violence and (OCSE) back into their families and communities.	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
3.4	Strengthen response	3.4a	Vulnerable victims of	3.4.1	Organize a task force and	MoLVT	X	Х	X	Χ	X	X	State

Cluster activities	Indicators	Activities	Responsible		Perio	od 2	025	-203	0	Source of
Cluster activities	illuicators	Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
systems by providing	violence and child labor	implement core								budget and
core intervention	exploitation received core	interventions on the								DPs
services, social	intervention services, social	prevention and elimination								
security services,	security services, and skills	of child labor and rapid								
and skills training to	training.	intervention, including								
those vulnerable to		social security services								
violence and child		and training programs for								
labor exploitation.		1.5 million people.								

	Development of the legal framework and justice system  Strengthen the legal framework, policies, and legal norms in line with international standards to provide protection for child victims of all forms of violence and online sexual exploitation.
Outcome:	Children who are victims of all forms of violence and online sexual exploitation are protected by a legal framework, policies, and judicial norms.
Outcome Indicator 4a:	The draft law on child protection has been approved by the National Assembly, and the official launch announcement
Outcome Indicator 4b:	The draft law on information technology crimes was approved by the National Assembly, and an official launch announcement
Outcome Indicator 4c:	Percentage of government officials, children, parents, and stakeholders who have an understanding of the content and political benefits related to child protection

# Cluster activities and activities

Cli	ster activities		Indicators		Activities	Responsible		Perio	od 20	25-2	2030		Source of
Cit	ister activities		indicators		Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
cc	eview and fill ontent gaps in the gal framework	4.1a	Draft law on child protection reviewed and approved by the legislative body	4.1.1	Review and revise the final draft of the Child Protection Act, which includes provisions related to all forms of OCSE and child abuse in the context of voluntourism.	MoSVY	X						State budget and DPs
				4.1.2	The draft law on child protection has finally been reviewed and approved by the	MoSVY	X						State budget and DPs

				leadership of the MoSVY								
			4.1.3	Draft law on child protection to be submitted to the Council of Ministers	MoSVY	X						State budget and DPs
			4.14	Draft law on child protection to be submitted to the legislative body for approval	MoSVY		X	X				State budget and DPs
			4.1.5	Prepare and disseminate the law on child protection	MoSVY				Х	Х	X	State budget and DPs
	4.1b	Draft law on information technology crimes approved by the legislature	4.1.6	The draft law on information technology crimes, which includes sufficient provisions related to technology crimes and OCSE, must be submitted to the Council of Ministers	Mol	X						State budget and DPs
			4.1.7	Draft law on information technology crimes to be submitted to the legislative body for approval	Mol		X	X				State budget and DPs
			4.1.8	Prepare and disseminate the law on information technology crimes.	Mol				X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	4.1c	The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Complaints Procedure is being reviewed and considered for ratification.	4.1.9	Study on the status of implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Complaints Procedure	CNCC	X	X					State budget and DPs

				4.1.11	Study visits to countries that have ratified and are implementing Train trainers and strengthen the capacity of national and sub-national officials on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on Complaints Procedures.	CNCC	X	X					State budget and DPs State budget and DPs
		4.1d	Child safety guidelines have been developed.	4.1.12	Develop child safety guidelines	CNCC	X	X					State budget and DPs
				4.1.13	Training and strengthening the implementation of child safety guidelines in relevant ministries and institutions	CNCC	X	X					State budget and DPs
				4.1.14	Review, revise, and promote the implementation of national guidelines on child participation.	CNCC	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
<u>ে</u> .চা	Promote the implementation of policies related to child protection and the Royal Government's commitment to eliminating violence	4.2a	Number of officials and planners of legal documents and plans who have an understanding of the content of policies related to child protection	4.2.1	Increase dissemination of policies on the child protection system, including aspects of child labor, to officials from ministries, national institutions, sub-national administrations, and relevant organizations.	CNCC	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	against children.			4.2.2	Promote the	CNCC	Χ	Χ	Х	Χ	Χ	Х	State

			dissemination and implementation of the Royal Government's commitment to eliminating violence against children								budget and DPs
		4.2.3	Increase dissemination of policies on alternative care for children to ministry officials, national institutions, sub-national administrations, and related organizations.	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		4.2.4	Increase the dissemination of Wat Sangkha Koma's policy to monks and related officials	MoCAR	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		4.2.5	Prepare guidelines on the obligation to provide training to teachers and administrators to raise awareness of child protection in school policies and action plans, including responses to violence in schools and existing referral mechanisms, education, and training in positive discipline to support teachers in promoting and leading without violence in the classroom.	MoEYS	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs

			4.2.6	Implement labor inspection measures to strengthen working conditions, safe communities, gender equality, daycare centers, and childcare facilities with the goal of improving labor productivity and the safety of young workers and young children.	MoLVT	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	4.2b	A number of legal and minimum standards related to child protection have been developed and amended.	4.2.7	Develop and implement minimum standards for the care of children outside of and in care facilities in response to the Alternative Care for Children Policy 2024	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			4.2.8	Prepare and implement the Declaration on the Procedures for Implementing the Policy on Alternative Care for Children, 2024	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			4.2.9	Develop and implement minimum standards for the care and protection of children with disabilities	MoSVY	X	Х	X	X	X	Х	State budget and DPs
			4.2.10	Prepare a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on strengthening cooperation in the protection of children	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs

4.2.11	affected by migration between Thailand and Cambodia.  Promote operational procedures for protecting victims of human trafficking and sex trafficking	MoSVY	X	Х	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
4.2.12	Amend relevant Prakas and sub-decrees to align with policies and laws.	MoSVY	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
4.2.13	Amend the law on the prevention of domestic violence and the protection of victims.	MoWA CNCW	X	Х	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
4.2.14	Prepare a national action plan on preventing early marriage and teenage pregnancy, 2025-2030	MoWA CNCW	X	Х	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
4.2.15	Update strategies on positive parenting	MoWA CNCW	X	Х	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs

Strategic 5:	Monitoring and Evaluation
Strategic objective:	Develop a comprehensive system for collecting, monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on the experiences of children
	in Cambodia.
Outcome:	The National Plan Evaluation Report is used as input into the development of new plans, legal standards, policies, and laws
	related to child protection.
Outcome Indicator 5a:	A data management system for cases of violence against children and online sexual exploitation of children has been established.
Outcome Indicator 5b:	A tool for collecting data on cases of violence against children and online child sexual exploitation has been developed and used.

## Cluster activities and activities

	Cluster activities		Indicators		Activities	Implementing		Perio	od 20	24-2	<b>2030</b>		Source of
	Ciustei activities		illuicators		Activities	institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
5.1	Establish a multi-	5.1a	Data collection tools from	5.1.1	Develop a digital data	CNCC	Χ	Х					State
	sectoral monitoring		ministries, institutions, and		collection method to								budget

Cluster activities		Indicators		Activities	Implementing		Perio	d 20	24-2	2030		Source of
	1				institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
and evaluation framework		stakeholders have been developed and are being used officially.		measure progress in implementing the National Action Plan								and DPs
			5.1.2	Disseminate digital data collection methods to focal officials of ministries, institutions, and sub-national administrations for measuring national action plans.	CNCC	X	X					State budget and DPs
			5.1.3	Monitor and evaluate the policy framework, core interventions, and progress of national and sub-national working mechanisms in preventing child labor.	MoLVT	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
	5.1b	Progress reports are reported on a timely basis by ministries, institutions, and sub-national administrations.	5.1.4	Focal points of ministries and institutions report the progress of the implementation of the National Action Plan to the General Secretariat of the CNCC	Related Ministries & Institutes		X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			5.1.5	Training of provincial and capital CNCC secretariat officials on data collection methods for sub-national administrations	CNCC Capital and Provincial Administration	X	Х	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
			5.1.6	The General Secretariat of CNCC reports on the progress of implementing	CNCC	X	Х	X	X	X	Х	State budget and DPs

Cluster activities		Indicators			Activities	Implementing		Period 2024-2030					Source of
	Cluster activities		Indicators			institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
5.2	Strengthen data collection and reporting systems to provide evidence for the preparation of policies, laws, legal norms, and guidelines.	children and online of sexual exploitation in the agenda of wor or technical meeting ms, and	Issues on violence against children and online child sexual exploitation included in the agenda of workshops or technical meetings	5.2.1	the National Action Plan.  Review the implementation of the National Action Plan by ministries and relevant national institutions to prevent and respond to violence against children.	CNCC	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				5.2.2	Improve government digital data collection systems (Primero, CPIMS, Commune Database, etc.) to collect comparable data on violence against children in all forms (physical, emotional, sexual) and in all settings (homes, schools, pagodas, institutions, and communities).	MoSVY MoP	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				5.2.3	Monitor the implementation of the National Action Plan by sub-national administrations	CNCC Capital and Provincial Administration		X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
				5.2.4	Integrate SDG indicators related to violence against children into existing national surveys (CENSUS, CDHS, CSES, etc.).	MoP		X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs

Cluster activities	Indicators		Activities	Implementing					2030	0 Source of	
				institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
5,2b	b The National Action Plan Evaluation Report is disseminated and used as input into the preparation of new plans and the drafting of legal documents,	5.2.5	Initial survey on the National Action Plan	CNCC	X						State budget and DPs
		5.2.6	Mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the National Action Plan	CNCC			Х				State budget and DPs
	policies, and laws.	5.2.7	Final evaluation of the implementation of the National Action Plan	CNCC						Х	State budget and DPs
		5.2.8	Integrate Cambodia's "SDG" indicators related to violence against children into existing government strategic plans ("NSDP" and five- year national strategic plans of ministries and institutions)	MoP Related Ministries & Institutes	X	X	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		5.2.9	Support ongoing capacity building on the use of data to inform policies and programs.	CNCC	X	X	X	X	X	Х	State budget and DPs
		5.2.10	Strengthen the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) to improve referrals to services	MoSVY	X	Х	X	X	X	X	State budget and DPs
		5.2.11	Build the capacity of ministry officials to provide governance and oversight of the case management system	MoSVY	X	Х	X	X			State budget and DPs
		5.2.12	Capacity building for	MoSVY	Χ	X	X	Χ	Χ	X	State

	Cluster activities	Indicators	Activities	Implementing	Period 2024-2030						Source of
		Indicators		institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	resources
			social workers to								budget
			implement case								and DPs
			management systems.								

#### 4- SCHEDULE FOR PREPARING DRAFT LAWS AND LEGAL DOCUMENTS

In the past, the Royal Government of Cambodia has enacted the Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence and the Protection of Victims 2005, Law on the Suppression of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation 2008, Labor Law 1997, The Law on Juvenile Justice 2016 and other relevant laws, as well as the policies of the Royal Government concerning the protection, care and development of children, including the challenges faced by child victims in accepting legal protection to prevent, reduce and respond to violence against children to the maximum level and promote a culture of non-violence and harmony in families, communities and society.

Dissemination of laws and policies, capacity development for key stakeholders to have sufficient knowledge to handle cases of violence against children, the provision of effective and timely protection of child victims, and the promotion of responsibility for perpetrators in front of the law are the key to implementing the law effectively.

The National Action Plan on Prevention and Response to Violence against Children 2025-2030 is an action plan to be implemented, which requires all partners to contribute to the implementation of this plan to achieve common success. Therefore, the proposed amendments to some laws and or amendments to the relevant legal documents, the preparation of new draft laws and legal documents, as well as the promotion of the drafting of the law on child protection in order to improve the existing legal framework and for long-term implementation.

#### 5- BUDGET PLAN

To implement the National Action Plan on Preventing and Responding to Violence against Children 2025-2030, the national budget must be used, which requires relevant ministries and institutions to plan budgets in the annual budget packages of each ministry and institution, distributing annual budgets according to the actual national budget capacity, under the Royal Government's circular on preparing a strategic budget plan and preparing a draft law on finance for annual management, and budgets received from development partners, the private sector, civil society, and philanthropists.

### 6- MONITORING AND EVALUATION

In order for the National Action Plan on Preventing and Responding to Violence against Children 2025-2030 to be implemented successfully and to achieve the expected results, effectively and transparently, in the best interests of children, monitoring and evaluation are required. This implementation should include the following mechanisms:

## 6.1- National Coordination Mechanism

The Cambodian National Council for Children is responsible for coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the National Action Plan on Prevention and Response to Violence against Children 2025-2030 by disseminating and encouraging ministries, relevant institutions and sub-national administrations to include relevant activities in the action plan, annual budget plan and reporting to the Cambodian National Council for Children to summarize and report on the progress of the implementation of this National Action Plan to the Royal Government.

Relevant ministries, institutions, development partners, and civil society organizations must designate focal officers responsible for coordinating and reporting on the progress of implementing this national action plan to the Cambodian National Council for Children within a specified time frame.

#### 6.2- Subnational coordination mechanism

The Cambodian National Council for Children, capitals, provinces, and territories are responsible for coordinating the collection of progress data from departments, relevant units, sub-national administrations, and non-governmental organizations participating in the implementation of this national action plan to report to the Secretariat of the Cambodian National Council for Children. Encourage relevant departments, units, and Municipal, District, Khan, Commune/Sangkat administrations to include activities in their annual action plans and investment plans.

Relevant departments, units, Municipal, District, Khan, Commune/Sangkat administrations, and non-governmental organizations must designate officers in charge of coordinating and reporting on the progress of participating in the implementation of this national action plan to the Secretariat of the Cambodian National Council for Children, capitals, and provinces.

## 6.3-Data collection system

A data collection system to monitor the implementation of the National Action Plan on Prevention and Response to Violence against Children 2025-2030 will be developed in collaboration with ministries, institutions, development partners, and civil society, creating tools for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.

This data collection system will provide relevant ministries and institutions with resources for policy development and analysis, and can improve service delivery practices. This system will highlight the efficient use of resources as well as implementation challenges, which will contribute to promoting transparency and accountability in implementation. In addition, other data, including prevalence data from the Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey (CDHS), will measure progress on the National Action Plan on Preventing and Responding to Violence against Children 2025-2030. The monitoring and evaluation of the National Action Plan on Prevention and Response to Violence against Children 2025-2030 will include an annual activity report, a mid-term implementation evaluation report, and a final evaluation.

## 7- CONCLUSION

The National Action Plan on Prevention and Response to Violence against Children 2025-2030 is prepared based on the success factors, experiences and lessons learned from the implementation of the Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence against Children 2017-2021, continuing until 2023, and the report on the evaluation of the Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence against Children and the report on the mid-term evaluation of priority sectors under the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on the Elimination of Violence against Children 2016-2025. Based on the experience and recommendations of the evaluation of both plans, it is required to prepare a national action plan on preventing and responding to violence against children for 2025-2030, focusing on five strategies:

(Strategic 1) Coordination and Cooperation

(Strategic 2) Prevention and containment

(Strategic 3) Multi-Sectoral Child Protection Response

(Strategic 4) Development of the legal framework and justice system

(Strategic 5) Monitoring and Evaluation

The above five strategies require all ministries, relevant institutions, national and subnational administrations, development partners, civil society, faith-based organizations, groups of affected and vulnerable children, and the general public to participate in implementing this national action plan responsibly to positively change attitudes towards children, eliminate violence against children, and ensure the fundamental rights and best interests of children.

#### **GLOSSARY**

- **1. A child** is a person under the age of 18 years.
- 2. Child abuse refers to physical, psychological, and sexual abuse of children.
  - (1) Physical child abuse includes:
    - (a) slapping, pinching, kicking or pushing
    - (b) hitting with a fist or an implement;
    - (c) burning;
    - (d) whipping;
    - (e) threatening with a weapon such as a gun or knife;
    - (f) forcing, requiring, encouraging, or causing any child to engage in any physical activity which can cause physical harm (for instance, carrying a weight beyond his/her physical ability, making the child kneel, stand, or run in the sun for long periods).
  - (2) Emotional child abuse includes:
    - (a) Making the child feel worthless, unloved, inadequate, or valued only if he/she meets the needs of another person; or
    - (b) Causing the child to feel threatened or in danger.
  - (3) Sexual child abuse consists of involving a child in any activity for the sexual gratification of another person, including:
    - (a) Sex and sexual touching;
    - (b) Exposing the child to sexual activities such as making the child look at or watch pornography or sexual acts;
    - (c) The use of sexual language when speaking to a child;
    - (d) Encouraging a child to behave in a sexually inappropriate manner; or
    - (e) Attempts to commit the acts above.
- **3. Neglect** refers to the failure to provide children with basic needs and protect them from all forms of violence and exploitation. Child neglect occurs when parents, guardians, or caregivers:
  - (a) failing to provide adequate food, clothing, and shelter;
  - (b) abandonment and excluding the child from the home;
  - (c) Failure to protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger;
  - (d) Failure to ensure appropriate access to health or medical care; and
  - (e) Failure to ensure adequate supervision and placing the child with an inadequate caregiver
- **4. Exploitation refers** to economic or sexual exploitation and includes child labor, trafficking for sexual purposes, or forced labor, and severe forms of child labor.
- **5- Labor exploitation** refers to any activity that takes advantage of job seekers or workers in the form of fraud or deception, coercion, threats, violation of freedoms, and exploitation of the situation of job seekers or workers to get job seekers or workers to accept or perform work under poor or non-compliant working conditions, such as non-compliance with employment contracts, poor living conditions, hazardous work, working beyond the maximum hours set by law, low-wage or unpaid work, wage deductions, lack of social protection benefits, and lack of access to education.
- **6- Harmful practices** refer to practices that are harmful to the health, well-being, and development of children, such as corporal punishment, cruel and degrading punishment, and forced marriage etc.

- **7- Domestic violence** refers to the act of using any form of violence or abuse against another person to gain control in the home. Domestic violence includes physical abuse (beating a child), psychological abuse (scolding or scolding a child), sexual abuse, economic abuse, and witnessing parents physically fighting each other, etc. The common picture of domestic violence in Cambodia is when children see their fathers beating their mothers, as well as other violent acts and images in the family.
- **8- Gender-based violence** refers to abuse, neglect, exploitation, or violence against children. It can also refer to gender-based violence, which is physical, psychological, sexual, or economic violence that is committed against someone because of their gender. Gender-based violence includes domestic violence, forced sexual intercourse, and rape.

# 9- Groups of Vulnerable and vulnerable children are as follows:

- Children with disabilities
- Children with HIV
- Children living in the center
- Children living or working on the streets
- Children outside of school
- Migrant children and children of migrant families
- Children living in rural or remote areas
- Children from indigenous, ethnic or religious minority communities
- Children in conflict with the law
- Children who have direct contact with volunteer tourists
- Children live with family, relatives, and foster parents.
- Children living with adoptive families
- The child of a woman in prison
- Children without parents or guardians with whom they can live.
- Children separated from their families due to threatening situations
- Children with mixed gender identities (LGBTIQ+)<sup>12</sup>
- Children with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities (SOGIESC)<sup>13</sup>
- Children whose parents or guardians are unable to fulfill their care obligations due to extreme hardship, lack of basic needs and services, shelter, food, clothing, education, and health care.
- Children whose caregivers have chronic illnesses or disabilities that prevent them from providing appropriate childcare.
- Children whose families are addicted to alcohol, gambling, or other drugs cannot provide appropriate care for the child.
- Children in natural and human-caused disasters.

**10-INSPIRE** refers to seven strategies for ending violence against children, including (1) strengthening law enforcement, (2) norms and values, (3) safe environments, (4) support for parents and caregivers, (5) strengthening family economies, (6) response and support services, and (7) education and life skills.

**11-WePROTECT** is a global action statement that establishes a model national response mechanism that emphasizes the importance of stakeholder engagement and identifies key industry players in protecting children online. The Royal Government of Cambodia has

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ)

<sup>13</sup> sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC)

decided to become a State Party to the Global Action Statement (WePROTECT), which was signed at the Global Summit in Abu Dhabi in 2015.

**12-The Pathfinding Global Alliance** brings together countries and stakeholders committed to accelerating efforts to end all forms of violence against children by 2030 and beyond, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and child rights standards. Cambodia became a Pathfinding Country in 2019.