



Legal Aid of Cambodia (LAC)

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE WORKSTREAM

Australia–Cambodia Cooperation for Equitable Sustainable Services - Phase 2

LAC'S ACCESS 2 WORK

Legal Aid of Cambodia (LAC) improves access to justice for women affected by gender-based violence (GBV), with a focus on increasing access to legal aid for women with disabilities. Its lawyers provide free legal consultation, legal representation and social support to survivors, underpinned by a case database system. Learning workshops build the capacity of government officials, police and legal personnel so the justice system responds more effectively to GBV. Outreach sessions, educational materials and events raise community understanding of GBV and disability rights, while LAC's participation in district GBV working groups strengthens coordination and referral of cases.

KEY OUTCOMES

- ✓ Improve access to justice for female GBV survivors through legal aid and support services.
- ✓ Strengthen government officials' capacity to address GBV and educate communities on recognising it.
- ✓ Stronger coordination among relevant stakeholders, enabling effective intervention in GBV incidents.

KEY DETAILS

-  **Duration**
March 2024 – Jun 2028
-  **Locations**
Siem Reap, Kampong Speu, Kampong Cham
-  **Direct Beneficiaries**
413

Project Spotlight

Free legal aid for GBV survivors

LAC lawyers provide free legal consultation, legal representation and social support at every stage of proceedings. In the first half of 2026 they delivered 101 consultations and represented 56 GBV survivors, with disability networks trained to refer women facing multiple forms of discrimination.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE (to June 2026)

197

GBV cases provided with free legal representation

27

Legal awareness sessions reached 1,453 people with information on rights and GBV support services

19

GBV counselling rooms established providing a safe space for GBV survivors

- Two new district GBV working groups were created in Kampong Cham.
- LAC now provides standing legal advice to 13 district GBV working groups across three provinces, embedding a lawyer's voice in routine case coordination.
- 160 GBV service providers, social workers and disability networks strengthened legal knowledge and referral practices
- Legal training for provincial disability networks lifted pass rates from 2 to 15 participants in Siem Reap and from 55% to 90% in Kampong Speu. This was backed by a plain-language legal manual.

WHO BENEFITS



Direct

Women with and without disabilities affected by GBV. GBV working groups, social workers, local authorities and judiciary officials.



Indirect

Greater whole-of-population awareness about GBV, including stronger respect for women's rights.



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Break the barriers of gender norms. We have equal rights. We must value ourselves and learn about our rights.

Ms Koy Kithya, Lawyer, Legal Aid of Cambodia

CONTACTS



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