



# CSHL

Center for the Study  
of Humanitarian Law

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

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Submitted by: Center for the Study of Humanitarian Law

Submitted to: Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Office in Cambodia

Reporting Period: 01 January 2019 – 29 February 2020

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**RAOUL  
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OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW



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**Sverige**

# Center for the Study of Humanitarian Law

English Language Based Bachelor of Law program

Royal University of Law and Economics

Annual Report: 1 January 2019 – 29 February 2020

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## GENERAL INFORMATION ON PROGRAMME

### Overall Objective/s

To promote and protect human rights through rigorous research, quality education and academic collaboration in Cambodia.

### Projects/Components

1. Academic Component

### Partner Organization/s

- Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Office in Cambodia (RWI)
- Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)
- English Language Based Bachelor of Law program (ELBBL)
- Australian Volunteer Program (AVP)
- Gender Center of Graduate Institute of International Development Studies, Switzerland
- Swisspeace, Switzerland
- The University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Stanford Center for Human Rights and International Justice
- The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law
- The University of Victoria, Canada

### Reporting Period

1 January 2019 – 29 February 2020

### Funding Agency/-ies:

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)/Embassy of Sweden in Cambodia/Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Office in Cambodia

### Budget during the Reporting Period

SEK 1,020,000

USD 107,470

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Report details the Center for the Study of Humanitarian Law (CSHL) achievements and successes for the project period from 1 January 2019 to 29 February 2020 as well as the challenges faced and the opportunities ahead. It also outlines CSHL's contribution to human rights and humanitarian law in Cambodia.

During the reporting period, CSHL increased its research, training, publication, teaching and human rights awareness raising outputs. The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Office in Phnom Penh (RWI) remains the major funding body for CSHL contributing approximately two thirds of its operating expenses. However, CSHL continues to attract additional funding from other sources through research and outreach grant projects in order to maximize its output.

One of the key highlights of CSHL achievements is the continued increase in its research publication, with the publication of nine papers published at international, regional and local publication forums during the reporting period. A notable mention is the successful completion of the book project "15 Years after the Creation of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal: Promoting Cambodian Voices in Research on Dealing with the Past in Cambodia" in collaboration with Dr. Julie Bernath from the University of Basel, funded by the Embassy of Switzerland. Six papers written by eight Cambodian researchers were published by Swisspeace under this book project, two of which were contributed by three CSHL staff members. Production of Khmer publications was increased and seen as necessary to reach a wider audience.

Another major highlight is grant applications, which contributed to the shared cost of CSHL's operation. During the reporting period, CSHL made seven grant applications unilaterally and in collaboration with international institutions, three of which were awarded. Funded by the British Embassy, the Women in the Law project was implemented successfully with the publication of *the Compendium Report: Enhancing Leadership, Opportunities and Knowledge*, a commercial-standard video, and an online database designed to provide resources and information related to women in the legal sector. Funded by the International Center for Not-for-profit Law, the last grant project is also successfully completed, which resulted in the production of a *Teaching Handbook on Civil Society Law in Theory and Practice*. The third grant was the book project, funded by the Embassy of Switzerland, as mentioned above.

Teaching and training remained equally important as research and publication and as the core CSHL activity. In 2019 and early 2020 CSHL director and researchers continued not only teaching compulsory human rights and humanitarian law courses at the English Language Based Bachelor of Law (ELBBL) program but also becoming key resource persons for RWI's training program at partner universities in Battambang and Siem Reap. The scope of the training was not limited to human rights but also expanded into legal research, research methodology, moot training and mentoring support for provincial law students.

CSHL continued to support three international moot court competitions to be held in Hong Kong, Nuremberg and Geneva by providing intensive moot training to approximately 10 law students. In addition, CSHL's Clinical Legal Education (CLE) program continued to be expanded, as CLE students were

given the opportunity to become a trainer by preparing their own training modules related to human rights and pilot-teaching at a provincial university in Siem Reap.

The CSHL Strategic Plan 2019-2024 was fully developed to provide a clear direction for staff and partners to understand CSHL's long-term goals to be achieved in the next five years. CSHL Employment and Conduct, Policies and Procedures continued to be reviewed to ensure its smooth, transparent and efficient operation.

2019 and early 2020 saw a significant increase in events at all levels hosted by CSHL and participated in by its staff in and outside Cambodia. Some memorable major events such as the Women in the Law Forum in August 2019, the 5th CSHL Annual Conference on Comparative Human Rights Law in December 2019, the Launching Event of the Book Project on the Khmer Rouge in February 2020, and the Launching Event of the Compendium Report in March 2020, were organized successfully with a number of high-level speakers from the Minister of Women Affairs, the British Ambassador, and international human rights experts.

During the reporting period the CSHL librarian continued to receive capacity development support from RWI. Having improved her library management skills, the CSHL librarian became an RWI key resource person to provide library training to librarians at partner universities in Battambang and Siem Reap.

During 2019 and the beginning of 2020, CSHL sees no room for complacency, and CSHL staff continue to devote their time and energy to promoting the understanding of human rights and international humanitarian law through rigorous research, high quality education and academic collaboration.

Sincerely,



Kimsan Soy

Director

Center for the Study of Humanitarian Law

## ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

The Center for the Study of Humanitarian Law (CSHL or the Center) implemented all planned activities successfully (Except a human rights book project explained in Lessons Learned), as laid out in the Cooperation Agreement RWI-CSHL for 2019 and the extension agreement for January-February 2020. In addition to the agreed activities, the Center is committed to play a leading role as a center of excellence in academic research and human rights education by expanding its operation and cooperation with other partners. Such additional activities did not incur any extra expense on the agreed budget with RWI, and yet without the support of RWI these extra activities would not be possible. Please see *Annex 3* for CSHL Activity Photos attached to this report.

During the project period between 1 January 2019 and 29 February 2020, the Center continued to make significant progress on a wide range of its academic and research activities as described in various sections below.

### ACTIVITY 1 – RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

During the project period the Center continued to be at the forefront of human rights research by making remarkable achievements in its research activities and publications, which address a wide range of contemporary human rights issues facing Cambodia. The following describes the Center's core research activities and outputs, which excluded countless meetings with international, regional and local researchers and various potential partners.

CSHL continued to expand its core research team in order to carry out all its research projects effectively and prepare good grant applications. CSHL core research team consists of its three full-time researchers, one research librarian, one research director, one Australian volunteer, and three affiliated researchers on a voluntary basis during January 2019 and February 2020. The Australian volunteer, Mr. Chris Botham, was the Center's Organizational Development Mentor who provided research support through intensive proofreading for the majority of its written drafts. The three affiliated researchers are Ms. Ratana Ly from the University of Victoria, Dr. Natalia Szablewska from Auckland University of Technology, and Dr. Christoph Sperfeldt from the University of Melbourne. They are international researchers with extensive research experience, teaching and publications, and they represent CSHL research interest at the international and regional level. They also provide research support for the Center through various means such as co-authorship, peer review and guidance. They also contribute to professional development of the Center's researchers and staff on a range of training topics related to research techniques and methodology, project management, publication process, etc. At the time of writing this report, the following are lists of published and forthcoming papers.

Papers Published during January 2019 - February 2020:

1. Soy Kimsan & Hing Vandamet. 2019. Upholding the Right to a Lawyer: Lessons Learned from the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia. *Swisspeace Cambodia Working Paper Series*. Available at: <https://www.swisspeace.ch/publications/working-papers/upholding-the-right-to-lawyer-lessons-learned-from-the-extraordinary-chambers-in-the-courts-of-cambodia-2>

2. Tann Boravin & Tim Khuochsopheaktra. 2019. 'Duty Not to Forget the Past? Perception of Young Cambodians on the Memorialization of the Khmer Rouge Regime. *Swisspeace Cambodia Working Paper Series*. Available at: <https://www.swisspeace.ch/publications/working-papers/duty-not-to-forget-the-past-perceptions-of-young-cambodians-on-the-memorialization-of-the-khmer-rouge-regime-2>
3. Soy Kimsan. 2019. Fair Trial Rights in Cambodia. *Bulletin Metheveavy, the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia*.
4. Soy Kimsan & Hing Vandamet. 2019. An Overview of Legal Aid in Cambodia. *Background Paper for the Raoul Wallenberg Institute*.
5. Hing Vandamet. 2019. Peacebuilding and Development: Implications of Cambodia's Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding Operation. *Journal of Peace Building and Development*.
6. Hing Vandamet. 2019. The Application of the Constitutional Rights of Public Participation: Assessment of the 1993 Cambodian Constitutional Making Process and Right to Participation in the Law-Making Process. *Journal of Southeast Asia Human Rights*. Available at: <https://jurnal.unej.ac.id/index.php/JSEHR/article/view/8406>
7. Tuy Sophorn. 2019. Discrimination against Women to Pursue Higher Education. *Journal of Southeast Asia Human Rights*. Available at: <https://jurnal.unej.ac.id/index.php/JSEHR/article/view/8402>
8. Ngouv Muy Seo and Kristi Joamets. 2019. Child's Right to be Heard and be Represented in the Criminal Procedure: A Comparative Analysis of Estonian and Cambodian Law. *Baltic Journal of European Studies*, Vol. 9, No. 4. Available at: <https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/bjes/9/4/article-p127.xml>
9. Tuy Sophorn. 2020. Impacts of Lower Sesan 2 (LS2) Hydropower Dam on Cambodian Women's Rights in Kbal Romeas Thmey and Kbal Romeas Chas Villages, Stung Treng Provinces. *ASEAN Journal of Legal Studies*, vol. 2. Available at: <https://so01.tci-thaijo.org/index.php/AJLS/article/view/239852>

Forthcoming Papers from March 2020:

1. Kimsan Soy & Muy Seo Ngouv. The Promise of Social Land Concessions in Cambodia: Assessing Law and Policy under Sub-Degree 19 from the Right to Food and Gender Equality Perspectives.
2. Muy Seo Ngouv & Elisabeth Prügl. Securing a Gender Equal Right to Food in Cambodia.
3. Joanna Bourke Martignoni, Peter Atupare, Aymara Llanque Zonta, Nicholas Orago, Muy Seo Ngouv, Adriana Bessa and Christophe Golay. Securing a Gender Equal Right to Food? Legislative Experiences from Bolivia, Cambodia, Ghana and Kenya
4. Hing Vandamet & Natalia Szablewska. Book Chapter on Cambodia. *International Conflict and Security Law*, vol. II.
5. Hing Vandamet. *Cambodian Law Enforcement Crowd Management*.
6. Hing Vandamet. The Influence of Hybrid Tribunal Jurisprudences in the Development of the Substance of International Criminal Law.
7. Tann Boravin. The Right to Freedom of Association of Human Rights Defenders in the Kingdom of Cambodia. *Journal of Southeast Asia Human Rights*.



**ACTIVITY 1.1 – THE DEMETER PROJECT ON GENDER, LAND, AND THE RIGHT TO FOOD**

CSHL signed a 3-years research agreement with the Gender Center of the Graduate Institute of International Development Studies in Geneva to implement the DEMETER project until January 2021. The DEMETER project examines changes in food security and agrarian transformation in the wake of land commercialization in Cambodia and Ghana from a right to food and gender equality perspective. The DEMETER project funds one full-time research position at CSHL. As one of the partners in this project, a CSHL Researcher and Director carried out in-depth research and co-wrote with researchers from Ghana and Switzerland. The CSHL Researcher and Director conducted research studies on Cambodian legal frameworks and policies on gender equality and gender mainstreaming at the national level as well as issues concerning social land concession and the right to food.

Research Papers being Studied under the DEMETER Project			
Authors	Title	Publication Forum	Status
Muy Seo Ngouv & Elisabeth Prügl	Securing a Gender Equal Right to Food in Cambodia	The DEMETER book proposal titled 'Agricultural Commercialization, Gender Equality and the Right to Food'	Under review
Joanna Bourke Martignoni, Peter Atupare, Aymara Llanque Zonta, Nicholas Orago, Muy Seo Ngouv, Adriana Bessa and Christophe Golay	Securing a Gender Equal Right to Food? Legislative Experiences from Bolivia, Cambodia, Ghana and Kenya	Journal of the Peasant Studies	Under review
Kimsan Soy & Muy Seo Ngouv	The Promise of Social Land Concessions in Cambodia: Assessing Law and Policy under Sub-Degree 19 from the Right to Food and Gender Equality Perspectives	The DEMETER book proposal titled 'Agricultural Commercialization, Gender Equality and the Right to Food'	In progress

In July 2019 the annual meeting of the DEMETER project was held at the Chulalongkorn University hosted by the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) in Bangkok, Thailand. Together with approximately 20 researchers from Switzerland and Ghana, the CSHL Researcher and Director participated in this yearly meeting to share their research findings and progress as well as to plan and coordinate its research activities, particularly fieldwork. The week-long meeting gave the CSHL team the opportunity to present their work in progress and drafted chapters and receive constructive feedbacks from the DEMETER researcher team to further improve their papers. It was also a good chance for the CSHL team to listen to other presentations and engage in critical discussions on issues

concerning gender equality, the right to food and land commercialization, especially from other research disciplines such as political science, social science, and agronomy.

Alongside the research meeting, the CSHL team had the chance to participate in a policy dialogue on issues related to gender equality and the right to food within agricultural and land policies hosted by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) regional office for Asia and the Pacific. Through this intensive one-week research meeting and workshop, CSHL and its research partners also had the opportunity to expand their academic and policy networks by engaging with regional and international partners such as the Chulalongkorn University, SEI, and FAO.

Key Activities related to the Demeter Project Implemented during January 2019 – February 2020	
<p>Activity 1 Public lecture on “How Laws and Policies Contribute to Conflict Prevention in Resource Governance?”</p> <p>18 January 2019 RULE</p>	<p>The lecture was conducted by Mr. Suon Seng who is a Development Specialist and a principle researcher in development policies and gendered livelihood change in the DEMETER project. During the lecture, Mr. Seng discussed the role of laws and policies in contributing to conflict prevention in resource governance. The lecture was open to public with approximately 40 law students. The lecture aimed to provide an opportunity to the participants to further expand their understanding on social development issues and to explore the important roles of laws and policies of Cambodia in managing resources effectively in a peaceful and sustainable way.</p>
<p>Activity 2 Annual Meeting of the DEMETER Project</p> <p>Chulalongkorn University</p>	<p>This activity is described above.</p>
<p>Activity 3 Seminar on “The UN Declaration on the Rights of Farmers and Other Rural Workers”</p> <p>29 July 2019 UNOHCHR</p>	<p>Together with CSHL Director Kimsan Soy, Dr. Christophe Golay, a Senior Research Fellow and Strategic Adviser on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at the Geneva Academy and one of the main partners of the DEMETER project, led the discussion on the seminar on the rights of peasants under UNDROP hosted by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (UNOHCHR) based in Phnom Penh. Having been involved in the drafting process of UNDROP, Dr. Christophe provided a contextual background and historical development of the drafting process of UNDROP to a number of representatives from various related UN agencies. The seminar aimed to promote UNDROP and encourage the UN agencies in Cambodia to include the declaration in their work plan and further raise awareness about it.</p>
<p>Activity 4 Public lecture on “The UN Declaration on the Rights of Farmers and Other Rural Workers”</p> <p>30 July 2019 RULE</p>	<p>Facilitated by CSHL Director Kimsan Soy, Dr. Christophe Golay provided a public lecture on the rights of peasants to about 40 law students at ELBBL. The objective of this lecture was to promote and raise awareness of UNDROP. Although Cambodia signed UNDROP, it is virtually invisible in education programs.</p>
<p>Activity 5 Conference on the Rights of Peasants under the UN Declaration on the Rights of Farmers and Other Rural Workers (UNDROP)</p>	<p>CSHL Director and researcher attended the conference, co-organized by HEKS/EPER Geneva Academy of Human Rights and International Human Rights Research Projects, DEMETER, Switzerland, and the NGO-Forum. The seminar was presented and discussion led by Dr. Christophe Golay from the Geneva Academy, in collaboration with the Center. There were</p>

<p>31 July 2019 Phnom Penh</p>	<p>approximately 150 participants mostly from grass-roots organizations and community leaders from various provinces, especially Mondulki and Ratanakiri as well as civil society organizations. At the workshop, the Center's Director and researcher facilitated and captured the discussion and extracted key points for the benefits of the DEMETER research project and enhanced their relationships with national partners who work on issues related to gender quality, land and access to food.</p>
<p>Activity 6 Research training  27-28 November 2019 University of Battambang</p>	<p>CSHL Director provided a research training and mentoring support for about 12 students in year 3 and 4 with a focus on the human rights system, the right to food, women's rights and gender equality.</p>
<p>Activity 7 5<sup>th</sup> CSHL Annual Conference on Comparative Human Rights Law  20 December 2019 RULE</p>	<p>Three members of the Cambodian research team under the DEMETER project were one of the three panel discussions at the annual conference to present their research findings and discuss gender and the right to food in the following topics: - Agribusiness in Local Area of Cambodia: What are the Roles of Key Experts in Agribusiness? By Suon Seng - Impacts of Social Land Concessions on Right to Food and Gender Equality in Cambodia by Soy Kimsan - Securing a Gender Equal Right to Food in Cambodia by Ngouv Muy Seo</p>
<p>Activity 8 Research fieldwork  16-22 January 2020 Ratanakiri province</p>	<p>The Center's Director together with Christophe Gironde from the Graduate Institute in Geneva and Sokmao and other members of the DEMETER research team, carried out a quantitative household survey, qualitative interviews as well as focus group discussions in Ratanakiri province. The fieldwork focused on data collection concerning changing patterns of food production, preparation and consumption, gendered labour arrangements and the relationship between agricultural commercialization and indebtedness. Aside from fieldwork, the research team held internal meetings to discuss their findings from previous interviews.</p>
<p>Activity 9 Workshop on gender and food security in agriculture at Agriculture Department in Ratanakiri in January 2020</p>	<p>The workshop chaired by the Head of the Agriculture Department in Ratanakiri brought together approximately 50 district, commune and village chiefs and individuals from relevant public institutions, microfinance, and NGOs to discuss issues concerning gender, food and land. Assisted by Soy Kimsan in translation, Dr. Christophe Gironde presented research findings of the DEMETER project that address the current situation on gender, food and land, challenges and ways forward.</p>

#### ACTIVITY 1.2 – 15 YEARS AFTER THE CREATION OF THE KHMER ROUGE TRIBUNAL – BOOK PROJECT

In late 2018, CSHL signed an agreement with Dr. Julie Bernath from Swisspeace, funded by the Embassy of Switzerland in Bangkok, to carry out the Book Project. This project aims to provide Cambodian early career researchers with the opportunity to acquire research experience of the internationally competitive academic publication process and to develop their writing and publication skills. It also aims to promote their voices in academic, English-language publications on the dealing with the past

process in Cambodia, which have so far been dominated by international or Western scholars. By February 2020, the Book Project was successfully completed with six research papers, two of which are contributed by CSHL Director and Researchers. They are written by eight Cambodian researchers and published by Swisspeace as the Cambodia Working Paper Series. The six papers were mainly reviewed and mentored by Dr. Julie Bernath and CSHL former researcher and current research fellow, Ms. Ly Ratana (PhD candidate at the University of Victoria, Canada).

It would not be possible for the Center to carry out the Book Project without the core support it received from RWI.

Activities Implemented under the Book Project January 2019 – February 2020	
Key Activities	Outputs and Outcomes
Activity 1 Consultative Workshops	CSHL hosted two consultative workshops facilitated by Dr. Hap Phalthy, Director of the Graduate Program at RULE, to provide his feedback and guidance on improving draft papers and to encourage Cambodian researchers to continue working on their papers to completion. Dr. Hap Phalthy is one of the reviewers of the Book Project.
Activity 3 Launching Event of Cambodia Working Paper Series held 14 February 2020 at Sourkea Restaurant, Phnom Penh	<p>The Launch Event was held to celebrate the release of the publication of the Cambodia Working Paper Series with collaboration with swisspeace. The event was kicked off with opening remarks by Ms. Carin Salerno, Director of Cooperation at the Swiss Embassy, by reaffirming the role of Switzerland in genocide prevention through promotion of social dialogue and Cambodia's voice in dealing with the past in Cambodia. It was then followed by meaningful discussion by a panel of authors of the publication series and an interactive question and answer session from distinguished guests. There are six papers produced under this project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Boravin Tann &amp; Khuochsopheaktra Tim. 2019. Duty Not to Forget the Past? Perceptions of Young Cambodians on the Memorialization of the Khmer Rouge Regime.</li> <li>- Kimsan Soy &amp; Vandanet Hing. 2019. Upholding the Right to Lawyer – Lessons Learned from the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.</li> <li>- Samphoas Huy. 2019. Translating Global Norms: The Role of NGOs in Transitional Justice in Cambodia.</li> <li>- Somaly Kum. 2019. How Do Donors Shape Transitional Justice in Cambodia?</li> <li>- Sotheary You. 2019. Guarantees of Non-Recurrence of Sexual and Gender-based Violence against Women after the Khmer Rouge.</li> <li>- Sovann Mam. 2019. Beyond the Khmer Rouge Tribunal: Addressing a Lack of Reconciliation at the Community Level.</li> </ul>
Activity 4 Publication	The six papers produced under this project were printed in a nice and colorful format of 50 copies for each chapter, distributed at the Launch Event. The online version of the six papers is publicly accessible via <a href="https://www.swisspeace.ch/">https://www.swisspeace.ch/</a> and CSHL's website <a href="http://cshl-kh.org/">http://cshl-kh.org/</a>

**ACTIVITY 1.3 – RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG - SWEDEN**

In July 2019, the Center signed a sub-contract with the University of Gothenburg (Gothenburg Research Institute) based in Sweden to provide research support for a project entitled “Shaping Justice? The Khmer Rouge Tribunal’s Influence on Expectations and Experience of Justice in Cambodia”. This research collaboration commenced in July and finished in October 2019, with one of the Center’s researchers selected as a team leader of a research coordinator and a research assistant to collect data and carry out ethnographic interview fieldwork. The Center’s researcher under this project was mainly tasked with overseeing the interview fieldwork, data collection, data codification and coordination of interview arrangements.

**ACTIVITY 1.4 – RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH THE FRENCH INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT**

In December 2019 the Center signed a research sub-contract with the French Institute of Research for Development (IRD) to assist in a research project on the “Inequalities and Environmental Changes in the Lower Mekong River Basin”. This project offers a systematic analysis of the inequality-environmental change nexus in the Lower Mekong River Basin Region involving Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Myanmar as study countries. Two of the Center’s researchers were serviced to provide this research support over a period of two months in January and February 2020. They were primarily charged with supporting the collection of literature and institutional database, especially in Khmer language for the systematic review of the inequality-environmental change nexus in the context of Cambodia. They were also tasked with summarizing research data and uploading them into information platform Zotero.

**ACTIVITY 1.5 – PARTICIPATING IN RESEARCH WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS**

During the project period the Center continued to be proactive in seeking opportunities to publicize research findings and expand professional networks at various research events. Attending research events also gives the Center’s staff and researchers the chance to publish their research works by not only presenting their working papers but also submitting them for publication. The table below is a list of events in which the Center’s staff and researchers participated, some of which are mentioned in various sections throughout this report.

Event	Summary
Learning from the Past with, and for, Young People: Intergenerational Dialogue, Education and Memory after Genocide	The Center’s Director together with Australian advisor and researcher were invited to share key values and principles in research collaborations and partnership in Cambodia. The Director discussed his perspectives on opportunities and challenges facing local institutions in designing and implementing projects concerning dealing with past atrocities. The Center’s Australian mentor and researcher were also invited to participate in the event held at Himawari Hotel in Phnom Penh.

15-17 March 2019 Cambodia	
The 16 <sup>th</sup> Asian Law Institute Conference (ASLI)  11-12 June 2019 Singapore	With the generous support of RWI, the Center's researcher participated in the 16 <sup>th</sup> ASLI Conference for the fourth time, held at the National University of Singapore (NUS). The ASLI conference is organized annually to serve as a platform of sharing for legal scholars, professors, and practitioners. "ASLI was created as a forum on Asian law in Asia, by Asians, mainly for Asians but open to the world", said ASLI Director, Gary F. Bell. With 567 abstracts submitted, of which 358 accepted for presentations involving 250 academic institutions across the Asian region, the theme of this year focused on various topics such as rule of law, constitutional law, human rights law, children and law, environmental law, women in law, law and society and legal education. These topics were highlighted as interests, challenges, concerns and prospects which countries in Asia are facing and will encounter in the future.
The 14 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the International Association of Genocide Scholars (IAGS)  14-18 July 2019 Cambodia	The conference was organized under the theme of "The Missing Picture: Rethinking Genocide Studies and Prevention" held at the American University of Phnom Penh (AUPP). The Center's Director and two researchers were invited to present their research findings and experiences related to transitional justice and the ECCC in Cambodia in various panels, namely the panel on reparations, the ECCC legacy, and reflection of Cambodian researchers on Khmer Rouge research. This conference brought in more than a hundred international researchers on transitional justice and international criminal justice around the world.
7 <sup>th</sup> Asian Society of International Law Conference  22-23 August 2019 Philippines	With the generous support of RWI, the Center's researcher attended the conference organized by the National University of the Philippines in collaboration with the Asian International Law Association. The researcher presented her research finding on the development of international criminal law by studying the decisions and jurisprudence of the ECCC.
RWI Research Initiative Network Meeting  5-8 September 2019 Thailand	With the generous support of RWI, four researchers from the Center together with 11 other Cambodian participants participated in the Human Rights Research Network Meeting hosted by the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies at Mahidol University, Bangkok. The participants were from public and private universities, national and international organizations, and government. These researchers have been trained and participated in various RWI capacity programs since 2014; thereby, considered as RWI human rights research network in Cambodia. Facilitated by RWI program officer and the head of the institute, the research meeting aimed to share challenges, opportunities, ideas and ways forward with regard to human rights research in Cambodia. Guest speakers from international institutions were invited to talk to the research group about climate change and human rights and online resources. Ideas and information were shared in group discussions to focus on future initiatives on creating human rights research and education community and collaborative research projects in Cambodia.
1 <sup>st</sup> Law CMU International	With the generous support of RWI, the Center's librarian together with seven other Cambodian researchers presented their research topics at a

Conference on Law, Legality and Legitimacy in Asia	conference held at the Duangtawan Hotel in Chiang Mai. The Center's librarian in her presentation discussed the impact of hydro-power dams on women's rights in Cambodia.
01 November 2019 Thailand	

#### ACTIVITY 1.6 – APPLYING FOR RESEARCH FUNDING AND PROJECT GRANTS

During the project period the Center applied for a number of research funding and project grants both on its own accord and in collaboration with other research institutions. The Center made this effort not only to fill in the funding gap but to develop capacity and skills in writing funding proposals. In the case of co-applications with international institutions, the Center was usually involved in the reviewing process but not the writing, and yet the Center staff were able to observe the whole process and learn the know-how. This activity is crucial for the Center with all full-time local staff to take ownership of its sustainability. Applying for research funding also provided the Center with the opportunity to be at the forefront of human rights research and education in Cambodia by attempting to address contemporary issues and find innovative and scientific-based solutions.

CSHL Grant Applications				
Project	Period	Co-Applicant	Funder	Status
Women in Law: Enhancing Leadership, Knowledge, and Opportunities	July 2019 – April 2020	Stanford Center for Human Rights and International Justice based in Phnom Penh	The British Embassy in Phnom Penh	Awarded and implemented successfully
Civil Society Law Core Educational Initiative	June 2019 – April 2020	N/A	The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL)	Awarded and implemented successfully
15 Years after the Creation of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal	January 2019 – February 2020	Dr. Julie Bernath from swisspeace/ University of Basel based in Geneva, Switzerland (Lead applicant)	The Embassy of Switzerland based in Thailand	Awarded and implemented successfully
Integrating Marginalised Minorities into Cambodian Society	2020-2023	Minority Rights Group based in the UK as the lead applicant with local implementing partners including CSHL, Minority Rights Organization, Women Peace Makers Cambodia	Department for International Development (DFID)	Unsuccessful
Clinical Legal Education – Improving Legal Education and	May – October 2019	N/A	Australia Volunteer for International Development (AVI)	Unsuccessful

Knowledge in Cambodia				
Dignity Element of the Heritage, Dignity and Violence	2020-2021	Professor Mc Crudden and Dr. Rachel Killean from the Queen's University Belfast based in the UK	ESRC Economic and Social Research Council	Unsuccessful
Writing Workshops 2020	2020	Dr. Natalia Szablewska from Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand	The British Academy	Unsuccessful

## ACTIVITY 2 – IMPLEMENTING AWARDED GRANT PROJECTS

### ACTIVITY 2.1 – WOMEN IN THE LAW PROJECT – ENHANCING LEADERSHIP, OPPORTUNITIES, AND KNOWLEDGE

Funded by the British Embassy in Phnom Penh, CSHL in collaboration with WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice kick-started the “Women in the Law: Enhancing Leadership, Opportunities, and Knowledge” project (the WiL project) in July 2019. The WiL project aims to address the gap in gender equity in the Cambodian legal sector by identifying barriers to women’s participation in the Cambodian legal sphere through policy-oriented data collection by actively engaging with key female candidates to participate in research and leadership trainings, mentoring, internship programs, and a series of peer-supported research and by marking International Women’s Day through celebration of these participants’ research achievements and presentation of audiovisual documentation.

#### Activities Implemented under the Women in Law Project 22 July 2019 - 31 March 2020

Key Activities	Outputs and Outcomes
Activity 1 “Women in the Law” Forum was organized on 28 August 2019 at Himawari Hotel.	<p>The forum aimed to bring together female professionals working in various legal sectors to share their successful experiences and promote the place of women in legal professions. This forum was a unique opportunity to hear their personal and professional challenges and discuss recommendations for addressing those objectives.</p> <p>Approximately 100 participants, mainly women, from various institutions including academia, the National Assembly, civil society organizations and private legal practices. The forum was opened by H.E. Dr. Ing Kantha Pavi, Minister of Women’s Affairs. Her Excellency provided an overview of the present-day situation of women and key</p>



	<p>national action plans in the legal professions in Cambodia and some of the challenges that they face. Mr. Cashel Gleeson, Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy in Phnom Penh, also welcomed the opportunity that the event would provide for effective networking.</p> <p>H.E. Khieu Mealy, Lawyer and Partner at SokSiphana&amp;Associates, then provided a stirring keynote address focusing on a Cambodian context to the role of women in the Cambodian legal system. CSHL and Handa researchers followed the keynote with a presentation of baseline data on the present-day status of women in the legal professions in Cambodia. A vigorous discussion among our respective panelists, including Prof. Buoy Thida, Vice Dean of Faculty of Law, RULE, Ms. Mith Chan Linda, Deputy Director, General Department of Legislation and Research, the National Assembly, and Ms. Bunn Rachana, Co-Founding Director of the local organization Klahaan, then raised numerous challenging issues facing women including family pressures, harassment, divorce, and the status of women in society. The Forum successfully concluded with interactive and positive discussion in small groups which delved deep into the issues raised by the morning sessions and identified potential solutions to the challenges raised in order to develop recommendations and best practices.</p>
<p>Activity 2 Community of Practice (CoP) Training</p>	<p>A series of four CoP sessions were organized in a span of four months to strengthen professional development and research and legal skills among 15-20 female law students in their final year and recent graduates. The CoP participants were trained by CSHL Adjunct Professor, Dr. Christoph Spertfeldt, and its Director and Researcher. The CoP participants were also divided into a group of six to work on their respective projects under the supervision and mentorship of CSHL Director and Researcher and the project coordinator of the WSD Handa Center in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Group 1: Female Representation in the Management of Higher Education in Phnom Penh (Research brief)</li> <li>- Group 2: Who Am I (Booklet)</li> <li>- Group 3: Violence against Women: Domestic Violence (Video)</li> <li>- Group 4: A Choice of Accessing Justice (Research brief)</li> <li>- Group 5: Cambodian Women Migrant Workers in Construction Work in Thailand: The Discrimination and Inequality at Construction Site, and Social Protection Accessibility (Research brief)</li> <li>- Group 6: Challenges of Rural Women in Pursuing Higher Education (Research brief)</li> </ul>
<p>Activity 3 Internship Placement</p>	<p>Six female law students in their final year were placed to work full-time and part-time at various prominent law firms and the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia. The placement program under the WIL project aimed to provide a unique opportunity for female law students to advance their professional legal careers under the supervision and mentorship of practice lawyers.</p>
<p>Activity 4</p>	<p>With approximately 50 participants, this event was held with the purpose of giving participants of the CoP the opportunity to present and</p>

<p>“Women in the Law: Community of Practice Concluding Event” was organized on 23 December 2019 at Sourkea Restaurant, Phnom Penh</p>	<p>showcase their research findings and project progress on the said topics concerning women and gender equality.</p> <p>H.E. Tina S. Redshaw, the Ambassador of the British Embassy in Cambodia, gave the opening remarks with Mrs. Margaret Ryan, Director of ELBBL program, provided the keynote speech about her lifelong support for female students in pursuing higher education in Cambodia. Following the keynote speech, the participants had the chance to hear from a panel of leading female legal professionals from the BACK and leading law firms who shared their opinions and experiences in pursuing and practicing legal profession in Cambodia.</p>
<p>Activity 5 Promotional Film for the WiL project</p>	<p>A short promotional video was produced to promote the WiL project and more importantly women’s rights and gender equality in the legal sector. H.E. Tina S. Redshaw is featured in the video with inspiring words while the CoP participants and placement students expressed their reflections on their involvement in the project and general issues concerning women in the legal sector. The promotional video was displayed at the Launch Event of Compendium Report in March 2020 and shared widely on CSHL social media and the project website.</p>
<p>Activity 6 Compendium Report- Women in the Law: Enhancing Leadership, Opportunities, and Knowledge</p>	<p>The Compendium Report summarizes the full program of the WiL project, including a policy report based on data and interviews gathered by the program partners at CSHL and the Stanford Center; four policy briefs written the CoP participants; summaries of an informational booklet and video created by the CoP participants; and six reflection essays from interns who worked at law firms and the BACK through a placement program organized by the WiL project (<i>See Annex 9</i>).</p>
<p>Activity 7 The Launch Event of Compendium Report on Women in the Law in Cambodia at Sunway Hotel on 03 March 2020</p>	<p>With approximately 80 participants, the Launch Event aimed to celebrate the culmination of the WiL project and International Women’s Day, and the project’s Compendium Report was launched. Daniel Mattes and Kum Somaly from WSD Handa Center and a CSHL Researcher provided key findings of the Compendium Report and a presentation of the project’s website. The event was honored by the presence of H.E. Tina S. Redshaw who provided an inspiring and insightful speech on gender equality and challenges and ways forward.</p>
<p>Activity 8 Digital Forum on the WiL project</p>	<p>The online forum of data and publications on issues concerning women in the law was created to ensure open access to key information in an easy and digestible manner. Visit <a href="https://www.womeninlaw-kh.org">https://www.womeninlaw-kh.org</a> for more details.</p>

## ACTIVITY 2.2 – CIVIL SOCIETY LAW EDUCATION INITIATIVE

On 01 June 2019, CSHL was successful in its grant application and signed an agreement with the International Center for-not-for-Profit Law to implement the Civil Society Law Education Initiative project. This project aimed to seal the gaps around a sheer lack of education about the roles and duties of civil society and laws governing and regulating their acts in Cambodia. The Fundamental Freedom Monitoring Project by ICNL in its First Annual Report 2016-2017 highlights the need for education to promote civil society law in Cambodia. One of the key objectives in this grant is to produce a high-quality teaching handbook in theory and practice on civil society law that will provide a professional development opportunity for law lecturers and practitioners to collaborate on its content and methodology. The Teaching Handbook on Civil Society Law contains comprehensive content based on interactive learning approach that includes lesson plans, brief commentaries, teaching materials, reading materials and recommended class activities and exercises (*See Annex 8*). At the time of writing, all activities in the project were successfully implemented as described in the table below.

Activities Implemented under the Civil Society Law Education Initiative Project 01 June 2019 - 30 March 2020	
Objective 1	Needs Assessment
Activity 1: Survey	Develop questionnaire to collect information and analyze the needs of civil society law course. There were approximately 250 law students providing responses to the questionnaire.
Activity 2: Focus group discussion	About 15 students were invited to discuss and identify their needs and interests in civil society law course. Two law professors were also invited for an in-depth discussion on the needs of course.
Objective 2	Develop Teaching Handbook for Civil Society Law Course
Activity 1: Develop course syllabus	Develop course description, objectives, expected learning outcomes, mode of delivery, class assessment, teaching outline, and course materials.
Activity 2: Organizing 1 <sup>st</sup> consultative workshop	Introduce and present the course syllabus to a group of researchers, lecturers and practitioners (prosecutors, lawyers and civil society) to provide their feedback.
Activity 3: Pilot teaching	Using the draft handbook to teach one session for final year law students at ELBBL, two sessions for human rights master students at PUC, and one session for law students at Battambang University.
Activity 4: Organizing 2 <sup>nd</sup> consultative workshop	Inviting the expert group to review the draft handbook and provide their feedbacks.
Objective 3	Publication and Distribution
Activity 5: Publication and translation	The Teaching Handbook is finalized, translated into Khmer for wider audience, and published widely on CSHL's website and distributed to CSHL's internal networks of human rights researchers, lecturers, academics, and partner institutions.

## ACTIVITY 3 – TEACHING, TRAINING AND WORKSHOP BY CSHL

Teaching and training are equally important to research and publication, which are considered as the Center’s core mission to promote a wider understanding of human rights and humanitarian law in Cambodia. During the reporting period, the Center’s Director and three full-time staff members taught all three international human rights law courses and three international humanitarian law courses, one fair trial rights course and Professional Legal Skills course, which are compulsory courses in the ELBBL program. There were eight classes in total, involving approximately 260 law students in year 3 and 4 with an average of 30 students per class. Each course comprised of between 13-15 sessions with three hours of teaching per session. The annual teaching cycle usually runs from May to September over a period of five months.

In addition to the compulsory human rights courses at ELBBL, the Center’s Director and researchers continued to be key resource persons and conduct a number of human rights related training and workshops to students and academics at RULE as well as other universities both in Phnom Penh and in provinces as outlined below:

Training Attended by CSHL

Title	Participant	Summary
Lecturer Training on Human Rights Education	Hing Vandamet	On 29 April – 2 May 2019, the researcher participated in the training workshop, organized by the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University. Funded by RWI, the participants are heads of law departments, law professors, and lecturers from different universities from Cambodia, East Timor and Myanmar. The five-day workshop included various activities such as class seminars, workshops, and fieldtrips to human rights related organizations such as Thammasat University, OHCHR, International Law Organization, and migrant unions. The program provided the opportunity for the participants to share their human rights teaching experience and challenges and discuss effective methodologies in human rights education in respective country contexts.
Teaching and Researching International Law in Asia (TRILA) Workshop	CSHL staff	CSHL’s staff attended TRILA workshop organized by RULE. This event was the first of a series of country-specific workshops, which discussed the specific challenges in the teaching and research of international law faced by local scholars in different Asian countries. This workshop was co-organized by RULE and the Center for International Law (National University of Singapore).
The 10 <sup>th</sup> Global Alliance for Justice Education Conference (GAJE)	Hing Vandamet	On 4-10 December 2019, the researcher attended the ToT on “Justice Education”, held at the University of Pasunda, Indonesia. Funded by RWI, other Cambodian participants were

		judges, prosecutors and lawyers. The conference provided a forum for sharing of knowledge and experience from lecturers, teaching and training professionals and law practitioners from different countries to contribute to the improvement of the teaching methods of law and the promotion of social justice.
Winter School on Business and Human Rights and the Socio-Environmental Impacts of the Belt and Road Initiative	Hing Vandamet	On 12-14 December 2019, the researcher attended the winter school from 12-14 2019 at Mahidol University, Thailand, funded and organized by RWI in Cambodia and China. Together with participants from China, Thailand and other countries, the researcher shared her knowledge and research experience related to environmental, human rights and economic issues with the implication of China's Belt and Road Initiative.
Training on "Social Media"	Tuy Sophorn	On 28-30 January 2020, the Center's librarian attended a three-days intensive training on how to manage social media, particularly Facebook, effectively, conducted by VBNK.

Training Provided by CSHL

Title	Trainer	Summary
Principles of IHL	Hing Vandamet	On 19 March 2019 the International Committee of the Red Cross – Cambodia invited CSHL trainer to provide IHL training to Cambodian peacekeepers before their UN peacekeeping mission in Mali in April 2019.
RWI First National Human Rights Research Initiative	Tann Boravin	On 26-29 April 2019 the researcher was invited to share her experiences in RWI research initiative alumni by introducing IHRL and various resource and research tools for the participants to assist their human rights research, organized by RWI in Siem Reap.
Women and Human Rights	Tuy Sophorn	On 3-4 August 2019 the Center's gender expert was invited to present on women and human rights at the University of Management and Economics in Battambang province. This training was a part of RWI's annual human rights course with a series of human rights sessions provided by several human rights experts affiliated with RWI.
Legal Research Writing	Soy Kimsan	Funded by RWI, the Center's Director provided a two-day training on how to conduct legal research to approximately 20 law students at UBB on 17-18 February 2020. Research methodology with the focus on social science research and research proposal writing were also explored and shared by Dr. Chea Ratha and Dr. Seng Ratha with active discussion and practical tips for the students. The training was closed with a mentoring session by Kimsan to help the students identify their research topics, structures and ways forward. These sessions were designed to help the students prepare themselves for their dissertation research in the near future.

CSHL Public Lecture Series  
January 2019 – February 2020

Title	Speaker	Date	Institution	Participants
How Laws and Policies Contribute to Conflict Prevention in Resource Governance?	Suon Seng	18 January 2019	DEMETER project	About 60 law students
How to Save the Multilateral Trading and Investment System?	Dr. Andreas R. Ziegler	11 February 2019	The University of Lausanne, Switzerland	About 40 law students
Effective Communication and Advocacy Skills	Nick Stanage UK Barrister	01 March 2019	Doughty Street Chambers	About 50 law students
The Rights of Peasants under the UNDROP	Dr. Christophe Golay	30 July 2019	Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights	About 40 law students
LGBTI in the Contemporary World	Dr. Andreas R. Ziegler	04 November 2019	The University of Lausanne, Switzerland	About 60 law students
Industrial Relations and Collective Agreements as Tools for Social Responsibility and Improved Labour Rights in Global Supply Chains	Dr. Andreas Inghammar	05 February 2020	Lund University, Sweden	About 40 law students

CSHL R2P Lecture Series 2019

The Responsibility to Protect (R2P) enshrined in the World Summit Outcome Document in 2005, is a political commitment to guide states and sub-regional, regional, and international arrangements in protecting populations from mass atrocities, which include genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. CSHL R2P lecture series is highly relevant to the Cambodian context given its history of atrocities and the current situation of human rights.

No.	Title	Trainer	Date	Institution	Participants
1	What Is the Responsibility to Protect (R2P)? Understanding the Principle and the Role of Regional Arrangements	Him Raksmeay	02 December 2019	Center for International Cooperation and Peace	About 40 law students

2	The 6 Principles Governs R2P in Humanitarian Interventions	Soy Kimsan	16 December 2019	CSHL	About 40 law students
3	Movie Screening: Hotel Rwanda, Q & A related o R2P, IHL, and International Arrangements	Hing Vandamet	20 December 2019	CSHL	About 40 law students
4	Promoting and Advancing R2P in Cambodia: What Roles for Academia?	Soy Kimsan	23 December 2019	CSHL	About 40 law students

Screening of Human Rights related Movie and Documentary			
Movie "Hotel Rwanda"		- ELBBL - CSHL	
Crime Hunters Documentary	27 January 2020	- RULE - CSHL - UNOHCHR - The Embassy of Switzerland	- Approximately 130 participants including mostly law students, academics, representatives of involved institutions and NGOs.

#### ACTIVITY 4 – DEVELOPING TEACHING HANDBOOK AND TRAINING MODULES

During the reporting period, CSHL continued to develop the Teaching Handbook on International Human Rights Law in Theory and Practice. At the time of writing, the Teaching Handbook is developed 75% with 150 pages long. However, the progress came to a halt when CSHL was awarded by ICNL with a grant to develop a Teaching Handbook on Civil Society Law in Theory and Practice. This handbook is fully developed and published as described in *Activity 2.2 – Civil Society Law Education Initiative*. That said, this handbook will be summarized and integrated into the Teaching Handbook on Human Rights Law in 2020.

#### ACTIVITY 5 – THE 5<sup>TH</sup> CSHL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

With the generous support of RWI and the DEMETER project, CSHL was able to continue hosting and organizing its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Comparative Human Rights Law held at RULE on 20 December 2019. The conference was opened by the remarks of the partner managements of RULE, ELBBL, RWI and CSHL. Then, the keynote speech on "Transforming Gender Paradigms in Cambodia through Human Rights Research" was conducted by Ms. Katrina Natale, recommended by RWI, from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law. The conference continued with three panel discussions under the following themes: (1) gender and the right to food (the DEMETER project), (2) transitional justice (Swisspeace working papers), and (3) women in contemporary society.

This year the Center was able to invite ten Cambodian researchers, three of whom were from RWI Research Initiative for 2019, to present at the 5<sup>th</sup> CSHL Conference. Two senior professors from RULE and one senior professor from PUC were invited to moderate the panel discussions. There were approximately 150 law students, academics, and stakeholders participating in the conference, particularly about 12 Chinese students and academics invited by RWI.

With the support of RWI, the Center was able to print conference materials and its publications to be distributed to the conference participants to showcase its research works and outputs. For the first time, the Center decided to print its compilation book of five selected papers published in 2018-2019 so that Cambodian students, academics and relevant stakeholders can have access to and read them. The reason is that almost all universities in Cambodia do not provide access for students and academics to journal databases.

The CSHL Annual Conference was created to promote a culture of research-based education and a vibrant academic community for higher education in Cambodia. The objectives of the conference were therefore to:

- Provide an opportunity for academics and researchers to present their research findings or working papers for constructive review and feedback;
- Increase awareness, knowledge and understanding of recent human rights and humanitarian issues in Cambodia among students, academics, and legal professionals;
- Encourage broader discussion of human rights and humanitarian law issues;
- Share information and innovative, original ideas addressing human rights issues and identify future areas of research and/or reforms;
- Distribute internationally published research papers by the Center's researchers and other partner institutions;
- Promote academic culture and human rights research in Cambodia; and
- Enable professional networking among people of similar interests.

For detailed information about the conference's program, please see the conference's booklet attached to this report.

#### ACTIVITY 6 – INTERNSHIP

The CSHL internship opportunity is open to all students of Cambodian and foreign nationals. CSHL internship program is focused on reciprocity. While students have the chance to advance their professional and personal development through practical working experience, CSHL benefits from their assistance and reduces its workloads.

During the reporting period, CSHL recruited four female law students from RULE to work part-time and full-time as a research assistant over a period of between 3 and 6 months. The recruitment process is open and fair and announced on its information board, website and Facebook page. They were offered a monthly stipend to support their troubles in travelling in exchange for their commitment and hard work. They were given proper working desks and other office facilities to help them settle. They worked closely with CSHL's researchers and staff who assigned appropriate tasks to them such as



drafting CSHL monthly newsletter, translating, collecting data and materials for research and training as well as supporting staff in organizing events.

Aside from the local internship, CSHL also hosted two Australian students, Ms. Anmol Singh and Ms. Andrea Pratap, in partnership with the University of Macquarie under the PACE International program. The objective of this partnership is to provide Australian students with a chance to be exposed to social, political and economic challenges affecting human rights in Cambodia so that they can expand their perspectives and develop practical skills in addressing not only human rights issues but also institutional challenges. This opportunity is open to all international students, depending needs and interest.

During their time at CSHL over a period of between 4 and 5 weeks, the Australian students contributed tremendously to its works in research, data collection, and support for moot court students. Under the supervision of CSHL's researchers, they were mainly tasked with collecting materials and drafting training modules on international human rights law and civil society law.

#### ACTIVITY 7 – CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION

Clinical Legal Education (CLE) has been one of CSHL's core training program embedded in ELBBL curriculum as one of its elective courses since 2015. The CLE program was created with the mission to develop practical lawyer skills for law students and to raise awareness of the importance of the roles of the legal profession in supporting legal aid services and access to justice in Cambodia.

Under the supervision of CSHL's researcher (Hing Vandamet), 12 law students were recruited through an open and competitive process to take an intensive legal training course called Professional Legal Skills (PLS), an integral part of the CLE program. The course was conducted by CSHL's researcher with Cambodian lawyers and prosecutors from RWI ToT members invited to share their working experience in legal aid and provide practical techniques, particularly client interview.

The course consisted of 10 sessions of 30 hours with the focus on practical lawyering skills in the context of the Cambodian legal system and practice such as legal ethics, legal analysis and problem-solving skills as well as communication skills and interview techniques. These set skills are indispensable for law students to develop their legal professions in serving the best interest of their clients from various backgrounds, especially impoverished and vulnerable clients. More importantly, the students understand the important roles and responsibilities of legal professionals in contributing to strengthening social justice and rule of law in Cambodia.

This year 7 students from the CLE program were selected to prepare their own training modules on a number of human rights related topics under the supervision of the CLE's supervisor. The goal is to train them to become a trainer in the future. and give them the opportunity to conduct training to the community. As a result, a workshop on "Legal Clinic Education – Service Component: Legal Rights Information Sharing" was, initiated and funded by RWI with a collaboration between USEA and CSHL, held from 1-2 November 2019 at USEA in Siem Reap. The workshop was opened by the CLE's supervisor who explained the benefits of CLE program. In her own words, she mentioned, "this seminar is very significant for all law students. At the end of the seminar, all of you will acquire experiences and knowledge based on legal, including strategy of interview and consultation with perpetrators, legal teaching methodology, and legal communication." In addition, the 7 selected students were given the

opportunity to travel with the CLE's supervisor and RULE human rights lecturer to Siem Reap to contribute to this workshop on the following topics:

- The right to public health care: the CLE students used a video screening to present on the National Social Security Fund: how people obtain it and use it for free healthcare;
- The right to access information: the CLE students used their leaflet called the smart reading materials to explain how commune budget should be best used for community development and social welfare; and
- The roles and functions of civil society: the CLE students discussed benefits and challenges of civil society law.

From 2-3 March 2019, with the generous support of RWI the CLE's supervisor, students attended the "Street Law in Asia" workshop organized by University of Hong Kong. The two-day intensive program offered various and extensive training of street law training methodologies and its best practice. The interactive and participatory learning approach was extensively used by the trainers from different jurisdictions, background and practice. The CLE's supervisor observed the new knowledge and experiences from the workshop, which would be helpful to incorporate some into the CLE program in the future. The CLE program also aims to promote the role of academics to contribute legal education to the community by empowering the CLE students to make a practical and immediate impact while learning. This will give the CLE students not only lawyering skills, but also a sense of social responsibility for the community.

Funded and organized by RWI, the Center's CLE supervisor attended a CLE workshop at Lund University, Sweden, on 21-23 May 2019. This workshop aimed to gather all the participants who lead CLE programs in their respective countries to share their experiences on how CLE programs in each country are designed and implemented. Moreover, teaching methodology, program management and the process and operation of CLE were discussed at length to compare best practices and explore ways forward.

## ACTIVITY 8 – MOOT COURT COMPETITIONS

### ACTIVITY 8.1 – RED CROSS INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW MOOT

The 17<sup>th</sup> Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot (IHL moot), an inter-university competition for the Asia-Pacific, was held from 6-9 March 2019 in Hong Kong. This year, three RULE students were selected as representatives of Cambodia to join the annual competition. The team was challenged by creatively complicated moot problems which presented legal questions concerning (1) crime against humanity of enforced disappearance; (2) war crime of intentionally launching an attack which caused incidental loss of life or injury to civilians; and (3) war crime of transfer or deportation of civilian population. There was a total of 24 teams from 24 universities in Asia-Pacific region. RULE team faced, in the General Rounds, with the team from Hong Kong University and Singapore Management University, respectively. RULE team earned a total score of 332.00 (General Round 1:160.34; General Round 2: 171.66), ranking of 17<sup>th</sup> out of 24 teams. Moreover, the team was able to participate in other activities, i.e. exploration activities, IHL seminar and career talk. Their trip to Hong Kong was funded by the ICRC in Cambodia.

On 23-24 November 2019, a total of 8 teams of 2 students per team from RULE participated in the 10<sup>th</sup> IHL Moot Competition National Selection Round, hosted by National University of Management (NUM) and organized by the ICRC in Cambodia. As a result, RULE students won Best Mooter for the Prosecution and Best Performance for the Role Play Competition. Other participants were also rewarded with a deeper understanding of the IHL and legal advocacy skills which will be beneficial for their study and future career. The 8 teams were selected out of 20 teams who received in-class IHL and moot training and mentoring support by the Center's researcher over a period of three months.

Since its establishment, the moot court competition has been a diverse platform to raise awareness and stimulate meaningful discussion of IHL among law students across the region. The participation of RULE students in this IHL competition both international and national rounds is generously supported by RWI in Cambodia through the salary contribution of the Center's researcher who provided technical and coordination support for the moot students.

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#### ACTIVITY 8.2 – 5<sup>TH</sup> NUREMBERG MOOT COURT

The Center's researcher led a moot team of three law students from RULE to participate in the 5<sup>th</sup> Nuremberg Moot Court Competition in Germany from 24-27 July 2019. The Nuremberg Moot focuses on contemporary legal issues related to international crimes and justice, which is highly relevant to Cambodia's past tragedy during the late 1970s. During the 6 months preparation, training, and research, the Center's researcher and the students worked diligently and tirelessly to bring the best out of the team representing CSHL, ELBBL, RULE and Cambodia at international stage. Passing through two competitive shortlist rounds including application and written memorial submission, the team was selected among the best 60 teams to compete in the International Round in Nuremberg. This activity was not possible without the support of RWI through its salary contribution to the Center's researcher as the team's coach and the funding for the team to travel to Nuremberg.

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#### ACTIVITY 8.3 – NELSON MANDELA WORLD HUMAN RIGHT MOOT

In 2019 CSHL continued to support three law students from ELBBL program to prepare for the 11<sup>th</sup> Nelson Mandel World Moot Competition, which is the biggest human rights moot competition in the world. The moot problem put complicated legal questions on contemporary human rights issues with regard to the roles of duty bearer and rights holder. Key international human rights law instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are studied, analyzed and applied in the written memorials and in oral pleadings. Having spent five months with intensive research and training in preparing the written memos for submission, this year it was unfortunate that the team was not selected to participate in the international round in Geneva which was held in July 2019. The main reason was that the Center's researcher as the team coach was in labor and maternity leave, which could be taken positively due to the fact that the moot students could not qualify without the full support of the Center's researcher as compared to previous years with high achievements in the tournament. The selection process to qualify for international round is also one of the most competitive, as the team must be in the top 5 of almost 40 teams from countries in Asia region. Therefore, the fund reserved for this competition was used to support the Nuremberg team instead.

It should be noted that the main objective of supporting law students to join various international competitions related to human rights is not necessarily about qualifying or winning per se, but the process to provide rigorous human rights and legal training to law students. Having gone through such training, the students will certainly advance their personal and professional development in the future.

#### ACTIVITY 8.4 – RWI HUMAN RIGHTS MOOT TRAINING

Organized and supported by RWI, the Center’s Director, ELBBL Deputy Director and RWI’s expert, Nick Stanage, a pilot moot court training program was provided to approximately 43 law students from the University of Battambang and the University of South-East Asia. The objective of this program is to carry out a series of rigorous trainings and coaching the students on international human rights law both in theory and practice, with a particular focus on the right to a fair trial and access to justice as well as professional legal skills in research, analysis, writing, and debate. This special training addresses a sheer lack of law program to provide students with these skillsets at provincial universities.

The first training was hosted by USEA in Siem Reap with a dual program in human rights and moot training from 24-27 June 2019. After a series of sessions on human rights and fair trial rights, the students were divided into a group of 3 and 4 to prepare for their moot competition, and mentoring sessions were provided to help all students structure their legal arguments both in writing and oral pleading for the moot course case. Developed by RWI resource persons, the moot problem focuses on a number of violations of fair trial rights and women’s rights. At the end of the program, each moot team was given the first opportunity to plead their case before the trainers as a moot rehearsal in preparation for their moot competition in the following months. Training certificates were distributed to acknowledge the students’ participation in the program to completion.

The next program was to select four moot teams from both UBB and USEA for further moot training and mentoring support in their preparation for the school moot competition. An online session was provided to give comments and tips on their written memos in order to select the four teams from each university based on their memo scores and commitment to the program. The selected teams were trained on preparing their legal arguments and moot process and arrangement on site where the Center’s Director traveled to USEA and ELBBL Deputy Director to UBB, respectively.

On 23-25 August 2019, the Center’s Director and Librarian travelled to UBB in Battambang and USEA in Siem Reap to judge the moot competition, which was the final program of RWI human rights moot training. A real Cambodian judge and prosecutor were invited to sit in as judges together with the Center’s staff to judge the moot competition in each university. The moot result was announced, which highlighted an exciting atmosphere among approximately 40 law students and faculty members. The champion teams had their hard work acknowledged with medals and a study tour to visit RWI’s partner institutions in Phnom Penh. In sum, the program was a great success in advancing not only students’ interest in human rights but also their personal and professional development in the future.

#### ACTIVITY 9 – LIBRARY

During the reporting period, the Center’s library continued to increase its resource collections of both printed and online research materials on IHL and human rights, available for public access. The library

provides access for students, faculty members and academics to its library resource and facilities such as computer desks, study table, internet access, printing, and more importantly staff and researchers physically available for quick consultation on how to find relevant resources for their research topics. Having received continued capacity training as described below, the Center's librarian has become a helpful resource person for RWI to share her library knowledge to other librarians at partner universities in Battambang and Siem Reap. The following tables are some statistics and various activities carried out by the librarian:

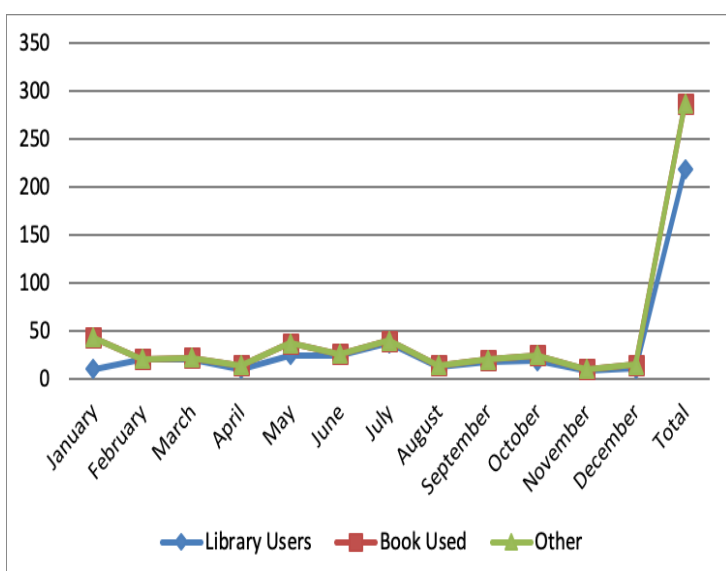
Library Training Attended and Conducted by CSHL's Librarian	
Topic	Summary
Workshop on "Union Catalog and Inter-Library Loan"  10 May 2019	The Center's librarian was invited to attend the workshop held at the Royal University of Phnom Penh.
Workshop on "Technology Security and Library Service"  07 June 2019	The workshop provided training on how to be aware of website, email, and social media being hacked so that cyber security should be strengthened. This training was highly relevant to the present risks of the Center's website being hacked several times during the reporting period. The trainers also presented their various library service and how to do report of the library materials.
Workshop on "Archiving and Cambodia"  10 June 2019	The Center's librarian and interns were invited to attend the workshop organized by RULE. The workshop addressed the needs to archive historical documents, particularly Khmer Rouge documents and issues concerning copyrights as well as intellectual property rights.
Library Workshop on "Digital Library and Hozo and Link Open Data Technology"  1-4 July 2019	The Center's librarian was invited to attend the workshop which provided intensive training on digital library and Hozo and Link Open Data Technology at PUC. After the training, she acquired new knowledge with regard to the distinction between data and metadata. The librarian also learned about the Ontology Application Development and Ontology Application Management framework user tutorial and Linked Open Data for digital humanities research.
E-Library Resource Training  July-November 2019	The Center's librarian provided a series of e-library resource trainings of 10 sessions with 76 participants of law students and academics in total. The training aimed to provide the trainees with useful resources on the internet, Google, legal websites, especially research articles and case studies through data from Westlaw International and Oxford Journal. This training attempted to address the limited access to journal databases in most universities in Cambodia.
Library Study Visit  3-7 December 2019	Funded and organized by RWI, the Center and RULE's librarian were invited to visit libraries at Lund University. RWI senior advisor of library and information at Lund, Mrs. Lena Olsson, gave them a warm welcome and provided useful training related to human rights research and documents, advanced library management, and new

	library technology, including human rights repository and platform as well as learning module. The librarians planned to utilize the acquired knowledge to improve their libraries and catalog at the Center and RULE.
Training Workshop on “Introduction to Human Rights Library Management”  5-6 February 2020	Having been trained by RWI, librarians from the Center, RULE and PUC were invited to conduct a library training to librarians at UBB and USEA, respectively. The training focus on library management related to human rights resources for research and study.

Number of Library User & Books Used		
Month	Library Users	Book Used
January	10	33
February	21	0
March	21	3
April	10	8
May	25	17
June	25	3
July	37	3
August	13	1
September	18	5
October	19	6
November	9	1
December	11	4
<i>Total</i>	<i>219</i>	<i>84</i>

Number of Book Donations		
RWI	ICRC	Others
37	1	166

Chart of Number of Library Users and Books Used



Total Books and Other Reading Materials

Item	Amount
General book	951
Journal	70
Newsletter	64
Magazine	15
Other reading material	235
Research brief	13
IO/NGO report	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1350</b>

## ACTIVITY 10 – COMMUNICATION

During the reporting period, CSHL continued to actively communicate its human rights works and academic activities with the general public. Various media platforms and means such as Facebook, website, print leaflet, pictures, and publications have been used to give updates on CSHL's academic activities and opportunities to the general public.

CSHL's website (<http://cshl-kh.org/>) provides detailed and updated information on its human rights works, activities, upcoming events, opportunities, publications, and contact details. Especially, CSHL's website contains the majority of its published papers that are for free access, reports, working papers, and other training materials as well as links to various free online databases related to human rights research and studies. CSHL's website is also crucial to reach out to potential partners, especially those residing overseas, to find synergy in research interests and academic collaboration in the future.

Aside from the website, CSHL also creates its Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/cshlelbb/>, which is the most popular social media in Cambodia. CSHL Facebook page is updated more regularly than its website given the fact that Facebook has made such a ubiquitous influence on Cambodian people from all walks of life, especially youth. Cambodian people usually rely on Facebook to seek and impart information, and this is the reason why most institutions both private and public turn to Facebook to communicate with the people. As a result, CSHL's Facebook page has served as a useful tool for CSHL to connect directly with students, academics and the general public; thereby, promoting its human rights works and academic activities. Given the lack of a communication officer, all CSHL's staff have made great efforts to write up Facebook posts containing comprehensive messages and information on their academic activities and achievements on a weekly basis to keep its viewers regularly updated.

## ACTIVITY 11 – ACADEMIC EXCHANGE

Professional advancement of researchers and staff is equally important to organizational development, and academic exchange is naturally designed to provide this dual benefit by building individual capacity and strengthening institutional relationships. Especially, a researcher usually needs time-off from the office away from administrative, teaching and coordinating tasks to focus on her or his research and writing as well as seek new opportunities. Academic exchange gives the opportunity for researchers from weak education systems such as Cambodia's to experience an advanced education system and access to well-equipped facilities as well as journal database deemed necessary for their research. Therefore, CSHL is committed to support staff to take part in academic exchange.

As a result, CSHL's researcher and librarian were supported to participate in Staff Mobility program from 23 March to 07 April 2019 at the University of Vigo, Spain. This program was funded by DOCKSIDE collaboration with and co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. During the two-week missions, CSHL's researcher and librarian were exposed to various experiences of sharing their research and academic works as well as learning from colleagues at the university. They provided presentations of their research lines on human rights, transitional justice and women's rights in Cambodia to the faculty members and discussed future research interest with them. They were also

invited to attend a national congress on constitutional law related to liberty and security in a democratic society at Santiago de Compostela University.

In addition, CSHL's researcher was given the opportunity to visit the University of Victoria in Canada from January-March 2020. This research fellowship is part of the CAPI/University of Victoria Faculty of Law project on "Regulating Globalization in South and Southeast Asia" with the objective to build capacity of the researcher who is expected to use the acquired skills to benefit his or her local institution and academic community. Under the program, CSHL's researcher was given opportunities to present her research paper on "The Development of International Criminal Law: Assessing the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia's precedents" and to attend various research seminars organized by the law faculty.

#### ACTIVITY 12 – CSHL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

CSHL continued to release its monthly newsletter with an aim to bring present-day human rights and humanitarian law issues to the attention of the general public, especially students. The monthly newsletters provide a snapshot of the most updated information and most hot issues with human rights implications in each month. The monthly newsletters are prepared in a simplified text of not more than one page to ensure that local students and academics can read and grasp a human rights issue and trigger their further interest. On the right side, there is a range of updated information on library hours, public holidays, CSHL's upcoming events, and resources available at the library. During the reporting period, all the monthly newsletters were drafted by CSHL's interns under the supervision of CSHL's researchers, which is part of CSHL's internship goal to transfer research and writing skills to CSHL's interns. The monthly newsletter is usually released in the first week of the following month on CSHL's information board, website, and Facebook page.

Month	Title
January 2019	Canadian Government Has Granted Asylum for a Saudi Teen, Rahaf Mohammed Al-Qunun, Who Fled in Fear from Her Allegedly Abusive Family
February 2019	The European Union Commission Officially Announces The Everything But Arms Withdrawal Procedure
March 2019	Celebrating International Women's Day 2019
April 2019	Cambodian Peacekeeping Operations
May 2019	An Australian Mother Wrongfully Convicted In Cambodia
June 2019	Same-Sex Marriage Become Legal In Taiwan
July 2019	28 Construction Workers Died In A Building Collapse In Cambodia
August 2019	Accused Person Nuon Chea Dies
September 2019	Cambodia Is Cleaning Up Corruption In The Judicial System
October 2019	Thai Judge Attempts Suicide To Maintain Oath
November 2019	Will The Death Of ISIS Leader Lead To The End Of Crimes Committed?
December 2019	The African Women Trafficked To India For Sex



January 2020	Ukrainian Passenger Plane Shot Down By Iran’s Military 8 January 2020
February 2020	The Chinese Doctor Who Tried To Warn Others About Coronavirus

ACTIVITY 13 – ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ACTIVITY 13.1 – AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Since 2014, CSHL cooperated with the Australia Volunteers for International Development (AVID), now changed to the Australian Volunteer Program (AVP), to recruit professional Australian volunteers to work at CSHL full-time as part of Australia’s aid objectives to Cambodia through pro bono works.

During the reporting period, CSHL recruited two Australian volunteers under the AVP: Mr. Chris Bothams as Organizational Development Mentor and Ms. Isadora Vadasz as Legal Research Mentor. Chris began his work at the Center in December 2018 over a period of 12 months until December 2019. With extensive experience in both the public and private business sectors, Chris worked closely with the Director to strengthen institutional capacity. Their work focused on designing strategies, procedures and protocols relating to finance, administration, management and governance. Initially, Chris assisted the Director with the Annual Report and audit for 2019. The table below demonstrates the objectives of his assignment with the Center and his work achievements to support the Center.

Chris’s Assignment as Organizational Development Mentor December 2018-December 2019	
Objectives	Achievements
To assist in strengthening the Center’s institutional capacity to operate in a transparent, fair, and honest manner and to ensure its long-term sustainability through effective management	The volunteer developed the Center’s Strategic Plan 2019-2024 with an objective to strengthen the Center’s institutional capacity, enhance its overall effectiveness and move the Center forward.  The volunteer provided consultations to the Director to address CSHL’s management issues, banking arrangement, legal status as well as ways forward to sustain its operation.  He also assisted the Director and the finance officer in addressing the auditing recommendations.
To improve quality education and increase awareness on human rights and humanitarian law issues affecting Cambodia	The volunteer provided full support for the Center’s Director and three researchers, which resulted in the increase in numbers of research outcomes and grant applications related to human rights. With the volunteer’s support in proofreading and reviewing, the Center’s Director and researchers were able to expedite their research progress and submit six grant applications during the volunteer’s mandate.

<p>To ensure the inclusion of all people directly affected by the volunteer assignment in the course of his work with the Center, including implementing strategies that relate to promoting gender equality and empowering women</p>	<p>The volunteer contributed significantly to the Center’s strategies that promote gender equality. The Strategic Plan developed by the volunteer has a strong focus on empowering women, especially at workplace. The volunteer provided mentoring support for the Center’s three female researchers in strengthening their professional development and reaching their academic potentials. As a result, the three female researchers were able to publish their research papers in highly recognized journals, and two of them were awarded PhD scholarships to Belgium and Hong Kong on human rights related study. In addition, the volunteer supported the Center in securing the grant application for the Women in the Law project.</p>
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The current Australian volunteer is Ms. Isadora Vadasz, the 5<sup>th</sup> Australian volunteer at the Center under the AVP. Isadora is an Australian lawyer with a career interest in international law and development as well as gender equality and access to justice. Isadora commenced her work as Legal Research mentor on 03 February 2020 over a period of 7 months. Initially, she provided research and reviewing support to our researchers on their working papers and reviewed students’ legal memos to be submitted to Geneva and Nuremberg moot court competitions. In addition, she assisted the Director in reviewing this annual report.

ACTIVITY 13.2 – CSHL STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2024

The CSHL Strategic Plan 2019-2024 was produced to set its culture, values, practices, structure, governance and more importantly mission and vision to be achieved in the next five years. The Strategic Plan also provides a clear road map of CSHL’s plans and priorities to achieve its missions in the next five years by determining current progress and challenges as well as priorities for CSHL to move forward. The Strategic Plan was developed by CSHL Organizational Development Mentor, Mr. Chris Bothams, through a consultative and participatory process, particularly in a series of internal workshops with CSHL staff, interns and volunteers. It was also reviewed by all CSHL staff with their inputs addressed and integrated into the final version.

Facilitated by CSHL Australian Mentor, the first strategic plan workshop on “Building on Our Progress” was organized at CSHL on 8 May 2019. Participated in by all CSHL staff and volunteers as well as RWI representative, the workshop was fully interactive and participatory, focusing on what CSHL does well, its strengths, culture and aspirations. The workshop was considered as a celebration of what CSHL has become and a chance to think about where CSHL and its staff want to go.

Facilitated by the Australian Mentor, the second workshop was held to further develop the Strategic Plan on 1 August 2019. The planning day followed an earlier planning workshop that had explored CSHL’s achievements, values, and aspirations. During the planning day’s interactive sessions CSHL staff addressed the 3 key strategic planning questions:

- What is it that we trying to achieve?

- What do we need to do to achieve our goals? And,
- How will we know that we were successful in doing this?

The discussions, reporting and questions on the core business of CSHL was respectful, vigorous and searching. The participatory nature of the day has ensured that there will be strong ownership by CSHL staff of the Strategic Plan. The vibrant sense of team that binds CSHL staff was reinforced by their very positive involvement and sense of fun as they remained focused on the purpose of the planning process.

By the end of the day the CSHL staff had clarified the vision and mission of the Center, refined the objectives and strategies to achieve their goals and identified evaluation techniques to measure success. The outcomes of the drafting and reviewing process provided the content for the draft Strategic Plan, which will be finalized and circulated to all CSHL staff and key stakeholders later in 2020. The final version of the Strategic Plan will be used to guide what are the priorities and focuses of CSHL to achieve its long-term goals.

## METHODOLOGY

CSHL aims for excellence in its mission to be the leading university-based research center in human rights and humanitarian law in Cambodia. CSHL researchers and staff are guided by the drive to excel when determining the most appropriate methodology and strategies for implementation of all CSHL projects and activities.

CSHL has used a variety of methods, practices and approaches to implement its programs and achieve its objectives during the reporting period. CSHL researchers take every opportunity for professional development and use these events to then present their learnings to others by way of publications or workshops. CSHL aims for incremental improvements in its workshops and conference presentation based on feedback received from participants.

The methodology employed by CSHL revolves around its research-based mission and dissemination of the results of the research. Specific strategies include; publications, conferences, lectures, workshops, networking, training, teaching and coaching. The moot competitions and CLE, whilst technically CSHL programs or activities, can be considered as part of its methodology in achieving its objectives.

### 1. PUBLICATIONS

High quality publication is the main mission of CSHL to promote scientific and applied research and produce knowledge, which is widely and systematically lacking in Cambodia education. High quality publications are intended to be a main reference for policy makers and influential people, especially in the government when they create and amend policy, regulations and work plans that consider human rights aspects.

CSHL director and staff identify opportunities for publication of research findings in suitable international and local journals through various means as demonstrated throughout this report. To

ensure high quality publication, CSHL director and staff strategically find opportunities to publish their papers with internationally recognized journals so that the papers receive proper reviewing and editing.

The opportunities for showcasing CSHL in local publications are limited. Given this CSHL aims to establish its own journal for publishing research findings. For example, CSHL Research Brief was published in 2018 and 2019 (See *Annex 6* for CSHL Research Brief Vol. 2). It is intended to continue expanding its own publication and further develop CSHL Research Brief with the longer-term vision of establishing a CSHL Journal for the publication of Cambodia human rights research.

As mentioned in *Activity 1 – Research and Publication*, 9 papers were published at international, regional and local journals while seven papers are still in progress. CSHL publications are physical evidences to showcase its effort and high-quality works to produce knowledge and promote human rights research and education in Cambodia.

## 2. RESEARCH

CSHL director and researchers conceptualize and design individual research projects. They partner and participate in international projects as appropriate. They carry out field work and undertake desk research and interviews as required. They have numerous meetings both in person and online with researchers and partners to discuss and design research projects and topics that address contemporary human rights issues.

Details and titles of ongoing research by CSHL researchers are detailed elsewhere in this report. Areas and topics of ongoing research by CSHL staff are varied as listed in *Activity 1 – Research and Publication*.

## 3. TEACHING AND TRAINING

Teaching and training is one of CSHL's core activities to educate Cambodia's next generation with a wider and positive understanding of human rights and IHL. To realize this goal, CSHL is committed to the provision of high-quality training on human rights and humanitarian law. During the reporting period, CSHL taught all human rights and IHL related courses at ELBBL program as well as PLS and fair trial rights courses. Aside from compulsory course at ELBBL, CSHL director and researchers are key resource persons for its core partners, especially RWI, to provide training and teaching for Cambodian students, academics and legal practitioners at RAJP, PUC, as well as partner universities in Battamabang and Siem Reap.

CSHL staff continued to participate in training opportunities, particularly RWI ToT program that further enhances their teaching abilities and skills. They then used the strategies learnt in their provision training as well as at lectures and workshops.

## 4. CSHL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In December 2019 CSHL hosted its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Comparative Human Rights Law (See *Annex 7*). The annual conference is the flagship of the research results the Center has produced to show to the public. The themes of the conference were gender and the right to food, women's rights and transitional justice. In conference sessions devoted to each theme CSHL researchers and other

academics presented papers on specific topics with a moderator providing the contextual overview and managing the subsequent discussion and questions from the audience.

The annual conference provided a venue for CSHL researchers and others to make the findings of their research available. It is a public event that promotes a vibrant academic community of human rights and professional networking for future collaboration. CSHL's publications were printed in hard copies to be distributed to the participants and partners so that they have a tangible sense of its academic achievements and quality research.

## 5. CONFERENCES, LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

During the reporting period, CSHL staff hosted and participated in conferences, workshops and networking events relevant to their research interests and projects. These events are important for CSHL staff to not only showcase their research findings but also seek opportunities for networking, publications, and potential partners. Participating in events is quid pro quo for CSHL in identifying potential speakers and experts to speak at its events. CSHL therefore continued to foster and maintain networks with stakeholders, lecturers, academics and academic institutions to participate in events and host or co-organize conferences, lectures and workshops.

CSHL actively engaged and collaborated with partner organizations to provide training on human rights, humanitarian law, research methodology and fair trial rights to law students. They were trainers and resource persons for core partners namely RWI, RULE, PUC and ICRC and various other partners for their training programs, workshops or conferences.

## 6. MOOT COMPETITIONS

CSHL pursues three international moot competitions due to the fact that it is arguably the most effective program that trains law students to become true legal professionals in the future. CSHL moot programs target human rights related moot courts that critically analyze international human rights law and principles, particularly related to rights holders and duty bearers or state's obligations. CSHL researchers, as moot supervisors, carried out the following activities:

- Provided students with necessary training and supervision to ensure that students can write legal memos;
- Prepared students for the oral pleadings before judges and public observers;
- Conducted CSHL moot court competition programs as a mandatory course;
- Sought support from professionals and experts in the preparation of memo submissions and oral pleading practice; and
- Facilitated travel plans for international rounds for RULE moot teams.

## 7. CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION

CSHL's CLE program is seen as the only outreach program that can help law students connect with and contribute to the local community and vulnerable people. Having been trained and supervised

properly, the students were given the opportunity to become an educator and carry out social activities by providing targeted legal and human rights training, particularly related to access to justice, the roles of civil society organization, and how to find and access information that is important for them to claim and defend their legal rights as described in *Activity 7*.

## 8. SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

A majority of Cambodian people across generations use Facebook, the most popular social media in Cambodia, on a daily basis or even hourly to share and seek information for various reasons. As mentioned above, CSHL director, staff and volunteers invested their time and energy in providing regular updates on CSHL key activities, announcement of events and opportunities, and achievements on its Facebook page. CSHL Facebook and website are equally important, but with different targeted audiences. CSHL Facebook is more effective in communicating with locals in comparison to its website which targets more international researchers and partners. Based on anecdotal evidence, CSHL staff often hear from partners and students that they learn of CSHL works and activities from its Facebook page. Therefore, CSHL Facebook is an effective communication tool to make its works and achievements visible to others.

## RESULT ANALYSIS

### RESULTS ON OUTPUT LEVEL

*Expected Output 1 – Increased research activities and quality publications at international, regional and local journal as well as increased written advocacy for legal and policy reforms to better respect and protect human rights and humanitarian law in Cambodia.*

- Increased number of publications. Nine research papers were published at international, regional and local levels (See *Activity 1 – Research and Publication*). Seven papers are being drafted and reviewed. These papers address a wide range of current human rights issues in Cambodia as mentioned throughout this report.
- Published CSHL Research Brief Volume 2.
- Increased research and publication collaborations as listed in *Activity 1 – Research and Publication*.
- Increased research grant applications. CSHL applied for seven grants unilaterally and together with together with international partners, three of which were awarded and successfully implemented.
- CSHL researchers and staff participated in conferences, workshops and networking events relevant to the research projects, presented their research findings, and expanded networking in and outside Cambodia.
- CSHL researchers and staff participated in training opportunities that further enhanced their abilities and skills in research methodology and academic writing.
- Increased effort in identifying actions and opportunities for publications of research findings in suitable international and local journals.

- Continued inviting and hosting international researchers and potential partners to CSHL office for meetings and discussion.
- Continued supporting researchers and staff to participate in academic exchange for developing research capacity and widening research network.

*Expected Output 2 – Increased research knowledge, analytical skills and professional development related to human rights and humanitarian law for Cambodian students, academics, and practitioners through training, mentoring and coaching*

- CSHL researchers provided in-class trainings and coaching of approximately 15 sessions to 40 law students on IHL, legal research, memo writing, oral pleadings in preparation for the National Round of the 17<sup>th</sup> Red Cross IHL Moot in December 2019 held at NUM and to three law students who represented Cambodia in the international round in March 2019 with further intensive coaching.
- CSHL researchers coached six law students selected through an open and competitive process to write legal memos and practice effective advocacy in order to participate in the Nuremberg Moot Court and the 11<sup>th</sup> Nelson Mandela World Human Rights Moot Court over a period of six months.
- CSHL researchers identified and sought human rights and legal experts to support moot students to further improve their skills in research, writing and pleading.
- Improved professional development skills in human rights law taught to 12 law students who participated in the PLS course with the training focus on lawyering skillsets such as interview and consultation techniques with clients, legal analysis, advocacy, and legal research.
- Increased research abilities among law student participants at UBB and USEA through a number of RWI's training and moot court programs related to legal research and academic writing as described in *Activity 3 – Teaching and Training and Activity 8.4*.
- Improved research capacity and leadership skills for approximately 80 participants of RULE's faculty members, academics and researchers through organizing and facilitating one-day training workshop on "Teaching Methodology" taught by UK barrister, Nick Stanage, and CSHL Organizational Development Mentor, Chris Bothams, where human rights elements were included in the training.

*Expected Output 3 – Increased knowledge and deeper understanding and awareness of IHL and human rights for Cambodian students, academics and practitioners through quality human rights education programs*

- Improved human rights knowledge obtained by approximately 250 law students of six classes by teaching all six compulsory international human rights and humanitarian law courses in ELBBL program at RULE.
- Improved knowledge and awareness of fair trial rights and related issues of 40 law students in ELBBL program by teaching one full course on *Fair Trial Rights in Theory and Practice*.
- Increased understanding and awareness of human rights issues related to access to justice and rights of people with disabilities through PLS course of about 15 law students.

- Improved human rights knowledge and understanding to a wider community by providing human rights training to law students at UME, UBB, and USEA through various RWI human rights training programs.
- CSHL director and researchers provided a number of guest lectures at the Master of human rights program at PUC.
- Improved public understanding and awareness of R2P in the context of ASEAN and Cambodia by organizing a series of four public lectures.
- Being regularly available as trainers and resource persons for RWI, RULE and ICRC's training, workshops or conferences.
- Increased engagement and collaboration with other partner organizations to provide training on human rights related topics.
- Standardized human rights education by developing teaching handbooks on international human rights law and civil society law.
- Contributed to RWI human rights training program by judging students at RAJP.

*Expected Output 4 – Increased networking and enhanced contributions to the promotion of a vibrant academic community, human rights values and research culture through hosting and attending conferences, workshops and public events.*

- Enhanced local networking and public discussions on current human rights issues among approximately 200 students, academics, researchers and relevant stakeholders who participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> CSHL Annual Conference on Comparative Human Rights Law with a keynote speech by a human rights expert, Ms. Katrina Natale, and three panel discussions involving three moderators and nine presenters, most of whom are RWI research network and alumni.
- Broadened perspectives and understanding of international criminal justice and conflicts related to mass violence and killings among approximately 150 students through a public screening, organized by the Center and the Embassy of Switzerland based in Bangkok.
- Sharpened awareness of hundreds of law students and academics concerning cross-cutting human rights issues through a number of public lectures, conferences, workshops and trainings organized by CSHL and conducted by international and local professors and researchers as stated across this report, particularly in *Activity 3 – Teaching and Training*.

*Expected Output 5 – Increased human rights resources both in print and online, improved capacity of librarians and promoted library's roles in research and life-long learning.*

- Improved capacity of CSHL librarian by visiting RWI library at Lund University to acquire new knowledge and skills in online resource and library management.
- Became a library resource person to share knowledge and skills with librarians at RWI partner universities in Battambang and Siem Reap through RWI library training program.
- Increased human rights online resources through uploading all of CSHL electronic publications and training materials to its website and CSHL online repository set up and assisted by RWI library expert. This year CSHL established a new online resource that collects research and learning materials on issues concerning women in the legal sector under the WiL project.
- Increased number of printed CSHL publications as well as institutional and individual donations.



- Increased CSHL publications in Khmer to reach a wider audience.
- Improved capacity of students and academics in conducting online research, especially in the field of human rights, through a series of library trainings by CSHL librarian.

*Expected Output 6 – Increased public awareness and understanding and value of the importance of human rights work as well as the roles of research centers through media and participation in public events.*

- Increased publicity of CSHL academic and research activities as well as achievements in human rights and humanitarian law through regular updates on its Facebook page and website.
- Increased audio and visual materials to promote CSHL works on gender equality and women’s rights in the legal sector by producing a commercial-standard video, leaflet, research brief, and video documenting domestic violence to be uploaded and shared on its Facebook page and website.
- Continued publication of CSHL monthly newsletters that aim to bring attention of the public to current political, social and economic issues with human rights implications.

*Expected Output 7 – Improved professional development of CSHL researchers and staff as well as strengthened partnership and international stance of CSHL*

- Increased research capacity of CSHL staff by participating in academic exchange, research visit, and research training and presenting their research findings at various international, regional and local conferences, workshops, and events.
- Improved professional capacity of CSHL staff in managing and supervising their individual projects by internal staff trainings and workshop conducted by international affiliated professors and researchers.
- Increased pedagogical skills of CSHL director and researchers attending ToT workshops and human rights and pedagogical training in Cambodia and in the region, particularly through RWI coordination and program.
- Improved professional development skills of CSHL staff by writing and co-writing grant applications including proposed activity, implementing plan, budget plan, and evaluation plan for research and training in collaboration with international partners.
- Increased collaborations with international partners in applying for grants for research and training, organizing events and participating in various events locally and internationally.
- Increased CSHL promotional materials such as promotional video of the WiL project, CSHL leaflet, CSHL research brief, and others, with user-friendly format.

**RESULTS ON OUTCOME LEVEL**

In this section the results obtained at the outcome level during the reporting period will be outlined and analyzed.

*Outcome 1*

<i>Expected outcome/s of the component</i>	<i>Improved quality and increased number of human rights publications written by Cambodian researchers and students</i>
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<i>Indicator/s</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of publications and working papers on human rights topics</li> <li>- Quality of publications</li> <li>- Improved research capacity of the Center's researchers and local academics</li> <li>- Number of presentations of research findings</li> <li>- Number of research conferences and workshops attended</li> <li>- Translation of English publications to Khmer</li> <li>- Established local journal/publication forum</li> <li>- Number of research events hosted and co-hosted by CSHL</li> </ul>
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CSHL's researchers continued to publish their research findings in international, regional and local journals as well as present them at various levels of research conferences and workshops as described throughout this report, particularly *Activity 1 – Research and Publication*. More importantly, they continued to successfully implement the Center's existing research projects and collaborations with partners by writing and co-writing with international researchers; thereby improving their research capacity and developing their research quality to international standards. As a result, 9 research papers were published, with 7 papers currently being drafted and expected to be finalized by December 2020, involving two book projects, one of which was successfully completed (Swisspeace Cambodia Working Paper Series). Their research findings and works involve a wide range of current human rights issues facing Cambodia and contribute to legal and policy reforms, triggering public debate and discussion, advocacy, and knowledge and understanding of human rights issues and situations based on fact and reasonable analysis.

The CSHL director and staff continued to actively attend numerous research conferences and workshops in and outside Cambodia to present their research findings as well as to seek research interest in new topics and networking with potential research partners. Their participation in these research events are listed in *Activity 1 – Research and Publication*, as well as all research events hosted by CSHL.

CSHL is committed to making its English publications available in Khmer so that non-English speaking Cambodian students, academics and policy makers can read them. During the reporting period, two CSHL research publications on an overview of the right to a fair trial and legal aid system in Cambodia were translated into Khmer and published by the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia. Funded by ICNL, CSHL Teaching Handbook on Civil Society Law was also translated in Khmer and made publicly available on its website.

CSHL continued to publish its Research Brief Volume 2 and will continue to release more volumes in 2020. This is the commencement of CSHL's long-term vision toward creating its own journal. To this end, CSHL is devoted to expanding its international research network and seeking support from international researchers and academic institutions to realize this goal.

#### *Outcome 2*

<i>Expected outcome/s of the component</i>	<i>Improved pedagogical and mentoring skills and increased quality human rights educational program as well as human rights and research training</i>
<i>Indicator/s</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of human rights and humanitarian law courses</li> <li>- Number of participants in pedagogy training workshops</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of training and teaching modules produced</li> <li>- Translation of training modules into Khmer language</li> <li>- Degree to which human rights education is mainstreamed</li> <li>- Number of human rights related moot court participations</li> <li>- Results of moot court competitions</li> <li>- Number and quality of legal memos written by students</li> <li>- Number of research and human rights training programs</li> </ul>
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CSHL provides one of the most intensive and quality human rights educational programs in Cambodia. Eight human rights and humanitarian law courses taught by the CSHL director and researchers were of high teaching quality based on an interactive learning approach, standardized course syllabuses and research-based teaching. The CSHL director and researchers continued to receive RWI ToT training and pedagogical training workshop to improve their teaching capacity, especially the “Teaching Methodology” organized at RULE and carried out by RWI expert, Mr. Nick Stanage.

During the reporting period, CSHL successfully produced a Teaching Handbook on Civil Society Law in Theory and Practice both in English and Khmer version, funded by ICNL. The CSHL Teaching Handbook on International Human Rights Law is still in progress, while a teaching handbook on gender equality and women’s rights is also being developed under the DEMETER project. The Teaching Handbook on Fair Trial Rights in Theory and Practice was produced in 2016. Since its inception CSHL has therefore produced two quality teaching handbooks and is working on two teaching handbooks on human rights and gender equality.

CSHL continued to support three international moot court competitions; IHL in Hong Kong, IHRL in Geneva, and ICL in Nuremberg, respectively. High quality memos written by 10 moot students supervised by CSHL researchers were produced and submitted to the moot court committees. Results on moot court competitions are detailed in *Activity 8 – Moot Court Competitions*.

CSHL director, researchers and librarian actively conducted numerous trainings on research, human rights, and library as listed and described throughout this report.

*Outcome 3*

<i>Expected outcome/s of the component</i>	<i>Increased public awareness and wider understanding of human rights and humanitarian law</i>
<i>Indicator/s</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of conferences, workshops, seminars and forums</li> <li>- Number of public exhibition events</li> <li>- Number of public lectures</li> <li>- Availability of Khmer publications translated from English</li> <li>- Number of screenings of human rights related films</li> <li>- Quantity and quality of human rights resources</li> <li>- Production of human rights related films</li> <li>- Communication tools</li> </ul>

During the reporting period, CSHL organized and hosted numerous research and academic events such as conferences, workshops, screenings, forums and public lectures at and outside RULE, as mentioned throughout this report. These public events aim to promote and raise public awareness of human rights law, norms and principles. Students, academics, practitioners and policy makers were invited to these

events, while reporting of the results and activities of these events were made and updated with high quality photos on the CSHL Facebook page and website for those who were not able to physically attend the events. Languages used in all CSHL events are both Khmer and English to ensure full participation of local and international participants.

In December 2019 CSHL printed and distributed 200 copies of its compilation book of five published papers to participants at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for the first time. The reason for printing this compilation book is that these papers are published in international and regional publications that many Cambodian students and academics are not aware of nor have access to. This compilation book is for academic purpose only and cannot be reproduced without permission from CSHL.

CSHL produced a commercial-standard video to promote gender equality in the legal sector under the WiL project. The video was launched together with the Compendium Report to conclude the WiL project on 03 March 2020. The video was uploaded to the CSHL Facebook page and the project’s website. This is the third video produced by CSHL, while the other two videos were produced in 2018 and in 2017 to promote CSHL’s work and mission in promoting human rights through research and education and the role of academic human rights researchers, respectively.

A CSHL leaflet containing general information, core activities, list of publications, and contact information was produced and printed for distributions to partners, students and the general public. The WiL project also produced a leaflet by students to raise awareness of women’s rights and women’s empowerment. Event announcements were also designed in a user-friendly format to attract public interest in social media. High quality pictures were taken at every event to not only record each event but also use them to communicate with the public.

Outcome 4

<i>Expected outcome/s of the component</i>	<i>Strengthened organizational development, increased partnership and long-term sustainability of the Center</i>
<i>Indicator/s</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of strategic planning</li> <li>- Development of employment handbook, financial and procedural policies</li> <li>- Number of signed cooperation agreements with international partners in research</li> <li>- Number of international academic exchanges in research</li> <li>- Number of international and local partners in research</li> <li>- Number of grant applications</li> <li>- Number of research visits</li> <li>- Professional development of staff</li> <li>- Number of visitors</li> </ul>

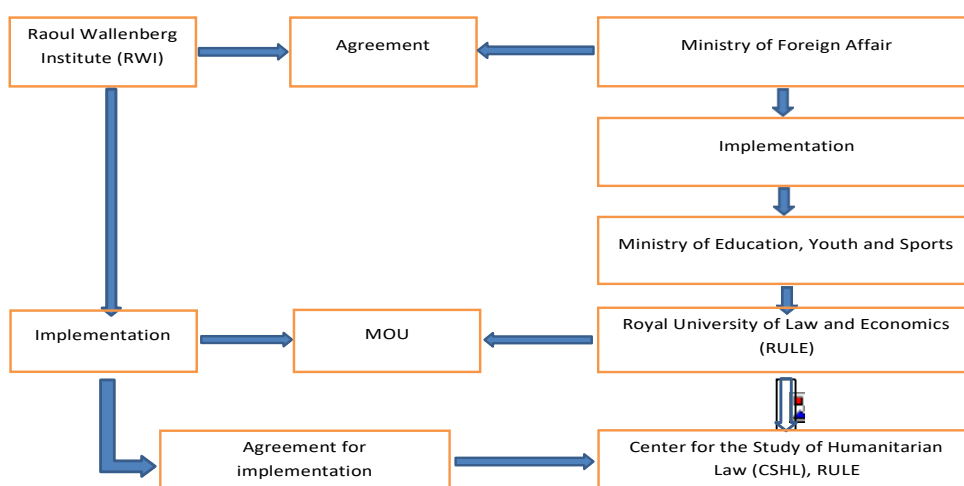
The CSHL Strategic Plan 2019-2024 was developed and produced to determine the current status of CSHL and its goals to be achieved in the next five years (*See Annex 4*). CSHL Employment and Conduct, Policies and Procedures were reviewed and amended annually based on the audit recommendations and latest Cambodian law and policies on labor and tax (*See Annex 5*). The reviewing process was made through a consultative process with CSHL finance, organizational development mentor, and staff, and

the amendments were explained and signed by all staff to ensure that they fully understood them. These documents are crucially important for CSHL to run smoothly, transparently and efficiently.

Numbers of signed agreements, grant applications, visitors, research visits, and training for professional development for staff are listed and explained throughout this report.

### UPDATE ON PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES AND COORDINATION WITH OTHER ACTORS

CSHL was established in 2014 under a Memorandum of Understanding between RULE and RWI, with the mission to promote the wider understanding of human rights and international humanitarian law through research and education in Cambodia. This academic cooperation was made possible due to RWI’s cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2004 and extended until 2020, which is highly likely to be extended further until 2022 with RWI’s new phase of the project from 2020-2022, approved by Sida at the time of writing. The MoU between RWI and RULE supported by the Ministry of Education is extended until July 2021. These MoUs allow RWI to develop the capacity of local institutions and resource persons with various projects and activities in the academic setting.



CSHL is operated independently from RWI but under ELBBL, one of the law faculties at RULE. Although RWI is the major donor of CSHL in terms of financial and capacity support, RULE and ELBBL also provide institutional support and contribute to operational costs such as electricity, water, office and library spaces, office equipment, and other maintenance costs. In this regard, it is indispensable for CSHL to continue increasing its cooperation and network with both international and local partners. Aside from the support from RWI and RULE, CSHL has received supports from other partners through various research projects and academic collaborations as well as built institutional relationships and professional networking, some of which are mentioned throughout this report.

## 1. ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW AND ECONOMICS

As RULE is one of our core partners, RWI and CSHL continued to provide a capacity support program to strengthen our positive relationship and demonstrate that we are a committed partner. On 9 September 2019, RULE organized its annual training for more than 60 professors, staff and faculty members to advance their professional development. This year RWI and CSHL provided technical support and coordination to the training for the 5<sup>th</sup> time this year by inviting international experts to conduct the training on various topics such as how to write an effective research and grant proposal, research methodology, leadership skills, project management, and teaching methodology. In opening the workshop Ms. Hanna Johnsson expressed RWI's support for high-quality education with the ongoing development of teaching capacity at RULE. His Excellency Dr. Luy Channa, Rector of RULE, outlined the University's strategic plan for ongoing improvement in teaching methodology for faculty members and professors. Presenter Nick Stanage, barrister at Doughty Street Chambers and specialist in international human rights law, criminal justice and judicial reform, delivered a series of highly entertaining and informative workshops on effective communication and delivering dynamic lectures. He was enthusiastically supported by Australian Volunteer, Christ Bothams who facilitated an interactive presentation on personalized learning environments.

The professors and faculty members seized the opportunity to network and be exposed to a high quality professional development. The Rector expressed his appreciation of the support of RWI and the professionalism that CSHL brings to RULE by coordinating events such as the workshop on Teaching Methodology.

## 2. RWI ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING

On 24 February 2020, RWI organized its annual partnership meeting with management and representatives from all of its local partners, including CSHL, PUC, UBB, USEA, UME and ELBBL. The purpose of the partnership meeting was:

- To share and exchange knowledge and experiences among the partner institutions in engaging and implementing the RWI- Cambodia Human Rights Capacity Development Programme;
- To share and discuss the main findings from the gender assessment report;
- To share key progress and results of the current programme and to introduce the new programme 2020 – 2022; and
- To discuss priorities, working approach and work plan for 2020.

In addition, the partnership meeting provided the opportunity to all RWI partners to network among themselves and discuss future collaboration in research and various academic activities. Challenges and collective work plans for 2020 were discussed at length. This partnership meeting was crucial for each partner to understand the overall picture of RWI's programme in Cambodia, and the specific interests and capacity needs of each partner. For example, partners from universities in Siem Reap and Battambang expressed their strong interest in moot court competitions and legal clinic for the immediate term while their interest in research capacity for the long one. Therefore, this partnership meeting was important for each partner to talk to each other about their interests and needs so that they can plan together for future collaboration.

The RWI gender assessment report was distributed, presented and discussed in detail. All partners shared a common concern about the lack of female lecturers and identified challenges facing female lecturers, particularly as caretakers. Aspects related to the role of institutions and management were discussed to provide institutional support and internal policies that create a friendly working environment for female workers so that they are properly supported to advance their professional development and realize their potential.

### 3. RWI VISITING PROGRAM TO CSHL

#### 3.1 RWI PARTNERS FROM AFRICA

On 13 September 2019, twelve RWI partners from Africa visited CSHL. They are Ethiopian, Zimbabwean and Kenyan academics and practitioners from university-based research centers with working and research backgrounds in international law and human rights, particularly in the rights of people with disabilities and gender equality. Whilst in Cambodia the African participants were being hosted by the RWI Office in Cambodia and paid visits to RWI's local partners, particularly PUC and CSHL.

During the visit, the CSHL director welcomed the delegation and gave an overview of the role of CSHL. Researchers and staff from CSHL then gave an overview of their roles and current research topics and interests. The roles and research of the African human rights practitioners were of great interest to the CSHL staff. Not only was there a common theme in the research interests of the Africans and Cambodians but the challenges that humanitarian law and human rights research presents had a surprising similarity. The opportunity for research publication that the visitors have in their local Ethiopian Journal of Human Rights is something that Cambodian humanitarian law researchers aspire to.

All involved took advantage of the opportunities for informal networking that the morning tea and compulsory group photo breaks provided. The CSHL director wrapped up the proceedings by providing an overview of transitional justice and recent Cambodian history and background to the Genocide Museum and the Khmer Rouge Tribunal in Cambodia.

On 17 September 2019, RWI organized internal seminars with its Cambodian and African partners, hosted by PUC. With approximately 25 participants from RWI, PUC and African partners, the CSHL director, researcher and organizational development mentor joined the meeting and contributed to a meaningful discussion and information sharing about the roles and the works of each partner in promoting human rights and humanitarian law under the support and programs of RWI. The meeting also discussed various practical and institutional challenges of partners to implement their human rights works and research. The meeting aimed to give a bigger picture of RWI's human rights programs across the continent and explored opportunities for partners from Africa and Cambodia to collaborate, such as through joint research projects and academic exchange program.

### 3.2 RWI PARTNERS FROM CHINA

On 16 December 2019, a group of approximately 12 students and academics visited CSHL. The CSHL director gave them an overview of the role and work of CSHL and introduced them to CSHL staff and their work and vice versa. Then, the CSHL director presented his research findings on labor rights of construction workers in Cambodia based on their selected interest in this area. The discussion was critical and lively with questions from the Chinese students expanding into the nexus between political regime and economic development and how human rights and the justice system caught up in this analysis. To conclude the visiting program, the Chinese visitors took a quick tour around CSHL facilities, as conversation continued with CSHL staff.

In addition, the Chinese visitors participated in the CSHL 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Comparative Human Rights Law where they had the chance to listen to a series of presentations by Cambodian researchers on a range of human rights issues.

## 4. VISITORS TO CSHL

During the reporting period, all CSHL staff have exerted their efforts to maintain connections with existing partners and to establish relationships with potential partners through event participation and many meetings both in person and online, particularly Skype. The table below shows some of the key visitors to CSHL which are not mentioned throughout this report.

Visiting Program to CSHL	
British Ambassador 30 May 2019	In response to the invitation of the CSHL director, her excellency Tina Redshaw, British Ambassador in Phnom Penh, visited CSHL for a courtesy meeting. The CSHL director welcomed the Ambassador by introducing himself and the role and work of CSHL, followed by the introduction of CSHL staff and their work. The Ambassador expressed strong interest and support for CSHL's missions in promoting human rights and gender equality. The visit was concluded with a tour around CSHL facilities as well as RULE campus.
Dr. Archil Chochia Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia 13-14 December 2019	Dr. Archil Chochia visited CSHL to reconnect with CSHL director and staff under the H2020 academic exchange project. Dr. Archil Chochia presented his research paper on "Activity Management Research and Online Forms" to CSHL staff on the first day then he presented to RULE's students the next day.
Representatives from Sida 20 February 2020	CSHL hosted representatives from Sida and the Embassy of Sweden, namely Andreas Johansson, Ann-Christin, and Joanna to discuss about CSHL research output, academic activities and plans for the future. CSHL appreciated the generous support provided by Sida and the Embassy and looks forward to many more years of productive partnership.



## RESOURCES USED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

The total budget allocated for CSHL under the 2019 Cooperation Agreement and the Extension Agreement for January-February 2020 was SEK 1,020,000 or USD 107,470 in total. During the 14 months period, the total cost of CSHL's program under RWI's funding was amount to \$106,064 or 98.69% of the total budget.

The fund balance at 1 January 2019 was \$7,394 with payables of \$7,485 on the auditing fee, the severance payment, and CSHL's promotional film for the 2018 budget. The closing balance was amount to \$4,490.68 at 29 February 2020, with a positive balance of \$115.68 to be returned to RWI and a payable of \$4,375 on the auditing fee for January 2019-February 2020. There is no accrued bank interest during the reporting period. Please see CSHL's Financial Report attached as Annex 1 for reference.

During the reporting year, CSHL received monthly cheques as financial contributions from RWI instead of installments sent directly to CSHL bank account in previous years (Please see section on *Lessons Learned*). Therefore, the RWI funds received and spent by CSHL for its project activities from 1 January 2019 to 29 February 2020 is represented as follows:

- Opening balance	\$7,394
- Grants received during January 2019- February 2020	\$114,854
- Fund used during January 2019-February 2020	\$107,686
- Closing balance	\$4,490

CSHL spent the rest of \$90,308 or 100% of the total budget allocated for the programme management and expert participation from 1 January 2019 to 29 February 2020. The allocated budget for programme management was used up 100% to support five staff salaries including their 5% severance payment and health insurance. That can be summarized in 100% salary for CSHL Director, 100% salary for two full-time Researchers, 50% salary for one Admin/Finance Officer, and 50% salary for one Librarian. The remaining salaries for 50% for one Admin/Finance Officer and one Librarian and 100% for the third Researcher, including their severance payment and health insurance, with the total amount of \$33,442.50 for the 14 months period, were contributed by various funding sources mentioned below and in CSHL Global Budget in Annex2 attached to this report.

During the reporting period, \$5,649 or 94% of the allocated budget for accommodation and travel was spent to support CSHL staff and students to participate in local and international events. \$5,000 allocated for students was used up, with additional \$649 deducted from budget allocated for CSHL staff, to support law students to participate in international moot competitions and CLE students to carry out their training in Siem Reap. Strategically speaking, CSHL staff avoided from using the travel budget to save up for the students, as CSHL staff usually received full coverage for their accommodation

and travel both local and oversea, funded by RWI, international partners or event organizers as described throughout this report. The majority of the local trips were supported by local partners, especially RWI. Therefore, CSHL made significant savings in travel costs, while CSHL staff remained actively in travelling and participating in research and academic events.

During the reporting period, CSHL used up all the budget of \$2,016 allocated for organizing its workshop and conference in the agreed budget *Item C* as well as printing materials and research publications in *Item D.1*. The allocated budget for this activity was minimal, while CSHL was able to increase the number of events organized and printing materials and research products. This is due to the external support CSHL received from other partners. For instance, the DEMETER project covered one coffee break for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and some printing costs. The number of key events as described above were funded by project grants such as the WIL project, the ICNL project, the Book project by the Swiss Embassy, and other international partners.

From January 2019 – February 2020, CSHL spent \$949 on miscellaneous items with a deficit of \$232 more than the allocated budget of \$717. The additional expense was saved from the agreed budget in *Item B and E*; therefore, keeping the overall budget intact. The miscellaneous items spent were the banking costs, name cards, drinking water, gifts for international interns and volunteers (Less than 50\$), farewell parties for interns and volunteers, staff year-end parties, fixing air conditions, refreshments for important visitors to CSHL office, and hand sanitizers and face masks to protect staff against COVID-19. CSHL was also able to buy some office supplies from other projects such as stationery items.

RWI remains the major funding body for CSHL contributing approximately two thirds of its operating expense. However, CSHL continued to receive additional funding from various sources called CSHL Global Budget to support its operation and to increase its output. During the reporting period, CSHL Global Budget generates \$48,460.86 from eight funding sources of which \$33,442.50 was used to support the salaries including sonority payment and health insurance of the third researcher for 100%, one Admin/Finance officer for 50%, and one Librarian for 50%. Therefore, CSHL Global Budget was able to save \$15,018.36 to support their salaries for March – December 2020.

A table below provides a summary of all sources of CSHL income from various grant donors, particularly awarded budget, expense and balance to CSHL. Please see *Annex 2 for CSHL Global Budget* attached to this report for detail information of all budgets in each project.

CSHL Sources of Income 1 January 2019 – 29 February 2020						
No	Grant/Project	Awarded Budget	Expense	Income	Expense for 100% researcher and 50% for Finance/Librarian	Balance
1	RWI	\$107,470	\$106,064	-		
2	Women in Law project – British Embassy	\$37,000.00	\$36,478.38	\$8,587.77		
3	Book Project – Swiss Embassy	\$13,836.25	\$13,740.09	\$3,000.00		
4	University of Gothenburg	\$8,878.40	\$8,898.41	\$1,724.74		
5	University of Leeds	\$2,992.41	\$2,414.12	\$578.30		
6	Mekong Project	N/A	N/A	\$4,138.40		
7	Civil Society Law Project - ICNL	\$9,970.00	\$794.15	\$9,175.85		
8	DEMETER project	\$13,201.24	N/A	\$13,201.24		
9	Teaching	N/A	N/A	\$8,054.56		
Total				\$48,460.86	\$33,442.50	\$15,018.36

During the reporting period, CSHL continued to operate in an open, transparent and cost-effective manner by complying with tax obligations, standardized financial policy and professional ethics. CSHL fulfilled all its tax obligations and paid them through the RULE's administration that further sent them to the General Department of Taxation Cambodia, with proper documentation and calculation based on the latest Cambodia Labor Law and Law on Taxation. CSHL Employment and Conduct, Policies and Procedures was reviewed annually by CSHL director based on consultation with CSHL staff and mentor to address any issue raised by the auditors and to continue strengthening credibility and effectiveness of CSHL operation.

## LESSONS LEARNED

- CSHL remains operating under an individual bank account which has caused some concerns as described, while during the reporting period CSHL received monthly cheques from RWI as a temporary solution. Creating an institutional bank account under RULE has been one of the priorities of CSHL as part of its strategic integration and sustainability since its inception. To that end, CSHL has made significant efforts to become the leading research center and add value to RULE by supporting its Strategic Policy through all the academic and research activities mentioned in this report, and more importantly CSHL's direct support for developing the research and teaching capacity of RULE's staff and faculty members. From April-July 2019, the CSHL director and Organizational Development Mentor made tremendous efforts to put a request to RULE management to consider creating an institutional bank account for CSHL so that it can fully comply with financial policy standard. Numerous meetings and enduring negotiations between CSHL and RULE managements reached an impasse. As a result, CSHL continued to enhance its valuable work and recognition among RULE's engagement and faculty members. Such a process takes time with carefully crafted strategies, given the various institutional challenges faced by CSHL operating inside the public university.
- During the reporting period, CSHL submitted seven research grant applications on its own accord and in collaboration with international partners, three of which were awarded as stated above. While applying for grants is very important for CSHL to sustain its operations in the long run, preparing them may also cause some disruptions to implementing CSHL's existing projects due to the fact that grant application is highly competitive, time consuming and exhausting as well as discouraging if not successful. Moreover, if a majority of grant applications were awarded, CSHL would end up in cumbersome situation where workloads would be excessively heavy. Therefore, a number of grant applications and existing workloads must be properly balanced.
- During the reporting period, CSHL was not able to implement a Book Project titled "Cambodian Yearbook of Comparative Legal Studies, 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Edition on Human Rights 2019" published by and in collaboration with Cambodian Society of Comparative Law (CSCL). Building on the success of the first special edition, this book project was initiated again in 2018 by a tripartite partnership: RWI, CSHL, and CSCL. The CSHL Director coordinated with potential authors and managed to collect six draft papers for the first round of the reviewing process by one of the editors, CSHL Senior Research Fellow, Ms. Ly Ratana. Each author was provided with comments to be addressed. The first round of review was finished, and the six papers were then submitted to the coordinator of CSCL as the chief editor in February 2019. There was no response from CSCL coordinator thereafter despite several follow-up emails from CSHL Director and RWI Director. The book project became a dead end, and each author was advised to move on with other publication opportunities.

**LIST OF ANNEXES**