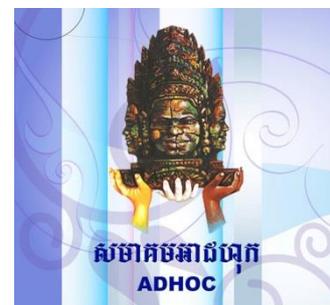


## CSOs and NGOs working for Human Rights<sup>1</sup>



**Name of Organisation:** Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association (ADHOC), Cambodia, 1991

**Website of Organisation:** <http://www.adhoc-cambodia.org/>

**Facebook of Organisation:** <https://www.facebook.com/adhoccam/>

**Organisation of DTP Alumni Y/N:** Yes

*“Mission: strengthen the capacity of ordinary citizens, enable them to defend their own rights and lobby and advocate for better governance and full respect for human rights that every citizen can practice”*

The Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association (ADHOC) is Cambodia’s oldest human rights organization, founded shortly after the signing of the Paris Peace Agreements in 1991 by a group of former political prisoners. ADHOC is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit and non-government organisation tasked to address the absence of basic rights, freedoms and liberties in Cambodia. They provide people with education and knowledge of human rights, law, and democracy and how to defend these rights and freedoms individually. ADHOC investigates human rights violations in Cambodia, provides legal assistance, empowers citizens and grassroots communities and engages in advocacy work throughout the country. The organisation is governed by a General Assembly, who elected a President and Secretary General every three years, and a Board of Advisors which meet annually.

ADHOC is divided into two main sections: the Human Rights Monitoring Section and the Women and Children’s Rights Section. These two sections consist of three main programs addressing human rights, land and natural resources, and women and children’s rights. ADHOC’s Human Rights Program investigates human rights violations and assists victims through regional and national campaigns, advocacy and lobbying for change. The Land and Natural Resources Rights Program investigates land right violations and provides legal assistance to victims through petitions and filing complaints to the courts and relevant authorities. It also aims to educate people on how to avoid forcible evictions from the land on which their livelihood is dependant and creating a culture of dialogue between grassroots communities and various authorities. Thirdly, ADHOC’s Women’s and Children’s Rights Program works towards improving the situation for women in Cambodia through intervention in matters of abuse, empowering women and informing them of their rights, anti-discrimination training, victim assistance and engaging in advocacy through the press and publication of reports. Additionally, ADHOC runs a number of special projects, including the KRT project which assists victims in court and the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) project designed to evade corrupt judiciaries and still deliver justice.

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**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/adhoccam/>

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<sup>1</sup> The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is an NGO affiliated with the Faculty of Law at UNSW in Sydney. Since 1990, it has provided training to over 2600 human rights defenders and community advocates. These individuals work for a wide range of organisations working to promote shared values of human rights – in different ways. This profile is part of a series developed by DTP ([www.dtp.unsw.edu.au](http://www.dtp.unsw.edu.au)) to illustrate the richness and diversity of the organisations working to promote human rights more broadly.

*Profile written February 2017*