

Mapping Volunteer Involving Organisations in Cambodia

HIGHLIGHTS



**UN
VOLUNTEERS**

February 2017

- ☑ online survey with 300 responses
- ☑ 325 students trained in community development and social research

Empowering youth to lead the inclusive development



Developing students' research skills

- ☑ 94 face to face in-depth interviews with volunteers, local officials, and company managers in 15 provinces by 36 trainee interviewers
- ☑ 10 focus groups with local, international, and indigenous volunteers
- ☑ 180 volunteer involving organisations interviewed





Presentation of findings at the Institute of Technology, 02.12.2016

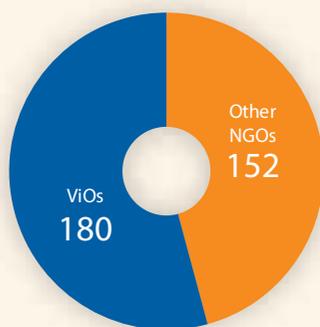


Training in Siem Reap, 15.06.2016

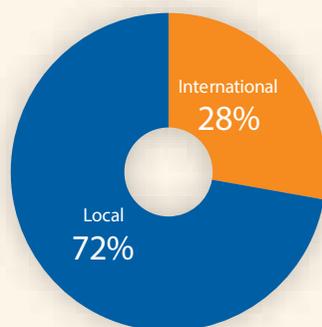
What we know

In this part of our research, we survey into unpaid voluntary work with or through volunteer involving NGOs. In total, 332 NGOs responded to our mapping survey, and only 180 (54%) of them were VIOs; 72 percent of the respondent VIOs were local organisations and 28 percent were international.

There were limitations in this part of our study, such as an apparent lack of responses from VIOs, to be acknowledged. Another constraint was that we have reconstructed the basic questionnaires of the 2008 study with some modifications to include additional elements. Significant structural improvements, however, were left out to streamline the comparison with the previous results*. Therefore, some areas that would have benefited from more thorough examination have not been pursued. We address these limitations in the more in-depth, qualitative part of our work.



Graph 1. VIOs vs. other NGOs



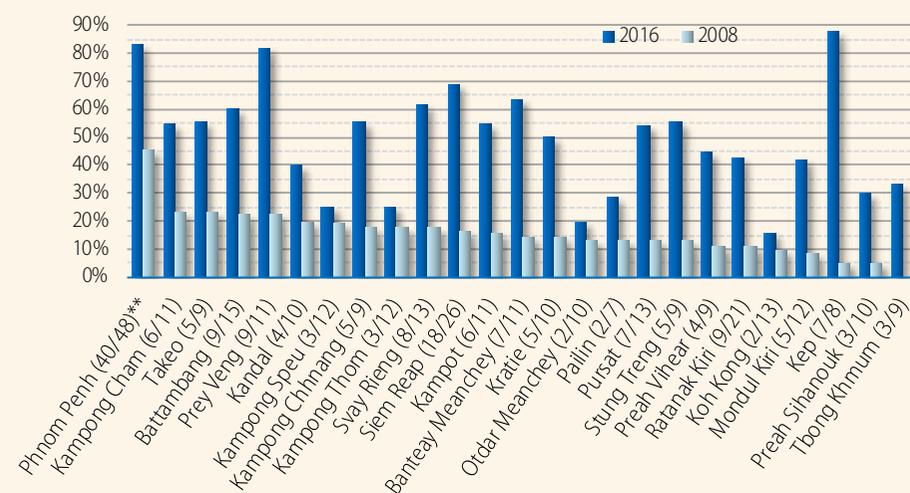
Graph 2. Local vs. international VIOs

VIOs in provinces

Graph 3 shows the percentage of VIOs in provinces where our respondents said their volunteers worked. It does not give us the actual numbers of volunteers in each province.

The 317 respondents of the 2008 survey said that they worked with 23,997 volunteers (75 per VIO in average). Back then, the highest percentage of VIOs were Phnom Penh based with many interns and volunteer project assistants.

This time we have found VIOs with less volunteers in total – many NGOs without volunteers claimed to have them in the past. Yet, the share of VIOs across all provinces has increased. Also, now we have VIOs with hundreds and even thousands of volunteers, like the Union of Youth Federations with 71,509 volunteers (excluded in the analysis).



Graph 3. Percentage of VIOs in provinces

* Youth Star Cambodia and UNV, *Volunteering: Harnessing the Potential to Develop Cambodia*, Phnom Penh, 2008.

** Number of VIOs among respondent NGOs. This information is not available in the 2008 report.

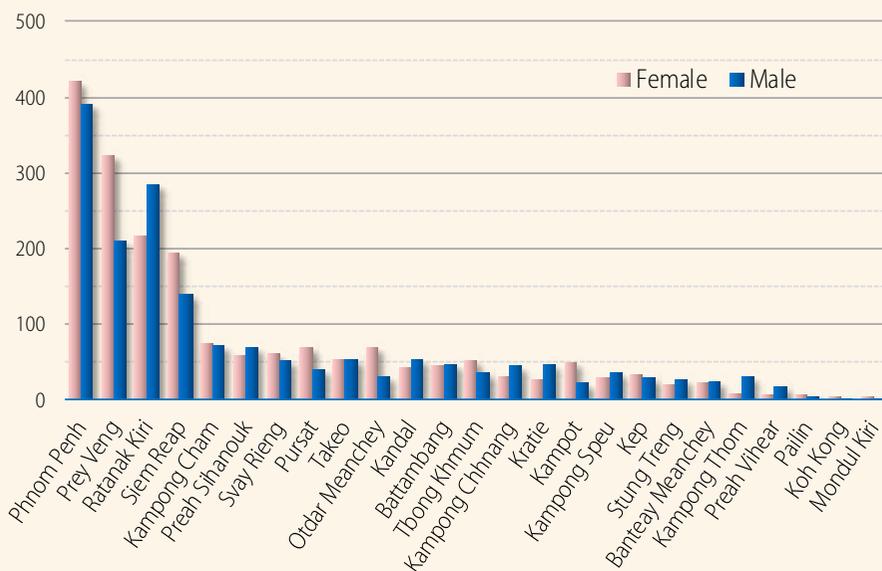


Interviewing youth club members and volunteer teachers in Prey Veng, 07.01.2017

Gender breakdown

In total, our respondents identified 3,703 civil society volunteers: 1,927 of whom (52%) were female and 1,777 were male. The 2008 study found that the male volunteers were more active and concluded that women's involvement was harder due to their household commitments.

This time, however, we found a higher number of volunteering women in overall and, specifically, in Prey Veng (60.5%), Pursat (62.7%), Otdar Meanchey (69.6%), and Kampot (69%) provinces, which indicates that women value volunteering and civic participation in addition to their household commitments.

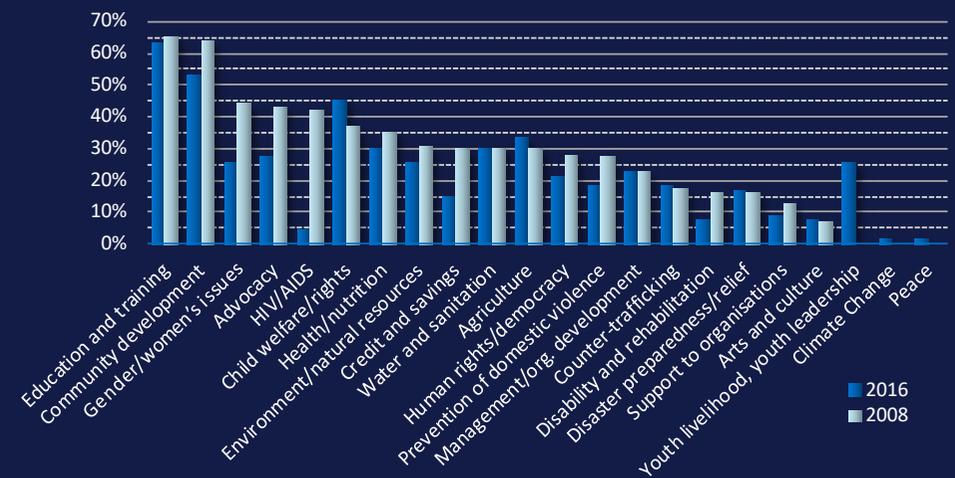


Graph 4. Gender of the respondents' volunteers

VIO operations

Graph 5 compares the percentage of VIOs in the areas of their work with the findings of the 2008 research. By the respondents' request, we have included a youth-related and three other new areas in our questionnaire.

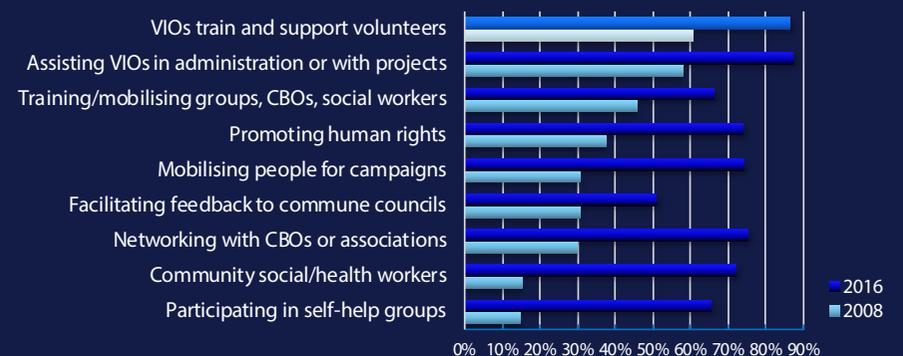
The decreasing overall percentage shows a trend toward a narrower specialisation of the VIOs. They have remained active in education and training (62%) and community development (55.6%). Their focus on development in rural areas has prevailed, whereas there is a significant decrease in VIOs dealing with HIV/AIDS (from 42% to 4.8%), credit and savings, gender, and disability issues.



Graph 5. VIO operations

Volunteer profile

While VIOs tend toward narrower specialisation, volunteers seem to progressively become more versatile. Still involved in running projects and administrative support, they have expanded their role as social workers. Now they are clearly engaged in networking, civic participation, and human rights issues. This also tallies with the findings of our field work, showing substantial volunteer involvement in local decision making and developing civic participation.



Graph 6. Volunteer activities

