



WELCOME TO CAMBODIA

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE CAMBODIA

Accompany | Serve | Advocate





THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA

The King of Cambodia is Norodom Sihamoni. He lives in a palace in Phnom Penh. Cambodia also has a national assembly and a council of ministers. The Prime Minister is Samdech Hun Sen. There are two political parties in the National Assembly, the Cambodian People's Party (C.P.P), led by Hun Sen, and the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), led by Sam Rainsy.



Norodom Sihamoni,
King of Cambodia



Samdech Hun Sen,
Prime Minister



Sam Rainsy,
Leader of Opposition

Phnom Penh is the capital city on the Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers. Other towns in Cambodia are Battambang, Siem Reap, Kompong Cham, Sihanouk ville, and Kompong Chhnang and more.

Some beautiful places to see in Cambodia are the Angkor Wat temples, Tonle Sap Lake, the beaches of Kompong Som and Keb, and the sugar palm trees.

The temperature is hot year-round, with temperatures ranging from 18° to 38° C. There are two seasons: the dry season is from December until May and the wet season is from June until November.

Most people in Cambodia are rice farmers and live in rural areas.

Refugees are under the Immigration Department in the Ministry of the Interior, The Department of the Refugees is the focal point of the Immigration Department. Their office's address is:
**NO 332, CONFEDERATION DE LA RUSSIE BLVD (110),
IN FRONT OF PHNOM PENH AIRPORT, 12406 PHNOM PENH**

Cambodia has signed the refugee Convention and Protocol in 1992.

Cambodia has a refugee law and a special agreement signed with the Government of Australia about refugees coming to Cambodia from Nauru.

UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) has a small office in Cambodia and it monitors the Refugee Convention and works to help the Refugee Office.

SOME BEAUTIFUL PLACES IN CAMBODIA

ANGKOR WAT

Cambodia has an amazing history and is home to some of the most beautiful architecture and art in the world.



TONLE SAP LAKE AND THE MEKONG RIVER

Tonle Sap Lake and the Mekong River are among the geographical wonders.



Floating houses in Tonle Sap Lake



Dolphins in the Mekong River

PHNOM PENH

In Phnom Penh, the capital city, you will see the Independence Monument and Wat Phnom. Cambodia gained independence from French in 1953 under the leadership of King Sihanouk.



Independence Monument

Wat Phnom

RELIGION IN CAMBODIA

BUDDHISM is the main religion in Cambodia. About 95% of 14 million inhabitants are Buddhist.

Beside Buddhist wats, there are also Mosques for Muslim people and Churches for Christians.



WAT



MOSQUE



CHURCH

SHOPPING IN CAMBODIA

Most people shop at the local markets where you can buy good vegetables and fruit and fish. You can bargain. There are also supermarkets. Sony from JRS can help you go to the market when your first come.



JRS is an international organization that has been a friend of refugees in Cambodia since 1990. Its mission is *to accompany, serve and advocate.*

If you need help contact Sony, our social worker at **012 418 818**. The address is at the back page.



REFUGEE RIGHTS

(ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL LAW)

The Refugee Convention sets out the rights of refugees.

Some important rights are:

- The right not to be returned to a country where the refugee's life or freedom would be threatened (Article 33).
- The right not to be deported from a country except on ground of national security or public order (Article 32).
- The right not to be punished for entering or staying in a country illegally (Article 31).
 - The right to work or run their own business (Articles 17 and 18).
 - The same rights to elementary education as citizens and the best access as possible to other education (Article 22).
- The same rights as citizens to public assistance, social security and working conditions (Articles 23 and 24).
- The right to documents available to other foreign residents, the right to identity documents if the refugee doesn't have a valid travel document and the right to a travel document (Articles 25, 26 and 27).
 - Refugees generally have the same rights as other foreign residents (Article 7).
 - The right to move freely within a country (Article 26).
 - The right to own property (Article 13).
 - The right to assistance with an expedited pathway to citizenship (Article 34).
- There is no right to family unification in the Refugee Convention, but it is strongly encouraged and is a right for refugees under Cambodian law.

THE CAMBODIAN REFUGEE LAW (No. 224) AND THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CAMBODIA AND AUSTRALIA PROMISE:

- To respect the human right of the refugee (Article 2 - No. 224).
- Protection and non-refoulement (Article 22 & 23 - No. 224).
- A legal guardian for minors or persons with disabilities (if appropriate) (Article 13 - No. 224).
 - A resident card (Article 15 - No. 224).
 - The right to work or operate a business (Article 16 - No. 224).
- The right to sponsor migration of dependant family (Article 27 - No. 224).

THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES PROMISE:

- An identity card, a residence card, and a refugee recognition certificate (Article 11 - MOU).
- Orientation programmes to living and working conditions, and laws (Article 13 - MOU).
 - Introductory Khmer language training (Article 14 - MOU).
 - Freedom of movement inside Cambodia (Article 17 - MOU).
- Temporary accommodation for learning basic Khmer (Article 16 - MOU).
 - Travel documents (Article 19 - MOU).
- Documents that give access to public education for children and access to jobs for adults (Article 20 - MOU).
- Resettlement package for 12 months (initially): daily subsistence, vocational training, loans for small businesses, health service, and basic household needs (Article 21 - Operational Guidelines).
 - Health insurance for 5 years (Article 22 - Operational Guidelines).
 - To offer permanent settlement in Cambodia (Article 4 - MOU).
- Services and treatment will be commensurate with local conditions (Article 10c - MOU)
 - Visa exemption and transport to temporary accommodations (Article 9, 15 - Operational Guidelines).

THE REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKER AGREE TO:

- Voluntarily come to Cambodia by written consent (Article 4c - MOU).
- To obey the laws of Cambodia (Article 15 - No. 224).
 - To learn Khmer language (Article 14, 16 - Operational Guidelines).
- To work towards self-sufficiency (Article 10a - MOU).
 - To participate in orientation programs (Article 13 - Operational Guidelines).



WHAT IS DEPORTATION?

One of the most important rights in the Refugee Convention is the right known as “non-refoulement”. This means that an asylum-seeker or refugee cannot be sent back to their home country (Article 24b - Operational Guidelines). This protects refugees who may be killed or seriously hurt in that country . If an asylum seeker is found not to be a refugee, then they can be sent back to their home country. This is known as deportation.

SOME USEFUL KHMER PHRASES:

- Hello - *johm riab sua*
- How are you? - *sohk sabaay?*
- Goodbye - *johm riab lia*
- Thank you - *aw kohn*
- My name is - *kh'nyom ch'muah*
- Money - *prak / luoy*
- How much is this? - *t'lei pohnmaan?*
- Where is the toilet? - *tabon kuon no a na?*
- I am sick. - *khnom choo*
- Police - *police*
- Refugee Office - *ka-re-ya-lie chun-peh-kloon*
- House - *puh-tay-ah*
- Landlord - *muh-chas puh-tay-ah*
- Rent - *joo-el*
- How much is the rent? - *t'lei joo-el bon-man?*
- Meat - *sach*
- Fish - *t'rei*
- Eggs - *sut / pong*
- Bread - *nom pang*
- Fruit - *p'lei ch-uh*
- Vegetables - *bon l'ei*

- 1 - *muy*
- 2 - *pii*
- 3 - *bei*
- 4 - *buun*
- 5 - *bram*
- 6 - *bram muy*
- 7 - *bram pii*
- 8 - *bram bei*
- 9 - *bram buun*
- 10 - *dup*
- 11 - *dup muy*
- 12 - *dup pii*
- 20 - *m'pei*
- 21 - *m'pei muy*
- 30 - *saamsup*
- 40 - *saisup*
- 50 - *hocsup*
- 60 - *hasup*
- 70 - *jietsup*
- 80 - *bietsup*
- 90 - *kaosup*
- 100 - *muy roy*
- 200 - *pii roy*
- 1,000 - *muy boan*
- 10,000 - *muy muun*



០ ១ ២ ៣ ៤ ៥ ៦ ៧ ៨ ៩
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

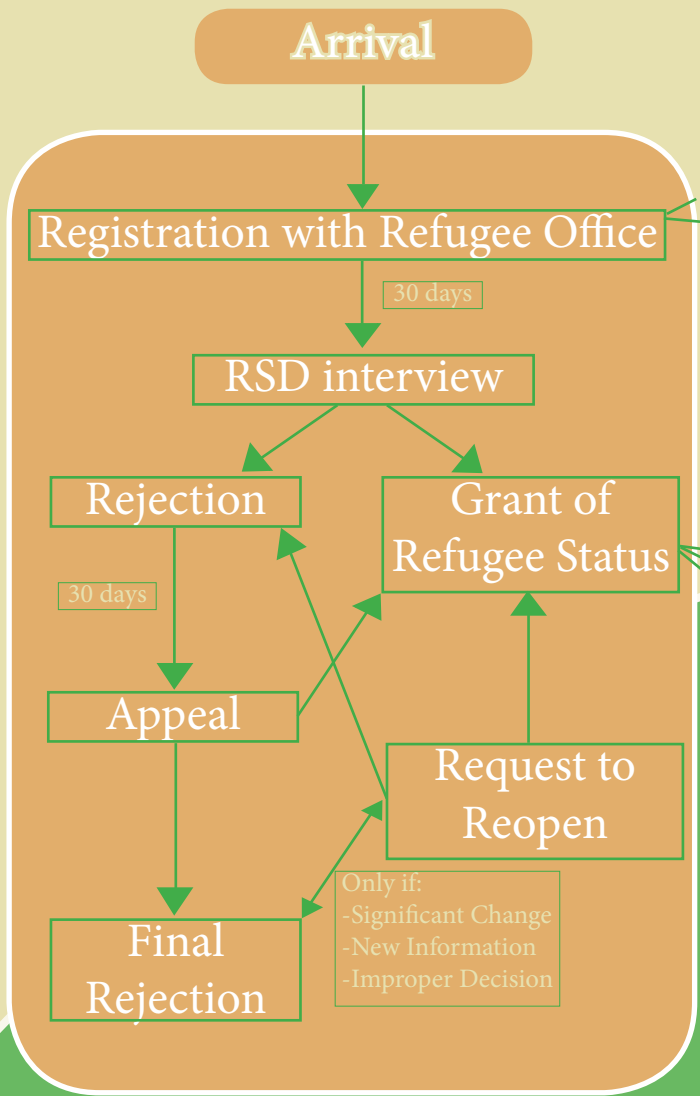
Khmer is written in Khmer script.

REFUGEE PROCESSES IN CAMBODIA FOR NEW ASYLUM SEEKERS

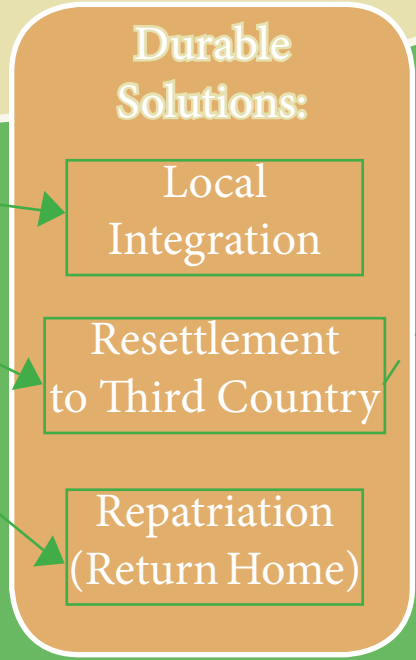
Refugee Criteria:

- Outside your country
- Well-founded fear of persecution (genuine risk of serious harm)
- Because of race, religion, nationality, or membership of a particular social group or political opinion
- Unable to rely on your country for protection

Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Process



Withdraw/
Discontinue



Resettlement Criteria:

- Legal and physical protection needs
- Medical needs
- Survivors of violence and torture
- Women at risk
- Family reunification
- Children and adolescents
- Elderly refugees
- Refugees without local integration prospects

DURABLE SOLUTIONS:

There are generally three outcomes for a person who has been found to be a refugee: local integration, resettlement, and voluntary repatriation.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

LOCAL INTEGRATION

LOCAL INTEGRATION:

This is when a refugee stays in the country where they have been found to be a refugee. This usually happens if the country is a signatory to the Refugee Convention and can protect the refugee by allowing them to stay legally in that country. Sometimes refugees cannot stay in Cambodia because they have a medical condition that cannot be treated in Cambodia or some other special circumstance. Most refugees in Cambodia are seeking sponsorship to be resettled in another country.

RESETTLEMENT

RESETTLEMENT:

This is where another country allows a refugee to move to their country and offers them protection. This usually happens in countries that are not signatory to the Refugee Convention, but have a lot of refugees living in their country, such as Thailand or Malaysia. The UNHCR organizes resettlement, but there are usually many more refugees than countries willing to resettle refugees, so not all refugees will be able to be resettled. Usually only wealthy countries agree to resettle refugees. Australia wants to resettle the refugees who claim Australian protection in Cambodia.

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION:

This is when a refugee chooses to return to the country that they fled. This may be because the situation has changed there, such as a war has ended or the government has changed. Sometimes refugees choose to return home because they cannot find a safe place elsewhere.

BECOMING A CITIZEN:

If a refugee in Cambodia wants to become a citizen, they must apply under the Nationality Law. This requires someone to have lived in Cambodia for at least seven years since obtaining a resident card. Unless refugees in Cambodia are given Residence Cards, they are not able to apply for citizenship.

Obtaining Cambodian citizenship can be an important step in allowing refugees to feel like Cambodia is their new home and that they belong here. Some refugees do not have any other citizenship because the country that they fled did not recognize them as citizens. They are known as 'stateless' because they have no country of nationality. For these refugees, the ability to apply for citizenship is very important.

PROBLEMS THAT THE SOCIAL WORKER CAN HELP WITH

I have no money to buy food or pay rent.

I would like to learn something.

I feel sick.

I don't know where to live

I'm having a fight with my landlord

My children need to go to school.

I am having problems at home.

I need help to start a business.

I am having a problem with the police.

Phone Sony at
012 418 818

PROBLEMS THAT THE LAWYER CAN HELP WITH

I want to go back to my own country.

I don't understand what they told me.

I think my life is in danger.

I have a legal problem.

I want help with my claim for refugee status.

I want to tell someone what the Refugee Office told me.

I want to leave Cambodia.

I feel I am being treated unfairly.

I want help writing a letter in English.

I would like to apply for a passport and other identification documents.

Phone Sony
at 012 418 818



JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE

- ACCOMPANY, SERVE ADVOCATE -

SIEM REAP: MINDOL METTA KARUNA, PHUM KASEKAM,
SANGKAT SRANGAE, SIEM REAP.
PHONE: 012 488 950 / 092 331 501

PHNOM PENH: #18-D, St. 568, TUOL KOK, PHNOM PENH
(NEAR ENTRAK DEVY HIGH SCHOOL)
PHONE: 012 418 818 / 092 137 321

P.O BOX: 93036 SIEM REAP

| P.O. BOX 880 PHNOM PENH

EMAIL: JRSCAMBODIA@GMAIL.COM

| WEB: WWW.JRSCAMBODIA.ORG