

Center for Advanced Study (CAS) Background Note

The Center for Advanced Study (CAS) was founded in 1996 as an independent, non-political Cambodian institution devoted to research, education and debate on issues affecting the development of Cambodian society. The center has been conducting primary research – both quantitative and qualitative - throughout the country since its inception and benefits from a core team of full-time researchers and data analysis specialists. Where appropriate, CAS sub-contracts experienced consultants to assist with specific project work, while for large-scale surveys experienced enumerators are regularly hired and trained to conduct quantitative research under the supervision of the center's staff.

Research partners and clients to date have included the Asia Foundation (TAF), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Department for International Development (DFID), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), World Vision International (WVI), the International Labor Organization (ILO), OXFAM, Pharmaciens sans Frontiers, the World Bank and the European Union (EU).

In many cases, the research conducted by CAS results in practical recommendations aimed at assisting clients in improving the scope and quality of their interventions. Workshops are regularly organised by CAS in collaboration with clients and research partners, in order to share study findings and consult with relevant stakeholders.

Selective List of CAS Projects Completed to Date

2008	National awareness and perception survey. Funding agency: USAID
2008	Baseline assessment of member compliance to the BSIC Code of Conduct aimed at improving the safety and working conditions of beer promoters. Funding organisation: BSIC
2007	Study on Cambodian migrant workers to Thailand. Funding agency: ILO
2007	A review of social protection for the urban poor. Funding agency: ILO
2006	Evaluation of the performance of the Cadastral Commission. Funding agency: GTZ
2006	Qualitative and Quantitative Studies on the Life Histories and Current Situation of Female Sex Workers and Entertainment Workers in Cambodia. Funding agency: European Union
2006	Participatory Trafficking Research Review. Funding agency: TAF
2005	Mid-term Review of the Phnom Penh Street Children Project. Funding agency: WVI
2005	Client Satisfaction Survey: Kampot and Kampong Thom Referral Hospitals. Funding agency: GTZ
2004	Qualitative Outcome Evaluation for the International HIV/AIDS Alliance Frontier Prevention Program. Funding agency: AIDS Alliance

Dr Joanna White is a freelance consultant who has had a close working relationship with the CAS for over ten years. She has over fifteen years' experience in the international development sector as an advisor, social researcher and anthropologist, and has proven expertise in the management of qualitative and quantitative studies, participatory research methods, and project development and assessment. Her specialist areas include gender, HIV/AIDS and livelihoods. Dr White's overseas experience includes a long-term posting in Cambodia and short-term assignments in Vietnam, Cambodia, India, Tanzania, Nigeria and Botswana. She received her doctorate in Social Anthropology from Goldsmiths College, University of London in 2006.