

CCHR PRESS RELEASE – Phnom Penh, 16 June 2014

CCHR receives Rising Voice Microgrant and launches Empowering Cloghers Project

The <u>Cambodian Center for Human Rights</u> ("CCHR") launches today – 16 June 2014 – a new project, the Empowering Cloghers Project ("the Project"), and announces a call for applications for people interested in receiving training through the Project. The Project aims to strengthen the online presence and influence of female university students from all over Cambodia by enabling them to become Cambodian bloghers (female bloggers) – known as "cloghers" – and to become active online. CCHR's Empowering Cloghers Project has been selected as a grantee of the <u>Rising Voices</u> <u>Microgrant 2014</u>, a project of Global Voices Online.

The Project targets female university students from all over Cambodia who are currently studying in Phnom Penh, and who are interested in advocating for social change. Participants will receive five trainings on different aspects of blogging – including setting up compelling blogs, writing tips, and social media strategies – as well as coaching from CCHR in order to ensure that they are equipped with the necessary skills to become successful cloghers. Moreover, participants will be invited to take part in a blog competition and have opportunities to network and socialize with fellow bloggers.

CCHR is calling on interested candidates to apply to receive training through the Project. CCHR will select 15-20 participants, who must commit to attending all five trainings, which will take place over the course of approximately six months, and to writing about human rights and other relevant social issues. Candidates must be female university students, and have good communication skills and basic computer skills. More information on the Project and how to apply is available at hub.sithi.org/cloghers.

CCHR Executive Director Chak Sopheap comments:

"It is an honor to have received the Rising Voices Micro Grant and we look forward to implementing the Empowering Cloghers Project, through which we hope to give a voice to young women. The internet is increasingly becoming a tool for change in Cambodia and we hope to contribute to that movement through empowering young women who may not have had much opportunity to take advantage of these tools."

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