**Interview Questions**

**For everyone**

**Cambodian gender relations**

* Can you tell me about what gender issues you think there are in your community? Do you think they are improving? What is the problem still?
* And how about in Cambodia generally? Ask them to describe some of the pressures men and women face in Cambodian society? If they can, try and ask whether they think it is becoming more equal between men and women. What examples can they give?
* Do they sense any changes across generations?
* Have they experienced tensions within their own family?
* What gender awareness messages have circulated the community in recent years?
* Are women demanding their rights more in their community? In the country? How? What examples can you give? How positive or negative to do you this is?
* What customs do Cambodian women and men still have to follow? Which do you think are a problem when a woman experiences DV?
* What gender training is provided to men and women in the community? What does it exist of? Who provides it?
* Have you personally received any gender training?
* Are there any male figures who champion women’s rights in their community? What do they do and why?
* Have women in their community ever collectively protested about an issue affecting them?

**DV**

* How common do you believe DV is within their community?
* Do you know of anyone else who experienced DV?
* If yes, ask them to tell the story of what they know. How did the situation become addressed, if at all? What did they learn from seeing this?
* Are they aware of neighbours experiencing DV? Have they ever directly intervened or helped? Why?
* What do they think the causes of DV are?
* Whose responsibility is it to deal with DV?
* Which is better - direct intervention or authority efforts to reconcile the couple? Why?
* What barriers are there to solving DV?
* How acceptable do they think DV is?
* Do they sense any change in attitudes towards DV? If so, what?
* Do they think DV is related to other violence in Cambodian society?
* Do you think men who are violent can change? How? Have you got any personal examples of friends?
* What stigma, if any, is there around DV? For the perpetrator? For the victim? From whom?
* How are men who commit DV in the community treated differently? Ever publically shamed by friends, community authorities?

**Laws/The DV law**

* How important is rule of official law in their community/lives generally?
* What do they think a law is? Try and get them to describe what law is.
* How relevant to they think laws are in Cambodia?
* How do they learn about different laws generally?
* Can they give an example of a law they know a lot about? Why do they know a lot about it? Why is it relevant to their lives? (can be any law)
* Are there other types of laws that they follow in relation to family relations? I.e. religious/customary?
* Do they know if a law on domestic violence exists?
* If so, when did they hear about it? How do they know about it?
* What does it say?/what rights and responsibilities does it set out?
* Have they been given legal information about the DV law? In what form? Leaflet, meetings etc?
* What media, if any, have they seen the DV law explained?
* Do they know of the law being used in the community? What do they know about this?
* Describe what a victim would ideally do to gain help.
* What barriers do they think there are?
* Do they think the law has/will make any difference?
* What else makes a difference in dealing with DV apart from law? Is this more or less important than law?

**The home**

* Do they think DV is still considered a ‘private’ issue? Why not/why is it?
* What is more important - family unity or women’s and children’s, health and safety? How to women try to reconcile the two?
* Do they think DV is a national issue? Why not/why is it?
* How important to do they think harmony is to the ideal Cambodian household? What expectation/pressures to they feel to meet this vision? What does a harmonious household look like? How realistic is this?

**Extra questions for anyone who you find has experience of DV (past or present)**

This part of the interview will likely be one of the most sensitive ones you need to handle carefully. Essentially, what we want to know is their story in their words.

You should tell women this, and start by asking on their own terms what their story is. Ask them to start from the beginning, but if they feel upset at any moment, feel free to pause or stop altogether. Remember the ethics we went through – cause no harm.

Leave the interviewee speak at length – we want as much detail as possible. Then follow-up on specific points to learn more or clarify points.

Here is a list of matters which we would like you to have covered and have a clear understanding of by the end of the interview:

* What violence they experienced (physical/emotional), how often, and with what consequences for the women’s well-being and family life;
* Was the violence only limited to the home or other places?
* Why she thinks the violence occurred and what did she do within her relationship to try and stop it?
* A detailed account of how she sought up at each stage – be this through family, village and religious leaders, police, the courts, NGOs etc. What were her experiences of this, what help did she receive, and what criticisms or praise does she have of her treatment/help given?
* Was at any point the law mentioned or used? And what outcome did this have? What problems did she find with legal mechanisms for help?
* Did she have a protection order issued? For how long for? How did she go about organising this? How did it (not) help?
* Did the authorities write an incident report(s) and give it/them immediately to the courts? If she doesn’t know if this happened, find out what they said to her they would do? (relates to article 9).
* Did the authorities intervene urgently to seize weapons/concrete objects, move the perpetator from the scene, offer victim temporary shelter, urgent medical assistance? (relates to article 13)
* Did the authorities try to explain her rights to her? (article 13) What rights does she think she has?
* Did the authorities try to reconcile the couple? How many times? How did they do this? How successful was it? Did she feel pressure/an expectation on her to be the one to try and re-instate harmony? Did she think this was desirable or even possible? (mediation article 26)
* Were counseling sessions provided? If so, what problem solving methods did they learn? How were they educated? How useful/effective were these? (related to article 33)
* Did the authorities in charge arrest the perpetrator? (article 18)
* What contact with the courts did she and he have? What were her experiences of this? And what was decided?
* What contact with the police did she have? What were her experiences of this? What help, if any, did they provide?
* What contact with health care professionals did she have? What were her experiences of this? What help if any did they provide?
* The role of neighbours and other community members – what direct intervention, support or collective action resulted?
* How did she emotionally feel through the process of readdressing DV?
* Has she faced any discrimination or stigma?
* Are they still together or did their marriage end? – who initiated it and why? Did she work to try and preserve the marriage and why?
* What issues were encountered with marital breakdown - (emotional – i.e. grief, anger etc; economic – i.e. within household after the break-up, inability to pay for divorce due to informal fees, dispossession through land grabbing and land titling corruption etc; cultural – i.e. stigma, shame, sexuality; familial/community pressure and expectation; and legal – i.e. requirement to go through commune chiefs, often limited access to information about land issues, sales and rights.
* Plans and motivations for re-marriage.
* If the woman is still dealing with DV – why has this not been rectified? Have things got better at all?
* If the woman is no long a victim of DV – what were the key steps to reach this situation. How does she now feel? How has life changed? Has she become more involved in community matters since?
* What help does she want to see more of for women like her? What does she want to call for?
* What/who helped her the most in dealing with DV? How important does she think the law was?
* Because of her experiences, what advice would she have for women experiencing DV?