

3rd Cambodia ICT Camp 2024:

Online Gender-based Harassment and Violence in Cambodia



Today's Topics

- Introduction to Cyberbullying and Online Gender-Based Violence and Harassment
- Overview of Our Initiative
- Phase 1: Quantitative Research
- Phase 2: Qualitative Research
- Phase 3: Development of the Khmer English Glossary
- Brainstorm: What Can We Do

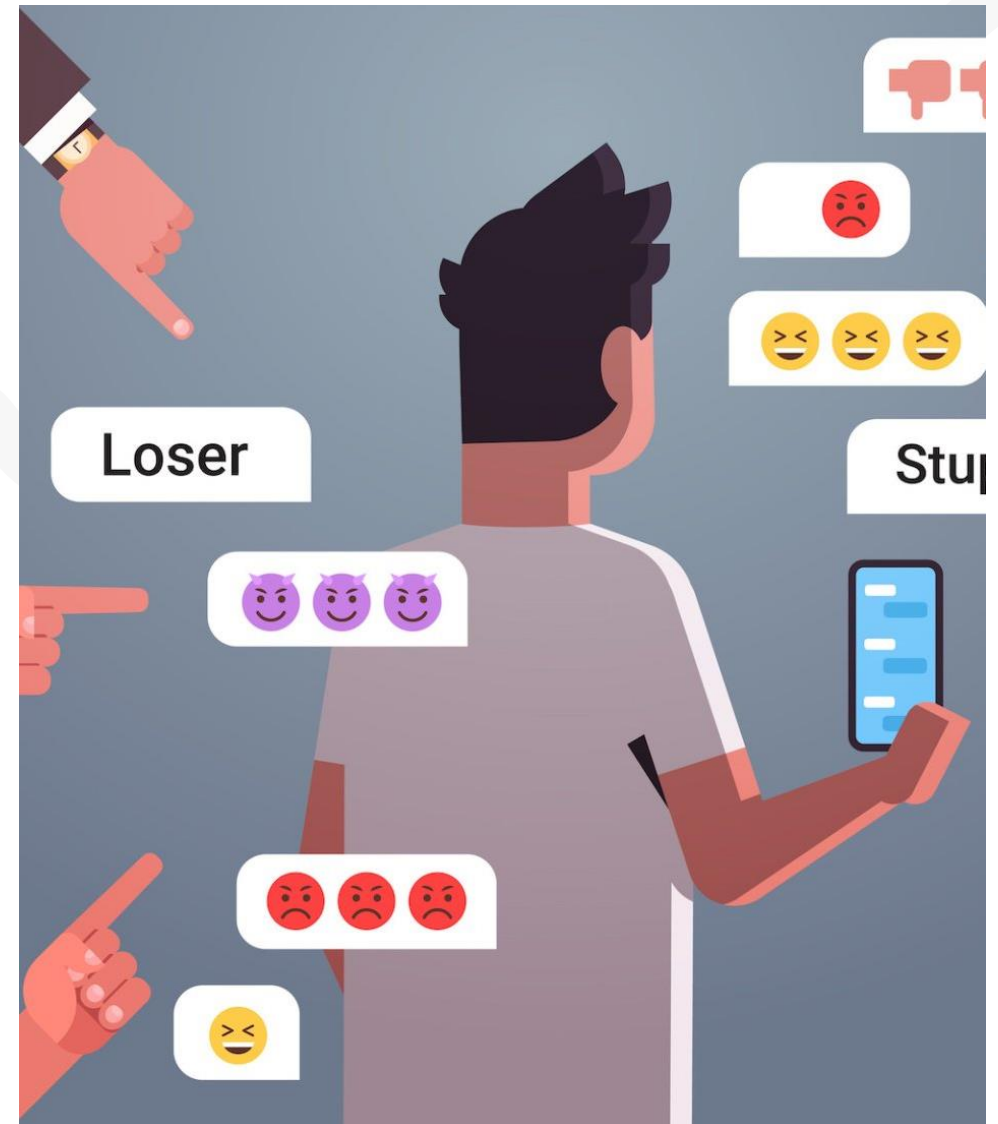
Cybercrime is on the rise

- In our connected world, cybercrime is on the rise, enabled by new technology
- Cybercrime includes fraud and other activities done for financial gain
- It also includes harassment and violence carried out online
- Most of this online harassment and violence is aimed at women
- This is our focus for today



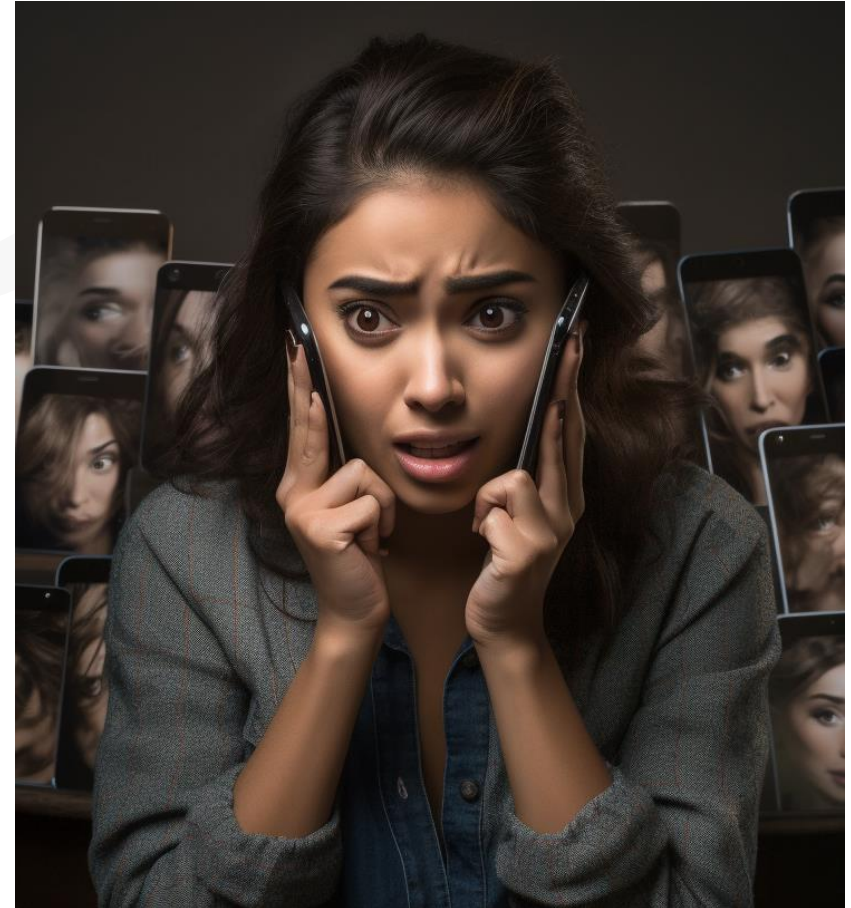
What is Cyberbullying?

- Cyberbullying is using the internet to frighten, anger, or shame another person
- It includes many different kinds of abuse across digital devices
 - From casual insults to serious crimes
- The technology is here to enable convincing fakes, increasing ways to cause serious harm
- The technology is here to let people harass at scale



What is Online Sexual Harassment?

- There is an increase in global awareness of a behavior that has become common - online sexual harassment
- When do online comments become harassment?
- Language becomes harassment when it is used with hostile intent
- When negative language is intended to make the receiver feel uncomfortable
 - Intimidated, angry, embarrassed



■ Photo source: AI Art Created by CPM 3000 Using MidJourney V5.1

How Does It Happen?

- Online sexual harassment ranges from sexual comments without serious intent to threats of physical violence
- Online posts can be used to destroy a woman's reputation
 - A woman's head can be put on a naked body and shared publicly
 - Information about where a person lives can be made public
- Serious online violence can force a woman to withdraw from society
- Even threats without serious intent can lead to feelings of shame and depression
- Cyberbullying can lead to suicide



No One Talks About This Issue

- Awareness of online sexual harassment in Cambodia is low
 - It is a topic that most people do not want to discuss
- Sexual harassment is believed to be physical only
- Both victims and perpetrators may not know how to define what happens online, whether or not it is sexual harassment
- Victims get blamed, that they brought it on themselves
- So better not to say anything





Who is Most Vulnerable?

- Online sexual harassment is often targeted at women in the public eye
 - Influencers and celebrities
 - Journalists or public figures
 - Online sellers and women running online businesses
- Online sexual harassment happens at a high rate.
- It is a barrier to women's success in running their own companies.
- It impacts society as a whole.
- It impacts women's participation in the workforce and in online communities generally.

Our Initiative: Address Online Sexual Harassment

The Challenge:

- Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence and Harassment (TFGBVH) is widespread in Cambodia
- Lack of common language to discuss these issues
- No specific laws addressing TFGBVH



Our Objectives




- 1 Understand the extent of the challenges that Cambodian working women face regarding online sexual harassment
- 2 Understand the needs and the language required in Cambodia to address online sexual harassment
- 3 Identify language in Khmer that resonates and is easy to understand
- 4 Develop educational materials that address these issues
- 5 Develop communication materials that address these issues
- 6 Launch social media communications to begin to increase awareness and engagement with this issue

Phase 1: Quantitative Research with Women Entrepreneurs and Business Owners

- We conducted a study of women entrepreneurs and business owners to understand their experience with online sexual harassment
- Over 100 qualified women completed the survey
- We conducted 15 in-depth interviews in a second round of research
 - Spoke with influential women, women entrepreneurs, students and academics

Facebook Post for Research



The graphic is a square with a thin black border. It features decorative elements: a red curved line in the top-left corner, a grid of red dots in the top-right, and a series of red concentric circles in the bottom-right. The text is centered and written in red Khmer. The main title asks if women entrepreneurs have experienced online sexual harassment. Below it, it states that over 100 women completed the survey and that there is a \$100 cash reward. At the bottom, it provides a link to participate.

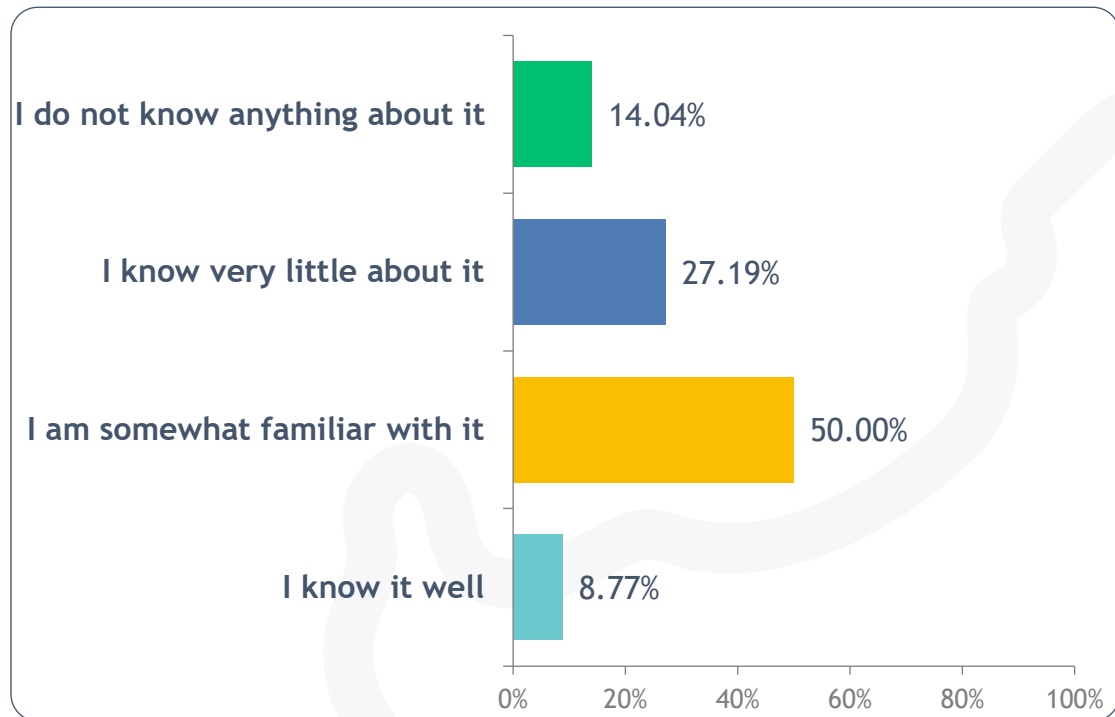
**តើអ្នកជាស្ត្រីដែល
ប្រកបអាជីវកម្មមែនទេ?**

សូមប្រាប់ពីបទពិសោធន៍អ្នក តាមប្រព័ន្ធអនឡាញ

មានឱកាសឈ្នះទឹកប្រាក់ \$100

ចុចខាងក្រោម ដើម្បីចាប់ផ្តើមការស្ទង់មតិ >>>>>>>

Awareness of Online Abuse Towards Women

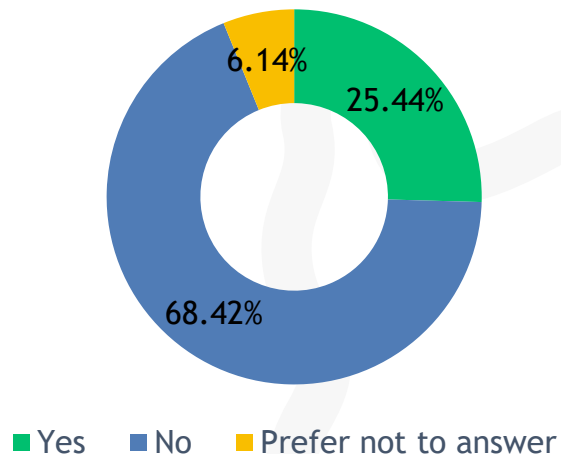


- Over half of the respondents are knowledgeable about online abuse.
- Only 14% of the respondents have not encountered the term "online abuse."
- Around 9% of the respondents are well-versed in the concept of online abuse.

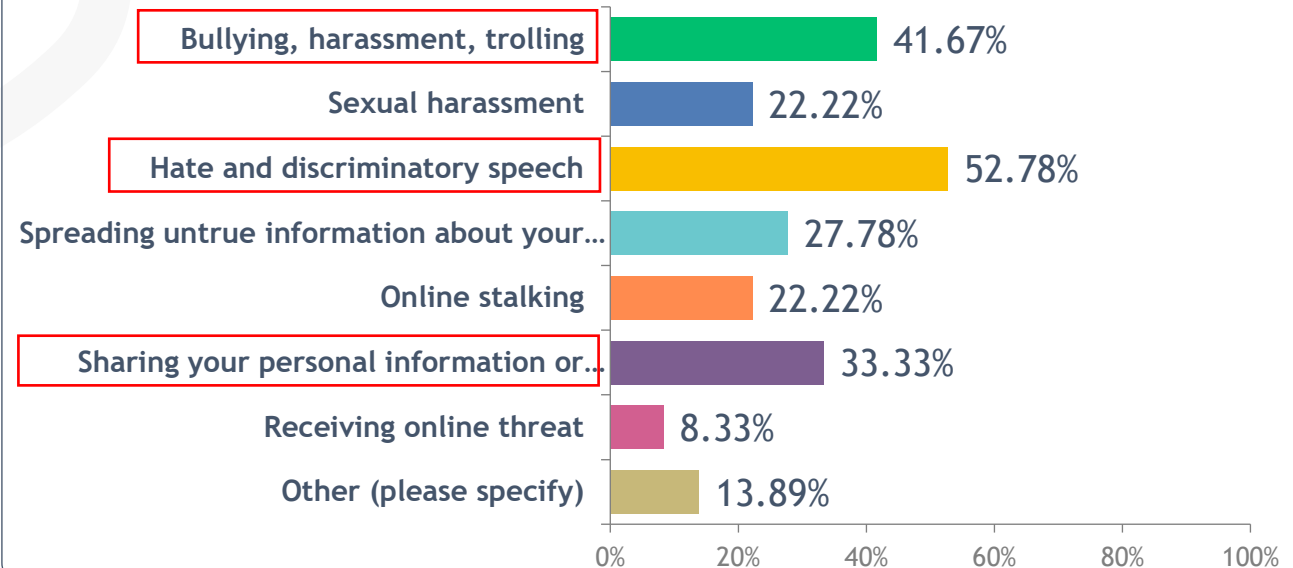
Many Women Experienced Online Abuse in Many Forms

- Regrettably, over 25% of respondents have reported experiencing online abuse. Assuming those who preferred not to answer also experienced abuse, the percentage increases to over 30%.
- The most prevalent forms of online abuse include hate speech, bullying, harassment, trolling, and non-consensual sharing of personal information or photos.
- The fear of online abuse has prompted 8% of respondents to switch from online to physical business.**

Have you ever experienced online abuse?



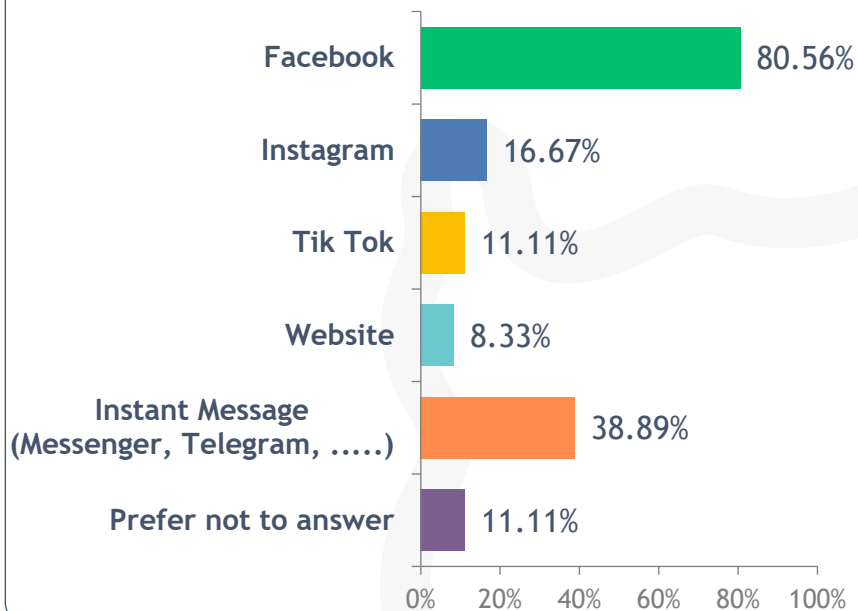
Type of online abuse



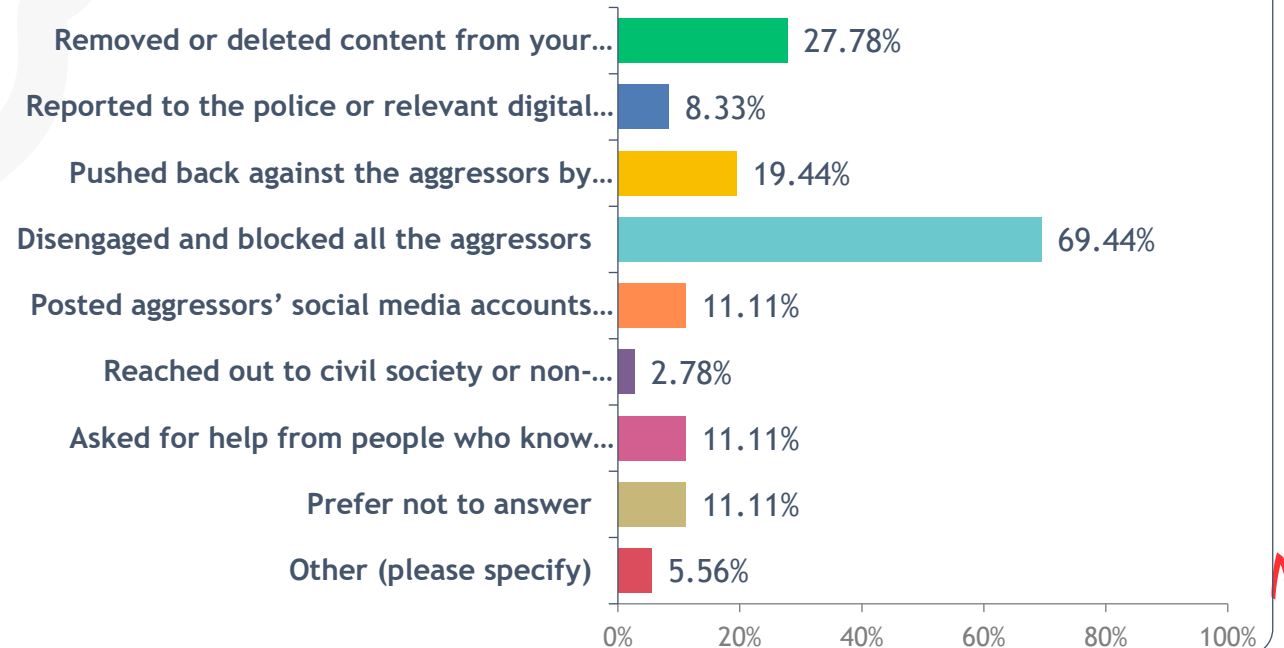
Facebook is the Dominant Platform for Online Abuse

- Facebook is the leading platform for online abuse, accounting for 80% of all cases. Instant messaging applications are becoming a growing concern, as they attract a significant amount of online abuse (39%)
- Women's course of action has often been limited to disengagement, blocking the aggressors, and removing or deleting content from social media (69.44%)

Where did it happen?



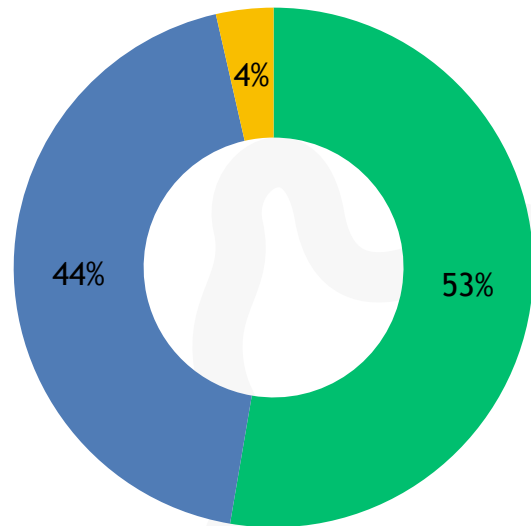
How did you deal with it?



Online Abuse is a Widespread Issue

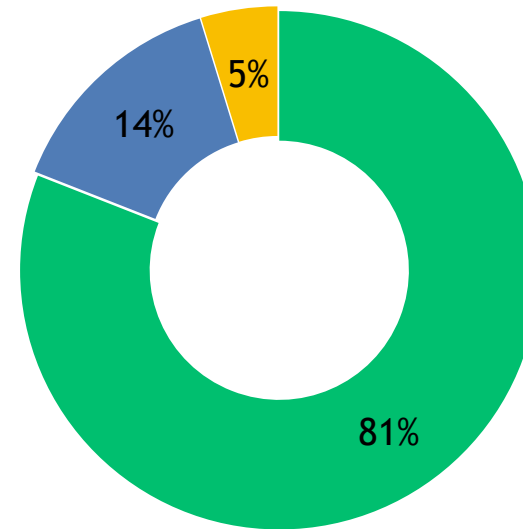
- Nearly 60% of respondents have friends and family members who have experienced online abuse
- Most (80%) agreed that online abuse is a challenge for women's businesses

Have you ever heard of online abuse towards your family or friend?



■ Yes ■ No ■ Prefer not to answer

81% of respondents feel that online abuse is a challenge for women's businesses.



■ Yes ■ No ■ Prefer not to answer

Rating of Initiatives to Respond to Online Abuse

- The majority of people would like to have a hotline to report online abuse incidents.
- Online and offline media campaigns are seen as essential to increase awareness of these issues.
- Others suggest providing online training or public workshops to discuss these issues and educate people on how to protect themselves from online abuse.



Phase 2 Research: Qualitative Interviews

- Small group and individual interviews
- Discussed personal experiences
- Explored challenges of talking about these issues in Khmer
- Women were eager to discuss their experiences
- Most had never talked about them before
- We learned that there was a lack of Khmer-language terms



There are different ways to translate the most basic concept: Online Sexual Harassment

Online Sexual Harassment

01

ការមាក់ងាយ និងបញ្ចេញបញ្ចេញតាមប្រព័ន្ធអនឡាញ

Insult and sarcastic through online platforms

(soft tone with general meaning)

02

ការរំលោភបំពានតាមប្រព័ន្ធអនឡាញ

Abuse through online platforms

(Strong tone)

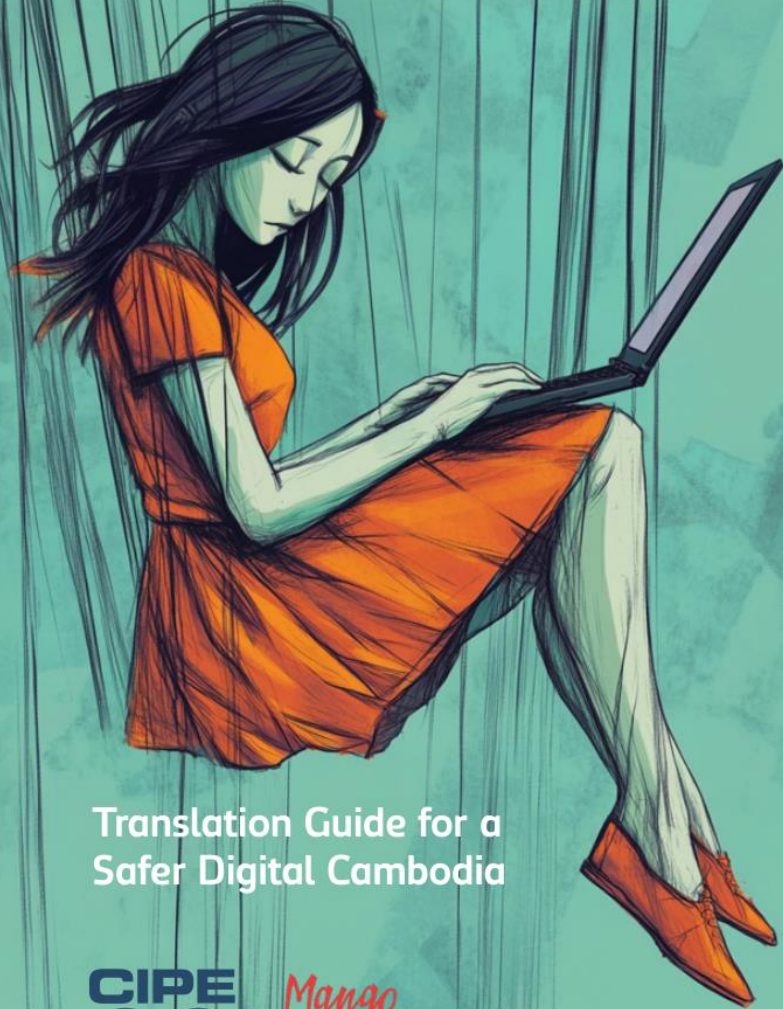
03

ការចំអកទូកឡើយតាមប្រព័ន្ធអនឡាញ

Mockery through online platforms

(soft tone and indirect)

Technology-Facilitated Online
Gender-Based
Violence and Harassment:
A Khmer/English Glossary
សទ្ទានុក្រមខ្មែរ/អង់គ្លេស



Translation Guide for a
Safer Digital Cambodia



NOVEMBER 2024

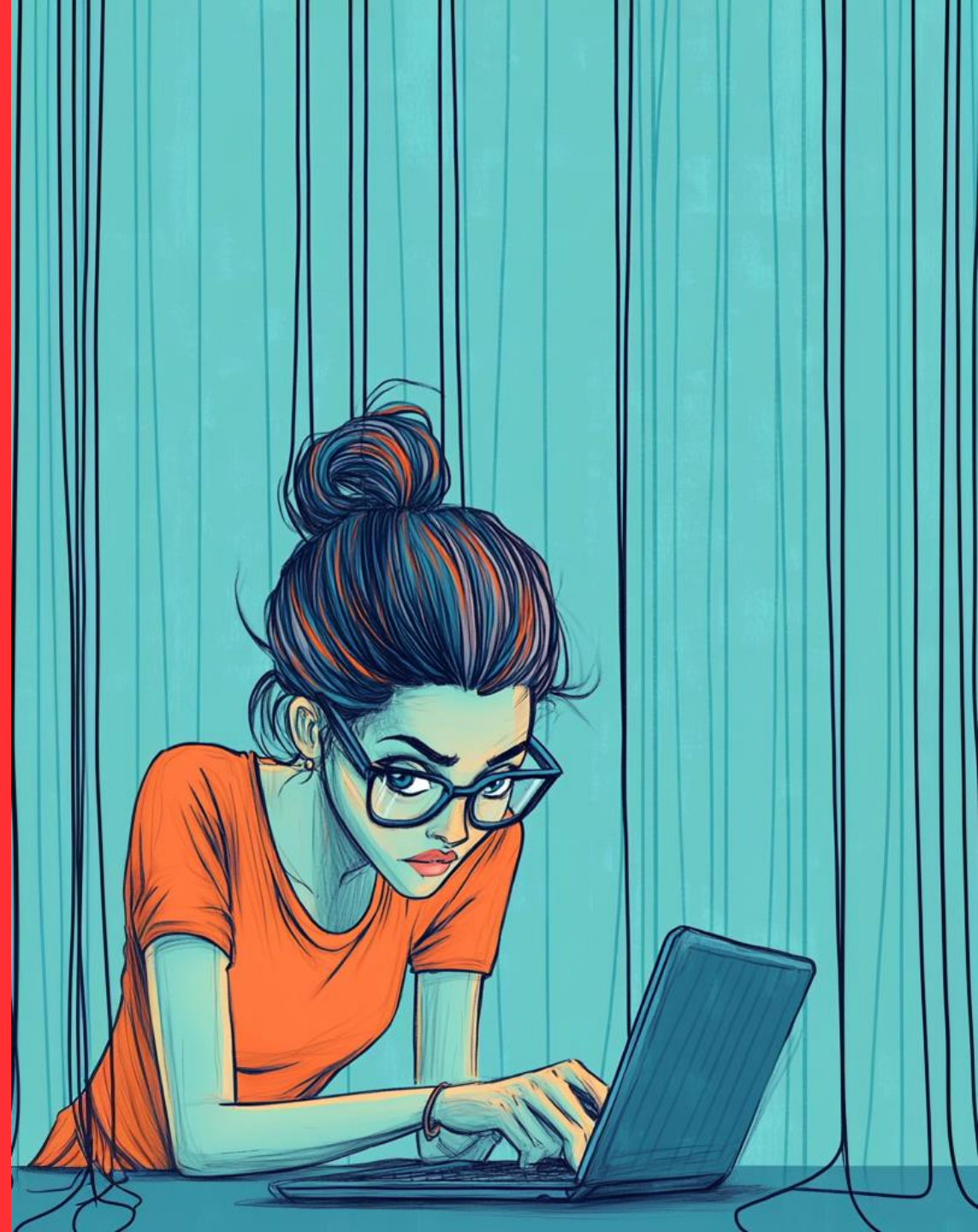
Phase 3:

Development of a Khmer/English Glossary

For
Words and Terms for
Technology-Facilitated
Gender-Based Violence
and Harassment

Identified Needs

- We learned that there are limited existing Khmer expressions for many TFGBVH concepts
- Need for culturally sensitive approach
 - Avoid Western-centric framing
- Want to create culturally relevant language that can be used to facilitate open discussion
- Need to consider current initiatives to develop legal language in Khmer



Our Approach

- Identified a set of words to include in the Glossary
 - Secondary research to develop a list of common terms for TFGBVH
 - Reviewed list with Khmer speakers to identify words relevant in Cambodia
- Developed and refined two sets of definitions
 - Colloquial terms for awareness
 - Formal terms for policy development



The Result

- We developed a list of 25 words
 - Divided into four categories
- The Glossary includes
 - English definition
 - Khmer definition
 - Two ways to say the term in Khmer:
 - Formal
 - Casual
- The Glossary is available online
 - Available for download and printing

Glossary Words, Definitions and Translations

Forms of Online Violence & Harassment

1. Online Harassment
2. Online Sexual Harassment
3. Online Unwanted Sexual Advances
4. Cyberbullying
5. Cyberstalking
6. Spreading Rumors
7. Online Grooming
8. Sextortion
9. Sexual Livestreaming
10. Doxing

Harmful Behaviors & Tactics

11. Intimidate
12. Threaten
13. Blaming Victim
14. Hate Speech
15. Body Shaming
16. Pornography

Safety, Security & Evidence

17. Electronic Evidence
18. Privacy
19. Cybersecurity
20. Digital Device
21. Social Media

Impact & Prevention

22. Victims
23. Online Risks
24. Vulnerable Group
25. Educational Materials



2

Online Sexual Harassment ការរំលោភបំពានផ្លូវភេទតាមអនឡាញ

English Definition

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature conducted online, creating a hostile or offensive digital environment.



Khmer Definition

FORMAL / ពាក្យផ្លូវការ
ការបៀតបៀនតាមប្រព័ន្ធអនឡាញ

CASUAL / ពាក្យសាមញ្ញ
ការរំលោភបំពានផ្លូវភេទតាមអនឡាញ

DEFINITION / និយមន័យ
គឺជាការស្នើសុំផ្សេងៗទាក់ទងនឹងសកម្មភាពផ្លូវភេទ ឬការប្រព្រឹត្តដោយប្រើពាក្យសំដីដែលធ្វើឡើងតាមអ៊ីនធឺណិត។

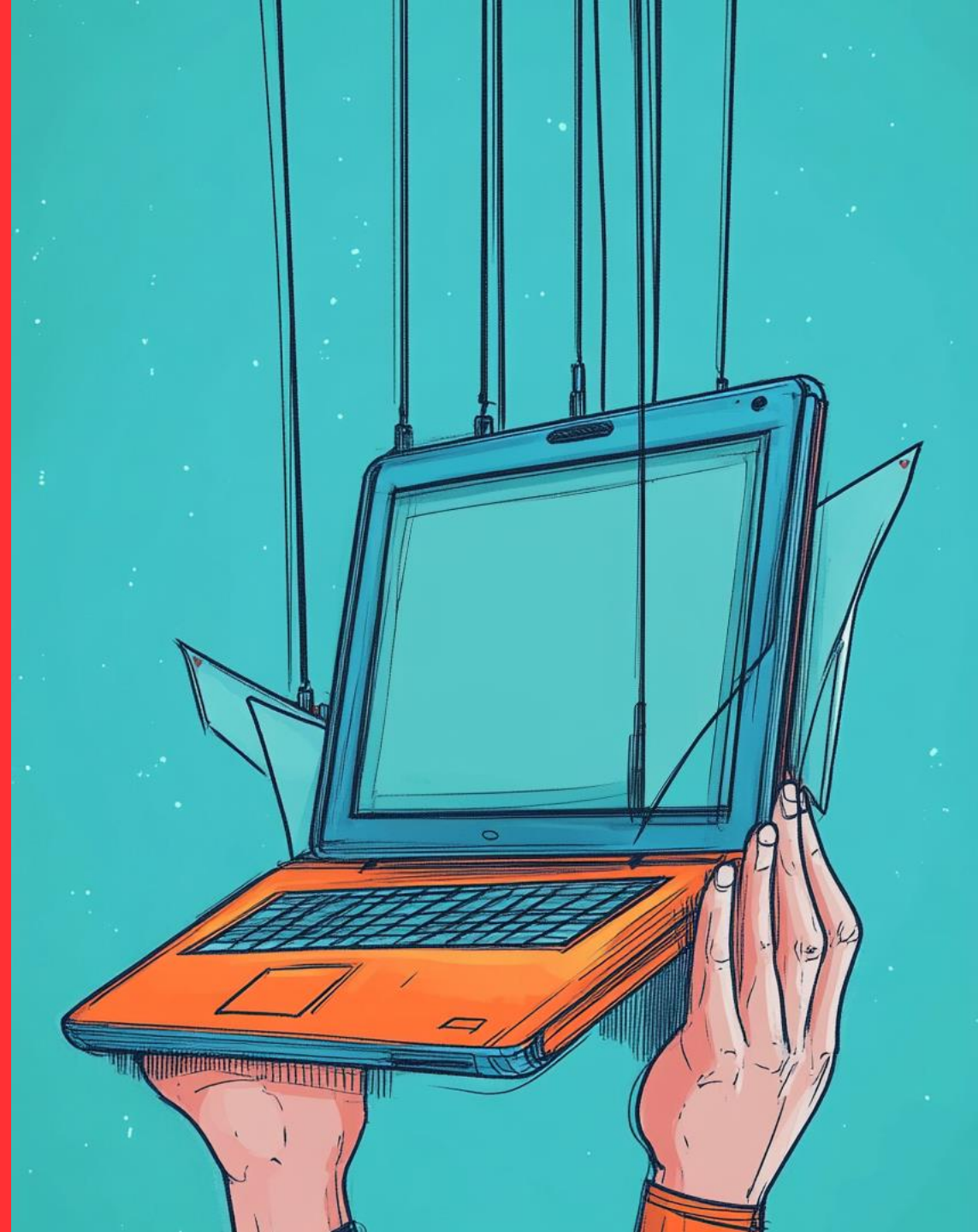
Sample Page

- Definitions are provided in Khmer and English
- We include both formal and casual ways to say each term in Khmer

Potential Impact

- Empower women to recognize and discuss TFGBVH
- Create foundational language for policy dialogue

Together, We Can Create
a Safer Digital
Environment



Brainstorm: What Can We Do

■ Create awareness

- Let women and men know that this is unacceptable
- Let women know that they are not alone

■ Help women deal with what happens

- There are technology solutions - some women use available tools to limit their exposure
- There are initiatives to develop ways to report online harassment, share experiences, and access support

Gender-Based Violence



Thank You