



វេទិកាផ្សារអង្គការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល ឆ្លើយតបគ្នា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

ធ្វើការរួមគ្នាដើម្បីការពារសេចក្តីល្អ
Working Together for Positive Change



LEADING STORIES

Annual General Member Meeting and Network Reflection 2021



On 11-12 November 2021, The NGOF convenes the Annual General Member Meeting and Annual Network Reflection Meeting at the last quarter of the year. All the members of The NGOF are invited for the meeting to share their past one year experiences, challenges, and future action plans. The key objectives of the meeting, for this year, are:

- Updating on the results and challenges of the past one year of The NGOF Members;
- Prepare Annual Action Plans of each Program of The NGOF for 2022.

There was total of 131 participants (46 of them are females) attended day 1 (11 November 2021) and 52 participants (19 of them are females) attended on day 2 (12 November 2021). In short, the results of the Annual General Meeting include:

- The participants are aware of the results and challenges made in the past one year;
- Draft Action Plans, with new inputs from the members, of each Program of The NGOF of the year 2022 produced.



Opening Speech: Mr. Run Saray, Member of MC and Executive Director of LAC

Having paid respects to His Excellency Poch Sovanndy, a representative from the Ministry of Planning and the Monk, Mr. Saray welcomed the participants and notified the objectives of the meeting, which to share concerns and results of the past achievement and look for better solutions in the future. He underlined that the representative from the Ministry of Planning will summarize progress up to date of NSDP (2019- 2023) and the other main agenda that include:

- Presentation on a study on Mid-Term Review of the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2019-2023: NSDP in the context of a pandemic:

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Inclusive Participation and Strategic Priorities Response within the Context of Covid-19 Pandemic,

- Sharing the ASEAN Guidelines on Responsible Agricultural Investments, and
- Cambodia Recovery Framework, 2021 – 2023.



Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of The NGOF

Dr. Vannara noticed to the floor that the event is the most important day for members to meet and to share their progress, challenges, and future action plans. He paid his warm welcome and respects to all Respected Ladies and Gentlemen. He thanked all the participants for their kind efforts for the past year. He



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notified the participants that more than 85% of the planned work plans were achieved by the day of the meeting. He provided a comprehensive report on The NGOF implementation for the last year. Among others, Dr. Vannara emphasized 58 main outputs and activities, and the most important ones.

The presentation sessions included three key presentations from government agencies, the Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Economy and Finance, and one private partner. They provided their inputs to the participants for references, specifically for the group discussions and drafting action plans for the year to come. The meeting was also a good chance for the selection of the new Management Committee (MC). The selection processes were made through the provided link for the participants to vote. The results of voting showed the selected new MCs are

Mr. Hong Reaksmeay (Country Director of ActionAids Cambodia), Mrs. Pry Phally Phuong (Executive Director of Building Community Voice, BCV), and Mrs. Mak Monika (Executive Director of Cambodian Disabled People's Organization).

With the sample form provided by Mr. Ouk Vannara, Deputy Executive Director of The NGOF, which includes indicated Outcome, Outputs, Key Actors, Timeframes, and estimated budget, the discussion groups provided their draft Action Plans of each program of The NGOF for the next coming year. The discussion groups that presented their draft action plans are:

- Network for Forestry (N4F),
- Network for Environment and Climate Change Alliance (NECA),
- Agriculture Working Group (AWG),
- WATNET/RCC (River Coalition in Cambodia), and
- LAHRIN.

Closing Speech of Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director, The NGOF

Dr. Tek Vannara gave his brief speech for the "Closing Session" as follows.

Having paid respects to all the participants, and specific respect to the Monk from Wildlife Sanctuary of Oddar Meanchey, he began his closing speech by thanking all the participants for their efforts of the previous two days. He, also, warmly welcomed the new three Management Committees, who were just elected during the earlier time of the meeting.

Dr. Vannara further encouraged the network members to be open and direct in communication with the NGOF staff. He suggested that all members to bring issues, if any, to Secretariat of all network members for further actions. He strongly recommended that all members should closely work together for a stronger One-Voice. He encouraged open and direct discussions with relevant persons. He, also, suggested that the participants should be learning the nature of all 23 NGOF staff to work with them and respond to any arising

issues at any times for immediate requests. Dr. Vannara stressed that in the next 3 years, The NGOF will build the capacity of the staff, especially at subnational levels, for CSO and government institutions to work together smoothly. The NGOF stays forward and encourages your solidarity with the program staff and for better commitment.

Also, Dr. Vannara, once again, thanked all the participant efforts of the last year. From the past experiences, we will work for better, he stated. He encouraged that The NGOF is the institution for all, so, direct provisions, comments, and issues from the participants to The NGOF are welcomed. The NGOF really like to have your feedback for better and improvement, he underlined. Definitely, The NGOF is, and will be with you for common issues, he further stressed.

He, finally, thanked and wished the participants to have successful duties, and have a safe trip back home and declared the meeting closed.





National Dialogue on the Review of the Mid-term Implementation of National Strategic Development Plan 2019-2023



The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) has invited civil society organizations (CSOs) to provide inputs to the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2019-2023, which was developed in late 2018, and in this mid-term review CSOs have been seeking to participate. CSOs have been actively involved in working with policy-makers to be responsible for the effort in a transparent and inclusive ways in the progress of the review and evaluation. CSOs have expressed the goal of participating in the progress of NSDP implementation.

The full process of this mid-term review, there were 76 CSOs both national and international ones have been working and involved in providing inputs through the dialogues organized by NGO and CCC. As the result, we have drafted the summary of inputs to NSDP 2019-2023 mid-term review (as in attachment) in order to take a part into the implementation of the next mid-term. It is the purpose of our dialogue, which getting involved from government organization, development partners, private sectors, academic institutions and national and international CSOs. This event is held on 26th November 2021 at Sofitel Phnom Penh Phokeethra and via virtual meeting. The total participants were

169, and 63 among all joint physically. This dialogue is conducted under the objectives:

- 1) to increase the awareness of the participants (Strategic Development Working Group, CSOs and Youth) in monitoring the implementation of NSDP 2019-2023
- 2) to provide opportunities for the participants to discuss with relevant ministries in reviewing on partnership and increasing cooperation mechanism in its implementation and monitoring.



Welcome Speech by Dr. Tek Vannara , Executive Director of NGO Form on Cambodia

He greatly thanked all the participants, including representatives of ministries, institutions, CSOs, private sector and academic institution. He said that previously, the working group has

organized the forums to meet the needs of the communities based on three main pillars: social development, economic development and environmental protection.

The incorporation of strategies into commune development plans will make the effective development underground. Under collaboration between the Ministry of Planning and filed-relevant CSOS in providing indicators is an opportunity for relevant institutions to propose priority areas. To make this involvement powerful, CSOs have been jointly conducting a research based on their areas to identify action plans, challenges for achieving the goals and indicators used for setting out in NSDP.

Relevant organizations can identify priority areas for making an improvement in the next two years and a half of implementation of the NSDP mid-term to respond to the actual situation. He strongly asked all representatives to provide feedbacks for today's dialogue as an additional inputs for consideration for the next mid-term of NSDP.

Key Message from Mrs. Sin Putheary, Executive Director of the Cooperation Commission for Cambodia

In previous time, event thought in the period of Covid-19 pandemic, working group has collaborated and held in-depth discussions at both sub-national and national levels to make NSDP more comprehensive.

She has noticed that the three main pillars for proposing ideas/aspects into priority areas, including economy, society and environment. She has provided key messages and suggested to build a enable environment for CSOs. By the way, online learning she also found some interruption



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for the children from the class by Covid-19 since Cambodia still lack of learning tool support, especially in rural areas.

She also called for social protection for workers who are risked by social development. She proposed to put pressure on hard-skills training provision, especially local tourism service providers and introduce to new models to join in economic recovery. The discussion today will go in detailed all the activities or priority areas, which should be suggested or recommended into NSDP, so that everyone here were encouraged to raise up any idea/aspect related to our dialogue's objective today.



Giving a Speech Mr. Khoum Theara, UNDP Cambodia representative

He has mentioned that the main goal of this mid-term meeting is to focus on 1) linking with ministries, institutions and CSOs, 2) setting expenditure budget based on macro-economic for 2019-2023 and (3) estimating financial resources and mobilizing additional funds to achieve the goals set out in the action plan.

To review the progress of the ministries and institutions, it is necessary to review the results of the activity implementation. After getting inputs, representative institution will submit out to the Office of the Council of Ministers for reviewing at the beginning of 2022 in order to make NSDP become comprehensive.

Presentation on the result of the review on NSDP mid-term implementation by Mr. Sok Somit, team leader of independent advisor

He has shown the scoping review, methodology, key challenges and proposed recommendation detailed as the following:

- i) The focus of scoping review
 - 1) The existing framework of national plan for Cambodia
 - Sectoral National Development Plan
 - Sustainable Development Goal 2016-2030
 - Vision of Cambodia 2050
 - Scenarios for NSDP monitoring 2019-2023
 - The 2019 NSDP report
 - 2) Discussion of CSOs on Updated Progress of NSDP Mid-term Review 2019-2023
 - 3) Conduction consultation workshops which got inputs from 76 CSOs

The Statement of Outcomes of the Dialogue and the Next Plan on Monitoring the Implementation of NSDP by the Ministry of Planning and CSOs/Communities

The dialogue has produced some remarkable results, such as discussing on the digital labor market and additional strengthening domestic and foreign market and making taxes from private sector to contribute to the development of NSDP 2019-2023. Consideration on environmental protection through management of water resources in Cambodia, which is an activity to help in restoring irrigation system to support agricultural sector and able to export its production within the budget support from the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) through developing strategies and policies that involve all relevant sectors and target groups. MEF has established a financial system to facilitate the provision of official information, tracking data of registrations of small and medium sized business and administrative coordination mechanisms to the citizens. Allocation of village and commune development budgets for infrastructure development and socially vulnerable groups (indigenous peoples, women, the disabled and the elder) in order to response to the goal of NSDP 2019-2023.

Strengthening the public services at the local level by disseminating new guidelines and procedures and any update to the citizens in a transparent and confident manner. The national digital policy is planned by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications towards the industrial revolution 4.0 to increase the accessibility to the public, private, civil society and community sectors such as 1) the provision and access to public services (save time and money), 2) participation in economic diversification for garment and construction workers who are vulnerable to socio-economic development; and 3) training provision and human resources capacity building in the digital sector, especially youth who are start-up-er.



Closing Remark by Mr. Kan Kal, Country Director of Diakonai Organization

Mr. Kan Kal, Country Director of Daiconia, would like to thank the representatives of relevant institutions who participated in clarification and information provision as inputs used to improve the plan in the next NSDP mid-term. He also noted that representatives of relevant institutions agreed on the progress of the existing mid-term, which reflected to the joint-activities between the government and CSOs through jointly propose the next step and suggestions for consideration to ensure potential gaps will be fulfilled in the next mid-term. Finally, he hoped that annual dialogue on the progress of the NSDP implementation will be held on.



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HIGHLIGHT STORIES

The 10th Farmer Forum on Promoting Market and Processing of Agricultural Products of Medium and Smallholder Farmers



Each year Members of The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) organize Farmer Forum in order to discuss on progress, challenge, and ways forward. This year is the 10th Farmer Forum. The objectives of the Farmer Forum are:

1. Promoting and encouragement of processing of agricultural products of medium and smallholder farmers in order to prevent product quality from damages (promoting handling of agricultural products at post-harvest time);
2. Linkages of private sector, government agencies, and relevant stakeholders in promoting markets and processing of agricultural products of medium and smallholder farmers in order to prevent product quality from damages;
3. Reactivate implementations of relevant policies to provide opportunities to medium and smallholder farmers in supplying their agricultural and processed products on markets.

On 23 November 2021, there were seven people in the chairmanship of the forum with the opening speech provided by H.E. Son Senghourt, under Secretary of State of the Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI); and

closing speech provided by Oknha Song Saroan, Head of Cambodia Rice Federation and Executive Director of Amru Rice Company. There were 175 (69 females) participants attended the forum, both in-person and online.



Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of NGOF

Having paid respects to the chairpersons, the Monk, and specific respect to H.E. Son Senghourt, Oknha Mong Rithy, representative from the Ministry of Commerce, representative from National Agricultural Institute of Prek Leap, and all the participants, Dr. Vannara expressed his pride of being as the key organizer of the forum. He indicated that there were 34 NGOs supported the forum; and thanked all of the supports.

Dr. Vannara stated that he was proud of seeing 175 (69 females) participants attended the forum either in person or online. He informed that the forum have concrete three (03) objectives, as shown on the point number 1 above. He, also, thanked all organizer committees, who had organized the three subnational forums prior to the national forum today. He noticed to the participants that inputs from the three subnational forums brought to the national forum for further discussion and recommendations.

Dr. Vannara emphasized that agriculture should be equipped with modernized technology including the digital revolution 4.0. He encouraged farmers to increase their agricultural products for better family and national economy; and could be further processing them for export.

Before ending his key note, Dr. Vannara believed that relevant stakeholders will together provide inputs for the successes of medium and smallholder farmers. He, also, expected that Oknha Song Saroan, Head of Cambodia Rice Federation and Executive Director of Amru Rice Company would provide more on best practices during his closing speech later of the day. He thanked all the participants, Monk, and the delegates from key ministries for their active participation in the forum; and wished them all with success in all tasks.

Ms. Yan Srey Yat, Representative of Outstanding Women Farmer

Ms. Srey Yat was emotionally enthusiastic for he playing role on behalf of the Outstanding Women Farmers invited to the 10th forum of medium and smallholder farmers. She paid respects to all the chairpersons, the Monk and participants.

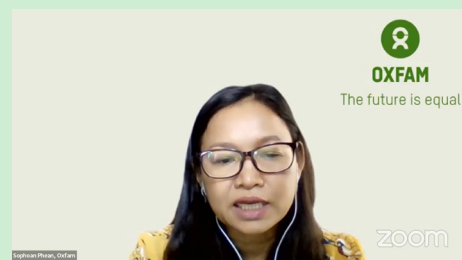


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She underlined that all the participants representing different ministries and agencies were to together discuss for better processing products of medium and smallholder farmers in Cambodia.

Ms. Srey Yat applauded Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) on the outcomes made for the last years like technical supports and financial support such as creation of Agriculture and Rural Development Bank (ARDB). However, there are some remaining issues that she requested to be solved.



Mrs. Phean Sophorn, Executive Director of Oxfam Cambodia

On behalf of Oxfam Cambodia, provided her key notes as main points detailed as following:

- The Farmer Forum on medium and smallholder farmers has been held since 2000 in order to together help farmers solve agricultural challenges and promoting their processing products,
- She believed that the forum could create opportunities for stakeholders to discuss problems and share experiences,
- Oxfam Cambodia has been actively involved, technically and financially, since 2016,

- Oxfam Cambodia has been closely working with private sector and RGC on enhancement of woman participation in agriculture. However, men are needed to involve in the program for success of engagement. At the very crucial same level, RGC is needed to improve policy implementation,
- In the context of Covid 19 era, she has seen that agriculture sector has been high potential for family and national economy. Therefore, policy supports from the RGC is the must,
- Your participation today is to provide inputs on improvement of agricultural products of medium and smallholder farmers for future implementation. Another word, we all together for our economy.



Opening Speech by H.E. Son Senghourt, Under Secretariat of State, Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation

H.E. Senghourt underlined that in the context of 4.0 digital revolution all of us shall build capacity of human resources including medium and smallholder farmers and relevant people. He claimed that Cambodian economy increased 2% in 2021 and maybe up to 4% or higher in 2022. With obeying to guidelines of the Ministry of Health, he urged farmers to continue to develop agricultural products for better own economy and the national economy. His Excellency proudly announced that with the efforts of the RGC, about 90%

of 16 million Cambodians have been vaccinated. He stressed that the MISTI has the roles of helping medium and smallholder farmers in processing their agricultural products. He encouraged all the participants to search for helps on the website of the MISTI; and the website is providing commercial advertisement for free of charge. Therefore, all medium and smallholder farmers are welcome to post their products on the website. He agreed with the previous speakers mentioning that agricultural sector has been good potential during the pandemic disease era. In addition, Cambodian agriculture sector has been improved from year to year. However, processing products have been low quality such as cassava and cashew nut, each of these products has been processed only about 14% each year. Cashew nut produced about 208 metric tons annually, while cassava produced up to 11 million tons each year, he stated.

H.E. announced that processed agricultural products have higher price than unprocessed ones. He gave examples of higher prices of processed products of Thailand and Vietnam compared to the Cambodian ones. He further encouraged that in order to be able to process the agricultural products, relevant stakeholders should be trained; and all of them should be actively participated. For instance, when the status of Covid-19 will be better safe, importing countries would demand the processed products, so, the relevant Cambodian stakeholders in processing of agricultural products should be ready by then, he underlined. Your processed products should also be safe and high quality for users like five-star



hotels and super markets, he emphasized. H.E mentioned that under vision of Samdech Hun Sen, Cambodia would completely lift the country from Covid-19 restriction soon in order to welcome tourist and other economic activities. He stressed, again, on behalf of Excellency Cham Prasidh, he was proud of being invited to the forum; he wished all the successes to participants and the 10th forum to run smoothly; and declared the forum opened from now on.

WRAP UP RESULTS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CLOSING SPEECH



Ms. Nara Nou Aliny, Executive Director of Sre Khmer NGO, and Representative of Agricultural Group of Civil Society Organization

Mr. Aliny respected all the chairpersons and participants before reading her summary results of the firm (Annex 6). Her key 4 recommendation points are:

- Honesty of all stakeholders in implementation of AC, agricultural product and purchasing;
- Keep promoting agricultural products;
- Keep working and networking with relevant stakeholders;
- Continue to build capacity, knowledge, and productions.



Closing Speech by: Oknha Song Saroan, Head of Cambodia Rice Federation and Executive Director of Amru Rice Company

After paying respects and acknowledge of key representatives, Mr. Oknha Saroan, admired all efforts of the participants for the last day of active working. He thanked to the previous speakers, specifically Ms. Aliny, who had just read the summary of the results of the forum of the 10th Medium and Smallholder Farmer Forum. He highly valued the forum that was organized to provide opportunity to relevant stakeholders to discuss challenges, lessons learned and sharing ideas during the pandemic disease of Covid-19. First of all, he suggested that Cambodia should have “National Farmer Day” in order to promote medium and smallholder farmers. He, also, congratulated all the 150 AC presented in the forum.

He agreed with the summary reported results that RGC have made lots of progresses in agricultural sector and processing modality. He emphasized that the only we can success when we work together among all relevant key stakeholders. Mr. Oknha, then, shared his experiences and suggestions as following:

- Encouragement to continue to hold the Farmer Forum;
- Relevant stakeholders should continue to work together even though facing

some problems;

- Factories for processing agricultural products of medium and smallholder farmers should be provided;
- Investment in processing of agricultural products should be increased;
- Capitals for medium and smallholder farmers should be increased;
- Local markets for medium and smallholder farmers should be established in local sites;
- Continue to provide up to date technology to medium and smallholder farmers;
- Strengthening power of medium and smallholder farmers.

In his closing speech, Mr. Oknha Saroan suggested that the “National Farmer Day” should be created in order to promote awareness-raising on medium and smallholder farmers. He further contributed his personal experiences on business. If middlemen and companies have more money than AC, why the AC themselves do not becoming their business into larger scale like the middlemen and companies, he asked? In other words, farmers should join together to become entrepreneurs for better business. If so, the farmers should be actively learning and updating, he suggested. He also stated that gain and loss is always happened in business. For instance, he said, tens of thousands of agricultural commodities have remained in his company stores for more than a year now because of the Covid-19; all shipment stopped. However, he claimed that soon his agricultural commodities would be in circulation because the RGC will open the country soon.



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The Consultative Workshop on Community and Network for Forest Governance (N4F) Planning Integration

On December 28, 2021, the NGO Forum on Cambodia organized a Consultative Workshop on Community and Network for Forest Governance (N4F) Planning Integration which held at the Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh. There were 74 participants 14 females who from the civil society organizations which are NGOF, ICSO, AAC, BCV, FACT, CPN, OXFAM, NTFP and communities in protecting area, community fisheries, Prey Lang Community Network, Community Forestry, Eco-tourism communities and guest speakers. The purpose of this workshop are:

- Provide opportunities for community forestry (CF), indigenous communities (CLT), Protected Areas (PA), Ecotourism communities, and fisheries communities to meet, discuss, and integrate key master plans with the secretariat of CSOs for natural resource governance and sustainable use.
- Provide opportunities for communities to reflect on the role and governance of each community in the context of natural resource governance in accordance with the existing laws and regulations of the Kingdom of Cambodia.
- Encourage communities that have done well on natural resource governance to disseminate good practices to other communities in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Mr. OUK Vannara, Deputy Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF)

Our meeting today found that many of the challenges raised were in line with the NGOF, the Secretariat for Coordinating Land and Forestry Governance. Today, of course, we are working together to promote the implementation of past activities, such as the registration of indigenous collective lands, and we will continue this work in collaboration with the relevant ministries for next year. The challenges continue to be addressed through the LAHRIN network, and work related to protected areas is strengthening communities as mentioned by the panel, as well as community forestry and the team will take what's discussed as a priority activity for 2022. Participants are encouraged to continue to gather information on their goals, compiling a report on what the challenges are as important evidence for discussion with stakeholders and the team will determine the priority activities; the team will discuss and respond to you as much as possible. The day meeting was a resounding success with the active participation of the participants.





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14th National Conference on Land and Natural Resources Governance



On 17 November 2021, The NGO Forum on Cambodia collaborated by 53 national and international organizations to host 14th National Conference on Land and Natural Resources Governance.

The overall purpose of the National Conference is to work with the Royal Government of Cambodia to improve laws and policies related to land, housing and natural resources, and to strengthen the implementation of policies, laws and regulations aimed for promoting land governance and Natural resources, with a focus on addressing the economic, social and environmental impacts as well as the sustainable livelihoods of local communities.

Summary of overall results

The overall objectives of the 14th National Conference on Land and Natural Resources Governance are to promote, improve and reflect on the implementation of policies, laws and regulations related to land, housing and natural resources, as well as to promote Governance of land and natural resources for local communities for sustainable livelihoods. The conference was attended by a total of 350 participants

(90 women) who are the representing of National Assembly, the Senate. Relevant ministries and departments, private companies, researchers and representatives of land communities, indigenous communities, forest communities, protected areas, fishing communities and NGO representatives from 17 capitals and provinces of Cambodia.



Dr. TEK Vannara, Executive Director of NGOF emphasized on the mechanism with stakeholders to jointly develop an equitable and sustainable environment, land governance and natural resources. He focused on the five pillars of sustainable development: People, Planet, Partnership, Peace and Prosperity. The conference is a democratic form in which local communities are involved in economic and social development, get more inputs from

relevant stakeholder, provide opportunities for civil society to work and help avoid conflict in local communities.



In addition, **Mr. KAN Cal, Country Director of Diakonia**, was interested in creating opportunities for local communities and sub-national institutions to fully participate in the management of land and natural resources. The national economic development of the private investment sector requires a prior social and environmental assessment and monitoring. Moreover, the transparency between civil society and government to promote gender equality and policy strengthening, give more opportunities for CSOs to fulfill their role, as well as all stakeholders to work together to build social harmony in Cambodia.



H.E NGY Chanphal, Secretary of State, Minister of Interior, delivered the opening remarks at the conference, which was considered as a topic of concerning and encouraging discussion on land and natural resources which tell the truth and mutual understand. H.E emphasized the key word "Governance" is importance of



economic growth which are related to land and natural resources and the efficiency of public administration. The core of the key rectangular strategy is to improve and increase capacity of governance for governments to ensure the Vision of 2030. The government has set up a working group to study collective land registration. The government’s vision for economic growth in 2030 and 2050. As a follow-up, the conference discussed and with the intervention of representatives of relevant

institutions on three major topics which including: 1. Livelihood and security in the occupation of the community (women, the disabled and the youth) to contribute to land management. State and Sustainability of Natural Resources 2- Corporate Social Responsibility and Interbank Security, Environmental and Social Protection System and 3- Strategic Objectives, Private Sector Development Partners and Civil Society to Contribute to the Promotion of Land and Natural Resources in Cambodia.

Five community representatives raised challenges and suggestions on five different topics: Indigenous communities, forestry communities, protected areas, fishing communities and land disputes. The discussions on each topic focused on legal and regulatory norms, efforts and commitments, practical experiences and successful practices related to land and natural resources issues.

Validation Workshop on Report on Green Financing Policy Implementation in Cambodia



In the morning of 16th November 2021, at Hotel Le Royal Phnom Penh, The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) organized a Consultation-Validation Workshop on draft findings and recommendations on Green Financing Policies Implementation in Cambodia. The purpose of the event is to provide opportunity to key stakeholders from the government line ministries including Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), National Bank of Cambodia (NBC), Securities and Exchange Regulator of Cambodia (SERC), development partners such as World Bank (WB), USAID, private sectors like Association of Banks in Cambodia (ABC), Agricultural and Rural Development Banks of Cambodia (ARDB), independent researchers, FFC member organizations to validate and give additional inputs to the draft findings and recommendations on green financing policies compliance in Cambodia. There were 35 participants (8 females) joined physically and virtually.

Objective of Study

- To identify green financing regulations and requirements that SERC (i) regulates (with particular emphasis on ESG, environmental and climate change, with alignment to UN principles of HR and business criteria, and Fair Finance Guide Methodology including but not limited to other ESG principles like Equator principles and Cambodia Sustainable Banking Principles where possible), (ii) the progress and challenges in enforcing these regulatory processes, and (iii) the trends of enforcing green financing regulations by SERC and for SERC’s market participants’ policies.
- To develop a green financing policy brief, outlining alternative options toward implementing better green financing policies in Cambodia.

- To present green financing policy recommendations, to facilitate FFC to engage a wide range of stakeholders for the development and enforcement of ESG, Fair Finance Guide, and UN principles of HR and business criteria

Results of the Study

- Six groups contribute to sustainable or green financing: (i)-Banks, (ii)-Corporations, (iii)-Institutional Investors, (iv)-Central Banks, (v)-International Financial Institutions, and (vi)-Green Funds
- The green financing is to increase level of financial flows (from banking, micro-credit, insurance and investment) from the public, private and not-for-profit sectors to sustainable development priorities.
- The main areas for the current work on green financing are: (i)-Supporting public sector on creating enabling environment, (ii)-Promoting public-private partnerships on financing mechanisms such as green bonds, and (iii)-Capacity building of community enterprises on micro-credit.



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UPCOMING EVENTS/HOLIDAYS 2022

06 January

Virtual Dissemination Workshop “Assessing Low Water Flow’s Impact on the Mekong Riverine and Tonle Sap Lake Communities”

25 January

1st Steering Committee of LAHRiN

26 January

Partners Meeting of Budget Working Group (BWG) and Fair for All (F4A)

28 January

CSOs Leaders Gathering for joint Collaborative Works

11 February

Virtual meeting on Report on Community Participation in Decision-Making Process for Development and Investment Projects

22 February

1st quarterly member meeting

24 February

Launching and Dialogue on Findings in Research on Green Financing Policies Implementation in Cambodia



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