



វេទិកាផ្សារអង្គការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល ស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

ធ្វើការរួមគ្នាដើម្បីការវិវឌ្ឍសេចក្តីផ្តុំ
Working Together for Positive Change



LEADING STORIES

Conference on Land and Natural Resource in Kep Province



November 2, 2022 at Rock Royal Hotel, Kep City, the NGO Forum on Cambodia together with ActionAid Cambodia cooperated with other 10 Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) organized a Conference Land and Natural Resource. The conference was presided over by H.E. Mom Saroeun, under-secretary of state and as the representative of Samdach Sor Kheng, Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Ministry of Interior. H.E Srun Limsong, Vice Chief of Fishery Administration, H.E. Ngin Gginda, Kep's Deputy Governor, H.E. Nhan Tharith, Kampot's Deputy Governor, H.E. Sok Thy, Koh Kong's Deputy Governor, Ms. Mak Sitha, Country Director of ActionAid and Dr. Tek Vannara, an Executive Director of the NGO Forum Cambodia accompanied. There were 96 attendees (14 women) from the representative of the Fishery Communities within Coastal area, NGOs, and Private Sectors. The forum discussed two main topics: 1)

Recognition and security of land and natural resource tenure, and 2) Environmental and socially responsible governance.

The objective of this meeting aims to work with the Royal Government of Cambodia by improving laws and policies related issues of land and natural resources. Moreover, to strengthen the implementation of policies, laws and regulations aimed at promoting land and natural resource governance, with a focus on addressing Social impact and protection of natural resources and the environment, as well as the sustainable livelihoods of local communities.

As a result of this conference, two panel discussions were held which including: The first panel discussion: Recognition and security of land and natural resource tenure, and the second panel: Governance with environment and society responsibility.

In this issue: Leading Stories

- 1) Conference on Land and Natural 1
- 2) The 11th National Farmer Forum 2

Highlight Stories

- 3) Sharing and Dialogue on Findings....3
- 4) Sharing and Dialogue on Findings .. 4
- 5) The 18th Donors and Partners Meeting . 5
- 6) The Annual Reflection and Learning 6
- 7) The Annual Network Reflection 7
- 8) Annual Reflection and Learning 8
- 9) Annual Program Reflection 8

Upcoming Events/Holidays9





វេទិកាផ្សារអង្គការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល ស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

The 11th National Farmer Forum: Working In Partnerships to Enhance an Adaptation Capacity to Climate Change of Smallholder Farmers to Respond to Agricultural Market Demands



CSOs working group on Agriculture and water of the NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) organize the National Farmer Forum in order to discuss on progress, challenge, and ways forward. The present meeting of this year is the 11th National Farmer Forum (NFF). The eleventh NFF was held on 01 November 2022 in Tonle Bassac II Restaurant, Phnom Penh and proceeded as shown on the Agenda. There were 176 (62 females) participants from 16 provinces and towns attended the NFF. Three objectives of the NFF are:

1. Review and reflect progress made in accordance to the suggestions and recommendations raised during the 10th NFF;
2. Promote responsible Agro-business to support woman economy and Climate Change Resilience in Cambodia.
3. Provide opportunity for relevant stakeholders to discuss, set priority target goals, and work together for partnering efforts to assist smallholder farmers in Climate Change Adaptation for overcoming their current facing agricultural challenges.

The proposed agenda, which is very tight, was successfully proceeded with the chairpersons including:

- Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO Forum
- Mrs. Phean Sophorn, Director of Oxfam Cambodia
- Dr. Nhem Saret, Director of HEIFER International in Cambodia
- Mrs. Yan Srey Yat, Representative of the Outstanding Women

The key points of suggestions and recommendations from the 11th NFF are:

1. In order to continue supports to small and medium farmers and agriculture communities, MAFF should continue to allocate financial package to provincial department of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries (PDAFF).

2. Promote qualified and competitive value investment in domestic fertilizer, pesticide, agriculture tools.
3. Repair and rehabilitate irrigation and watering systems, and establish large reservoirs for agriculture and household uses year round.
4. Banks and microfinances should continue to charge as low as acceptable interest rate for loans that will be used for agriculture development, as well as administratively facilitate, easy procedure, and less or no deposit. The banks should, also, provide agriculture consultation experts to advise risk mitigations. At the same values, the banks should provide variety of payback options and lift the debt whenever facing with Mother Nature disasters.
5. Ministries should promote and strengthen Contract Farming wider and issue certificate of supporting farmer products in order to help selling to requiring companies. At the same time, relevant partner agencies should



វេទិកាផ្សារអង្គការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល ស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia



Remarks, he concluded that much more progresses and improvement made since the 10th National Farmer Forum. He notified that improvements were highly responsible on agriculture and gender mainstreaming in the agribusiness to cope with the Climate Change (CC). The summary also stated that some more suggestions and recommendations raised from the workshop day of the 11th National Farmer Forum, he claimed.

He believed that the recommendations are aligned with the Royal Government of Cambodia mandates and together to improve coordination in agribusiness development. His Excellency further noted that the natural disasters have been increasingly happened that cause negative impacts on agriculture products, loss of money, and livelihoods of farmers. So, on his behalf, he supported the recommendations of the workshop day, and together to get these recommendations solved, he announced. He believed that all partners should work together on knowledge on CC, support agriculture technics to increase products, support framework and regulations that support competitive agribusiness. His Excellency stated that information and inputs from the workshop will contribute to the Royal Government of Cambodia policies and improvement of the impractical policies. He thanked the NGOF and the workshop organizing partners, and farmers for active participation and discussions in the context of CC in agribusiness. In the end, on his behalf, he acknowledged, once again, for the hard works of the participants in the 11th National Farmer Forum; and wished all the participants with the four Buddhism Wishes and declared the event closed.

effectively strengthen agriculture mechanism of Contract Farming between the farmers and the rice investment companies.

technology, how to select CC adaptive agriculture, and provide capital to small agriculture.

6. Continue to improve and build rural CC adaptive road infrastructure in order to help farmers connected to markets and reduce cost of agriculture transportation.
7. Both, farmer and private companies should be honest to Contract Farming implementation.
8. Individual farmers should together be grouped as agriculture communities, self-strengthening, and improve implementation of activity, good governance in order to sustain agriculture communities, especially during post NGO support time.
9. Communities should be grouped as networks in order to create agricultural product markets.
10. Hold policy forum that provide opportunities to farmers to meet and discuss with relevant agencies for sharing information, challenges, and workable resolutions.
11. Support woman economic empowerment in rice chains of custody, especially in the project implementations.
12. Support trainings on new and emerging

13. Should use renewable energy in production chains in order to reduce investment capital for agriculture productions.

The NFF was closed by His Excellency Sarn Sarana Third Committee of the National Assembly, responsible for Assembly Representative for Tbaung Khmum province.

Having paid respects to the chairmen, ladies and gentlemen, and the participants, His Excellency Sarana noted to the workshop key important points as following.

I am honored to participate the closing sessions today on the subject of “the 11th National Farmer Forum: Working in Partnerships to enhance an adaptation capacity to Climate Change of smallholder farmers to respond to agricultural market demands”, which organized by NGOF and its partners, he said. He highly evaluated all the representatives of the ministries and the participants from the 16 provinces and cities to actively participate in this workshop.

With the summary report just delivered before His Excellency’s time of Closing



វេទិកាសម្រាប់អង្គការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល ស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

HIGHLIGHT STORIES

Sharing and Dialogue on Findings In Research on Environmental, Social, and Governance Compliance of Banking and Financial Sector in Cambodia



The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF), as a member of FFC, worked with its members to organize a sharing and dialogue workshop to share and discuss on the follow up study findings on ESG compliance in banking and financial sectors in Cambodia, which was held on the 1st December 2022 from 08:00 to 12:00 at Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To share and discuss with relevant stakeholders including line ministries, development partners, private sectors, academia, and communities about ESG compliance in banking and financial sectors in Cambodia.
- To develop a joint action plan to move forward promoting ESG compliance in banking and financial sectors in Cambodia.

With the expectations of 1) The finalization of the report on ESG compliance in banking and financial sectors in Cambodia; and 2) Development of a joint action plan to move forward promoting ESG in banking and financial sectors in Cambodia, the workshop was held in Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh, and proceeded following the predetermined agenda. With all in-person

attendees of 25 participants (8 females) actively participating. It is noted that two important people did not register, Dr. Tek Vannara (Mr.) and Mr. Mar Sophal, both are from NGOF, because they were too busy with the meeting welcome works.

The workshop was chaired by:



- Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGOF
- Ms. Sochenda Chan, ABC Representatives
- Ministry of Mine and Energy Representative
- Mr. Phonyut Sakara, FFC Coordinator, Oxfam Cambodia

The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Mar Sophal, the NGOF. He welcomed the participants and briefly informed on the objectives of the workshop. There

are two objectives as mentioned on the objectives points earlier. He then, invited the participants to introduce themselves. They were mostly from Banks, relevant NGOs, and government representatives. Mr. Sophal facilitated the workshop in accordance with the predetermined agenda.

Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGOF, paid his respects to all the participants, Ladies and Gentlemen, and specific acknowledgment to Oxfam and the Association of Banks in Cambodia for their support. He mentioned that the day was an opportunity for the participants to discuss ESG in order to make sure that development should be sustainable in Cambodia. ESIA has been a good mechanism for all development programs and projects. He underlined that mega project has applied ESIA. E.g. ABD requires the borrower to comply with ESIA prior to getting the project started. However, ESIA study results have normally been concluded differently in accordance with each institution.

CSO (led by Oxfam) and NGOF work with the private sector and MEF in practicing the ESG in order to deliver inclusive development. Today the meeting has Independent Consultant to present his findings to initiate discussions to improve banking and sustainable developments. We contributed to M&E to develop projects, especially those supported by ADB, he claimed. We ensured that all stakeholders are equitable for benefits from the developed projects. Participation in ESG implementation is crucial for



វេទិកាផ្លូវការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល ស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

all stakeholders in development. Dr. Vannara emphasized that different roles, challenges, risks, and all relevant issues should be informed among the relevant stakeholders. In this regard, all stakeholders are safe and equitably share benefits from the developments, he stated. E.g. the Banks would not have any concerns about their loans with the borrowers if they comply with good practices. The CSO role is to ensure voluntary and compulsory policies are applied. He informed me that the study, once already, will be shared, and after the workshop, the report will be on the websites of NGOF and Oxfam from today.



Sharing and Dialogue on Research Findings on Environmental, Social and Governance Practices of Gold Mining Industry In Cambodia



The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF), as a member of Fair Finance Coalition, had worked with its members to organize a sharing dialogue and workshop to share and discuss about Environmental, Social, and Governance Practices of Gold Mining Industry in Cambodia. The workshop was held during half-day on the 2nd December 2022 in Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh.

The objectives of the workshop are:

- To share and discuss with relevant stakeholders including line ministries, development partners, private sectors,

academia, and communities about the study findings.

- To develop a joint action plan to move forward promoting ESG in Gold Mining Industry in Cambodia.

With all in-person attendees of 14 participants (1 female) actively participating (Annex 2), and many more participants from national and sub-national levels joined the meeting online. Those online participants were from Monduliri, Ratanakiri, and Preah Vihear provinces,

where the study was held.

The workshop was chaired by:

- Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGOF
- Mr. Phonyut Sakara, FFC Coordinator, Oxfam Cambodia

The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Mar Sophal, the NGOF. At the beginning of the event, he welcomed the participants, both in-person and online, and briefly informed on the objectives of the workshop. There are two objectives as mentioned on the Agenda, he said. Mr. Sophal further mentioned that there were representatives from Ministry of Environment, Council for Development of Cambodia, MME, and Civil Society Organizations (CSO).

Key study findings were presented by Dr. Sam Chanthy, the Freelance Consultant, for about an hour. After having long summary of findings and reasons behind them, he provided concrete recommendations as



វេទិកាផ្នែកអង្គការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល ស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

following:

- In addition to the existing regulations, MoE and MME should take ESG into consideration providing ESG Standard Guidelines available;
- Relevant NGOs should collaborate with MoE and MME in establishment of ESG Standard Guidelines in Cambodia;
- Relevant information of mining should be shared publicly and accessible to all relevant stakeholders;
- Strengthening issuing permits for investment and EIA;
- Data base should be established for mining investment for together to contribute to ESG application;
- Best practices of ESG in mining should be promoted;
- MME has hotline and guidelines on conflict resolutions between companies and communities. In addition, the study recommended that Mechanism of the Conflict resolution should be provided;
- MME should strengthen the implementation of permit requirements, encourage good companies, and get penalties on bad companies;
- Awareness raising among sub-national levels of the utilization of the



- investment and Mining funds locally;
- MME should strictly apply (law on money laundering, 2007) in all companies regardless local, regional or international companies.

At the end of the active and fruitful workshop, Dr. Tek Vannara, the NGOF, underlined that the GM has been long from the past, e.g. Rovieng district, Preah Vihear province; mining sculpture posted on the Wall of Angkor, Pailin, Borkeo and Memang (Mondulkiri province) sites are among the few of historical GM sites. The GM has been contributed to the national



development in Cambodia, he stressed. Dr. Vannara stressed that based on the findings, recommendations, and comments from the workshop, we will:

- Continue to discuss on research, capacity building, and policy development working with ministries;
- On behalf of the FFC team, he thanked all the participants, in-person and online, for their hard working of the active morning;

He announced that the meeting results will be shared at latter stage, and he wished all the participants for healthy and success; and declared the meeting closed.

The 18th Donors and Partners Meeting

On 19th December 2022, the NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) organized the 18th Donors and Partners Meeting at NGOF's office. This meeting was chair by Ms. They Bone, member of the NGOF Management Committee/Governing Board and Country Director of Finn Church Aid.

The objective of this meeting:

1. Presented key outcomes and impact achieved from the action plan 2022 and challenges and lesson learnt

2. Presented on budget expenditure for 2022 and budget plan for 2023 and challenges in financial management.

3. Discussed on lesson learnt and key challenges of the NGOF in the year and contributes or feedback of partner to address those key challenges, NGOF's Direction and Action Plan 2023





វេទិកាសម្រាប់ការចូលរួមរបស់ស្ថាប័នសង្គមស៊ីវិល
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

The Annual General Meeting



The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held annually. For 2022, the AGM fell on the 21st November 2022. The meeting was held for half-day from 8:30 to 16:00 with a tough schedule as shown in the Agenda. The meeting was held in DK Meeting Centre, Phnom Penh, with 47 (13 females) participants actively participating (Annex 2). Some other important participants participated from long-distance, by Zoom. Ms. Cheav Sivkheng, NGOF, was the meeting master ceremony. At the beginning of the day, she invited delegates to chair the event. They are:

- Mrs. Pry Phally Phuong, Head of Management Committee of the NGOF; and Executive Director of BCV
- Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director, NGOF
- Mr. Som Chetana, Finance Unit Manager, the NGOF
- Mr. Pheap Sophea, Manager of NATGO, the NGOF

To start the event, Ms. Sivkheng briefly provided objectives of the meeting. While all delegates and the participants were settled, Ms. Sivkheng, Master Ceremony, NGOF, facilitated the meeting in accordance with the proposed Agenda.

First of all, she invited all the participants to pay respect to the music of the National Anthem.

Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director, NGOF, summarized achievements made by the NGOF of the year 2022, and he broadly admired all collaboration among the stakeholders. He declared that the NGOF is for all. So, everyone is encouraged to actively participate in the NGOF mandates for future successes.

The three key speakers, from the NGOF, MOP, and consultant provided their comprehensive presentations followed by interestingly important questions and comments from the participants. After presentations made by the invited three speakers, there were lots of clarifications and active discussions among the participants.

Dr. Vannara briefly summarized (wrapped up):

- The Annual General Meeting was welcomed and opened speech by Mrs. Pry;
- Updates of the NGOF, by Dr. Tek Vannara, on the progresses of the last year,
- Mr. Som Chetana, the NGOF, informed the total of budget spent in the year



2022 by the NGOF activities;

- Election of new Member Committee: three people will start their roles from the 21 November 2022 till the next two years. The Reserved candidate will automatically take the roles if any elected candidate resigned
- Presentations of the MOP and the consultant;
- The NGOF and relevant ministries collaborated to work on CSGD implementation and will report to UN;
- In the afternoon, the meeting worked on the study on CC and Q&A. The study report will be on the NGOF website from the 21st November 2022. He encouraged the participants to look at it for future references. He underlined that the sustainability of the Tonle Sap would sustain many other sectors including tourism.

He declared the AGM closed with the wishes of healthy and success to the participants.



វេទិកាសម្រាប់អង្គការស៊ីវិលសង្គមកម្ពុជា ស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

The Annual Network Reflection 2022 Meeting



The Annual Network Reflection 2022 Meeting (ANR) was held on the 21st November 2022. The meeting was held for half-day from 13:30 to 17:00 with a tough schedule as shown in the Agenda. The meeting was held back-to-back with the Annual General Meeting, which was proceeded in the morning of the day. The meeting was held in DK Meeting Centre, Phnom Penh, with 38 participants (11 females) actively participating. Some other important participants participated from long-distance, by Zoom.

Ms. Cheav Sivkheng, NGOF, was the meeting master ceremony. At the beginning of the day, she invited delegates to chair the event. They are:

- Mrs. Pry Phally Phuong, Head of Management Committee of the NGOF; and Executive Director of BCV
- Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director, NGOF
- Mr. Som Chetana, Finance Unit Manager, the NGOF

To start the event, Ms. Sivkheng briefly provided objectives of the meeting. While all delegates and the participants were settled, Ms. Sivkheng, Master Ceremony, NGOF, facilitated the meeting

in accordance with the proposed AGM Agenda. First of all, she invited all the participants to pay respect to the music of the National Anthem.



Having taken the floor, Mr. Bunthoeurn paid respects to all the chairpersons and participants. He briefly gave background of the research and findings. Also, he informed the meeting about the donor of the research, Luxemburg Hanoi Office. Mr. Bunthoeurn informed the meeting that there were participants from in-person and online.

He also mentioned that there are lots of applicable findings from the study that the participants could take advantages of the study. Nevertheless, he invited Mr. Sometr for detailing of the study.

The key speaker, the consultant, provided the results of the study in Climate Change



Impacts on Tonle Sap tributaries and Livelihoods of the people of the areas. His presentation followed by interestingly important questions and comments from the participants. The study, then, was officially announced the acceptance and could be officially referenced, if any. It is posted on the NGOF website for the publics.

For closing session, while the meeting had gone over the day, time schedule, Dr. Tek Vannara provided short notes of his speech. He thanked all the speakers and questions making the event very active. He, then, declared the meeting closed with the wishes of healthy and success.



វេទិកាសម្រាប់ការចងចៃដន្យសង្គមស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

Annual Reflection and Learning Workshop NGO Coalition on Extractive Industry (EI) Governance

From 26 to 28 December 2022, The NGO Forum on Cambodia's representative participated in the Annual Reflection and Learning Workshop of the NGO Coalition on EI Governance in Kep province. The significant learning workshop was participated by 24 (10 females) from the NGO Coalition on EI Governance members including ANSA, DPA, OXFAM, CIPO/CIWA, NTFP, EISEI steering committee, and members. The workshop aimed to:

- Reflect on the achievement of the NGO coalition in 2022.
- Build the capacity of NGO coalition members on the leading practice of Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) standards in Cambodia and other countries.
- Build solidarity and synergy among NGO coalition members and develop/update high-level joint action plans for policy influencing and sharing responsibilities.



Annual Program Reflection in 2022

The staff of the NGO Forum on Cambodia organized the Annual Program Reflection in 2022 from 19-23-December 2022 at Phnom Penh, Cambodia and South of Vietnam. The objectives of this meeting are:

1. To finalize outcome harvesting 2022
2. To develop the AOP & AOB for 2023
3. To Finalize Coordination Plan for 2023
4. To Finalize 2023 NGOF's Staff Capacity Development Plan

5. Reflection on staff association and develop its operational plan for 2023
6. To Strengthen Capacity of NGOF's staffs on Influencing Strategy and policies refreshment
7. Elect new staff association for 2023
8. Opportunity for All NGOF staff learning from the fields (river, agriculture market, tree plantation, renewable energy and climate change.





វេទិកាសម្រាប់ការសហប្រតិបត្តិការរវាងរដ្ឋាភិបាល និងសង្គមស៊ីវិល
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

UPCOMING EVENTS/HOLIDAYS 2023

10 January

5th Forum on Partnership between the Government and the Civil Society Organizations

11-13 January

Training on 'Budget Analysis and Advocacy for CSOs Budget Working Group (BWG)'s members and professional journalists'

24 January

National Consultation Workshop on Engaging Civil Society Organizations in the Voluntary National Review (VNR) 2023 Process on the implementation of the Cambodian Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs) 2016 – 2030 under the theme "Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels"

25 January

Public Forum on "Macroeconomic Management and Budget Law 2023"



THANK YOU!

The NGO Forum on Cambodia would like to thank to our local and international donors that always support our good causes missions to support Cambodians in need.

Working Together for Positive Change



American Friends
Service Committee



Brot
für die Welt
Bread for the World -
Protestant
Development Service

CARITAS Schweiz
Suisse
Svizzera
Svizzera

CAFOD
Just one world



HEKS
EPER



Development
and Peace
CARITAS CANADA



Diakonia
People Change the World



DCA
actalliance



This project is funded by
the European Union

V4
MF

Voices for
Mekong Forests



RECOFTC



FINN CHURCH AID
actalliance



IUCN



SHARED RESOURCES
JOINT SOLUTIONS



NTFP-EP
non-timber
forest products -
exchange programme
CAMBODIA



INTERNATIONAL
LAND
COALITION

MISEREOR
IHR HILFSWERK



pact
building
local
promise.



MIGHTY EARTH



MRLG
MEKONG REGION
LAND GOVERNANCE



THAIPEOPLE'S AID



gef

SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



OXFAM

The NGO Forum on Social Media!

Like and follow us Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ngoforumoncambodia>

Follow us Twitter <https://twitter.com/thengoforum>

Subscribe, like and share us YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/c/TheNGOForumonCambodia1>

Visit our website <http://www.ngoforum.org.kh/>