

វេទិកាផ្សារអង្គការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល ស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

ធ្វើការរួមគ្នាដើម្បីការវិវឌ្ឍវិជ្ជមាន
Working Together for Positive Change



LEADING STORIES

NGO Forum Launches Cambodia’s First Citizens Climate Budget



The NGO Forum on Cambodia, released Cambodia’s Citizens Climate Budget for 2017 on March 4, 2020 which supported by UNDP/ Climate Finance Network (CFN). There were 70 participants (24 women) who representative of relevant ministries, National Assembly, Development Partners, Embassies, Academia, CSOs and Community. This launching workshop aimed to:

1. disseminate and inform key stakeholders including government ministries, DPs, NGOs, private sector, and vulnerable community on current spending of public budget for climate change response in Cambodia;
2. provide an opportunity for participants to share their action plan and dialogue to address climate change issues in Cambodia particularly to meet local people needs for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

This report presents user-friendly information on the national budget for climate change in key related ministries based on official data from Cambodia’s budget laws, the Climate Public Expenditure Review 2017, as well as other government sources and reports.

The report notes that nearly 1 million households in the kingdom suffered

from extreme weather from 2000-2017, including, floods that affected 743,301 households, storms that damaged some 180,000 households and drought that had an impact on 420,008 hectares of land.

The impact climate change is expected to have on Cambodia’s gross domestic product (GDP) is only expected to grow, knocking 0.4% off GDP by 2020 and causing GDP to be a 9.8% lower than planned by 2050, If greater efforts aren’t taken to respond to climate change now. Cambodia’s plans to become an upper-middle income country by 2030 could be jeopardized.



Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of NGO Forum on Cambodia, said that this is the first such report for Cambodia: “This report helped to gather inputs from all stakeholders, based on information provided by Government on the climate change response. This report will give insight for the government and parliament to develop a country resilient to climate change, and further address some key areas such as health, income, social security, people’s livelihoods” he said.

In 2017, the national budget and development partners allocated over \$225 million to address climate change

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concerns. 30% of Government expenditure was either fully or partially addressing climate change, while 70% of the total national budget spending generated no climate change benefits. The Government has been increasing its spending on climate change at a fast pace, but this trend needs to be accelerated to reduce reliance on development partners’ funds, which may be less predictable.



Mr. Julien Chevillard, Senior Technical Advisor, UNDP, mentioned that the launch of this first CCB is just the beginning of a process. This information can then be used in civil society dialogue with national assembly, ministry of economy and finance and line ministries, to inform the budget



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process and maximize impact on the ground.

Mr. Krishna Sapkota, from Freedom Forum Nepal, shared the initial lessons learned from a similar CCB initiative in Nepal, including the important role of this document in raising awareness and generating debate on climate change spending.

Participants highlighted that women are considered especially vulnerable to loss of income, post-disaster shocks, heavy workloads and health problems after environmental disasters. The government could publish additional information on how it is addressing women's vulnerability to climate change in the national budget. This information is critical as women and girls are at much greater risk of harm from climate change impacts. The need to channel more funds to the sub-national level was also highlighted by several participants.

H.E. Kuth Chandara, member of the 3rd commission of the National Assembly,



praised the good work done on generating dialogue between all stakeholders and reiterated the commitment of National Assembly to be fully involved in the

debates that inform the budget process.

NGO Forum on Cambodia made recommendations for the Cambodian government to increase expenditure in areas that generate exclusive climate change benefits, provide transparency on budget allocation and spending, present a publicly accessible, regular Citizens Climate Budget and to have ministries start dialogues with NGOs on strengthening the budget towards addressing climate change.



CSOs and Community Participate in the 3rd National Consultation on Luang Prabang

The civil society organizations participated in the 3rd National Consultation Process on Laos' Luang Prabang Hydropower Project, organized by the Cambodian National Mekong Committee on March 13, 2020 in Kampong Cham province. The consultation aims to:

1. Continue to review and collect feedback regarding Lao PDR's Luang Prabang dam project; and
2. Prepare Cambodia Formal Reply Form to be submitted to MRC.

The CSOs and community members raised concerns regarding hydrology, sediment transport, fishery and fish migration, the impact on the Tonle Sap and alternative energy option that can replace large scale hydropower dam.

Given a significant lake of information of the proposed project, CSOs have requested for an extension of the PNPCA for further and rigorous studies before approval for the next steps.





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NGO Forum Celebration on the 109th International Women’s Day under the theme “Peace Promotes Gender Equality”



The NGO Forum staff was divided into two groups to visit Agriculture Cooperative in Sen Sok Toek Tla, especially the vegetable planting in the greenhouse and fish raising in the pond. They used only organic fertilizer from bio-mas. The greenhouse was constructed which contributed by the provincial agriculture department. The total cost of greenhouse construction about \$1,800. The member contributed only \$620. It was 24 meters long and 8 meters wide. It just piloted in the first year which introduced by Lors Thmey organization and provided technical skills to AC members. The pond was made by AC members about 8 meters deep and fish raising in the pond provided by the Lors Thmey organization. They borrowed credit from the community saving for vegetable planting and fish raising in the pond. Vegetable production in Toek Thla Sen Sok village is the most important activity for income generation and improving the livelihood of the community members. Toek Thla Sen Sok agriculture products cooperative engagement with non-formal contracting with its member and supply to Lors Thmey organization eg. 1 kilogram of a bitter million costs 1300 riels. The exposure visit study focused on members’ households of agriculture cooperative economic status and profits of vegetable growing and animal raising as family daily income.

Mr. Farit introduced the meeting with the community which contacted by Farmer Nature Net as a member of the Network for Development Food Security and Safety in Cambodia.



Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia informed that NGO Forum has 96 membership organizations, 8 networks, and more than 400 network members. This exposure visit initiated by Network for Development Food Security and Safety in Cambodia. NGO Forum has organized the National Farmer Forum which raised farmer concern related to water, capital and market to relevant policymakers, development partners and private sectors.

The purpose of this visit to celebrating the 109th anniversary of International Women’s Day, International Women’s Day 2020 theme “I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women’s Rights”, the key message in the run-up to celebrating the 109th anniversary of International Women’s Day in Cambodia theme “Peace Promotes Gender Equality”. We want to learn from the agriculture cooperative of Sen Sok Toek Tla on how to develop the family economy, happiness within the family and wellbeing of the whole community. Women are defined in the United Nations Development Goal. Takeo province in the history of Cambodia calls Phonan which located in Da mountain in Angkor Borey district that paid high respect for princess call Livyi or Soma.

Mr. Ouk Vannara informed about SDG and women. The royal government of Cambodia such as MoWA promotes women’s rights and develops many policies such as Neary Ratank in stage 4 and planning to develop Neary Ratank stage 5 in the coming year. The CEDAW. The UN SDG goal number

5 stated clearly about Gender. Gender mainstreaming in many government institutions. As raise by the community, women manage the money for the family and responsible for the economy of the family. To promote the family economy is the key strategy of the NGO Forum as well as mainstreaming gender in NDF-C. 100 Female farmer Champions were selected in the national farmer forum.



Mr. Hok Menghoin added the economic empowerment of women to have the capacity to adapting to climate change. Women have the opportunity to job opportunity and health, capacity to invest in multi-purpose farming, rights to access capital, water and market and income generation. We plan to organize the sub-national farmer forum in Takeo province.

Mr. Vong Kosal mentioned the relationship between gender and land management. Gender was promoted through land registration. Women have legal rights in land registration with their husbands by the attached marital certificate. In the case of land conflict, it will affect their family income while women losing their land.

Mr. Nan Ony added that article 31 of the Cambodian constitution stated clearly about women’s rights. In the first and second world wars women faced many issues....

Read more at <http://www.ngoforum.org.kh/ngo-forum-celebration-on-the-109th-international-womens-day-under-the-theme-peace-promotes-gender-equality/>



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The Budget Working Group (BWG) Monthly Meeting

On 30 April 2020, the NGO Forum on Cambodia coordinate the Budget Working Group (BWG) monthly meeting through the internet online meeting. There were 14 participations (06 women) joint the meeting who are from NGO Forum, Volunteer Service Oversea (VSO), Transparency International (TI), Save the Children International (SCI), Advocacy and Policy Institute (API), Star Kampuchea (SK), GIZ, World Vision International (WVI) and Youth Resource Development Program (YRDP). This BWG meeting was achieved in following:

1. Updated members progress and way forward
2. Strengthened capacity building to members on the best practice of ISAF implementation which shared by Mrs. Chea Cheysovanna from Star Kampuchea, Mr. Vanpannit from Advocacy Policy Institute and Mr. Mathieu Andre from World vision Cambodia.



Consultative Meeting on Road Network Improvement Project

In the morning of March 05, 2020, the forum executive director of the NGO Forum attended a consultative meeting on the Ministry of Rural Development's 'Road Network Improvement Project'. The meeting was facilitated by HE Dr. Chan Darong, Secretary of State and Project Director, and presented by Mr. Pheng Sambo, Deputy Director of Department of Rural Roads and Project Manager. The Meeting also discussed the draft social documents including (1) stakeholder engagement plan, (2) ethnic planning framework, (3) impact framework, (4) social and environmental management framework. The Cambodia Road Network Improvement Project is funded by the World Bank, implemented in three provinces: Kampong Cham, Tbong Khmum and Kratie from 2020-2027.





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HIGHLIGHT STORIES

CSOs Organized Meeting to Review the Previous Meeting with Ministry of Interior (MoI)

On 12 March 2020 Morning, CSOs organized a meeting to review the previous meeting with Ministry of Interior (MoI) which was conducted on 10 Feb 2020. Today we arrange and prepare for the 5th meeting with MoI on 12 March 2020 in this afternoon.

CSOs members are well prepared before the discussion, and solidarity among CSOs who are members of the working group on LANGO's amendment.



Fifth Meeting between CSOs and the Law on Associations and Non-Governmental Organizations (LANGO) Amendment Working Group of Ministry of Interior

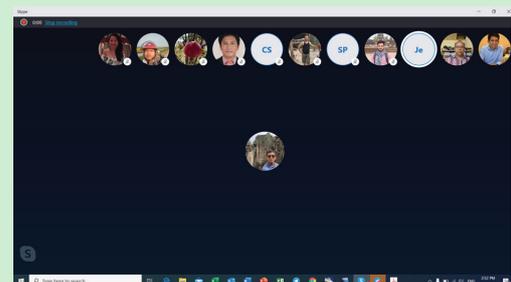
Fifth meeting between CSOs and the Law on Associations and Non-Governmental Organizations (LANGO) Amendment Working Group of Ministry of Interior on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at the Ministry of Interior which aim for discussion on proposals and recommendations of CSOs on the amendment of LANGO. As the result, CSOs' inputs are taken into consideration for reviewing article 11, 24, 25 and 26.



Online Meeting on the Draft Environmental and Social Management Framework, LASED III

The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF), Land and Housing Rights Network (LAHRiN) organized online meeting on the draft Environmental and Social Management Framework, LASED III on 21-22 April 2020. There were 16 participant (3 females), representative of various NGOs members and partners including NGOF, Oxfam, UNOHCHR, AAC, NES, BCV, SK, CLEC, ODC, DPA, VSG and RS.

As result, all members were well understood the process of consultation on the draft of Environmental and Social Management Framework, LASED III. They committed to review all documents and provide comments and inputs follow to the assigned group according to their project activities, skills and experiences.





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On The Media



Topic: Study Claims Cambodia Needs More Public Spending on Climate Change

Date: 04 March 2020

Source: Thmey Thmey

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/2N3qlw5>



Topic: Cambodia's rice bowl remains half full

Date: 20 March 2020

Source: Phnom Penh Post

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/2UQvADs>

UPCOMING EVENTS/HOLIDAYS 2020

12 May

Online consultation meeting to collect inputs for the draft Action & Investment Plan for the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy of Cambodia

03 June

World Environment Day in Koh Kong

05 June

World Environment Day in Pursat

11 June

Technical Meeting on Input on the Final Draft of Indigenous Peoples Conservation and Development Strategic Plan

23-27 June

NGO Forum Mid-Year Reflection



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.

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