



វេទិកាសម្រាប់អង្គការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល ស្តីពីកម្ពុជា  
*The NGO Forum on Cambodia*

ធ្វើការរួមគ្នាដើម្បីការវិវឌ្ឍសេចក្តីផ្តុំ  
*Working Together for Positive Change*



## LEADING STORIES

### National Workshop on Cambodia' Citizen Climate Budget



In order to develop a Citizen Climate Budget (CCB) that will present the government's budget plans for climate change mitigation and adaptation in accessible language and formats, the NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) is worked with an external consultant to conduct a desk review assignment and lead a consultation process related to the audiences, content and formats of the Citizen Climate Budget (CCB). The CCB report then was drafted and the NGO Forum and consulted through two-separate sub-national consultation workshop on 04-05 July 2019 at Siem Reap and Kampong Cham Province in order to seek for input and foresight from relevant stakeholders including provincial department of the Ministry of Environment (MoE), Network for Environment and Climate Change Alliance members and community representative to produce policy brief and final report for widely dissemination. For next, NGOF together with partners UNDP regional and Cambodia Climate Change Alliance (CCCA) are going to organize the national consultation workshop on Cambodia's citizens climate budget report that will taking place on August 12, 2019 from 8:30am–1:00pm at Himawari hotel. There were total 47 participants (15 females) from the representative of inter-ministries, Development Partners, CSOs, academia and students.

The objectives of this workshop were:

- To present participants on the draft CCB report
- To gather inputs from relevant key stakeholders on the draft citizen climate budget report through assessing and identifying the Climate Change Financing Expenditure and Projection.
- To incorporate inputs as a mean into the final draft of the report for the last consultation workshop in national level.



Keynote Address RUPP, Dr. Rath Sethik, Dean of Royal University of Phnom Penh. It is important to collect inputs for Climate Change. The Climate Change is globally phenomena such as flood, drought, and partial raining. The state has cope with it based on their capacity. Base on the research mentioned that in Cambodia, the capacity to cope with it still limited. Inter-ministries have been tried all their best especially National Committee for Disaster Management. Natural Disaster preparedness is very important. It is important to have enough information. The budget was also very important. He fully supported the participation of all stakeholders to cope with climate change. Wish all participants all the best.

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Keynote Address by Mr. Julien Chevillard, Chief Technical Advisor, UNDP/CCCA representative. He mentioned that UNDP were actively working with government such as climate change adaptation and mitigation. The last figure showed that climate finance is very important. There were about 30 % of the government budget supported the CCCA program. Cambodia has regularly updated the data of climate change budge every year. The citizen has the role to follow up the climate budget allocation and carefully monitor it. UNDP working in partnership with NGO Forum, to create the platform for shar-



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ing the information of Climate Change Budget. NGO Forum has collected those recommendations from the community to share with all key stakeholders. It is the opportunity to share climate change budget information. He said that he looks forward to hearing the feedback from all key stakeholders and wished the consultation to work well. He hopes to hear from all participants the effectiveness of the Climate Change Budget and looking for fruitful discussion.

Welcome, Remark Dr. Tek Vannara,



Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia. Respected all participants. The study conducted by the consultant, supported by the Swedish embassy and Regional UNDP office. Welcomed that MoEF supported climate change budget. CMDG goal 13 to promote the development in Cambodia, the research finding is very important to contribute to the development progress. The two sub-national workshops were conducted in Siem Reap and Kampong Cham provinces. The inputs were very important that have been collected from the community and all key stakeholders. He encouraged all participants to constructively involve in the discussion. In Rattanakiri province was affected by flood from Sesan river and about 500 families were evacuated. Many Rice fields were affected. It is very important about climate change funding information. The result of the research will be shared to MoEF, MoE and other government institutions. He wished all participants all the best and success in their work.

Presentation on a draft of Cambodia's citi-

zen's climate budget report

Mr. Chan Sophal, consultant said that as Mr. Julien mentioned this morning, the



research finding is simple information for citizen to understand. Please help to see the information about the national budget and the climate change budget, expense change by NGOs, Development partner and government. Based on the information this morning in the newspaper, it is flooded everywhere and many people died. Climate Vulnerability in Cambodia Events Relating to Climate Change including irregular rainfall, flood, storm, drought and increase temperature. Since 2,000-2017, there were many people affected by flood, drought and storm.

**The impact of climate change on the economy could be as big as 10% of GDP by 2050. In 2020 GDP dropped to -0.4%, 2030-2.5%, 2040-6%, 2050-9.8%,**

Women are vulnerable to climate change. Since 2008 there were many policies and strategic framework were developed to cope with climate change in Cambodia including National Program Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change developed in 2006, National Green Growth Program Direction developed in 2009, National Forest Program 2010-2029, Report examining the institutional and public spending of climate change in Cambodia developed in 2012, National Strategic Plan for Green Growth developed in 2013, Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan and National Action Plan for Disaster Reduction 2013, NSDP 2014-2018 and Cambodia Climate Change Financing Framework (CCFF).

**What is the increase in the national bud-**

**get?**

National spending has increased substantially over the past several years, reaching \$ 3,357 million in 2014. \$ 6,360 million in 2019 (almost twice). The national budget has grown significantly over the past several years as a result of high earnings, which led to money. Save by the Government. The national budget has grown significantly over the years, however foreign loans are still necessary for investment as much as needed.

**How much does the government spend on climate change action plans?**

Only 1% of GDP accounts for 3.2% of total public expenditure and slightly declines from 2015 to 2017, however, the wider public sector accounts for 30% of total expenditure. The Public spending on climate change is minimal compared to other costs in 2017 Only 912 billion Riels (\$ 225 million). Pay only 3% for climate change resilience. Only 27 % costs that contribute to climate change adaptation.

**What is the cost of climate change?**

The cost of climate change in the Ministry is significant as a percentage of total climate change costs in 2017. There are 14 Inter-ministries spent budget for climate change especially ministries of water resource and meteorology (MoWRAM) spent 37%. Ministry of transportation spent 19%. Ministry of Rural Development spent 10%, Ministry of Agriculture, forestry and fisheries spent 10%, Ministry of Environment spent 4%, Ministry of Health spent 3% and other ministries spent 17%.

The key sectors with high climate change cost share compared with total climate change cost. priority important sector spends on climate change including irrigation, road improvement, livelihood of vulnerable people group affected by climate change, climate change action plan .....

Read more at: <https://www.ngoforum.org.kh/national-workshop-on-cambodia-citizen-climate-budget/>



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## The 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Member Meeting 2019



Combating of Natural Disasters; 4). Update on the draft of Cambodia Vision 2050 accomplishes many major achievements within the last quarter.

### Updated on the Management and Implementation of the National Action Program to Combat Land Degradation 2018-2027



Guest Speaker 1: Mrs. Heng Chinda, National Project Coordinator of the TWG of the National Action Program to Combat Land Degradation presented about the Management and Implementation of National Action Program to Combat Land Degradation 2018-2027.

Cambodian as a signatory of the UNCCD. In Africa it preventing land degradation. It focuses on multi-sectors. To Combat Land Degradation. It took 10 years to developed and passed on 02 April 2018. There are 7 chapters including the strategy for implementation. The budget about \$40 million. It includes monitoring and evaluation. Progress on NAP implementation. TWG on Agriculture and Water, TWG on land degradation, TWG on NAP which consists of 8 ministries. The first meeting conducted.

### Updated on the Implementation of the Royal Government's Regulations for the Prevention and Combating of Natural Disasters

Guest Speaker 2: H.E General Eng Hy, Representative of National Committee for the Prevention and Combating of Natural Disasters Update on the Implementation of



the Royal Government's Regulations for the Prevention and Combating of Natural Disasters. Established on January 2016. It combats the illegal forestry in the north-eastern province and then the whole country which leads by General Sao Sokha and General Hou Sokun. The strategic plan was developed to protect wildlife and natural resources. The objective is to cut the relationship with the community. The awareness-raising on forestry and environment. While they transported it. In 2019 we developed the action plan to combat illegal logging because the public asked the question of what action needs to be done by the committee. In Tbong khmum, Kratie, stungtreng and Rattana-kiri provinces. There are 690 members to implement it. We should take action but not only educate them. They change their strategy to transport by motor rather than the truck. The new strategy to deal with strict policy enforcement and destroyed transportation. We use chemical and cut the machine or burnt it. We will collect all transportation as the museum for public visit. The public requested the committee to keep it and advised them to use for another purpose. In fact, they did not respect law enforcement. The warning measure to destroy all kind of transportation is the urgent action to combat illegal logging. In the campaign, there are 147 trucks were destroyed. 64 trucks kept it for the court decision. There were 33 persons were arrested including Chinese and Vietnamese. The relevant authorities also arrested and sent to jail. The objective is to protect the forest. It has different public opinions.

The NGO Forum on Cambodia's (NGOF) organized its quarterly member meeting on July 30, 2019, at Phnom Penh Ecumenical Diakonia Centre (PPEDC/ICF) from 08:00 – 12:00 presided over by Mr. Om Savath, Member of NGOF's Management Committee and Executive Director of FACT. There were 92 participants (27 female) represented to NGO members of NGOF in Cambodia.



Mr. Om Savath, Member of NGOF's Management Committee and Executive Director of FACT gave warm welcome remarks and thanked all NGO members, government, and development partners for their participation in the important meeting. Chair of the meeting informed the meeting objectives to share information with NGO members and discuss their challenges and needs in order to accomplish the goal as set in the NGOF work plan. Chairman also briefed the key agendas of meeting as following: 1) updating on the significant progress report of NGOF; 2) Management and Implementation of National Action Program to Combat Land Degradation 2018-2027; 3). Update on the Implementation of the Royal Government's Regulations for the Prevention and



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Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of NGOF also updated briefly the progress of NGOF as the following major achievements from April to July 2019:

- Cooperated with Henan University, IUCN, American Museum of water history. The Trans-Boundary Conference for preservation of ecosystem in Asia for the change in the global.
- Coordinated and led CSO to attend pre-meeting of IP Day with MRD. It will be held on 14 August 2019 in Ratanakiri province.
- Coordinated CSO to the consultation workshop and collect inputs for the assessment on Gender, environment and climate change 2019-2023 of MoWA.
- Coordinated CSO to attend the pre-meeting for national farmer forum preparation.
- Shared information with media on Pesticide impact.
- Update the result of budget with the Royal government of Cambodia and CSO for CPDD, AZTWG, Climate Change.
- Joined TWG meetings on a different sector including TWG on A&W, Gender, forestry reform, to Combat Land Degradation.
- Provided input on the draft law of National Budget 2020 on Building Macroeconomic Policy Framework and Public Finance Policy.
- Developed concept note on IP National workshop. 15 years strategic of IP.
- Joined Arbor day, world environmental day and national fish day.
- Organized mid-year reflection to developed AOP and AOB and learn the

eco-system in Kok Tral.

- Organised MC, three monthly and three CC meetings.
- Cooperated with Oxfam and partner to organise the multi-stakeholder dialogue on FDI in agriculture.
- Launched the guideline of sustainable rubber plantation.
- Provided input on the investment and special economic zone.
- Coordinated CSO to provide inputs in the regional conference of future of Mekong river.
- Coordinated CSO to provide inputs in SIS REDD+.
- Co-organised the workshop on “Mekong Basin Connect Workshop in Cambodia renewable energy with Stimson center, IUCN and Oxfam on and U.S Embassy.
- Shared experience on climate change with MRD.
- Organized the SIS consultation workshop on REDD+.
- Organized coaching on protocol and diplomacy.
- Joined meeting on mitigation measure of water infrastructure development and 3S river.
- Coordinated RCC to meet with CNMC and Tonlesap authority about the co-operation of water government in Cambodia.
- Joined speaker in the dialogue on climate talk.
- Attended 7th MRC Regional Stakeholder forum Mekong Trans-boundary and provided inputs to MRC on IWRM.
- Organized CSOs leader meeting with SNEC to provide inputs on Cambodia vision 2050.
- Co-organised workshop on a climate investment fund.
- Organised workshop on the participation of multi-party and the benefit of participation in climate investment in Cambodia.
- Developed proposal and submitted to Diakonia, NPA and other donors.

- Coordinated research on Chinese investment on the impact on women economic participation.
- Organised the sub-national workshop on the CITIZEN budget information which response to climate change in Cambodia in Siem Reap and kampong-cham provinces.
- Shared experience of NGO Forum with students from Hong Kong.
- Organized training on the Istanbul principle which targeting the provincial NGO network in Siem Reap.
- Cooperate with MLMPU facilitated NGOs members of Land and Housing Rights Networks which including CCHRS, LICADHO, CEDT and GVO participated in the Dissemination and Consultative Workshop on Updating of Housing Implementation in Pursat and Ratanakiri province.
- Organized quarterly meeting NDF-C, RCC, REDD+, LAHRIN and IPFN.
- Coordinated CSO to deal with land dispute cases in Pursat and Preahvihear provinces.
- Provided inputs on the EIA report.

At the closing of the meeting, Mr. Om Savath, Member of NGOF's Management Committee and Executive Director of FACT thanked the honorable guest speakers and participants for sharing the knowledge and experience related to the topics proposed at the meeting responding to objectives and expected results.





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## HIGHLIGHT STORIES

### Public Forum – the Mekong We Want



There are 10 local and international civil society organizations which are Save the Mekong, International River, CVS, NGOF, 3SPN, CYN, NRD, CDPS, Oxfam and CEPA co-organized Mekong Public Forum- The Mekong We Want! Advancing People's Partnership for Mekong's Sustainability on 30 July 2019 at Tonle Bassac 2. There were 230 participants (111 women) who CSOs and representatives from 16 provinces and Phnom Penh, representative from CNMC, Institute of the Fisheries Research of Fishery Administration, EIA Consultant Firm, Independent Researcher, representatives of European youth, students, media journalists as well as representatives from Thailand and Vietnam. The forum provides the opportunity to share experiences from representatives from Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam of civil society and community to discuss on challenges and solutions.

munities. It's clear that hydropower dams are having major and transboundary impacts on communities; and is also exacerbating the impacts of climate change as evidenced by events in July, particularly in northern and northeastern Thailand. Key messages raised by community panelists to address problems and challenges included:

- Developing sustainable energy solutions instead of hydropower, and supporting local livelihoods (VN)
- Ensuring that any development project must directly benefit local communities not destroy livelihoods (Cambodia)
- Support communities to protect – and adapt to changes in the – Mekong; and also request Thai government to stop buying electricity from dams (Thai)



The second session comprised panelists from Cambodian government agencies, consultants, the EU delegation in Cambodia and the MRC Secretariat. While largely acknowledging the impacts articulated in the community panel session, the panelists noted that:

- hydropower was not the only cause of impacts, and there are other factors, including climate change
- exploitation and development of Mekong resources important for economic development, and involves trade-offs

- The context – and actors involved – have changed
- Need to increase access to information and knowledge, focus more on solutions, including identifying channels to ensure messages are heard by decision-makers and bring about change.

The panelists also shared some of the initiatives they are working on or involved in to address challenges e.g various MRC-related procedures, guidelines, strategies and initiatives; Cambodian government laws, regulations, strategies and plans related to climate change and fisheries management; improving impact assessments.



The third session focused on energy futures, drawing particularly on the experience of Vietnam and Cambodia.

- GreenID's provided information on the global energy transition and its relevance for the Mekong and Vietnam in particular, and CSO efforts to advocate for a just transition in Vietnam by combining national policy advocacy with local level energy planning and solutions.
- WWF Cambodia presentation highlighted that while the uptake of solar has been slow in Cambodia to date, this could be shifting, which in part has been catalyzed by major blackouts in Cambodia (due to dams not being able to produce enough during dry season). The amount of utility-scale solar com-



The first session focused on challenges and solutions from community perspectives, with representatives from Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam presenting on key challenges they are facing in their com-



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missioned and operating has increased over the past couple of years, and more are planned.

- Representative from Green Solar Energy Co. Ltd, which designs and implements small-scale solar systems, shared some of challenges and opportunities for upscaling solar systems in Cambodia.

It's clear that more sustainable and equitable alternatives to destructive large-scale hydro and coal exist and are increasingly cost-competitive. Presentations from Vietnam and Cambodia also showed how non-hydro renewables are being implemented to varying degrees, and that opportunities exist to increase uptake.

The fourth session shared NGO and community perspectives on issues related to standards and safeguards, including how to ensure the Mekong is developed more sustainably and fairly. Panellists responses include:

- Promoting and strengthening standards and safeguards related to meaningful community participation, social and environmental impacts (e.g. World Commission on Dams, Free, Prior and Informed Consent)
- Strengthening community, youth and civil society networks within and between countries
- More attention to prevention rather than cure. That is properly examine alternatives to destructive projects,
- Reduce reliance on large-scale dams and focus more on alternatives.
- More comprehensive and participatory impact assessments, including transboundary
- Ensure communities have access to information prior to decisions being made, and support community efforts to exercise their rights
- Increased dialogue between different actors, which also provide space for community voices to be heard



### Key Output/Outcome

The main output is that the forum helped increase awareness of and attention to problems of – and alternatives to replace – large-scale hydropower dams in the Mekong basin. As evidenced by the Mekong we want banner and media coverage (see below), the messages are consistent with Save the Mekong Coalition.

- The Mekong We Want Banner, which collected comments from participants. Participant's messages can be grouped into few key points:
  - A healthy Mekong is important and should be protected (e.g. references to Mekong as mother, bloodline, lifeline; fish for nutrition etc)

- We do not want hydropower dams on the Mekong (e.g. references to impacts being greater than benefits/profits; impacts on people, no dam, no sambo dam etc)
- Alternatives to hydropower exist and should be implemented (e.g. references to solar, environmentally friendly alternatives, energy efficiency)
- Improve participation and consideration of impacts (e.g. reference to FPIC, EIA)
- Media coverage of the event by Khmer Times, which captures some of key messages in the forum: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50628833/mekong-river-countries-urged-to-reconsider-hydropower-dams/>

### What next?

The key issues and messages will help inform follow-up activities and actions in the coming months, including but not limited to: Cambodia People's Forum, ASEAN People's Forum, Priority Actions identified at the Save the Mekong Coalition meeting, which included various actions around alternative energy.





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## Training Program on Basic Budget Analysis and Advocacy for NGOs



The NGO Forum on Cambodia conducted training on Basic Budget Analysis and Advocacy for NGOs, especially for Budget Working Group (BWG), which was organized at Angkor Holiday in Siem Reap province from 20-22 August 2019. There were 29 participants (13 females) from Budget working group members (BWG) and other partners NGOs. The purpose of the training was to strengthen the capacity of BWG members so that they can advocate for the increased budget allocation for poor and vulnerable group particularly women and children. In addition, it helped the NGOs who are working on budget increased their capacity in budget analysis for stepping up advocacy on budget transparency.



Opening remarks by Mr. Ouk Vannara, Deputy Executive Director. Expressed thanks to the active participation. NGO

Forum on Cambodia working with the Royal Government of Cambodia on budget development. This training response to the need for BWG to have skill and knowledge to advocate with policymaker to get input for responding to the annual budget plan. The gap is the annual budget plan not open for public participation. The training on budget analysis for BWG. The facilitator working closely with MoEF. What sector that allocates budget for annual spending. We will advocate the government institutions for effective budget formulation. Many thanks to Mr. Chea Kimsong, for spending valuable time to share his knowledge and skill in the training. He hoped that participants will be actively involved in the training. He expressed great thanks to Oxfam and other donors who provided funding support for this training.

Participants gained a good understanding of budget calendar and process and who is the main player. The budget process and content in Cambodia were introduced by facilitator. It is governed by the Law on Public Finance System (2008). The subnational budget follows the Law on Fiscal Regime and Asset Management of Sub-national Administration (2011). The National Budget is the annual planned revenue collec-



tion and expenditure of the government. Annual Budget Law or Financial Law plans and allows for each year state's resources and expenditures. Annual Financial Law is amended through the Amended Annual Financial Law or Budget Law. Implementation of Budget Law is settled by the Budget Execution Law or Budget Settlement Law. It reviews and assesses the performance of the implementation of the budget law.

The three- and half-day training course with active participation and interaction with a facilitator, many important techniques and documents in budget analysis on budget transparency were shared for supporting group discussion and exercises. Participants have gained knowledge on the budget process, literacy and budget analysis tools and techniques. Participants have increased capacity in budget analysis for stepping up advocacy, transparency and increased budget allocation for poor and vulnerable group particularly women and children in Cambodia. Participants agreed to develop Budget Advocacy Plan and Strategy for budget analysis with coaching and mentoring from facilitator. The strong commitment of donors who support the important training for building the capacity of NGOs such as Oxfam and Save the children and great contribution of Budget Working Group network members.



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## The summary report of the Kick-off Workshop on Women's Economic Participation and Gender Relations Research Project



On July 08, 2019, NGOF and AFSC were co-organized on the summary report of the Kick-off workshop on women's Economic Participation and Gender Relation Research which was held at Tonle Basac 1 Restaurant. The main purpose of the workshop is to 1)-introduce the research plan (objectives and propose a case study), and 2)- seek more suggestions from participants and discussion overall on the Women's economic participation and Gender relation in Cambodia. Totally, there were 21 participants including 10 female participants who are the representative of LAHRiN, IPFN and RCC networks. Dr. Zhou Peng and AFSC Presentation that the purpose of this research is to investigate the relationship between women's lives within the economic development relating to Chinese Investment and Businesses in Cambodia. There is a gap in the research in China concerning issues of social development as current Chinese research focusses on politics and economics as opposed to CSR. Though the Chinese government is sensitive about human

rights, gender equality is something they are proud of and are willing to discuss openly, explaining the gendered perspective of this research.

The methodology of this research are qualitative research and in-depth interviews with semi-structured questions with focus group and participatory observation. There were fieldwork plan which including meeting NGOs, Chinese businesses, work unions, and women workers in garment factories, visited communities in Strung Treng, Preah Vihear, and Odor Meanchey Provinces, Hydropower sugar plantation, mining and irrigation and In-depth interviews with rural women.

The content of women issues should be included in the project were:

- An aim is to increase the awareness of business owners of CSR and give practical recommendations
- Consider lessons from past cases and how engaging with the local population can mitigate extra costs
- Also, need to take into consideration the Greening the BRI policies

As the result of this workshop there were some suggestion for AFSC's steps which provided by the keys NGOs who participated were:

- Meet with a local NGO to organize how to meet local people
- Will start with a group that may be a focus group
- Will find women through that to have an in-depth interview
- Design a questionnaire and then use a translator though this is not a perfect method
- Dividing larger groups into smaller groups of 3-5 people in order to allow people to share their stories confidently
- Need to ensure that the NGOs that AFSC works with have the trust of the community and this may require extra research into the NGOs themselves.

And suggestions about methods to get compelling women's stories which can focus groups and participatory tools work for local when depending on a translator:

- Letting people express themselves without using leading questions, and perhaps allowing people the draw instead of writing.
- Need different translators for different environments, perhaps a local and a woman
- Need to consider that participants may be more open during breaks and after the session rather than during the sessions
- Empower women to speak without judgment



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## Awareness Raising on NSDP and CSDGs to provincial NGO Network



The NGO Forum on Cambodia received fund from NPA to implement the project called Strengthening CSO in policy and participatory monitoring which will implement within the three-target areas: Mondulkiri, Rattanakiri and Stung Treng provinces, however, we changed the target areas to Kompong Thom, Siem Reap, and Prey Veng provinces. The project will conduct the series of activities including providing the training on NSDP and CSDGs to the provincial NGOs network members, community-based organization (CBOs), once they have gained the knowledge on the policies the network in each provincial NGO network will cascade this knowledge to their members and their project beneficiaries. In addition, the NGOF will also support them to develop the format for monitoring the progress of the implementation of NSDP and CSDGs and strengthen them to bring these to discuss with relevant stakeholders in their target area. On 30-31 July 2019, there were 15 participants (3 Female) were joint from provincial NGOs network in Kompong Thom, Siem Reap, and Prey Veng provinces. the NGOF will

conduct the training on NSDP and CSDGs to the provincial NGOs in the three target provinces which will be conducted at Tonlebasac I Restaurant. The objectives of the workshop were shared the knowledge and key content in NSDP and CSDGs. And consulted and discussed on the possibility of developing the format for monitoring the progress of NSDP and CSDGs.

**Project orientation has been introduced to provincial NGO network within 3 targets.**

Mr. Bunly introduced economic growth by sector. In 2018 GDP 7.5 %. In 2019 7.1%, In 2020 6.5%.

Macroeconomic Framework indicators



2016-2020 show that the international reserve will be afforded for six months. The second committee of national assembly raised a concern related to the macroeconomic framework. MoEF will share it to all ministries to prepare the budget. What should we know to contribute to the development of the country?

We should learn the policy such as rectangular strategy, NSDP, CSDG, Cambodia vision 2030. Sector policy such as roadmap of education for 2030.

From May to December 2019, the project call strengthening the capacity of CSO in monitoring the government policy in Siem Reap, Kampong Thom, and Prey Veng province. 45 NGOs in three provinces. 45 CBOs including youth and women group, 15 districts in three provinces.

### Key activities:

- Video development on NSDP and CSDG in August 2019.
- Dissemination workshop on NSDP and CSDG in target villages in August 2019.
- Support CSO and provincial network to dissemination NSDP and CSDG in August 2019.
- Strengthen the operation of the network in August 2019.
- Support CSO and NSDP's Framework 2016-2030.

### Participants increased the capacity in policy monitoring on NSDP and CSDGs.

Mr. Bunly introduced the Cambodia Policy Framework and Development Context.

❖ Cambodian long term vision 2030-2050.

❖ Policies, strategies, plan for medium-term



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- Rectangular strategy.
- National Strategic Development Plan.
- Sectoral Strategic Development Plan.
- Sub-national strategic development plan.

#### Role of the CSDGs

CSDG will be reflected in every two years. VNR was reviewed in July every year. MoP presented in New York.

The participant has been introduced to practice the policy monitoring tool of VNR by applying CSDGs. In Siem Reap, the provincial network selected the goal related to education. In Kampong Thom the provincial network selected the goal-related health, education, justice, agriculture, gender, and climate change. In Prey Veng, the provincial network selected goal-related education, gender, and climate change.

#### Action plan has been developed and presented in the following:

- Organize a meeting to disseminate CSDGs with provincial network members and relevant authorities.

- Organize monthly meeting.
- Training on video and website development.
- Develop a website for supporting the network.
- Provide award for a champion in developing video.
- Support the operation of the network.

Mr. Bunly will consolidate all the action plan and budget from three respective provinces and prepare and cooperative agreement for implementation in the next five months.

#### Conclusion:

Based on my observation, this workshop reached the objectives and participants able to gain more knowledge on NSDP and CSDGs which they can produce a friendly template for their reporting from their province and developed action plan which prioritize based on their project implementation in the respective provinces. They are able to share key learning points about NSDP and CSDGs with their provincial network members.

- After finished the training, all the participants expected to gain more knowledge on NSDP and CSDGs which they can produce a friendly template for their reporting from their province.
- Each province is expected to prioritize based on their project implementation.





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## Consultative Workshop on Review Indigenous Community's By-law, Internal Rule and Communal Land Titling



The NGO Forum on Cambodia, ICSSO and in collaboration with a number of NGOs, organized Consultative Workshop on Review Indigenous Community's By-law, Internal Rule and Communal Land Titling on August 22, 2019 at Tonle Bassac 2 Restaurant, Phnom Penh. There were 72 participants (08 women) who are from NGO partners, European Union, development partners, representative of Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Interior, sub-national and authority of Ratanakiri Province. This workshop aimed for creating a multilateral forum and provide opportunity for stakeholders to discuss common solutions. And to address the common challenges of good government, community and civil society partnership on the process of statute, internal regulation and the possibility of community collective land registration. Furthermore, to organize joint mechanisms and continuous action in accelerating the availability of collective land registration.

The process of establishing the statute, the internal regulations and the acquisition of indigenous community collective title has not been smooth of the 61 communities that applied, 25 were unavailable due to overlapping grounds, some communities were disputed and landless, and there were mines. For example, on April 4, 2019, ICSSO cooperates with the NGO Forum, the Cambodian Indigenous



Peoples' Organization (CIPO), and the Mekong River Land Governance (MRLG) with the participation of Ministry representatives. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries represents the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Rural Development, and the Ministry of Interior as well as the Ministry of Interior. Department of Urban Planning and Construction Department Lum Governor and the council has organized a study tour in the commune Seda district in Ratanakiri Province. In a discussion at the Commons Sub-Commit Village Headquarters, SEDA Communities Chief representing 5 Communities of Cedar Communities, mentioned that the Lower and Lower Sikh communities have applied for registration with the Ministry of Land since 2014 but have not yet. The collective title, while the three communities that received the legal entity, had not yet been filed as there was no hope. The community is really concerned and is asking for relevant

institutions to help find a listing solution. Members of the Sedah commune council also supported and raised concerns that living in protected areas would face legal consequences in the future if they were not given a collective title. Consistent with this, representatives of the Department of Land Management also indicated that all applications for registration of indigenous lands affecting protected areas were generally difficult and inaccessible because the Ministry of the Environment had not authorized them.

On the other hand, some community statutes and community regulations are not yet responsive to their specific situation and needs, which require consultation between the community statute and the internal regulations. How to be consistent and respond to their specific situation. Based on the above background and ICSSO's experience in supporting the community, drafting the statute, the internal rules, as well as the stakeholders, sees the establishment of a forum for participation by all parties to understand and seek common solutions to the challenges. Moreover, this is also the recommendation of the team who visited and visited the community in Sdey district, Ratanakiri province on April 4, 2019.

The consultation workshop was conducted successfully. The Stakeholders were participated in discussions to identify common ground and solutions. Moreover, the internal statutes and regulations were consulted, reviewed, and communicated to the specific situation and needs of the community in accordance with technical and legal aspects.





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## Cross Network Meeting on Strategy for Land and Natural Resource Conflict Resolution



On August 27-28, 2019, the Community Legal Education Center and NGO Forum have organized Cross Network Meeting on Strategy for Land and Natural Resource Conflict Resolution at Soma Devi Hotel, Siem Reap Province. The purpose of reflection meeting were strengthening the cooperation of civil society networks, victim communities, citizen consultants and human rights defenders for the effectiveness of advocacy work in conflict resolution and governance of land and natural resources, and strengthening the capacity of affected communities and network members by sharing information, experiences and reflecting on activities and outcomes so that they have the power and

confidence to discuss with authorities and other stakeholders for a fair solution. In addition to develop a joint strategic plan to implement, promote the resolution of the stalled dispute. There were 96 (22 female) participated.

Mr. Ouk Vannara, Deputy Director of NGO Forum, was interested in the main activities of the NGO Forum, which consists of eight networks, including three major networks focusing on natural resources, including IPFN, LAHRIN, and CSOREED, 52-member IPFN. The LAHRIN Network has 64 members, the CSOREED network has three members working to improve people's lives and land safety, and the NGO Forum The

struggle with many national state institutions such as Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Land Management, Urbanization and NGO Forum joining the Ministry of Environment has put 60% of the input raised by the community into working Compiling environmental code, NGO Forum Deputy Director requested community to include investment plan in the commune with state budget up to USD 700,000 This is a chance for the community to its plans.

Mr. Houn Chundy, Executive Director of Community Legal Education Center, said that there has recently been active advocacy by communities, including major land and natural resources issues, which have been poorly managed. It is not enough to make the community still suffering and accuse the poor, and the mission of the organization is complementary By working together as partner organizations to benefit the community from the development of the state, neither the community nor any organization and its mission is to help those vulnerable to development projects and Inappropriate Compensation Organizations have programs to help the community by strengthening their capacity and through their judicial defense.

Keynote closing Program by Ms. Nhean Phoung Maly, Director of Women in Design in Siem Reap, said she was happy, we had the opportunity to meet here because we had the same problem in the jungle. Catch the same struggle, we hope that someday this voice and change we represent must be the people of the highest will, we need justice. We must stand up for justice and no one legal entities from us, we must demand justice by the legal policy of the state.





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## Monitoring and Intervention of Irrigation Project Development in Preah Vihear Province

### Introduction

In order to contribute to the Preah Vihear administration in resolving land disputes, the NGO Forum on Cambodia facilitated the selection of three prominent land and housing rights organizations, Preah Vihear, and selected three prominent land dispute cases to investigate and interventions for addressing the issue.

The impact of the project on maintaining hydropower dams in the district is one of three cases we chose for intervention. Following a meeting with the Preah Vihear authorities to verify the information and data in the Draft Investigation and Resolution Report on May 16, 2019, the network members agreed to monitor the progress of land and property survey implications for compensation.

### Preparedness meeting of Network

#### Member Organization

On the evening of 23 July 2019, the NGO Forum on Cambodia facilitated a meeting of members of the Preah Vihear Land and Housing Network to enhance cooperation, share updates, address project impacts and monitor progress and interventions for addressing the issue. As a result, there were 13 participants (2 female) from NGO, NPA, DCA, ADHOC, PKH, OPKC, NTFP and CCHSR. Mr. Ouk Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia, thanked the active involvement of members of the Preah Vihear Network, together with land and natural resources issues.

Mr. Lor Chan, ADHOC coordinator for Preah Vihear province, shared information on the history of the project of maintaining the dam. In this case, the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology owns the project, which signed a memorandum of understanding with two Chinese companies (Guangdong Foreign Construction Co.



Ltd. and Guandong Yuandian Engineering) in August 2016. The project funding is financed by the Chinese government through EXIM Bank of China. The project has affected the farmland and residential land in three districts and one municipality (Rovieng Chey Sen, Tbeng Meanchey and Preah Vihear districts). There is no clear data on the impact of these families. It is conducting a land survey by the Provincial Working Group on 70%. Authorities have set up border posts or flooded markers. At the same time, brokers are forcing people to sell their land at low prices.

### Results of the information collection at the project implementation

On July 24, 2019, representatives of membership organizations and partner organizations, including NGO, NPA, DCA, ADHOC, PKH, OPKC, NTFP and CCHSR, updated the project implementation information by interviewing residents and villagers in Kravanh village. Phear commune, Chey Sen and Phsar village, Srae village, Pram village, Bram commune, Tbeng Meanchey district, Preah Vihear province and inspecting dam site and reservoir. As a result, we observed:

- Public consultation for citizens and other stakeholders is low due to the lack of publication of project information and master plan in the project area. Through interviews, people affected by the project revealed that they did not have a clear un-

derstanding of the project, participation, study, evaluation, compensation, impact, grievance mechanisms, and development benefits. "Two years ago, there was a public announcement that hydropower dams would affect people's land. The last step was to say that a reservoir was being distributed to the people."

- Land acquisition movement affected by project: Along with the inter-ministerial multinational team studying flood demarcation and demarcation of land, villagers have been intimidating people with land in the catchment area pay between US \$ 250 and US \$ 100 per hectare as the government has yet to issue a compensation policy. "Since the sixth month, an unnamed lady has purchased 1 hectare of flooded land for \$ 1,000 through the village trader. People who are poor have been sold to traders. "

- Dam status: The dam has not been built yet, but there have been a number of excavators and excavation works. People knew where the dam was, but there was no sign or marker.

### Challenges

According to the plan, the Working Group, members of the Land and Housing Network, have submitted a letter to the Preah Vihear Provincial Board of Governors requesting a visit to the provincial authority to review the actual land measuring process and to have a formal consultation, but apparently this request has not been approved. Justifying that the governor was busy, he did not have time to meet this request yet. The request for a field visit with the officials did not respond, and the officials did not allow the land and housing rights group to join the activities, despite the permission or request of the former governor of Preah Vihear province.



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## ON THE MEDIA



**Topic:** The 3rd Forum Between Royal Government and Civil Society:  
Showed the progress and concerns of the implementation mechanisms

**Date:** August 29, 2019

**Source:** Daily guest Radio France International

[http://km.rfi.fr/cambodia/daily-guest-29-08-2019?fbclid=IwAR2ycNFXF8NOUDntdLD9oHPhwaj-Gh4VjpgZ1vGLnQfCW\\_GZXefR19MMj8s](http://km.rfi.fr/cambodia/daily-guest-29-08-2019?fbclid=IwAR2ycNFXF8NOUDntdLD9oHPhwaj-Gh4VjpgZ1vGLnQfCW_GZXefR19MMj8s)

## UPCOMING EVENTS/HOLIDAYS 2019

### 04 September

World celebrate the 25th International Day of Indigenous Peoples under the theme of Indigenous Languages at Ratanakiri Province

### 17 September

Public Forum on Public Financial Management and Citizen Participation on at Tonle Bassac 2 Restaurant

### 16-17 October

8th National Farmer Forum at Tonle Bassac 2

### 25 October

12th National Conference on Land and Natural Resources Governance at Tonle Bassac 2



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