



ព្រឹត្តិការណ៍រួមគ្នាសម្រាប់ការផ្លាស់ប្តូរ  
*The NGO Forum on Cambodia*

Working Together for Positive Change



## LEADING STORIES

### 2nd Quarterly LAHRiN Member Meeting



**On September 01, 2016:** Land and Livelihoods Program(LLP) of the NGO Forum on Cambodia conducted 2nd quarterly LAHRiN members meeting at Diakonia Phnom Penh. There were 40 participants from varied NGOs members and partners based in Phnom Penh and provinces to attend the meeting. The meeting was opened remark by Mr.Ear Chong, Land and Livelihood Programme Manager of NGF. After self-introducing and showing the agenda, Mr. Vong Kosal, Land Security Project Coordinator of NGOF reviewed the last minutes of 1st quarterly LAHRiN members meeting and also presented the Result of challenge and continuing work in the semester 2 for the members consideration and comments.

#### The key result of 1st quarterly LAHRiN members meeting on February 28, 2016:

- The members proactive share information and experience of advocacy strategies for resolution related to land and natural resources. They also increase capacity of technical investigation through presentation by Mr. Vong Kosal, legal officer of NGOF.
- The 5 cases of land dispute (land dispute case of Union Development Group Co.,Ltd (UDG) in Koh Kong province, MDS in Thmorda, Pursat province, Social Land Concession in Boeng 5, Battam Bang province, Irrigation project of Sinohydro in Kg Chnang province and Lower Sesan 2 Hydro power dam in Stueng Treng province) were selected by LAHRiN members

for together investigation and advocate for find the solution and case study.

- The members are well understand about activity plan 2016 in Land Security Project and Resettlement and Housing rights Project which are the inputs from the result of annual LAHRiN and IPFN reflection at the end of 2015.

#### They achievement for the 1<sup>st</sup> mesester:

- Conducted 1st quarterly LAHRiN member meeting as above mention.
- Conducted one training on procedure of Systematic Land Registration, mechanism of land dispute resolution and how to collect the accurate and reliable information and report writing and case study. As the result, they were increased knowledge between 60% to 80% through pretest and posttest.
- One regional exposure visit to Philippines
- Three meetings with 1st, 2nd & 3rd commission of the National Assembly regarding to land and natural resources. NGO members and partners raised the issues, concern and dialogue for good cooperation and find the way to solve the issues.
- 5 meetings with the Chinese Embassy, UN special rapporteur, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Sinohydro Chinese Company.
- One meeting MLMUPC on June 10, 2016 to build good cooperation and discuss about land registration and land dispute resolution.
- One meeting with the Prime Minister, Hun Sen to discuss about land governance and natural resources protection July 25, 2016. The NGOs' statement was read by PM to consider and some points were promptly taken action. For example, regular quarterly meeting with ministries and annual meeting PM was approved. As the observation, many ministries called to NGOF to coordinate meeting with clear agenda as soon as possible.
- Three workshops were conducted:

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- Two workshops hosted by the NGOF. 1) Consultation workshop on Draft of Law on Agricultural Land Management and Use in Battam Bang province, 2) National workshop on Land Titling: Systematic Land Registration and Indigenous People Collective Land Registration in Siem Reap province, and 3) collective learning and sharing land dispute resolution hosted by Star Kampuchea which the NGOF partly contribution.
- Investigation for evident based advocacy: Three of five cases selected by LAHRiN members in the 1st quarterly meeting were done and report. They are land dispute case of UDG in Koh Kong, land dispute case in Boeung 5, Battam Bang and land dispute case by irrigation project of Sinohydro Company in Kampong Chnang province.



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## Training on Free and Informed Consent (FPIC) and Joint Principle for Adaptation (JPA)



Network member of River Coalition in Cambodia (RCC), NGO Environment and Climate Change Alliance (NECA) of the NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) organized a training on Free and Informed Consent (FPIC) and Joint Principle for Adaptation (JPA) from 6th – 8th September 2016 at Hor Bunny hotel, Kratie province under funding supports by DCA/

CA, Oxfam and Southern Voices.. There are 30 participant who are representative from River Coalition in Cambodia (RCC), NGO Environment and Climate Change Alliance (NECA) members, Network for Development Food security and safety in Cambodia (NDF-C) and effected community representatives.

The training's objectives are strengthen capacity of network members and effected community representatives on the FPIC and JPA for their ability to apply of implementing in grassroots and national levels where area of large scale hydropower dam development.

Free, prior and Informed Consent, or FPIC is set as the tool for consultation and coopera-

tion in good faith with indigenous peoples on any project that affects them. This tool is often ignored by Government in practice for sovereignty reasoning hence it is generally violated when there are large-scale development projects. The implementation of FPIC for the interest of indigenous peoples remains a huge challenge including who to implement it, how, and what can be the effect at national level when it is not implemented.

The JPA were developed over 2014 and 2015 by civil society networks working on climate change from Africa, Asia and Latin America, under a project known as Southern Voices on Adaptation (SVA).

## Budget Working Group Reflection



**07-08 September 2016:** In 2015 and the first half of 2016, Budget Working Group (BWG) have achieved remarkable positive results through individual and collaborative endeavors which need to be reflected for future strategic plans. Those achievements includes improved collaboration with Nation-

al Assembly (NA) and Ministry of Economic and Finance (MEF), improved capacity of BWG members on public financial management and advocacy, increased public awareness on Public Finance Management (PFM), increased members of BWG and sustained good cooperation with Development Part-

ners (DPs), partner NGOs and academia.

The achievement were reported during a two-day retreat meeting, , which all BWG members including 10 NGO representative (females:04) of NGO, CRRT, Oxfam, TIC, GADC, and UNICEF have the following activities (1) reviewing BWG strengths and opportunities which enable BWG members to attain successes. (2) talk about weaknesses and threats that were not in favor of BWG's purposes in achieving their goals, (3) Discuss the ways forwards in the fourth quarter of 2016 and future strategic direction, (4) Invite academic, researcher and/or expert on social and economic development to present PFM-related topics and the analysis of how BWG members achieve the goals.





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## HIGHLIGHT STORIES

### Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Private Sector Engagement-Chinese Engagement



**On 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at Beijing Xinhai Jinjiang Hotel, Beijing, China:** Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Private Sector Engagement-Chinese Engagement: Stakeholders Consultation Meeting on the draft of Guideline for Sustainable Development of Natural Rubber organize by China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals & Chemicals Importers & Exporters (CCCME). From the beginning, the NGO FORUM on Cambodia requested and asked CCCME to bring the main principles of Disclose information, Public Participation, Environment Impact Assessment, Free, Prior, Inform and Consent, Cooperate Social Responsibility (CSR), Human Right and Businesses, Clear Benefit Sharing Mechanism, Environment Restoration Plan should be consider and Conflict and Resolution Mechanism for integrating into the final draft of the guideline. As resulted, they have agreed and bring those requests and suggestion points to integrate into the final draft of the guideline.



### Consultative Workshop on Climate Change Strategy and Policy Approach for Cambodia



Phnom Penh, Cambodia 12-13 September 2016: There are forty five from NECA members, Local Authorities, related Government officers, Development Partners together join in consultative workshop facilitating by climate change policy monitoring project of the NGO Forum on Cambodia with aiming 1) refreshing the Southern Voice Program as well as JPA principles to stakeholders 2) learn last update from relevant stakeholder on Cambodia climate change policies and strategies and relevant partners 3) validate the results of the survey among relevant stakeholders and 4) seek for agreement on the advocacy strategy for climate change policy influence in both national and sub-national level particularly in the Commune Development Plan/Commune Investment Plan (CDP/CIP). The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF), DanChurchAid/ChristianAid (DCA/CA) and Southern Voice on Climate Change – CARE Denmark have initiated and provided financial support to conduct the research on “Advocacy Strategy Analysis on Climate Change Policy Influence into Commune Development Plan” from early July 2016. The preliminary result of the research has been completed at the end of July 2016 by the independent consultant team. To ensure the quality of the research results, validation workshop under the coordination and financial support of the NGOF will be conducted with relevant stakeholders particularly NECA members, relevant stakeholder affected communities, government officers including national and sub-national level, and partners of southern voice on adaptation in Cambodia and in the regional level.

Tek Vannara, PhD, Executive Director of NGOF and NECA Steering Committee member had addressed that Cambodia is highly vulnerable to climate change, due to both high levels of poverty and frequency of disasters of climate change hazard. In 2014, it

is commonly named as one of the most at-risk countries in the world. 80% of the population living in rural, and about 70% engaging in agriculture – primarily rain-fed agriculture. In 2011, there were 431,000 hectares of transplanted rice fields were affected and 267,000 hectares of rice fields were damaged by flood while 3,804 hectares of rice fields were affected by drought. Nearly 50% of the total communes in Cambodia are categorised between vulnerable to extremely vulnerable to climate viability, according to the Second National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). A public perception survey on climate change conducted in 2010 found that more than 50% of respondents indicated the lack of accessing to information related to climate change and 60% of the respondents do not know how to respond to climate change. The need for Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) mainstreaming has become recognized as increasingly important in building the country's absorptive capacity and enhancing community resilience. However, CCA and DRR intervention in community level is still have long destination to get rid of.

The need for climate change adaptation and disaster risk management mainstreaming has become recognized as increasingly important in building the country's absorptive capacity and enhancing community resilience. Climate change mainstreaming interventions have been implemented to pilot the process of mainstreaming climate change into national, sectoral and sub-national levels under different initiatives.

Ms. Vositha Wijanayake a regional facilitator of Southern Voice on Climate Change (SVA) said that the Joint Principle for Adaptation (JPA) is a benchmark for good adaptation planning and implementation both in the national and local level to meet the needs and fulfill the rights of the most vulnerable people to adapt to climate change. It was developed over 2014 and 2015 by civil society networks working on climate change from Africa, Asia and Latin America, under a project known as Southern Voices on Adaptation (SVA). In the first phase of Southern Voice for Adaptation (SV-Adapt).

**Read more at: <http://bit.ly/2je5tov>**





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## Exposure Visit To Small And Medium Enterprise (SME) And Agribusiness Companies Applying Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)



**On 25-29 September, 2016, Surin and Buriram province, Thailand:** Network for Development of Food Security and Safety in Cambodia (NDF-C) of Agriculture Policy Monitoring Project-The NGO Forum on Cambodia host an exposure visit to small and medium enterprise (SME) and agribusiness companies applying corporate social responsibility (CSR). The objectives are to learn about the best practices, lesson learns, and challenges of applying corporate social responsibility (CSR) and responsible of a CSR rice company called Chia Meng's Dickenson Limited, and

Young Smart Farmer Rice Entrepreneur, Smart Farmer Networks, the ICT Community Learning Centre, and the Community Water Management among all stakeholders; understand the interaction between small landholder farmers (SLF) and agri-business sector in Surin and Buriram provinces especially women involved in value chain with different commodities and Reflect the implementation of activities in 2016 and improvement points for implementing in next year.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Indigenous People Forestry Network (IPFN) Meeting



**On 13 September 2016 at NGO Forum's office:** Indigenous People Forestry Network (IPFN) of NGO Forum is regularly organize 3rd Quarterly IPFN Meeting. There are 24 participants (6 women).

Opening session start by Mr. Ang Cheat Lom, Secretariat/representative of IPFN com-

mittee and Executive Director of Ponlok Khmer. He mentions on numerous results of IPFN achieved for past three month, especially the open letter to Prime Minister for Submission of requests forum on environmental protection and conservation of natural resources by civil society organizations on 22 Aug 2016, as the results, we see Prime Minister accepted our request, advise to relevant line ministries to have good cooperation and regular meeting with NGOs and CSO.

Mr. Pheap Sochea, Secretariat of IPFN, update on results in the past 3 months which were meeting between NGOs and

Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, and the celebration of The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples 22, 2016.







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## Sub-National Consultation Workshop on the Draft Guideline on Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment Process in Cambodia



**Siem Reap, September 22, 2016:** Sub-National Consultation Workshop on the Draft Guideline on Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment Process in Cambodia was organized by the NGO FORUM on Cambodia with good cooperation from Ministry of Environment and support from NGO's donor partner such as PACT, Oxfam, DCA/CA and Diakonia. The purpose of consultation workshop are 1) give an opportunity to indigenous people to participate in reviewing the draft guideline on public participation in environmental impact assessment process (PPEIA) to avoid incidental of problem after approving project, share key figures of basic PPEIA to indigenous people, share best practices, challenges and approach to gain more public participation before approving project and define other methodologies to ensure that IP community has fully participate and strengthen the implementation of participation of FPIC, Human Right and Business (HRB) and Cooperate Social Responsibility (CSR) and collect all inputs from communities and stakeholders for national consultation workshop which will organize in November 2016 by Ministry of Environment, Vishnu Law Group and the NGO FORUM on Cambodia. In opening remark, Mr Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO FORUM on Cambodia mention that Public Participation is also a way of improving a project and promoting sustainable development in Cambodia. Therefore, public participation in the EIA process is indispensable; meaning that an absence of public participation is equivalent to an absence of an EIA. Moreover, he continued that Public participation in the EIA process refers to involving all parties who are both directly and indirectly affected by a development project in discussing issues, exchanging of and listening to comments and ideas, and sharing information. Public Participation includes taking part in solving disputes in all stages of a project – planning, construction, operation, and monitoring – as well as contributing to the overall task of environmental protection and natural resource management.

## CSOs Cambodia Sub National Consultative Workshop on Regional Guidelines for Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)



**On 06 Oct 2016, Siem Reap Province, Cambodia:** In collaboration between NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) Development and Partnership in Action (DPA) and Ministry of Environment, Cambodia, there are 91 participants (25 Female) of NGOs members, youth; EIA consulting and community representatives firm from provinces of Cambodia joint in two days event from 06-07 October 2016 on CSOs Consultative Workshop on Regional Guidelines for Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment which fund support by USAID/MPE/PACT in aiming 1) to provide overview of the regional guideline on public participation in the EIA process in the Mekong region; 2) to collect constructive inputs from CSOs and affected communities; and 3) to plan on how to inject the gathered comments into the 1-day national public consultative workshop on public participation in the EIA process which going to conduct by 28 October 2016.

Mr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO FORUM on Cambodia and organizing committee members said that currently we NGOF together CSO members in Cambodia are working on both regional and national guideline on public participation in EIA process. We found that those public participation guidelines are very crucial and identifying a good mechanism to improve a project implementation and promoting sustainable development in Cambodia and Region. Mediation was highlighted as the key principle that can lead to win-win solutions in public participation in EIA. It will provide all stakeholders especially local communi-

ties to voice their concerns by taking various contributing factors into account at an early stage. Since conflicts can be minimized and avoided through mediated public participation process, the discussion identified related actors who can conduct mediation and techniques that can be employed and examined further in development projects. This was introduced to ensure that public participation in EIA would be integrated into the development of the Regional Guidelines on Public Participation in EIA reflecting the improved project design in response to the needs of affected people in the Lower Mekong countries. Therefore, public participation in the EIA process is essential; meaning that an absence of public participation is corresponding to an absence of an EIA. Moreover, he continued that Public participation in the EIA process refers to involving all parties who are both directly and indirectly affected by a development project in discussing issues, exchanging of and listening to comments and ideas, and sharing information. Public Participation includes taking part in solving disputes in all stages of a project – planning, construction, operation, and monitoring – as well as contributing to the overall task of environmental protection and natural resource management.

The Draft Regional Guidelines for Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) have been collaboratively developed by the Regional Technical Working Group (RTWG) on EIA comprised of 25 government and non-government members from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

Notice that bases on Mekong EIA Briefing: Environmental Impact Assessment Comparative Analysis in Lower Mekong Countries in 2015 by PACT reported that across the region, there are a number of gaps and weaknesses in public participation in the EIA process.

**Read more at :** <http://bit.ly/2gwKClw>





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## Sub-National Consultation Workshop on Draft Guideline on Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment Process



**On 17-18 October 2016, Kampot Province, Cambodia:** Public participation is important for effective, transparent and socially just decision making, and for government to make an informed decision on the project proposal. Public Participation is also a way of improving a project and promoting sustainable development in Cambodia. Therefore, The NGO Forum on Cambodia collaboration with MoE and Vishnu Law Group to organize two day on Sub-National Consultation Workshop on Draft Guideline on Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment Process in Kampot Diamond Hotel, Kampot Province. There are around 30 participants who from national and international NGOs, Lawyer group and EIA firm. Purposes of the workshop are:

- Give opportunity to relevant institution to participate in reviewing the PPEIA to avoid incidental of problem after approving project.
- Share key figures of basic PPEIA to indigenous people
- Share best practices, challenges and approach to gain more public participation before approving project
- Improve the draft guideline of public participation guideline which developed by MoE and Vishnu law group.

## The 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the World Habitat Day Campaign



**On 10 October 2016, Phnom Penh:** The 31<sup>st</sup> World Habitat Day began in a heavy rain since the early morning at the former site of the Dey Krahorm community neighborhood of Phnom Penh's Chamkar Morn district, where residents were violently evicted by a private company, known as 7NG development firm under the Government guard forces' support. Because it was a heavy-raining morning and disturbed by the guards, hundreds of marchers changed the direction hoping to march to the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction to deliver a joined petition. On the way, the number of participants were increased subsequently and reached up to 1,000 people. However, the number of participants decreased to some 700 people following the violence on Human Right NGO staff and land right activists.

The wave of hundred people moved northward as it moved down Sisowath Quay, passing the Royal Palace and turned left once they reached Wat Ounalom's gate, and the march was blocked at street 178 along the National Museum fence where they were confronted by dozens of security guards. The tension immediately emerged at about 9:35 am when Daun Penh district security guards blocked the path of protesters attempting to changes course and rushed the crowd, destroying banners, drum, palm leaf, National and religious flag. Firstly, they beat Mr. Chan Puthisak, one of the Boeung Kak land activist, and attacked Mr. Am Sam Ath, LICADHO's Monitoring Manager, then. He

was hit in the head and face and suffered cuts and bruising. Few others were caused serious injured.

After the scuffle on Street 178, the marchers eventually arrived at Freedom Park at about 10:30 am, where they celebrated the event according to the agenda such as monk blessing, speech from community representatives, balloon releasing. At around 11.00AM, official of Ministry of Land Ministry, Urban Planning and Construction came to accept petitions from WHD's committee. Hoeu Chanda, the ministry's deputy director-general for the general department of housing, promised to forward the petition to the minister. A group of police officers returned the confiscated drum at the freedom park.

Finally, the event was completely finished by around 11.30 am at Democratic park. Though the start was put into violence, but the result was good as expected.

*Reported by: Mao Veasna  
STT Community Project Officer*







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## Environment Programme Network Reflection Workshop on Achievement in 2016 and Develop Action Plan for 2017



**On 20 October 2016:** NGO Forum on Cambodia with its Environment Program organize Network Reflection Workshop on Achievement in 2016 and Develop Action Plan for 2017. This event two days (20-21 October 2016) at Tonle Bassac II Restaurant and ICF center in Phnom Penh. The Environment Program is comprised for three projects: 1. Agricultural Policy Monitoring Project (APMP), 2. Climate Change Policy Monitoring Project (CCPMP) and Community Rights on Hydropower Development Project (CRHDP). This reflection workshop objective are:

- Strengthen knowledge and capacity of network members on the current situation of environmental issue in the context of climate change, natural resource management agriculture and development in Cambodia
- Reflect the implementation of activities in 2016 of each network and improvement for next year
- Discussing about next year advocacy strategies and action plans;
- Networking and build cooperation among network member, development partners, CSOs and relevant government agencies.



## National Consultation Workshop on Participatory Forest management and conservation in Cambodia



The NGO Forum on Cambodia through Forestry Rights Project/ Land and Livelihoods Program in collaboration with Working Group on Prey Lang (WGPL) had organized “National Consultation Workshop on Participatory Forest Management and Conservation in Cambodia” on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at Angkor Miracle Hotel, Siem Reap province. The workshop was convened to update current status, share key information and possible solutions on the management issues of Community Forestry, Community Protected Area management and PreyLang Wildlife Sanctuary. There 104 (11 women) participants who are representatives of community forest, NGOs, government officials, local authority, development partners and the media.



Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia delivered a welcome remark. He stressed the importance of ongoing discussion on forestry issues and the need to mobilize inputs from all stakeholders to better forest management in Cambodia. He claimed the recent government-NGO meeting (which was held on 22 August 2016 at Council of Ministers) was so positive, saying that the two sides had come up with two key commitments on forestry

sector – 1. Quarterly meeting (NGOs and government) and 2. Annual meeting (Premier and NGOs). Dr. Tek Vannara also added that though NGO community recognize positive progress in forestry management made by government, still there are many issues in critically challenge.



In addition, in his key remark, Mr. Khieng Sochivy, Country Manager of Forum Syd raised about the relation between forest and climate change. “Protecting forest and diversity is very important in country, also in the region. The experience shows that destroy of forests in Indonesia affected the Philippine, and destroy forest in Cambodia also affected Thailand.” Sochivy said.



Dr. Samreth Vanna, Deputy Director of Community Forestry Department, Forestry Administration delivered his speech to open the workshop. He claimed that the government is working seriously on forestry reform. “To enforce forestry policy, 499 forest communities were formed, which 401 forest communities were already recognized. 328 CF already registered with forest administration with 67 management plan” he said.





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## National Forum on The 25 Anniversary of Paris Peace Accord



Over 40 CSO/NGOs in Cambodia organize National Forum on The 25 Anniversary of Paris Peace Accord on Tuesday 18 October 2016 at Development Innovations Cambodia & USAID. There are approximately 190 participants who are from government representatives, NGOs, development partners, human rights defenders, land activists, youths, Associations, students, social media networks and national international media journalists.

This forum aim to:

- 1- to celebrate the 25 Anniversary of Paris Peace Accord in Cambodia
- 2- to reflect the results and challenges on priority issues in Cambodia
- 3- to look forward what will the benefits to develop for people's in Cambodia



## CSO Technical Working Group Review the 5<sup>th</sup> Draft of Natural Resource and Environment Code



NGO working group on Environment Code met to discuss on the 5 draft of Environment Code (EC) on 19 October 2016 at Tonle Basac 2 restaurant. This meeting aim to seek more inputs and recommendation for improving quality of the draft EC. As results the inputs, recommendations from legal working group (LWG) and NGOs had been well documented and official submitted to MOE and Vishnu Law Group for the improvement of the EC

There are 15 participants who are representative of Oxfam, DPA, NGO Forum, Star Kampuchea, Forum Syd, CCC, SCW, Researcher from Royal University of Phnom Penh, Institute Technology of Cambodia, MOSAIC and Vishnu Law group.

So far as the membership organization, the NGO Forum on Cambodia will take a lead and play important role in coordination among NGOs/CSOs for providing and gathering inputs/recommendation on the development of the Code. The NGO Forum had great experience in coordination and providing inputs/recommendation in the draft law on Environmental Impact Assessment.

The development of the Code is part of a broader reform agenda for sustainable development and green growth. The Environmental Code will include key flowing aspects: environmental protection, biodiversity conservation, protection and management of cultur-

al heritage, and environmental assessment. The provisions such as climate change, urban environmental issues, sustainable cities, Strategic Environmental Assessment, grievance mechanisms, enforcement matters, public participation will be included in the Code. The Code will establish chapter of inter-ministerial cooperation among the numerous government institutions that currently share responsibility for environmental matters. The jurisdictional organization will examine the roles, duties and means of collaboration among relevant institutions.

The NGO Forum is currently facilitating 8 networks and 5 national working groups (450 LNGO/INGO) where focus on different issues including environment, natural resources, hydropower, agriculture, climate change, sustainable city and green economic, biodiversity conservation, waste management, food safety and food security, water governance, national development strategic, localize of Sustainable Development and budgeting. It is a great opportunity for NGO Forum to bring all the concerns, issues, gaps and challenges from the ground which should be addressed by the Code. Moreover, it is an opportunity to support and strengthen the capacity and participation of CSOs representatives in STWGs for effective engagement of CSOs in the creation of the Code.







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## Cambodia National Consultation on the draft Regional Guidelines on Public Participation in EIA



On 28 October 2016, Sokha Hotel, Phnom Penh, Cambodia: NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) and Development and Partnership in Action (DPA) in Cambodia cooperate with Ministry of Environment host Cambodia National Consultation on the draft Regional Guidelines on Public Participation in EIA which fund support by USAID/PACT. There are over 100 participants who are from Government agencies, NGOs/CSOs, private and public sectors, EIA consulting firms, EIA experts and academics, regional and international organizations. Pact and the RTWG will attempt a balanced representation of stakeholder groups.

The overall objectives of this event are:

- Inform interested stakeholders about the regional cooperation efforts of the RTWG on EIA and the development of the regional guidelines;
- Collect comments from key stakeholders in order to improve the content of the regional guidelines; and
- Promote awareness and ownership of the regional guidelines, in order to facilitate their adoption and implementation in each country and across the broader Mekong and ASEAN regions.



## The NGO Forum's Quarterly Member Meeting



On 21 October, NGO Forum on Cambodia (#NGOF) organize the Quarterly Member Meeting at Phnom Penh Ecumenical Diakonia Centre (PPEDC/ICF) from 8:00 until 12:00. There were 80 participants from NGO members, donors/partner, and guest speakers.

Mr. Keam Makarady, Member of the Management Committee of the NGO Forum on Cambodia and Field Operation Manager of CEDAC. Firstly, he thanked all government officers, NGOF members, network members, INGOs and NGOs that came to join this membership meeting today. Then, he highlighted the objectives this meeting as well as summary briefly about the information and discussion points of last AGM such as the information on the improvement of law formulation and enforcement of the draft environmental code, land and natural resource management law, and the annual achievement of NGOF from July 2015-June 2016.

Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia thanked to all government agencies, NGOF members, and INGOs/NGOs who participated in this half day meeting. He gave presentation on Update the achievement of the NGOF from August-October 2016 as following: There were 2 regional workshops on Public Participation on EIA in Siem Reap and in Kampot Province. The result of the workshop will be brought to include into the national workshop which will be organized on 3rd November 2016. Then MoE will produce the Public Participation guideline on EIA. Regional Workshop on Regional Guideline on Public Participation on EIA which formulated by 5 countries with 25 members including 10 government agencies from 5 countries including Cambodia, Lao, Thailand, Vietnam, and Myanmar, and 10 CSOs/NGOs under the financial support of PACT

regional. As such, the independent consultant has produced the draft guideline which will be brought to discuss in February 2017 for the final version and then the inter-government agencies will use it for the policy implementation in each country. Early this week, Quarterly Meeting among NGOs and Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) was organized. As a result, joint action plan in 2017 on IPs between NGOs and MRD was developed with MoU agreement. Land and livelihood Member and Housing Rights Network meeting to organize "The Paris Peace Accords 23rd October" to reflect what have been done for the 25 years and to discuss what will be focused from now to next 25 year between government agencies, private sectors, and NGOs.

H.E Kol Vathana, Deputy General Secretary of Cambodian National Mekong Committee (CNMC), the position of Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) on the Mekong Mainstream dam. He will talk about the hydropower dam in the Mekong River. Two contents were presented including (i) Hydropower development in the Mekong mainstream; (ii) Mekong River Commission (MRC)'s legal framework.

H.E Peng Navuth, Deputy of General Department of Mine, MoME, related to transparency international Cambodia on sand investment – he stressed that if we don't restore the river, it will be difficult for navigation. Before, to sustain the navigation; we need to spend money to dredge the sand from the river in order to make better flow of river in the purpose of shipping. But now we can get 7 million USD per year from sand investment. Related to how to deal the problem of mine issue, MoME has developed hot line to give service within 24 hours and MoME will arrive to the conflict site not least than 8 hours after getting the information and then MoME will seek solution for the communities. Before, there were about 100 cases per day, but now only one case for a few days.

Ms. Prom Bopha, Member of the Management Committee of the NGO Forum on Cambodia, and as the chairperson of the meeting summarized the main results of the meeting such the updated of achievement of NGOF from August to October 2016 by Dr. Tek Vannara, ED of NGOF, updated of the Mekong mainstream dams by H.E Kol Vathana, Deputy General Secretary of CNMC, Governance on Extractive Industries (EIGF) by H.E Peng Navuth, Deputy of General Department of Mine, MoME. Finally, she thanked all participants and speakers from government agencies and NGOs who provided valuable time to fully participate in this meeting and thanks to all donors for providing fund support for this meeting. This meeting was ended at 12:00 AM.







ព័ត៌មានសង្គមស្តីពីសង្គមខ្មែរ គ្លីប៊ិកកម្ពុជា  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS/HOLIDAYS 2016

### 02-03 November

Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Cambodia Responsible Agribusiness Forum on “Human Rights and Business: Promoting Responsible Agribusiness Practice in Cambodia”

### 09 November

Independence Day

### 13-14-15 November

Water Festival Ceremony

### 23 November

Constitution Day CSO National Consultation Workshop ON “THE DRAFT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND Environmental Code

### 29-30 November

The 10th National Advocacy Conference (NAC)

### 02 December

Consultative Workshop on draft Access to Information Law

### 10 December

International Human Rights Day

### 19-20 December

National Consultative Workshop on “Agricultural Land Law

### 26 – 29 December

NGO Forum Annual Reflection



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**Miss Sophay Phanika** is officially commences as Finance Assistant of the NGO Forum on Cambodia from September 01, 2016. She graduated Bachelor degree in Finance and Banking, IIC university of Technology.

She used to be a Teller at Advance Bank of Asia for over two years. She also had been an intern for the NGO Forum on Cambodia for one year.







ព្រឹត្តិការណ៍ប្រជុំអង្គការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល កម្ពុជា  
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