



វេទិកាសម្រាប់ការចូលរួមសង្គមស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

ធ្វើការរួមគ្នាដើម្បីការវាងវិជ្ជមាន
Working Together for Positive Change



LEADING STORIES

Citizen Engagement in Budget Formulation and Monitoring on Public Revenue and Expenditure Process in the Post Covid-19



The Budget Working Group, coordinated by the NGO Forum on Cambodia, organized a public forum on “Citizen Engagement in Budget Formulation and Monitoring on Public Revenue and Expenditure Process in the Post Covid-19 at both the national and sub-national levels. The forum was attended by representatives from more than 10 relevant government ministries, including the Senate, the National Assembly, the Ministry of National Assembly Senate Relations and Inspection, the Ministry of Interior (Mol), and the National Committee for Democratic Development (NCDD), Ministry of Planning (MoP) Ministry of Information, Ministry of Women’s Affairs (MoWA), General Department of Taxation, (GDT), National Bank of Cambodia (NBC), Agricultural And Rural Development Bank (ARDB), Local Government, Private Sector Local Authorities (Banking Association of Cambodia and Cambodian Microfinance Association) UN Agencies National representatives of development partners include representatives of the European

Union (EU), national and international civil society organizations, representatives of universities, students, youth, indigenous communities, citizens and the media, which were in person around 150 people (60 women) and virtually through zoom program approximately 60 participants and through 5 social media- Facebook pages with a total of about 2,000 (two thousand) of people viewed.

The event has three main objectives:

1. Increase the understanding and promote the public participation



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on budget transparency and accountabilities including the budgetary process both national and sub-national.

2. Provide opportunities for tax payers including youths, CSOs/NGOs to meet and discuss with relevant stakeholders and policy makers toward the public participation in the budget cycle at national and sub-national level.
3. Provide opportunities for tax payers including youths, CSOs/NGOs to provide inputs for relevant stakeholders and policy makers toward the improvement national budget



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transparency and accountability, gender mainstreaming, inclusive principal and other alternatives to improve the effectiveness.

As a result, all participants expressed their joy by seeing the presence of all development actors participating in updates and discussions with understanding and partnerships related to the topic. We strongly believe that Cambodians will have a voice in the way of public spending as well as in decisions that affect their livelihoods in the communes, districts, and cities in their lives.

The forum focused on the three-topic discussion as following:

1. Public Participation on Public Financial Management Reform (PFMR)
2. Public Participation in budget preparation and budget expenditure monitoring at sub-national
3. Budget preparation in responding to Natural Resource Management, local community and Climate Change

In each topic, we have discussed on the main important points:

1. Existing mechanism and implementation
2. Number of challenges which is hindered of implementation
3. Request and recommendation on the priority actions to be implemented by relevant stakeholders

As a result, we would like to express our appreciation for the positive points of the existing mechanisms and past practices related to the participation of citizens in the budgeting and monitoring process, which are approximately: 35 positive points and Progress. Some of the challenges

that hinder the quality of monitoring and evaluation of the significant budget implementation raised in the forum discussions included 23 points and 23 recommendations.

Finally, all of us who participate in this forum express our commitment to continue working together in a professional partnership and in a conducive environment to promote transparency and accountability in budgeting. And monitoring, especially at the sub-national level.





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Consultation Workshop on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)



The meeting was chaired by HE Yim Phen, Deputy Governor, Representative of the Board of Governors of Ratanakkiri Province. H.E shared the information of Company's good practices, challenges that the Company has not yet complied with the agreement, and discuss more on solutions. As a result, the participants and the delegation became more aware of the principles of corporate social and environmental responsibility, the contents of the agreement between the company and the indigenous community of Jarai, Tangse and Phum villages. Agree on shortcomings that the company has promised and has not yet implemented.

On 15 June 2022, the NGO Forum on Cambodia cooperated with the Partnership for Development in Action (DPA) and members of the Land and Housing Rights Network in collaboration with the Ratanakkiri Provincial Administration organized a Consultation Workshop on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) at Ratanakkiri Provincial Hall. The workshop was attended by 91 participants (16 women): there were 9 civil society organizations with total 14 participants(2 Women) which representative from NGOs (DPA, NGOF, CLEC, HA, ICC, OCK,

NIC, MC, SVC), and 16 authorities (HE Deputy Governor, Provincial Hall Officer, Inter-sectoral Office, Provincial Hall Officer and Deputy District Governor), and 5 participants from Department of Agriculture, Department of Environment, Department of Land, Department of Industry, Department of Labor) and 1 participant from director of Forestry Administration, and 7 companies (Angkor Gold, Mesco Gold, SK Plantation, Hoang Anh, Veasna, 7 MakaraPhary, Krom Bok), and 43 community representatives (7 women).

Finally, the joint action plan includes capacity building on the principles of corporate social and environmental responsibility, multilateral consultative workshops twice a year, continuous implementation of the contents of the agreement, jointly established and committed on cooperation, roles and responsibilities of each party.





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Three Regional Consultation Workshops on Collecting CSO inputs on Customary Tenure to Forestry Law and Protected Area Law

The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) collaborated with the National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development (NCDD) organized three Regional Consultation Workshops on Collecting CSO Inputs on Customary Tenure to Forestry Law and Protected Area in Preah Vihear Province on 05 May 2022, in Kratie Province on 09 May 2022 and Kampot Province on 11 May 2022.

These regional workshops were funded by MRLG, UNDP, ClientEarth, Oxfam, NPA, Diakonia, HEKS / EP, ILC.

The workshop has three main objectives, including:

1. Understand the draft forest law and the protected area law and study the norms related to community tenure in the forest area, including the relevant norms of the protected area community.
2. The results provide an opportunity for discussions to gather input from sub-national administrations, civil society and local communities for the process of amending the Forest Law and the Protected Areas Law.
3. Organize national consultation meetings with inter-ministerial, civil society, development partners and local community representatives to discuss in detail the input received from the sub-national level.

The three regional consultative workshops were attended by approximately 311 members, 54 of whom were women, consisting of: 15 provincial administrations, 117 relevant departments and district administrations, 77 representatives of civil society organizations, and There are 9 representatives of indigenous organizations, 117 representatives of the community, including 53 representatives of indigenous peoples.



Regional Consultation Workshops on Collecting CSO Inputs on Customary Tenure to Forestry Law and Protected Area in Preah Vihear Province on 05 May 2022



Regional Consultation Workshops on Collecting CSO Inputs on Customary Tenure to Forestry Law and Protected Area in Kratie Province on 09 May 2022



Regional Consultation Workshops on Collecting CSO Inputs on Customary Tenure to Forestry Law and Protected Area in Kampot Province on 11 May 2022



Based on the discussions, consultations and suggestions of the workshop, the facilitator can conclude that the input collected from the three regional workshops is really important and can be considered for inclusion in the workshop. In the draft amendments to the Law on Protected Areas and the Law on Forestry related to the chapters that describe the participation and rights of communities. Following the three regional workshops on 27 May 2022, the NGO Forum on Cambodia submitted a report to the NCDD. And we are planning to hold a national workshop with the Inter-Ministerial Law Amendment Working Group to propose the final and final draft law, and to hold a national consultation workshop to review the progress that the Inter-Ministerial Law Amendment Working Group can receive. Add before sending the final draft to the Council of Ministers.



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HIGHLIGHT STORIES

Consultation Workshop on the Key Achievements and Implementation of the Conference of the Parties (COP26)

The NGOF/NECA, consists of 35 NGO, network members and partners, has been working together to solving the environmental problem in Cambodia with government, policy makers and relevant stakeholders. For the purpose of discuss and share experiences and information about addressing concerns and challenges regarding to climate change and environmental issue in Cambodia and in the regions, the NGOF/NECA organized a consultation workshop on key achievement of COP 26 in order to share and update progress, and review key achievements among the networks. The workshop was organized as hybrid meeting, in-person at Sunway Hotel and on Zoom held on 30th June 2022 from 08:30 to 12:00.

The Objectives of the workshop are:

- Share on works and joint actions from relevant stakeholders to address climate change issues in Cambodia;
- Reflect the progress and key achievements as well as challenges of COP 26 among academic, private sector, government and CSO;
- Discuss and collect the inputs, needs, concerns of all relevant stakeholders for development of the joint statement for COP 27.

Dr. TEK Vannara, Executive Director of NGOF, he noted that Cambodia has shown much efforts on coping CC including REDD+ (Reduce Emission from Deforestation and forest Degradation) implementation. He underlined that the work of the day would collect comments from the participants as inputs for COP 27. He underlined that Green Funding for CC was 130 thousand billion USD. Private companies had shown their commitment for the Green Funding, he admired. Standardization of CO2 emission calculation for all business around the world has been made. In the same time, there are mechanisms for rewarding to those companies who had



committed to the COP agreement, e.g. Paris Agreement (2015), he stressed.

The Paris agreement delivered the Rulebook that requests all signatory countries should commit their efforts to reach 1.5oC. The COP 26 requested to reduce as much as possible using coal (mineral coal). By 2030 is targeted for SDG (Sustainable Development Goal).

Dr. Vannara, also, recognized the lack of fund commitment to deliver 130 thousand billion USD because of some other matters of the developed countries. He noted that the funds are proposed for CC adaptation. He mentioned that Mr. Se Bunleng, researcher, will detail on findings of study on COP 26 implementation and achievement. He believed that the workshop will provide valuable inputs for CC adaptation measures for Cambodia development. Dr. Vannara ended his welcome remarks by wishing all the participants healthy and successes.

Mr. Mark Thayre, Deputy Head, Mission of UK Embassy, stated that it is not too late to stop CC. He further noted that Cambodia signed up Green Initiative Issues while COP 26 shows many issues. He, also, stressed that carbon markets should be implemented in Cambodia. He announced that the UK committed \$14bn per year for CC supports to countries worldwide to cope with CC, especially in Cambodia. The supports include clean transport, adaptation and biodiversity conservation. Particular supports to Cambodia are the supports to local communities to protect and improve their livelihoods.

He ended his keynote by applauding the NGOF for its efforts on mobilizing stakeholders to work together for coping CC. We still need more discussions on how to cope with, adapt, and mitigate CC, he stressed. He noted that government has key roles in this aspect. Finally, he encouraged the participants to provide and collect inputs for COP 27. He thanked the workshop organizer for the active event.

H.E. Khut Chandara, Representative of the Third Commission of the National Assembly He underlined that CC is determined as inter-aspect sectors of Cambodia, so, we all are responsible to commit efforts to cope with the changes of climate. Being one of the members of the COP 26, Cambodia had committed to work together with the world for CC reduction. He noted that according to MoE: 64.6 million metric ton of carbon will be reduced by 2030. Cambodia has provided long-term plan on CC: by 2050 Cambodia will have zero (0) carbon emission, he stressed. For instance, Cambodia committed to work on hydropower and solar power, he said. He, further underlined that Cambodia will not create coal electricity till 2050. He encouraged the NGOF and its networks to continue to work on CC adaptation and mitigation for the world environmental friendly.



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Exposure Visit and Training Workshop on Project Proposal Development to NGO Members and CBOs

On May 24-25-26, 2022, the NGO Forum on Cambodia organized Exposure Visit and Training Workshop on Project Proposal Development to NGO Members and CBOs at Chambok Ecotourism Community in Preah Suramarit-Kossamak Kirirom National Park, Kampong Speu Province. This exposure visit is last for three days from May 24-26, 2022. This training funded by The GEF Small Grands Programme of UNDP, MRLG and Diakonia.

Training Workshop on Project Proposal Development to NGO Members and CBOs was organized to build the capacity of member organizations, forest governance networks, and local community organizations. In order to strengthen institutional capacity in writing a project proposal, financial management, and report writing. This training course is facilitated and lectured by Mr. Vong Thavy and Mr. Hun Sovathanak, consultant.

On May 26, 2022, The Exposure Visit and Training Workshop on Project Proposal Development to NGO Members and CBOs were achieved on the schedule proposed

and the objectives. As a result, during these three days, the participants gained more knowledge on:

- Good practice of project management and financial management of Chambok community
- Describe the cycle and function of project management
- Identify problems and requirements for project writing
- able to write the goals, objectives, activities, indicators, means of measurement, assumptions / risks and results
- Fill out a project proposal form requesting funding from the donors

On behalf of the organizers, we would like to thank the donor and partners funded this training who are The GEF Small Grands Programme



Training Workshop on Reporting Based on Results and Financial Management

In order to build the capacity of NGO members and Community Based organizations (CBOs) of the Network for Forest Governance (N4F) to build institutional capacity, project writing, project management proposals, financial management and report writing based on results. The NGO Forum on Cambodia organized a training workshop on Reporting Based on Results and Financial Management from 14 to 16 June 2022 in Trapeang Sangke Community, Teuk Chhouk

District, Kampot Province. The training was supported by GEF Small Grands Programme of UNDP, MRLG and Diakonia.





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Training Workshop on Open and Accountable Budgeting

Budget Working Group (BWG) of the national and international CSOs coordinated by the NGO Forum on Cambodia in cooperate with International Budget Partnership (IBP) organize the first 3 day physical training workshop on “Open and Accountable Budgeting” at Himawari hotel from 16 to 18 May to BWG’s members and partners from 20 organizations.

The IBP and NGO Forum have been working intensively on the issue of fiscal accountability and transparency in Cambodia. Currently, we are implementing a program called “Collaboration for transparent budgets and accountability”, which seeks to develop the capacities of civil society to incorporate budget analysis into their work and generate advocacy opportunities around relevant issues in their context.

By the end of the program, the civil society will:

- have the knowledge and skills to think strategically about budgets and relate them to public policy issues relevant to their work
- begin to use available budget information and engagement opportunities to address your own institutional agenda and influence expectations for change
- be strengthened in their capacity to actively participate in budget processes and be able to relate their interests to the broader demands for transparent budgets and accountability





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UPCOMING EVENTS/HOLIDAYS 2022

11-15 July

Mid-year Reflection in 2022

26 July

Consultative workshop on Responsible Agriculture Investment (RAI) in Rice Sector

27 July

Quarterly Member Meeting

29 July

Workshop on Access to Information and Community Participation in Decision-Making Processes

04 August

NGO Leaders Consultative Workshop Validating and Collecting further CSO inputs on the Amendment of the Law on Forestry and Law on Protected Area

19 August

Workshop on Promoting Youth Participation in Environmental protection and climate change

25 August

Consultative Workshop on draft Guide to Environmental, Social, and Governance Safeguarding (ESG) Assessment on Responsible Investment in Banana or Rubber Value Chain (G2RIBRVC)

29 August

consultative workshop to develop a CSOs' position paper for ASEAN Summit on green financing



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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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