



វេទិកាផ្សារអង្គការមិនមែនរដ្ឋាភិបាល ស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

ធ្វើការរួមគ្នាដើម្បីការវិវឌ្ឍសេចក្តីផ្តុំ
Working Together for Positive Change



LEADING STORIES

Quarterly Member Meeting



The NGO Forum on Cambodia's (NGOF) quarterly member meeting held on February 2019 at Phnom Penh Ecumenical Diakonia Centre (PPEDC/ICF) from 08:00 – 12:00 presided over by Mr. Ngin Saorath, Member of NGO's Management Committee and Executive Director of CDPO. There were 122 participants (27 female) represented to NGO members of NGO in Cambodia.

Key guest speakers from the Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction participated in the presentation on the 1) updating significant progress report of NGO; 2) Update on the framework of Cambodia's sustainable development goals focus on the presentation on the framework of Cambodia's sustainable development goals, Presentation on disability social development program; 3) Update on the process of amendments to laws on Forestry, Fisheries and Protected areas focus on the presentation on progress of amendments to law on Forestry, Fisheries and Protected areas, presentation on the National Authority for Land

Dispute Resolution, presentation on the draft of NSDP 2019-2023 focus on Gender, presentation on the Australia Awards Scholarships for Intake 2020. Quarterly, NGO invited its members, donors, and partners who were supporting NGO's mission to quarterly members meeting. The meeting discussed on key achievements, challenges, lesson learned, good practice and feedback from members for further implement next quarter work plan.

Mr. Ngin Saorath, chair of the meeting, gave a warm welcome and thanked all NGO members, government, and development partners for their participation in the important meeting. Chair of 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 NGO work plan. Chairman also briefed the key agendas of meeting as the following: 1) Update on significant quarterly progress report of NGO; 2) Update on the framework of Cambodia's sustainable development

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ment goals; 3) Update on the process of Amendments of laws on Forestry, Fisheries, and Protected areas. NGO Forum has good cooperation with key relevant ministries such as MOE, MAFF, MRD, MOEF, Ministry of Land and coordinated with network members to accomplish many key achievements within the last quarter.



Mr. Tek Vannara also briefly updated about the progress of NGO on the following. Here were the key achievements from November 2018 to February 2019 in the following:

- On 14-15 November 2018 organized



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annual membership organization and annual network meeting to reflect key achievements, challenges and review action plan of network and NGO Forum in 2019.

- On 21 November 2018 attended 13th ASEAN NGOs meeting on social welfare and social development in Singapore to develop a master plan for 2025 to mainstream the rights of disability which organized by International Council for social welfare.
- On 27 November 2018 co-organised with IUCN the CSO forum on NRM. Total of 133 participants.
- On 28 November 2018 attended Global Conference on Sustainable Green Economy focused on climate change, vast management, NRM, production, the growth of economic development and poverty reduction in Kenya.
- On 29 November 2018 organized 14th donors/ partners meeting.
- On 28-29 November 2018 attended a sub-national workshop to collect CSO inputs on draft NSDP with inter-ministries in Kampong Chhnang province.
- On 13 December 2018 organized CSO Leader meeting to update NSDP from Kampong Chhnang province to review CSO inputs.
- On 05 December 2018 coordinated CSO exposure visit to kbal Romeas village, Stung Treng province which involved by inter-ministries including Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Interior, Stung Treng government, My village and local authorities. Total of 80 participants.
- On 06 December 2018 organized National budget preparation for 2019 awareness raising workshop. Total of 100 participants.
- On 06 December 2018 attended Mekong Regional Forum on water, food, and energy in Myanmar.
- On 07 December 2018 organized National consultation workshop on NSDP to consolidate the recommendation

submit to MoP. Total 34 representatives from NGOs, private sectors and researchers.

- On 11 December 2018 co-organised the Regional workshop on energy development and renewable energy for regional countries with Stimson Center, IUCN. Total of 52 participants.
- On 13 December 2018 organized National dissemination workshop the report on fair compensation guideline involved by 6 ministries. MoEF sub-decree on fair and just compensation. Total of 65 participants.
- On 14 December 2018 organized a workshop on promoting quality and safety of agriculture products and food in Siem Reap province. Total of 200 participants.
- On 17 December 2018 organized National consultation workshop on collecting inputs NSDP and submit the input to TWG. Total of 160 participants.
- On 17 December 2018 organized National consultation workshop on draft statistical analysis report on the land dispute. Total of 60 participants.
- On 24-30 December, organized 2018 National Program Reflection workshop in Stung Treng and Champasak provinces, Lao PDR to develop an operational plan and budget plan 2019, coordination plan 2019, annual progress report for 2018, learning on NRM, Don Sahong dam, water governance, and Ramsar area.
- On 03-04 January 2019 attended Water partnership workshop for integrated water resource management with CNMC and CWP.
- On 26 January 2019 attended TWG- CC meeting.
- On 25-27 January 2019 conducted exposure visit to Koh Kong, Pursat province to visit UDG, Thmorda and Chi Phat.
- On 28 January 2019 organized Dissemination Workshop on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)/Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) mainstreaming into Commune Investment Plan (CIP)/Commune Development Plan (CDP) held on

January 28, 2019, at Himawari hotel.

- On 28 January 2019 attended the inter-ministries meeting and presented the CSOs inputs on NSDP with inter-ministries and TWG.
- On 8 February 2019 attended meeting with the ministry of land on commune land titling and land law.
- Organized VGGT workshop with ActionAid on NRM, land, and fishery.

Update on the framework of Cambodia's sustainable development goals

Guest Speaker 1: H.E Poch Sovannndy, Representative of Ministry of Planning presented on the framework of Cambodia's sustainable development goals 2015-2030. The process of preparation CSDG. Member of the UN faced some challenges. Identify key points and select the new point and integrate into NSDP and existing mechanism. Started in early 2015. Organized many meetings with inter-ministries. February 2018, independence consultant developed the framework of Cambodia's sustainable development goals 2015-2030. Discussed with the committee of economic policy and finance on 24 April 2018. Improve the indicator for a small group. Divided into two parts. The first part to review the result. The first part has five chapters. The second part of 2016-2030 added four more points. The global indicator has 244 points. Cambodia selected 52 points. Divided indicators 23. Improved and developed new indicators. It takes 3 stages in every five years. Way forward. It will be published in the next ten days. It will be disseminated at national and three sub-national levels. Monitoring and evaluate in every two years.

Guest Speaker 2: Mr. Mean Vibolratanak of CDPO, Presented on disability social development program.

Organized General Assembly in every five years. 75 DPO at provincial, district and commune levels. Establish in 1994. Work-

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



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Adequate Resources Especially Budget Allocation Need in Preventing Climate Change at the Sub-national Level



Cambodia is an agricultural country which is highly vulnerable to the impact of climate change, and the human system of its country have been affected by extreme climate events such as flood and drought. Climate change is the real challenge for the country, and the economy and livelihood are interfered by its effects in which frequently occurs in the country. Due to its low adaptive capacity in adapting to climate change effects and high dependency on climate-sensitive sectors of rural people, Cambodia becomes vulnerable to climate change.

Group of CBOs/NGOs working on Environment and Climate Change co-organized with Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) and NGOs partners to host Dissemination Workshop on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)/Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Mainstreaming into Commune Investment Program (CIP)/Commune Development Plan (CDP) with Reflecting to Joint Principle for Adaptation (JPA) at Himawari Hotel, Phnom Penh on January 28, 2019. There were over 80 participants from the representative of the EU delegation, Embassy of Sweden; representatives from relevant ministries, local authorities, NGOs communities, academia, university students and media discussed on climate change adaptation and funding at a sub-

national level

Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director at the NGO Forum on Cambodia said in a speech that as Cambodia is an agricultural country, it is highly vulnerable to the impact of climate change.

“While there were many major positive improvement of the government’s efforts, this paper also found some shortage of funding at the commune level, which does not completely correspond to the Commune Investment and Development programme. Cambodians still have a very low understanding of the risks associated with climate change, as well as how they will adapt to inevitable climate changes that impact their lives. As weather is becoming increasingly erratic due to climate changes, actions plans at the commune level are still lacking in how to respond to the changes. We will be better at adapting to climate change with more of the national budget directed towards the sub-national level,” he said.

He added that currently the system of adapting capacity to the impact of climate change of the people is low...to reduce the risk that Cambodia is facing, especially with children and vulnerable groups, the government should offer a higher budget to communes and Sangkats, so they can

invest that money in an area to help them manage and adapt to climate change.”

In plenary discussion, Ms. Chhoeun Sody, Chief of Sangkran Roy forest community locates in Siem Reap province’s Varin district, said like other communities, it’s hard for them to adapt to irregular rain, strong winds, floods and drought...in the past the commune authority could not help them with these challenges as they did not have adequate resources. “I want to see the flow of the commune and district budget to the locals in remote areas. People never receive information on natural disasters and relevant authorities should visit and educate them about the climate change issue,” she said.

Mr. Va Vuthy, representative of National Council for Sustainable Development said this issue and its impacts of climate change is interlinked with development works, which is very happening currently. The government’s income is very limited and every sector is in need of money... however the government has increased the commune budget frequently for such issues.

As quite similar perception; Dr. Seak Sophat from RUPP and Mr. Vorn Savuth, National Planning Advisor, SRL Project from NCDDs said the climate change has seriously affected human health, water resource, agriculture, costal ecology and biodiversity...etc. It also affects the development and the poverty reduction effort and achieving the sustainable development goal. The climate change mainstreaming especially to sub national level is needed into policies/strategies, development programs and budgeting.

Dr. Sophat said there are some progress at ground yet we need to do more to im-

Read more at <https://bit.ly/2JdXy80>



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Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and Goal 13 of Cambodia Sustainable Development Goal



As part of its follow-up and review mechanisms, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs) encourages member states to “conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, which are country-led and country-driven” (paragraph 79). These national reviews are expected to serve as a basis for the regular reviews by the high-level political forum (HLPF), meeting under the auspices of ECOSOC. As stipulated in paragraph 84 of the 2030 Agenda, regular reviews by the HLPF are to be voluntary, state-led, undertaken by both developed and developing countries, and involve multiple stakeholders.

The voluntary national reviews (VNRs) aimed to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges, and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs also seek to strengthen policies and institutions of governments and to mobilize multi-stakeholder support and partnerships for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) will prepare the Voluntary National Review (VNR) which will be presented in the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) at New York in July 2019. This report aims to monitor and evaluate the implementation of SDG in each country that are the members of the

United Nation. The VNR process requires all stakeholders: government, private sectors, academia and Civil Society Organization/NGOs.

To contribution in this effort, the NGO Forum on Cambodia together with 7 NGOs/CSO co-organized the National Consultation Workshop on Engaging CSOs in the Cambodia Voluntary National Review 2019. There were 60 participates (18 women) who were NGOs and Community based organization.

In the opening remark of the workshop; Dr. TEK Vannara, Executive Director of NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) said it is very important for contributing to Voluntary National Review. Evidentially NECA of NGOF organized the pre-consultation workshop with his NECA members which consist of 56 national and international organizations to provide the inputs of CSOs on climate change which response to goal

13 of SDGs. At the same time, CCC has conducted three sub-regional workshops to collect CSOs inputs for discussing in this workshop.

Civil society organization (CSOs) plays a significant role in promoting the approach of the open, inclusive and transparent participatory method on VNR reporting among all relevant stakeholders. CSO expressed a strong commitment to engaging in the public awareness on SDGs and VNR process at both national and sub-national levels. Regarding the VNR process, CSO was actively participated in the HLPF VNR process and learned the best practices from other countries.

The theme for VNR 2019 is empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality. The set of goals to be reviewed in depth is the following: 1) Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all; 2) Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; 3) Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries; 4) Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; 5) Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels; and 6) Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.





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HIGHLIGHT STORIES

Prey Lang Tree Ceremony



February 16-17, 2019, the NGO Forum on Cambodia partly contributed to Prey Lang Tree Ceremony in Veal Tanou area of Kampong Thom, Kratie, and Stung Treng provinces. The ceremony was initiated by Prey Lang Community Network in Kratie, Stung Treng, Preah Vihear, and Kampong Thom provinces. Total 421 people (79 women) consisted of monks, students, representatives of NGOs, Rangers, Polices, District Governor, and the representatives of Ministry of Environment. The ceremony has three objectives: (1) To dedicate and appreciate forests and pray for Prey Lang to remain in order to preserve the identity of the indigenous Kui who depend on forest products; (2) To promote public awareness about the decision of the Royal Government of Cambodia to put Prey Lang as a Protected Area; and (3) To show the potential of Prey Lang to the public and to contribute to the Prey Lang Community Network (PLCN) as well as the Royal Government of Cambodia in protection of Prey Lang.

4th Meeting of the Technical Working Group on Climate Change



4th Meeting of the Technical Working Group on Climate Change with Development Partners which focuses on 1) Common Understanding on results of COP24 and implications for Cambodia, 2) Common Understanding on status of climate change integration in the new NSDP, 3) Update on the latest status of GCF pipe-

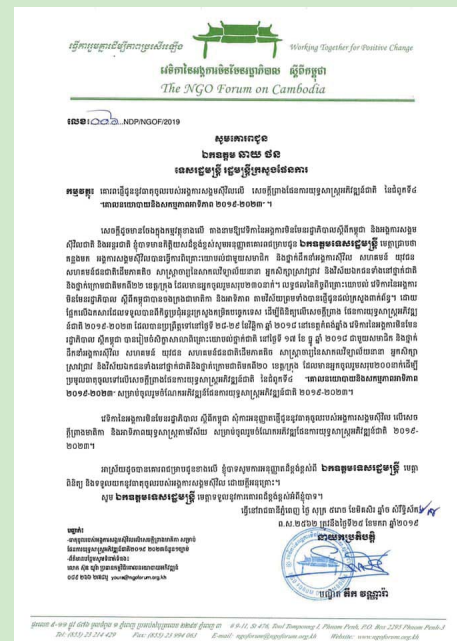
line: readiness projects, concept note, and proposals, 4) Update on Ministries, agencies and development partners' key climate change activities and 5) Update on two years report to UNFCCC. Mr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO FORUM on Cambodia (NGOF) who participated in that meeting raised 3 requests to

the meeting such as 1) Review and integration inputs of CSO on the draft NSDP in to the draft NSDP climate change sector, 2) TWG-CC should review on CCCSP and INDC, especially more open discussion with key stakeholder in the whole process of reviewing and preparation and 3) Should have more dissemination on the result of COP24 to relevant stakeholder and open more discussion on the way to COP25. With that opportunity, Mr. Vannara shares information on the progress, achievement, and challenges of NECA in the previous year and action plan 2019. He has requested to all Technical Working Group on Climate Change member should have more collaboration together for contributing to achieving the Cambodia Sustainable Development Goal. TWG CC meeting was organized by the National Committee for Sustainable Development Program at Ministry of Environment held on 21 January 2019.



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CSOs Inputs on the Draft NSDP 2019-2023 in the Second Inter-Ministries Meeting



On 28 January 2019 The NGO Forum on Cambodia which is the representative of CSO has provided inputs of CSOs on the draft NSDP 2019-2023 in the second inter-ministries meeting which organized by Ministry of Planning at Himawari hotel in Phnom Penh. Mr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia expressed great thanks to the relevant ministries, development partners and all technical working groups, especially ministry of planning who accepted the inputs of CSOs for discuss, response and incorporate in the draft of NSDP for each sector before the second technical meeting of inter-ministries today. In the meantime Mr. Tek Vannara has informed the meeting that CSO has organized the two sub-national consultation workshops, consulted two times with relevant research institutes and private sectors and consulted two times with CSO leaders which facili-

tated by independent consultant to collect inputs for submission to ministry of planning as well as development partners and relevant ministries for incorporate in the draft NSDP 2019-2023. Mr. Tek Vannara added that the NGO Forum on Cambodia has official submitted the CSO inputs to all relevant ministries, each technical working group, and development partners on 25 January 2019. Mr. Tek Vannara has requested to the technical working group, the relevant ministries, development partners who present in the second technical meeting of inter-ministries consider and incorporate three more suggestions 1). Develop and implement a technology system in response to the public services in each sector; 2). Develop and prepare good and effective urbanization of the commune and city planning to response to the real need of the sub-national development and 3). More funding flow to the

sub-national as much as possible so that the sub-national level having the resource and additional resource for responding to the need for local development, especially align with the commune budget and each sector at district level so that the commune able better achieve commune development plan and commune investment plan in the draft NSDP 2019-2023. H.E Chair of the meeting expressed great thanks to CSO who has collect inputs and recommendations which contribute to better draft NSDP 2019-2023. The representative of the ministry of Land Management Urban Planning and Construction expressed thanks to CSOs who raise these important recommendations. The ministry developing and implementing organization but will consider more for the urbanization of commune/sangkat.



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CSOs Meeting with H.E Ngan Chamroeun, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Interior



Meeting between CSOs with H.E Ngan Chamroeun, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Interior on 3-law amendment (protected area, forestry, and fisheries) held on February 25, 2019, at Ministry of Interior. There were 15 participants (NGOF, RECOFTC, CIPO, NTFP-EP, HEKS, FACT, CLEC, ICSO, Action Aid, CYN, WCS, and BCV)

participated in the meeting. This meeting aims for strengthening collaboration and discussion on the provision of additional inputs to the amendments to the Law on Forests, the Law on Protected Areas, and Fisheries. H.E Ngan Chamroeun, welcomed to all NGOs attended the meeting, and he updated the current situation relat-

ed to the amendments to the Law on Forests and the Law on Protected Areas and Fisheries:

- The amendment aims to delegate the authority on management, the rights and obligations to the sub-national following the decentralization system and review and identify the new meaning of technical term related to these laws. The function of the national and sub-national level is also the core of the amendment.
- These three laws have similarly, especially in chapter 2 on management, rights and obligations, and responsibilities of institutions. Recently ministry has completely amended the law on Protected Area. The law on Forest is being reviewed with long discussion and the intervention will be needed from a high-level position; the law on fisheries will come next. The remained penalty provision will be included Ministry of Justice for discussion at last. He added more on NCDD is going to draft a national policy on unit management at the district and provincial level such as the following:
- Separation of the rule and responsibilities to the institution.
- Reduce some skilled office, and combine new office such as Social office (Women's affairs office, Religious affairs office, Tourism affairs...) Health office, Land office, Education office, Economic office (Agricultural affairs office, rural development affairs office, Industrial affairs office.
- In 2020 the government will provide the budget to sub-national, especially to commune at least \$75,000 to \$80,000 a year for one commune.
- The allocation of commune's budget for NRM is based on their citizen and decision of the commune council.





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First Quarterly LAHRiN Meeting in 2019



1st quarterly LAHRiN member meeting was organized on 14-15 February 2019 at the NGOF office. There were 33 participants (7 females) as representatives of 24 various NGOs including ADHOC, COMFREL, WVI-C, EC, VMI, AFD, SVC, UPWD, CEDT, RS, KKKHRDA, SK/ILC, CNRO, NGOF, NAS, HEKs, LWD, MVI, BCV, IMG, CARDH, FLO, PKH, CTOD and NGOF.

Base on the result of the reflection meeting recorded that the meeting process was well organized and proactively discussed by those members. Increased capacity building of LAHRiN members and developed the strategic advocacy activities which were the key outputs of the meeting. Firstly, they have well understood about LAHRiN ToR and mediation of land dispute case. Secondly, 9 members of LAHRiN steering committee were selected namely Mr. Latt ky, Mr. Bun Vanna, Miss. Man Asisah, Mr. Pheap Sochea, Mr. Net Virak, Mr. Lay Sovathara, Ms. Soum Samon, Mr. Sok Sokhom, and Ms. Nhean Phoungmaly. Finally, the clarification of the information and data in the investigation reports which developed in 2018 and dialogue meeting was held with provincial authorities and other stakeholders to ensure the quality of the reports and push for possible resolution were the prior strategic advocacy activities of LAHRiN.

To increase understanding of mediation Dispute Resolution. This topic was shared

by Mr. Pouch Sophoan, the group leader of independence which was a focus on the four key following points:

1. The Alternative Dispute Resolution focuses on the multi-options which the party can identify their Dispute Resolution. The Dispute Resolution will give the fair process for achieving the result which accepts by all relevant party. The Dispute Resolution has many forms which are simple form and general use and there is some emerging form.
2. The form of the Dispute Resolution through arbitrary, mediation, Reconciliation and negotiation.
3. Recently the Royal Government of Cambodia has established many Dispute Resolution mechanisms such as the Cadastral Commission, arbitration employment council, commercial arbitration council, and District Justice Service Center.
4. Existing Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanism such as the following:

The Cadastral Commission was established by sub-decree number 47 on 31 May 2002 following article 47 of land law 2001 which is the Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanism. The committee has three levels including the national, provincial and district. The Dispute Resolution committee use the reconciliation method.

- The national authority of Dispute Resolution.
- The Administrative committee.
- The Administrative committee is in the system of judicial land distribution system, district service center.
- The arbitration employment council was established in 2003 according to the provisions of the Labor Code 1997. The arbitration employment council Dispute Resolution through mediation and arbitration.
- The commercial arbitration council was established according to commercial arbitration law in 2006. The commercial arbitration council Dispute Resolution through mediation and arbitration.
- The District Justice Service Center was established by the ministry of justice for local Dispute Resolution.
- The Independent private mediators of land Dispute Resolution 1. In Ratana-kiri and 2. Monduliri.
- Mediation is the process of the party support by the mediator, identify the issue, established option, consider the option and try to get the agreement.
- The 6 basic principles of mediation including confidential, independence, neutral, self-decision, volunteer participation, and conflict of interest.
- The mediation process for dispute resolution has three steps (Before, during and after)

To increase the understanding of the action plan of LAHRiN 2019

Mr. Pheap Sophea, LFP Manager presented the action plan by focusing on the four following points:

1. Capacity building for the network members through the training that the topic will be selected by member to response to the objective of the project in 2019, within the country study tour and abroad.
2. Facilitate the meeting including the



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quarterly meeting, annual meeting, ad-hoc meeting to share the information, experience and develop a strategic plan for implementing to achieve the project objective.

3. Evidence-based documentation for advocacy purpose through investigation nad research report. In 2019 LAHRiN will continue to investigate the existing land dispute and continue to investigate cases in three provinces including Stung Treng, Kratie and Mondulkiri provinces.
4. Involve with the government and other stakeholders to better influence the implementation of national land policies, safety land and effectively addressing land dispute through the meeting, workshop, conference, and forum with the involvement of relevant stakeholders.

Plan

- Facilitator of LAHRiN in Stung Treng, Kratie and Mondulkiri provinces and facilitate the meeting of LAHRiN to select land dispute cases, investigate and prepare investigation report for dispute resolution intervention.
- Facilitator of LAHRiN in each province will facilitate a meeting for their member to review the report and improve the better quality.
- Facilitator of LAHRiN in 12 provinces will submit the letter to the provincial governor to discuss and verify the information and data in the investigation report in March 2019.
- Provincial member will submit the letter to the provincial authority to discuss and verify the information and data in the three investigation cases.
- Facilitate with the provincial member

to develop an advocacy plan to get the solution.

- Mr. Bunna, Program Manager of WVI will facilitate the meeting with the network working on the land rights and housing in Phnom Penh for sharing information and prepare and implement the plan in 2019.
- The secretariat of LAHRiN will prepare Concept Note and send to the facilitator in each province for filling the budget based on the above plan.
- The secretariat of LAHRiN will facilitate the meeting with the steering committee of LAHRiN to preparing the research on housing location.

The selection topic of the training for all members

According to the topic selection of training for LAHRiN in 2019 on "Mediation".

Member decided to organize the training with the second quarterly meeting LAHRiN in Battambang province from 02-05 April 2019.

Conclusion

According to the reflection of the member to show that the meeting held with fruitful results and achieve the expectation of the meeting agenda, smoothly run and was actively involved by all members.





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Technical Training to Prey Lang Community Network

The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) through Forestry rights project and Prey Lang was supported and offered NGOs network who are working related to forests sector, especially in Prey Lang area along 4 provinces of Prey Lang network such as; Kratie, Kampong Thom, Preah Vihear and Stung Treng that were actively participated to protect their natural resources surrounding Prey Lang related to illegal logging control. After the field trip to communities nearby Prey Lang, it found that there were many challenges faced by Prey Lang communities, logging their resin trees and illegal logging in Prey Lang area happened every day that really hard to control and lack of participants from local authorities. Communities had suggested for intervention and capacity building on the legal framework for better understanding as confidence for the community in effectively patrolling activities on legal procedures. To response to the demand of the communities that need the technical training, the NGO Forum on Cambodia through forestry Rights project quickly responded to fill the gaps and provided the technical training to Prey Lang network from 4 provinces which take place in Kratie province. The NGO Forum organized Technical training to Prey Lang network related to the legal framework at Lychuer Hotel, Kratie province on February 27-28, 2019. There were 36 participants (6 female) were actively participated in the training.

Topics for this training to meet the expected results of participants which were in the following:

1. Understanding the forestry rights and Protected Area Law
2. Resolution the resin cases that support by law
3. Experiencing on advocated cases facing with illegal logger and Company



4. The article of law relation forests guard and patrol activities
5. How to form the Resin Working Group and donation support to Prey Lang activities

Discussion and Update from Prey Lang communities

Mr. BUN Chem said that after field trip which organized by the NGO Forum team to Kampong Cham commune and visit communities forests and resin trees, from that time logging activities were stopped and the company does not pressure to resin trees owner too.

Prey Lang network in Kampongcham commune said that the guy who worked for the company that always pressures to the community was stopped by the company as he failure to comply to the rule and replaced by the new guy who is the Prey Lang community member. His name Samno live in Kampongcham commune. There was an intervention from Sambok district in February 2019 that facilitated and negotiated the community who lose their resin trees for accepting the compensate from

the company and the company promised to involve with the community to preserve and stop the Resin trees logging.

The Results of Group discussion by province

Prey Lang network in Kratie province

- The illegal logging in Ojous, Okreak, Opdav, and Ochorm in community site still happen.
- The illegal logging in Otonsong, Ochorm, Phnom Krahorm, Oanderk, Dal, Anlongaknamai, Otoerkjenh and Boskhanor in Prey Lang site still happen.

Challenges

- Land encroachment for farming and





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claim as private land

- Illegal logging in the protected area also threatens the community by illegal loggers.
- Outsiders have business with the community as loan their money for logging.

Prey Lang network in Kampong Thom province

Key issues

- Resin trees logging
- Land encroachment for a farm in Community Forestry and Prey Lang site
- The community cannot take the wood after controlled illegal logging in their community
- The wood was transported from their community every day
- Lack of participation from authorities

Prey Lang network in Preah Vihear province

Key issues

- Resin trees logging by outsiders who come from another province
- Business owner through the community with money loan for logging
- Business owner and local authorities pressured community on protecting activities
- Land encroachment was increased because of migrants from another province

Prey Lang network in Stung Treng province

Key issues

- Resin trees logging
- Logging for hunting wildlife (Monkey)
- Land encroachment for owner use
- Local authorities do not commit to identifying a solution and lack of participation
- Climate change happened
- Illegal fishing and hunting wildlife
- Forests burning
- Lack of participation from the community
- Business owner with illegal loggers

Mr. PHAI Bunlieng mentioned have to analysis on key issues and share his knowledge on how to mobilize the community to come to together.

1. Collect the owner of resin trees
2. Produce the meeting to identifies key issues and priorities for solution
3. Form responsible group (Working group)
4. Data collection or inventory the resin trees members (Update, monthly report)
5. Define key issues for a solution (Clear of a target for manage in effectiveness)
6. Develop own plan (Good communication with Resin network)
7. Call for support from outside include donation or contribute itself and NGOs partner.
8. Capacity building to Resin network

Prey Lang network action plan

Stung Treng province

- Collect information which community members who have Resin trees
- Ad-hoc meeting set the plan on time due to resin trees logging activities and report to Prey Lang network, relevant stakeholders and NGOs partner
- When seeing the illegal loggers, then should quickly report to the Prey Lang network and Ranger
- While there is the forests fire happen, should quickly response and call community for help

Kratie province

- Form the Resin trees group link to Prey Lang network cooperation
- Collect data on Resin trees and documentation
- Continue to cooperate with Ranger and relevant stakeholders on patrolling
- Meeting to update the information to each group in every 3 months
- Develop a common action plan

Kampong Thom province

- Patrolling one time per month

- Form resin trees group
- Controlling the illegal logging in Prey Lang
- Submit complaint letter who encroach the forest for farming

Preah Vihear province

- Collect information from the community
- Communication local authorities for a solution
- Meeting within 3 months
- Awareness to the local community along the Prey Lang
- Involve in patrolling activities
- Meeting with Resin trees owners
- Meeting with select committees

Action plan of Prey Lang

- Prepare the working group for resin trees (Mr. Phai Bunleing)
- Resin trees Inventory by province group
- Prepare for contribution in communities and from outsiders
- Awareness to Prey Lang network members





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National discussion on Integrated Water Resources Management



The integrated water management in the local, regional, and especially communities through participatory planning, water management, as well as the linking community in development process, social welfare and protection of natural resources in river basin is good topic for workshop and Cambodia Water Partnership Meeting in 2018, which co-organized with Cambodia Water Partnership, Cambodian National Mekong Committee and the NGO Forum on Cambodia, on January 03-04, 2019 at Sunway Hotel. There were 50 participants (9 women).

The objective of this workshop was below:

1. Sharing experiences on integrated water resource management in the Mekong River Basin of Cambodia by monitoring on SDG6.5 indicator and defining long-term cooperative action plans.
2. Consult with key partners and stakeholders on the project "Water, climate and development" to identify priority projects and national road maps, and
3. To report annual results by 2018 and to select the President of Cambodia Water Partnership for the new mandate.

River Coalition in Cambodia of the NGO Forum on Cambodia is coordinated civil society organizations to participate in the discussion of this workshop related to water governance and natural resources.

RCC Secretariat facilitated some member organizations and community members including from MVI, NRD, 3SPN and CEPA to participate in the national discussion on water issue. During the workshop, RCC members shared progress of project implementation in relation to water governance in their target areas. NRD also raised an issue of water quality at lower Sesan 2 and asked which line ministries will take this responsibility to do investigation for this water pollution. NRD also asked for clarification from CNMC regarding Sambo hydropower dam project. In response, H.E. Te Navuth said that the Sambo project is likely not to be constructed in the next few years due to there are no power purchase agreement is signed yet. In theory, the project can be developed if a power purchase agreement is signed and it will take at least 5 years for the development.

RCC members also had chance to talk in person with other participants from other government's ministries and exchanged name card for future collaboration.

In response to Cambodia WP whether RCC is interesting to be a member of the network, RCC informed that he cannot confirm now, he will bring this to be discussed with RCC's Steering Committee member and will inform later.

It was a great time to learn Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) which is a tool to follow up and monitor water resources management in Cambodia implemented by different stakeholders. The tool provides opportunities for practitioners to engage with the government to monitor and update the progress toward achieving SDG 6.5.1 and on the other hand raise the issue that would impact water resource, environment and natural resource and particularly to make sure the sustainable water resources management.

It is a platform where relevant government agencies and NGOs are able to meet and exchange information and connect each other to improve future works. RCC should keep regular in touch with this platform to build connection with relevant government agencies and particularly bring an issue on the ground to be heard and discussed at national level.

Action to be taken/way forward

- Review ToR of Global Water Partnership and Cambodia Water Partnership.
- Identify benefits and disadvantages for being a membership of this network.
- Identify other alternatives that RCC can joint this network on behalf of equal partner.
- Put this topic in the agenda of RCC Steering Committee meeting.



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ON THE MEDIA



Topic: Talk show on the transparency and effectiveness on national budget management by sectors

Date: 25 January 2019

Source: Blue Media

Read more at: <https://www.facebook.com/BlueTvCambodia>



Topic: Talk show increase in the national budget allocation in education sector

Date: 11 January 2019

Source: Blue Media

Read more at: <https://www.facebook.com/BlueTvCambodia>



Topic: Government, UN, NGOs meet to discuss Climate Change

Date: 29 January 2019

Source: Phnom Penh Post

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/2B7yvhk>

UPCOMING EVENTS/HOLIDAYS 2019

04 March

CSO Leader Meeting on Development Cooperation Partnership Strategies

12 March

First Quarterly RCC Member Meeting

26 March

Workshop on New Approaches to Indigenous Land Registration

01-05 April

Exposure Visit to Preah Vihea, Stoeung Treng And Ratanakiri Province to Studies on the Experience of Natural Resources Management

09-10 April

Workshop on “Understand of China Investment in Cambodia”



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