

LEADING STORIES

Workshop on Reviewing the Research Results of the Working Group on indigenous communities in Mondulkiri Province



Workshop on reviewing the research results of the working group on indigenous communities in Mondulkiri Province was held in Mondulkiri province from 03-04 March 2022. Participated 109 participants and 16 participants online. This workshop



was chairman by **HE Ngy Chanphal**, **Secretary of State of Ministry of Interior**, and participated of the provincial council, provincial board of governors, Deputy Governors, district authorities, local village chiefs, community leaders, heads of provincial specialized departments

(Department of Rural Development, Department of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Department of Environment, Department of Culture and Fine Arts, Department of Tourism, provincial youth working group, and representatives of civil society organizations which including: NGOF, Oxfam, CIPO, WCS, DPA, CLEC, ICSO, ELIE. The purpose of this workshop is to: Research and control over control Manage and develop collective lands of indigenous communities. 2. Prepare a

ndigenous communities. 2. Prepare a

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draft report identifying specific issues and recommendations or policy options for submission to the Head of Government for review. Four groups of presentations were shared in this valuable workshop

At the beginning of the opening, **H.E Thang Sarun, Governor of Mondulkiri Province**, welcomed the Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Presidium and the participants who are physical and virtual participated in this workshop. He raised that management of Indigenous collective land and natural resources in Mondulkiri Province. Especially, Indigenous people in Mondulkiri province are multi-ethnic, such





as the Punong, Kuy, Krang, Jarai, and other ethnic groups living in agriculture and non-timber forest products. Challenges in the management of natural resources are the lack of necessary maintenance, risk management, land management and land registration, which the Mondulkiri Provincial Administration needs to join the working group in conducting research to protect on land safety, Indigenous cultures and customs ...etc. Indigenous Peoples' capacity building in Mondulkiri Province should provide more training in agriculture, eco-tourism services, and development from investors and companies.



Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia, Presenting the results of land and natural resource governance in 2021 with cooperation involved all stakeholders, civil society organizations, community fisheries, forestry, etc. and location. In order to promote the rights of indigenous communities to achieve results, there must be 5 arrangements following points:

- 1. Collective Land Registration and Indigenous Peoples Rights Procedures
- 2. Strengthen ability of community committees and training.
- Community requests placement temporarily issue measures to discuss community challenges and

recommendations.

 Working conditions, economic development and conservation, access to infrastructure, and support post-graduate education for indigenous peoples.

There were four groups to discuss:

- Group 1: Implementing collective community land registration policies and procedures
- Group 2: Community land management

and use

- Group 3: Natural Resource Management
- Group 4: Land and Natural Resources Management in the future.

As a result, this workshop, you have compiled the document, law and regulation for selection of strategies and improvement needs of working group which will continue to discuss.







Orientation and Dissemination Workshop on National Social Protection Broadcasting Mechanism

On 04 March 2022, The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) organized Orientation and Dissemination Workshop on National Social Protection Broadcasting Mechanism (NSPBM) to national and provincial NGOs network members/partners to join in the upcoming campaign throughout the countries at Sunway Hotel.

The NGO Forum on Cambodia as well as members/partners under financial support from GIZ - German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through Oxfam have been being jointly implemented National Social Protection Broadcasting Mechanism (#NSPBM) nationwide.

The NSPBM is designed to provide information on social protection to the entire cross-section of the population of Cambodia, both urban and rural citizens from all socio-economic backgrounds including those in the Tonle Sap Biosphere and the indigenous mountain tribe citizens.

"The NGO Forum on Cambodia as well as members/partners highly commit to join in this mechanism in order to communicate the information back and forth between the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) and the citizens about this Social Protection works from now onward", said Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of NGO Forum on Cambodia during the opening of the workshop to orient and disseminate the broadcasting materials on March 4th, 2022 at Sunway Hotel.













HIGHLIGHT STORIES

111th International Women's Day, March 08

Staff of the NGO Forum Cambodia (NGOF) organized the 111th International Women's Day, March 8, 2022. This event aims for International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. This anniversary is always celebrated around the world in Cambodia this year under the theme "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow ".

On March 07, 2022, NGOF's staff organized a study visit to Trapeang Pika community forest in Ampil commune, Romeas Hek district, Svay Rieng Province to learn about the leadership of women in the community in the developed and conserved local natural resources. Ms. Mao Nil, the leader of the savings group, stated that the savings group community was established on December 16, 2021. At present, the Trapeang Chan Meanchey Village Savings Group has 35 members (28 women), 03 members committee (2 women). For these two months, the savings group has accumulated 70,000 Riels budget and can continue growth to 45 members. The main occupations to harvest the non-timber products (vegetable, fruits, mushrooms ...) and community generate income from feeding fish, chickens and bees.

Prey Chhol Trapeang Pikar Community President Mr. Touch Sreng described that the community has 400 families with an area of 444 hectares. The community was established in August 2003, twice elected by the community leaders: the first led by Mr. Van Wei and the second by himself. Community leaders urge stakeholders to











assist them in their business ventures, maintain the market value of their products at a reasonable price, increase their source income for their traditional usage. Actively maintain, protect and preserve in the future. Finally, Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of NGOF, would like to thank Mr. Ros Sam On, Acting Director of Santi Sena and his colleagues, and all the community for their warm welcome and welcome to our presence.





The 2nd Quarterly Member Meeting in 2022

The Member Meeting is held quarterly, four times per year, while the actual meeting day could be fluctuated. For 2022, the Second Quarterly Member Meeting (2nd QMM) fell on the 27th April 2022. The meeting was held for half-day from 8:30 to 12:00 with a tough schedule as shown in the Agenda. The NGO Forum (NGOF) is the main organization to facilitate the meeting.

- 1. To update on the progresses of three laws, Forestry, Fisheries, and Protected Area, that have been amended;
- 2. To update on Green Financing Implementation; and
- 3. To listen presentation on study report of Green Financing Policy Implementation in Cambodia
- 4. To update on Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT.

Miss. Sophay Phanika, NGOF, was the meeting master ceremony. At the beginning of the day, she invited delegates to chair the event. They are:

- Mrs. Soum Samoun, Member of MC and Executive Director of UPWD
- Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of NGOF
- Mr. Mar Sophal, SEED Program Manager of NGOF
- Ms. Kong Bunna, replaced Mr. Chey Sambath Phalla, Head of Policy Analysis and Development Unit, Secretariat of National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development
- Mr. Thai Jeudi, Deputy Head of Credit Development, In-charge of Green Financing Agricultural and Rural Development Bank
- Mr. Kim Vera, Independent Consultant, Study Team on Green Financing Implementation in Cambodia
- Mr. Latt Ky, Program Manager of ActionAid International Cambodia and Member of LAHRIN Steering Committee







With the core aspect of updates of the past progresses, there were five (05) key speakers contributing their outstanding outcomes and progresses made for the 2nd QMM of the year 2022. The speakers are from NGOs, private sector, Independent Researchers, government, and civil society. The outcomes of the half-day meeting are summarized by Mrs. Soum Samoun in her closing remarks. Having especially paid respects to the chairpersons, Ladies, and Gentlemen, Mrs. Soum Samoun gave her very short notes. They are:

- Total of 59 participants (24 females) actively participating the meeting,
- There were numbers of progress made by presentations, e.g. Dr.
 Tek Vannara, Mar Sophal from NGOF, representative from ARDB, representative from NCDD/MoI, and







representative from ActionAid.

 The meeting was informed by key presenters with specific aspects on Green Financing Policy and progresses of amendments of three laws: forestry, fisheries and protected area.

For closing session, Mrs. Samoun gave her very short notes. She stressed that five items were made to the meeting with details described above. The speakers provided thoroughly presentations and responded to all concerns and questions of the participants. Mrs. Samoun was proud of the efforts of the participants and outcomes from the meeting. She finally ended her remarks by wishing the entire participant with health and success and announced the session closed.

Dissemination and Dialogue Workshop on Research Study of People Migration Link to Climate Change

Having seen increasing Cambodian people migration to abroad for job, especially better jobs, a study commissioned by The NGOF, conducted by a consultant team in two sites: Kampong Svay district, Kampong Thom province; and Chetr Borei district, Kratie province. The study report was finalized on the 25th October 2021 and circulated for further clarifications and comments among relevant stakeholders. The comments were incorporated and the study report disseminated to the workshop on the 27th April 2022.

Two objectives of the workshop include:

- To disseminate the final research study report of people migration link to climate change to relevant stakeholders.
- To dialogue and identify key priorities from relevant stakeholders for joint actions to address climate change issues.

The workshop was chaired by four people including:

- Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGOF;
- Mrs. Prom Bopha, Executive Director of Rural Aid Organization (RAO) and representative of NECA's Steering Committee;
- Mr. Sam Sovann, Chairperson of NECA Steering Committee, Kratie province.
- Ros Bannsok, Independent Researcher.

There were 50 (17 females) participants from key relevant stakeholders attended the workshop, some of those were online, and other in persons, which was held in DK Meeting Centre, Phnom Penh. In addition, some other participants were joined online from abroad such as Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The workshop was held during half a day, in the afternoon time (Annex 1). Key speakers of the workshop and their contributions include:



Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia

On behalf of Climate Change (CC) Federation and on his behalf, he was honest to participate in the CC workshop with the two objectives above. He stressed that the results of the study and the today workshop will be contributed to development and relevant agencies to take into consideration. Dr. Vannara reminded that workshop that the National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment, stated that country members of IPCC (Inter-governmental Panel for Climate Change) have been committed to reduce global warming. Cambodia has been committed for the last decade, and actively since Paris Declaration, to maintain temperature to be less than 2oC by 2050. Even though Cambodia has not been major emitter of GHG, Cambodia shows its commitment to reduce 66 million metric ton of GHG by 2030. Very recently, Cambodia ratified Long Term Neutral Carbon Strategy, including forest, land, and agriculture by 2030. He. also, claimed that Cambodian CC Federation consists of 35 NGOs, which has been working with RGC on CC with 5 aspect: 1) Capacity Building, 2) Sustainable development 3) promote CC study (as one of the today agenda), 4) Consultation on Policy, and 5) Participation from local stakeholders.

Dr. Seak Sophat, Deputy Dean of Faculty of Development at the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) (online)



His value points of the key note include for the following. Being working for Research Unit of the Royal University of Phnom Penh, he was proud of the study results because the study findings could be referenced to students and other researchers.

Research is one of the pillars of the Research Unit, RUPP, even though lecture and services available within the Research Unit, he claimed. Dr. Sophat admitted the NGOF on supporting the study and underlined that the studies should be based on scientific facts for development and future references. The study could be used for policy development of all relevant stakeholders including government, private sector, and CSO, he stressed. He further noted that all studies should be correct and scientific based.

Ms. Ngin Navirak, National Coordinator, GEF Small Grants Program of UNDP (online)

She was proud of the workshop on Dissemination and Dialogue on the Research Study of People Migration link to Climate Change. Ms. Navirak admitted that, asides from other relevant agencies such as government institution, the findings of the study are very useful for SGP/UNDP for future policy and strategic development. As indicated by the study findings and recommendations, she supported that migration should be safe; and national strategy should be developed. The SGP/UNDP has been working with RGC, for



sometimes now, on this subject matter, she claimed.

Ms. Navirak continued to inform the workshop on background of the SGP/ UNDP; and the program will continue to support future projects for community development. She stressed that the SGP started its financial supports since 1992 worldwide while the program was started in Cambodia in 2005. The support is limited to 50,000USD per project for few years of project life; and up to present there are about 200 projects implemented in 21 province and cities in Cambodia with about 20 million USD spent in Cambodia for the last 16 years. The support has oriented on farmer communities, mainly focusing on water, capital, and markets for agricultural products. She underlined that the SGP will continue to support communities to adapt and resilient to Climate Change.

Ms. PARCO Kristin, Chief Mission of International Organization for Migration (IOM) (online)

Ms. Kristin provided precise CC that includes increase in global temperature, floods, and droughts. She gave example of about 1.3 of GDP lost caused by droughts; and in Cambodia droughts badly affected on paddy fields. She concluded that national policies of Cambodia have been also needed to take into consideration for the migration and CC. Cambodia is one of the 6 ASEAN countries affected by CC, she stressed. She mentioned that she met H.E. Sar Kheng, Minster for Interior of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and raised the CC with him; and encouraged Cambodia to take concern on CC to the coming international CC meetings.

She suggested that Conference of the Parties, COP 27 on Climate Change, to be held in Egypt, we should build capacity of Cambodian sectors to cope with CC. Also, adaptation and resilience to CC of Cambodians should be the first step to be

built, she claimed. She further hoped that by 2030 all countries, including Cambodia, are strong to cope with CC. NGOs and CSOs are among the important sectors to work on this matter, she underlined.

Mr. Nithi Nesadurai, Director and Regional Coordinator of Climate Action Network of Southeast Asia (CANSEA), (online, from Malaysia)

According to his document, about one million people would be affected by rising sea water level if 1oC of global temperature increased. He claimed that climate induced migration is not only to ASEAN countries, but the world. Mr. Nithi underlined that IPCC (Inter-government Panel for Climate Change) report concludes that Climate Change resilient development prioritizes integrated development. So, take steps of the study recommendations should be important before the problems are too late. He further suggested that for CC, adaptation and resilience should be strengthened in order to reduce migration. He introduced relevant workshops to be coming soon in CANSEA and invited the participants to join and share inputs either online or in persons.

He encouraged the workshop participants to look and take consideration of the Actions of CC adopted at the last COP on CC. He congratulated the workshop and supported the initiative of the NGOF. He thanked for invitation before conclusion of his key note.

H.E. Mr. Srey Vanthuon, Third Committee of the Assembly Representative (online)

On behalf of H.E. Kon Kim, First Chairperson of NCDM, he was proud of the meeting and the results of the meeting on CC of the day. It is shown that all of the participants take CC into consideration in all aspects, he stated. He informed that RGC, the Prime Minister Hun Sen has committed to deal with CC, e.g. NCDM Strategic Plan, 2016 - 2023, to be ready for risk management and responses. The RGC has been taken CC into aspect of sustainable development. Disaster risks include floods, droughts, river bank land slide, and gusty winds. In order to cope with these disaster risks, he believed that all relevant agencies to work with the NCDM to improve governance and livelihoods of the Cambodians. He wished with four Buddhism wishes and declared the meeting closed.





Training on International and National Tools Related to Environment and Forest Governance to Community

The NGO Forum on Cambodia, with the support of UNDP Small Project, organized a two-day training course on international and national tools related to environment and forest governance on March 17-18, 2022, at Changkarn Roy Community Forestry, Svay Sor commune, Varin district, Siem Reap Province. The training was attended by a total of 25 participants representing 6 organizations (IRAM, EHE, BCV, MVI, NTFP and CCI) and 16 communities which including forest community, community in protected area, community fisheries, indigenous people community from 13 capitals / provinces.

The training was conducted in line with the capacity assessment report of 29 representatives of member organizations, forest governance networks and their target communities on international and national tools related to the environment and forest governance. The report finds that community representatives' knowledge have limit that need to build more capacity. This training is a platform for learning and reflecting on their theoretical and practical lessons in Local communities that actively involved in forest protection and environmental protection. For them, the forests are a source of food, medicine, storm shelters and reduced landslides and maintaining rainfall and the incomes from nontimber products.







Representatives of member organizations, forest governance networks and local communities, as participants. They were actively participated in discussions and shared experiences. They were gained more understand forest governance and forest management, environmental conservation (forest conservation and land conservation), climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, global warming, mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The knowledge they are gaining now will be used for planning and fundraising from various sources, especially the UNDP Small Grants Project for forest protection and community development in the future.



UPCOMING EVENTS/HOLIDAYS 2022

05 May 2022

Consultative Workshop on Collective CSO Inputs on Customary Tenure to Forest Law and Protected Area Law at Preah Vihear Province

09 May 2022

Consultative Workshop on Collective CSO Inputs on Customary Tenure to Forest Law and Protected Area Law at Kratie Province

11 May 2022

Consultative Workshop on Collective CSO Inputs on Customary Tenure to Forest Law and Protected Area Law at Kampot Province

16-18 May 2022

Training workshop on "Open and Accountable Budgeting" at Himawari hotelProvince

24-26 May 2022

Exposure Visit and Training Workshop on Project Proposal Development to NGO Members and CBOs at Chambok Ecotourism Community

14-16 June 2022

Training workshop on Reporting Based on Results and Financial Management from 14 to 16 June 2022 in Trapeang Sangke Community

15 June 2022

Consultation Workshop on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) at Ratanakkiri Province

23 June 2022

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

21-23 June 2022

Capacity development for LAHRIN members and Community Leaders on Legal Framework and Documentation for Evidence-based Advocacy at Siem Reap province

30 June 2022

Consultation Workshop on the Key achievements and Implementation of COP at Sunway hotel



THANK YOU!

The NGO Forum on Cambodia would like to thanks to our local and international donors that always support our good causes missions to support Cambodians in need.

Working Together for Positive Change



















































The NGO Forum on Social Media!