



The Asia Foundation

Symposium

Research Evidence and Policy Engagement

Thursday, 15 December 2022

Himawari Hotel Apartments

Introduction

Policy research has been an essential part of knowledge production based on data, providing evidence and future directions for its end-users, including policymakers and partitioners. Frequently policy research engages researchers and relevant stakeholders or end-users in the process from formulation to dissemination. The dissemination can be done as a platform where researchers and partners concerned can share their findings and knowledge as well as minimise the research gap. In past years, Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI) has organised various seminars, workshops, and conferences to serve as platforms for researchers and its users to meet, interact and share their knowledge.

Along the rise and fall of the Covid-19 pandemic, the government of Cambodia directs the nation's public sector, economy, and society to accelerate technology adoption and digital transformation. At the same time, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) put its efforts into integrating Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) or Educational Technologies (EdTech) into the education system. As a policy research institute, CDRI conducts a study on the perceptions and behaviours of Cambodian faculty members at the higher education level to see how they integrate ICTs in online teaching and learning during Covid-19. Based on two sets of survey data conducted in 2020 and 2022, the study tentatively found that Cambodian faculty members have slightly become more innovative and less insecure towards technology. Likewise, a large proportion of faculty members acknowledge that technology positively impacts them professionally in both phases of the survey. They further posit a high level of intention to continue applying and adapting to ICTs in instruction and acknowledge that HEIs should blend face-to-face and online teaching and learning in the post-pandemic context. In certain ICT competence areas (related to digital production, online collaboration, research technology, digital security, and e-transaction), a considerable proportion of Cambodian faculty members still rate themselves at beginner or zero level.

Against these backgrounds, CDRI will organise the Symposium on Research Evidence and Policy Engagement with support from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) through The Asia Foundation's Ponlok Chonmes Initiative: Data and Dialogue for Development in Cambodia. This symposium is to share the findings from CDRI's recent research on technology integration in Cambodian higher education. At the same time, it provides researchers and students opportunities to present their research findings and obtain inputs and feedback from peers,

practitioners and experts in their field. Meanwhile, it also offers opportunities for all stakeholders to interact, learn from each other, and build their research networks.

Objective

This symposium has three main objectives:

- To disseminate the preliminary findings of 'Technology Integration of Cambodian Higher Education System in Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic' and foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers and faculty members from higher education institutes.
- To provide spaces for researchers to share their findings and receive constructive feedback for improvement.
- To offer opportunities for researchers, practitioners and other stakeholders to widen their networks for future research collaboration.

Targeted Presenters and Participants

The target audiences of the event include researchers, graduate students, policymakers and practitioners, and representatives from development partners and civil society organisations. The presentation opportunities are given to researchers, students, and partners from educational institutions.

Date and Venue

The symposium will be held on 15 December 2022 at Himawari Hotel Apartments from 8:00 to 17:00. It will be conducted in Khmer with simultaneous English interpretation for the plenary discussion session and English for the presentation sessions.

House Rules

To attend the event in person, you are required to show your vaccination card to the organisers. Other than this, we encourage you to wear a mask at all times, wash your hands often, sanitise frequently, and follow the physical distancing guideline to the extent possible.

Agenda

TIME	ACTIVITIES
8:00 – 8:30	Registration
8:30 – 8:40	Welcoming Remarks by Dr Eng Netra , Executive Director, CDRI
8:40 – 8:55	Opening Remarks by Ms Benita Chudleigh , First Secretary, Australian Embassy in Cambodia
8:55 – 9:00	Photo Session

9:00 – 10:15 **Panel Discussion: Technology Integration of Cambodian Higher Education System in Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic**

Moderator:

- **Dr Song Sopheak**, Director of Center for Educational Research and Innovation, CDRI

Panelists:

- **H.E Dr Hul Seingheng**, Director of General Department of Science, Technology and Innovation, Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation
- **Ms. Heang Omuoy**, President of the Tux Global Institute and CEO of ADITI (Camsolution Technology)
- **Dr Dy Davuth**, Senior Vice President, Build Bright University
- **Dr Eam Phyrom**, Fellow, Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report Fellowship Programme 2022/23

10:15 – 10:30 Refreshment

10:30 – 12:00 **Concurrent Session 1: Research Presentation (90 minutes)**

Room 1: Sunflower Ballroom

Room 2: Himawari Meeting Room

Chair:

- **Dr Chea Phal**, Senior Research Fellow, CDRI

Presenters:

- **Mr Chin Sam Ath**, Deputy Chief of Policy Development Office, Department of Policy, MoEYS

“Impact of School Principals’ Leadership on Students’ Achievements: A Case Study of Primary Schools in Phnom Penh, Cambodia”

- **Ms Tek Muytieng**, Research Associate, CDRI

“International Academic Partnerships: What Are the Enabling Factors for the Success of Higher Education Partnerships?”

- **Ms Pen Socheata**, Lecturer, IISPP, RUPP

“Addressing Inconsistent Expenditure Issues: A Momentous Step Toward Resilient Social Protection in ASEAN”

Chair:

- **Dr Tineke Water**, Department of Scientific Research, University of Puthisastra

Presenters:

- **Mr Minami Ryuto**, Doctoral Student, Kobe University’s Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies
“Empirical Analysis of the Factors Influencing High School Students’ Academic Track Switch in Cambodia”

- **Mr Cheab Puthika**, Lecturer University of Puthisastra
“The Development of Preservice Teacher Identity in Cambodia.”

- **Mr Sorn Virak**, Research Methodology Course Coordinator and **Ms Suon Monirath**, Lecturer, University of Puthisastra

“Motivating Cambodian High School Students to Pursue Higher Education in Science and Health Science Majors: Issues and Suggestions”

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:25 Concurrent Session 2: Research Presentation (115 minutes)

Room 1: Sunflower Ballroom	Room 2: Himawari Meeting Room
<p><u>Chair:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof. Hyun Bang Shin, Director of the Saw Swee Hock Southeast Asia Centre and Professor of Geography and Urban Studies, London School of Economics and Political Science <p><u>Presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Ky Sereyvuth, PhD Candidate, Saitama University <i>"Labour Demand Forecasting in Cambodia"</i>• Ms You Saokeo Khantey, Research Associate, CDRI <i>"Entrepreneurial Intention and Determinant Factors: The Case of University Students in Cambodia"</i>• Mr Ing Kvanthai, Doctoral Student, RUPP <i>"The Factors Contribute to Skill Development Programmes for Enhancing Skilled Labour in Cambodia's Manufacturing industry"</i>• Mr Nong Monin, Research Associate, CDRI <i>"The Impacts of Climate Change Intervention on Poverty Reduction, Gender, and Vulnerability: The Case of Mekong Island Connectivity project in Cambodia"</i>	<p><u>Chair:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Song Sopheak, Director of Center for Educational Research and Innovation, CDRI <p><u>Presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Soeung Sopha, Teacher Trainer, National Institute of Education and Ms. Chim Vutheavy, Teacher Trainer, National Institute of Education <i>"Cambodian Teachers' Perceptions of Online Teaching: During and Beyond Covid-19 Pandemic"</i>• Ms Nok Sorsesekha, Research Assistant, CDRI <i>"Examining Gender Responsive Pedagogy in Cambodian Basic Education"</i>• Mr Nhem Davut, Lecturer, Royal University of Phnom Penh <i>"So, Is There a Teaching-Research Nexus in Cambodia? Evidence from EFL Students at One Public University"</i>• Mr Em Sereyrath, Lecturer, National University of Cheasim Kamchaymear and Associate Managing Editor of the Cambodian Education Forum <i>"Cambodian Grade 12 Students' Perceptions of Public English Textbooks and Exam Papers"</i>
15:25-15:35	Closing Remarks by Ms Meloney C. Lindberg , Country Representative of The Asia Foundation in Cambodia
15:35-17:00	Networking Session and Refreshment

Note: The agenda is subject to change.