

# CCC Members' 29<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM)

## SUMMARY REPORT



**18 March 2019**

**Cambodiana Hotel, Phnom Penh**

**The funding is supported from EU and BfdW**

## I. Introduction

After decades in serving its members and partners of civil society organizations, Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) have celebrated the members' achievements, solidarity spirit, and plan for the future collaboration through the 29th Annual General Meeting (AGM).

The AGM has been recognized as the biggest event of the year for CCC members, partners and constituencies. In accordance with its bylaws, AGM is conducted to review the last performance, and to discuss the plan for the following year and this year it will need a half day – full afternoon of 18 March 2019 with 177 participants/92 females who are CCC members, partners, and development actors community-based organization representatives, and youth.

From political to social and economic changes, AGM will bring the mutual understanding on the common development spectrum and seek for the better solutions and actions. With an active participation and collaboration among members and partners, AGM are garden where the seeds of thought are planted, and a significant growth begins.

## II. Objectives

1. To reflect the previous year performance and celebrate key achievements and the contribution to the development of Cambodia.
2. To acknowledge the support of members and partners in promoting enabling environment for civil society.
3. To enhance the collaboration among CCC members and partners into concrete actions such as CSO roadmap for better responding to the development challenges.

## III. Summary Output

### a) **Welcome & Opening Remarks by Jenny Pearson CCC EXCOM:**

Welcomes the participants. Vision of CCC is the sustainable development for Cambodia. CCC's mission is to work in inclusive partnerships for good governance, enabling environment and sustainability of civil society organization in Cambodia. In addition, its goal is a strong and capable civil society, cooperating and responsive to Cambodia's development challenges. CCC has been working on good governance, enabling environment, capacity development, multi-stakeholders' engagement, ICT and sustainability of civil society organizations in Cambodia.

2018 is the critical year for civil society organizations. There were a lot of challenges. Amongst those are political climate, financial shortage, and civic space. However, in response, CCC has been playing a significant role with good results in consequence for the benefits of CSOs and others stakeholders. CCC helps to regains some spaces for civil society organization. For instance, the removal of three-day notification for CSOs to do activities, circulation of the Ministry of Interior instructing authorities to engage civil society in discussion on policy agenda, the consultative platform with the domestic non-governmental organization with the Ministry of Interior, and the meeting between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

In addition, CCC has established 15 provincial NGOs networks with the purpose to improve their capacity. In this case, we see the increase of capacity among those working within the network. Besides, members of CCC has been increased to 191 in 2019. CCC also successfully conducted numbers of researches.

**b) Official announcement of EXCOM 2018 and 2019:**

*Ms. Sin Putheary, Head of Communication, has introduced the EXCOM CCC members.*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Position at CCC EXCOM</b>
Ms. Hun Boramey	Country Director	ActionAid Cambodia	Chair of CCC EXCOM
Ms. Kristen Rasmussen	Country Director	DCA Cambodia	Vice-chair of CCC EXCOM
Ms. Geetha Yoga	Chief Operating Officer	Hagar International	Treasurer of CCC EXCOM
Mr. Leng Vireak	Operations Director	World Vision International (WVI) – Cambodia	Member-at-large of CCC EXCOM
Mr. Vorn Samphors	Country Director	Aide et Action International Cambodia	Member-at-large of CCC EXCOM
Ms. Jenny Pearson	Interim Director	VBANK	Member-at-large of CCC EXCOM
Mr. Choub Sok Chamreun	Executive Director	KHANA	Member-at-large of CCC EXCOM

**Key Notes from EXCOM**

***Ms. Hun Boramey***

Welcomes Mr. Leng Virak to the roles and responsibilities as chairperson of EXCOM, and she express gratitude to CCC’s members, and colleagues for giving her the opportunity to serve all. Of course, 2018 is the critical year for civil society organization. Civil society organization was in the critical period. Thus, as the members of EXCOM, we have to come up with strategic solutions in responding to the current challenges. We did our best in solidarity spirit to work together, especially with CCC and its members to improve the services delivery for our beneficiary. In addition, CCC members have been playing a significant role for decision-making. She hope that the members will continue the working spirit in order to improve working result for CCC.

***Ms. Jenny Pearson***

It is a great honor for him to be CCC EXCOM. She has been working in Cambodia since 1995. Well, we were working on drafting on the Law on Association and Non-Governmental Organizations (LANGO). She has seen many changes – both for good and better. She will keep working together with all stakeholders to strengthen the civil society organization. She is willing to work together for the better in constructive way and move forward together.

**Mr. Leng Virak**

Expresses the gratitude and happy to work as the new members of the EXCOM. He will take this opportunity to learn new things, and to share my working experiences with our beneficiary through the roles and responsibilities under this leadership. He will be obtaining the role as the independent member. In addition, he is willing accept criticism in order to improve his works.

**Ms. Geetha yoga**

*Greatful to be EXCOM members and fully support to CCC mission*

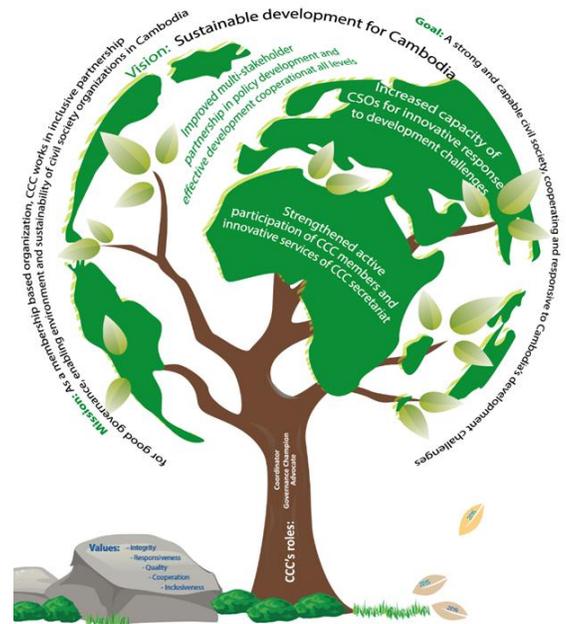
**c) 2018 Key Achievements, and Finance, and 2019 Operational Plan and Budget**

**a.** Slide Presentation on CCC Annual Key Achievements in 2018 and Plan for 2019 by Dr. El Sotheary, CCC Head of Program

**1. Key Achievements 2018**

**SO1: Increased Capacity of CSOs for Innovative Response to Development Challenges:**

- 92 certificate have awarded and 238 applications are waiting in the system
- GPP system are in the process of revising by focusing on five criteria to be addressed: Accessibility; Flexibility; Cost efficiency; Ownership; Program effectiveness
- Packages on Holistic Institutional Development ready for the application
- Capacity development packages for CBOs to be applied by 2019 through 15 provincial NGO networks
- Nine learning forum conducted, not only to address the needs of practitioners in each field, but also built in the advocacy platform for CSOs
- Improved internal governance for CSOs tools have developed such as Guiding principles for funding partners, policy development workshop, board and ED workshop, mentoring and coaching services etc.
- Do No Harm tools have created positive changes for most of the engaged NGOs



**SO2: Improved Multi-Stakeholder Partnership for Policy Development**

- Research and consultancy
  - ✚ Done:
    - CS Sustainability Index 2017
    - Capacity need assessment and HID for NGOs
    - Capacity need assessment for CBOs
    - Business Plan for CCC

 *In progress:*

- *Impact and revision of the GPP system*
- *Enabling environment and multi-stakeholder partnership for CSOs*
- *Public image of CSOs*
- *Civil Society Roadmap*

 *To be done:*

- *CS Sustainability Index 2018*
- *CSO census and contribution*
- *Salary and benefits for local NGOs*
- *Member satisfaction*
- *VNR study report*
- *CPDE study report*
- *Improved awareness and compliance capacity towards legal framework*
- *Influence the policy/practice through the partnership mechanisms*
- *Multi-stakeholder partnership element successfully integrated in the IP phase 2 of ISAF*
- *Enhanced capacity of the provincial NGO networks*
- *Partnership established between CCC and API with Wilde Ganzen on local resource mobilization and support mobilization*
- *Dialogue mechanisms established with influential DPs*
- *Representation of CCC strengthened at the global level*
- *Sensitized SDGs agenda among the stakeholders*

***SO3: Strengthened Active Participation of CCC Members and Innovative Services of CCC***

- *Strong system in place*
- *Outstanding support from the ExCom, funding partners, members, voluntary working groups...*
- *20 new members admitted, making the current list of 181 members*
- *Realized the strength of team work*

***b. Key Priorities 2019***

***Based on the operational plan of CCC >200 activities***

- *Governance system/tool: implement of GPP,*
- *Capacity development*
- *Research: Six research studies related to CSOs, Civil society census and their contributions to development of Cambodia, and GHP mid-term review*
- *Multi-stakeholder engagement*
- *Advocacy/lobbying*
- *CSO Fund/financial sustainability, CCC have new initiative as Resource mobilization and we will small fund to provide to 1t least 10 local organization*
- *ICT tools/innovation*

**c. Presentation 2018 financial statement and 2019 Budget by Mr. Khorn Bunthong, CCC Head of Operation**

Donor Name	Actual Income	Actual Expenditure	Balance
BfdW (N-KHM-2016-0286) (2017-2020)	\$172,687	104,486.07	\$68,201
BfdW(DNH) (N-KHM-2017-0240) (2017-2020)	\$61,370	53,215.81	\$8,155
Montana (PG17-26896-02)	\$3,942	3,941.52	\$0
Montana (PG18-26912-01)	\$5,177	1,865.17	\$3,312
Oxfam (2017)	\$5,246	5,245.76	\$0
Oxfam (NL-KVK-27108436-A-05057-02:KH) (2018)	\$41,287	41,294.29	-\$8
Oxfam (NL-KVK-27108436-A-04849-08:KH) (2018)	\$9,611	5,110.00	\$4,501
DFAT	\$3,548	-	\$3,548
ICSC	\$30,199	7,515.85	\$22,683
ICSC (GS 2018-03)	\$29,198	8,593.56	\$20,604
DI	\$35,307	35,387.49	-\$80
EU/VSO	\$118,675	116,208.33	\$2,467
Danmission	\$857	857.48	\$0
World Renew	\$2,029	2,030.22	-\$2
EU (CSO-LA/2017/378-042)	\$376,441	291,813.52	\$84,627
Diakonia	\$71,336	70,007.22	\$1,329
DCA	\$85,008	85,064.67	-\$57
NPA	\$75,414	75,414.00	\$0
E&D	\$6,882	6,891.06	-\$9
Kepa	\$18,351	18,366.29	-\$16
Interest Income	\$1,011		\$1,011
FHI 360	\$8,403	10,509.00	-\$2,106
CETF/IUCN	\$5,000	11,335.46	-\$6,335
WILDE GANZEN FOUNDATION	\$11,676	4,769.58	\$6,906
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,178,652</b>	<b>959,922.35</b>	<b>\$218,730</b>

- Actual expend by December 2018 = US\$ 1,035,964
- CCC income come from sell services including training, members fee, GPP income

**Question and Answer**

Q1. Our organization used to apply for small grant from CCC, but the process and its financial implication is very complicated that should be adjusted. Now, we want to apply for the grant again, and how is the procedure? Why the funding for grant does is yet released?

A1. Of course, we received applicants for the small grant. CCC think that we can release the grant to the selected candidates by 2019. We will speed up the selection process as soon as possible. Regarding the financial compliance, we would like to inform that our small grants are funded by European Union. According to the agreement, EU required the granted selected to follow the procedure of CCC's financial requirement. In this case, the selected applicants will have to comply with our policy. However, we will do orientation on financial compliance to make sure that they will understand about our financial policy. We will release the grand to who (organization) meeting grand requirement.

Q2. What are activities that you listed down, but you fail to achieve it? What are activities that you had not planned, but you did?

A2. We have achieved our action plan for almost 80%. Some activities were skipped or merged together. For instance, we planned to end GPP's study in 2018 but till now, we are looking for new

standards to better improve our GPP standards. However, before doing that, we have informed consent with our donor. There is an emerging issue regarding the Law on Auditing and Accounting, Reporting Standard System, etc. We did not put the issues in our action plan. So we mainstream this matter into our activities. In case of we not complete any activities as planned, we write explanation of the cause that we could complete in advance to our donors and request for their approval.

Q3. What are the advocacy tool to achieve the result?

A3. EIE (*Engagement with development partners*. Institutional. Empowerment) we hold both formal and informal advocacy- must be working together. By doing so, we can see the direction. We need to empower for our voice with others. We have to make our organization strong with clear policy and good governance in place.

Q4. What are the challenges – both the finance and program? If you have any, what will your organization response to this?

A4. We see the obstacle as the opportunity. What you see as the challenges, we converted the challenges to the opportunity.

**d) Panel Discussion: Finding on Civil Society Organization Road Map study**

**The session moderated by Mr. Mam Sambath**, Executive Director of DPA, and lead by the presenter and discussants:

1. **Mr. Lun Borithy**, Independent Consultant
2. **Mr. Theng Savoeun**, Director of CCFC
3. **Mr. Ngin Saorath**, Executive Director of CDPO

***The discussion focuses on the following questions:***

- a. What is CSO trend?
- b. What will be its evolution?
- c. How it will sustain in term of financial status?

Executive Director of DPA introduce the flow and process of panel discussion, then he invited the independent consultant to present the preliminary key finding of CSO Road Map study. (please see slide presentation below)



CSO Road Map 18  
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**Key points/questioned raised and discussed were:**

- Purpose of study: To conduct a consultative process among CSO communities and concerned stakeholders to collectively consolidate elements to inform a kind of CSO Road Map for the next 5 years (2020-2025).

Q1. What are the role and responsibility of the CSOs' council? Does the council work in sectoral manner or else? What are the measure to strengthening sectoral NGOs?

A1. The council will be working as the most representative body, within the spirit of inclusiveness, for civil society organization in Cambodia. CSOs Union is a good example to model on. In Cambodia We

have many thematic groupings, and sometimes they are overlapping or/and competing with each other for pride, egoism therefore may be a national council that is representative of the entire sector may be the answer

Q2. You mentioned that the weakness of NGOs is the lack of solidarity. I would like to know about your indicator.

A2. We can see the real case of solidarity when we were working together in the same spirit in the Stop and Consult of the Law on Association and Non-Governmental Organization. We had the same language and we worked together. Just to cite one small example of lack of solidarity: a Khmer film co-producer of the documentary “my mom sold me” . Only his wife and a small group advocate for him at the Russian Embassy. Why ?

Q3. Your research seem to ignore the gender analysis. Do you have statistic to prove percentage of women in leadership role?

A3. This is the weakness of our research. We will reconsider about this again with CCC. We will discuss about this later.

Q4. The research found out the lack of solidarity among civil society organization, so what are the mechanism to promote solidarity, especially among the human rights, health, education, and others working together in solidarity manner? If they do not work together, it is hard to achieve the common goal. What are the way to work together?

A4. There are some recommendations to be addressed here. We should work together. We should promote and practice mixed programming were social justice and social accountability between the duty bearers and right holders are formulated in the mixed programs. We should have the same spirit. Within the research, we found good example HR NGO works directly with a service delivery NGO to serve the same beneficiaries. In this case, the beneficiary received the benefit in two topics at the same time.

#### **Discussions on CSO council: Pro & Con of CSO council, and Pre-requisites**

- Who will fund the council? Who should be on the board of the council?
- Will the HR/Advocacy subscribe to the council or will they stand outside and informally form their own loose Federation?
- Is such structure needed and necessary under the current social political conditions? Should there be 2 councils (council of FNGOs and council of LNGOs) Can a sole council represent both?

#### **Comments by Discussants and Participants:**

**CDPO Director:** The trend of Cambodia society from 1993 until now, 54% wants to see INGOs to give both funding and work as the implementer of the project. Under this condition, should we have ability to work by yourself yet? We have to discuss straightforward for example: the role of NGOF and CCC, under your leadership have you work hard enough in term of collaboration for the benefit of CSOs yet? How about the Council for CSOs? Presently, NGOs at local level seem to have no funding to support their project anymore.

**CCFC Director:** Mostly share comments on the recent evolution of CSO in Cambodia. Then follow some comments of participants related to China aid and western funding image, NGO will walk in 2 different ways. DPs should be depth planning for the next 5 years by comparing the NSDP in the last 5 years and

the next 5 years. This highlight the important roles of umbrella NGO and provincial NGO network play important roles in provide inputs in policy. Moreover, concern of funding shortage and the withdrawal of EBA and GSP which affect to unemployment. Then share certain suggestions:

- DP should integrate and strengthening national policy
- NGO project is in the which SDG or NSDP, NGO themselves need to know about their activities
- NGO who promote advocacy and human rights education now is under restriction that this should be more soft rather than confrontation.
- Umbrella NGO (national) & Network (subnational): play important to strengthen and co-complement each other to plan and prepare what we need and want to see in the future. Currently, LNGO cannot stand alone, therefore, umbrella NGO that have strong voice should coordinate to UN and FNGO to support to LNGO. It should be a key priority of umbrella NGO (Leave no one behind).

82% of CSO's work contribute Cambodian development and to fill-in the gap of government. We should produce report to inform government to know about result to reduce the negative perception on NGO. We should create CSO council to support to NGO because when NGO have a problem, who will support us? CCC should play this role.

Youth has limited access to job opportunity in the competition career. NGO should give chance for intern or volunteer to youth.

There should be clearly define the objectives and responsibility of CSO council, and if it maybe overlapping the committee of LANGO. The priority now, should strengthening Network at the subnational level.

At the end of the session, the moderator thanks for contribution from participants to the CSO road map, and consultant welcomed for the comments and feedback from participants of the AGM for next week, it is a happy line to get the feedback to make the report more comprehensive.

**e) Wrap up and Closing Remark by Mr. Soeung Saroeun, Executive Director**

He appreciates for the participation and highlights the number of participants who are CCC members, provincial NGO network, and NGO partners. Then he quoted the testimonials from different stakeholders, i.e. UN *"thanks to CCC for bring the positive change in Cambodia and thanks to contribution of CCC in this important tasks"*. Accountable Cambodia *"Good contribution of CCC help to NGO and individual of AC to work more effective"*. The appreciation of UN and other DP and stakeholders are the effort of CCC members and CSOs in Cambodia. Though many challenges, it could be opportunity for us but we need to improve our capacity to catch-up those opportunities.

He further appreciate the active participation and contribution from participants in CSO road map, and emphasis that the result of CSO road map is not for CCC, but for CSOs in Cambodia to prepare ourselves to respond to the current context because Cambodia change from low income country to low-middle income country, and under the current political governance with single party in the parliament. We need to reflect ourselves should we be strong as ants or dinosaurs in term of survival sustainability. Some of the questions today will be respond or answer by the Civil Society Day tomorrow. How to prepare ourselves to be strong to contribute to development. Finally, he thanks to ExCom, Speakers and all participants for their time, inputs, contribution and support to the mission of CCC.