



គណៈកម្មាធិការ
សហប្រតិបត្តិការដើម្បីកម្ពុជា
Cooperation Committee
for Cambodia
Comité de Coopération
Pour le Cambodge

ទស្សនវិស័យ: ការអភិវឌ្ឍប្រកបដោយនិរន្តរភាពសម្រាប់ប្រទេសកម្ពុជា
Vision: Sustainable development for Cambodia

National Consultation on “Policy Development and Legal Framework Related to Civil Society Organizations”

Date: June 29th, 2018

Venue: Tonle Bassac II Restaurant, Phnom Penh.

1. Introduction

The recent development trend of legal framework and enforcement related to work of CSOs in Cambodia have posed some significant concerns for them, particularly on their common position towards those laws and their capability and affordability to stay complied with the laws, their common strategies towards the implications of the laws enforcement. The legal frameworks include the Law on Associations and Non-governmental Organizations (LANGO) and the Taxation Law are two of the important legal frameworks which affect the operations, and enabling environment for CSOs as well as their livelihood. The LANGO was promulgated by the King of the Kingdom of Cambodia on 12 August 2015. Despite a raging few controversial provisions in its substance were addressed, the law, however, still contains number of provisions which generate gravity and concerns to all stakeholders, not only among NGOs and associations, but also the other types of civil society and other stakeholders.

In addition to LANGO, the issues around the compliance status of CSOs towards Taxation Law come as another big gravity for them. There are still limitation of understanding on how and what the law counts on the taxation obligations from civil society sector and preferential treatment in the law and how well CSOs could address their compliance capacity/affordability, particularly the technical issues in the law and financial burdensome. A very new arrival of mandatory obligation on the enforcement of the new enacted law on accounting and auditing and new report template also another new challenge for CSOs.

Aside from the above legal framework, one of other key development trends is that in September 2015, world leaders adopted a Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in which they agreed to begin a critical shift away from the current unsustainable and unjust development models to a more just, equal, inclusive and sustainable model. The SDGs, set out a global agenda for ending poverty, and achieving dignity and equality for all, in a world that is peaceful and sustainably managed.

The goals and Targets of SDGs are indivisible, global in nature and universally applicable. However, it is recognized that each government will be required to set its own national targets as well as indicators to adapt differing national circumstances, capacities and priorities, and consistent with internationally agreed standards, but guided by the global ambition in the SDGs. The principle of universality of the SDGs means translating the aspirational global targets into actionable, measurable, and achievable country-specific targets. In Cambodia, Ministry of Planning (MoP) facilitate the localization and adoption the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into Cambodian Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs) and then Cambodia will implementation the CSDGs now onward to ensure the sustainable development of Cambodia.

Partnerships for Sustainable Development in Cambodia

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In order to understand how well CSOs in Cambodia are aware of the development policies, especially in terms of legal compliance and demand of CSDGs and perhaps their implication/impacts towards civil society organizations in Cambodia in the current climate, how well CSOs have prepared to mitigate the possible and unpredictable risk and to engage in policies/legal frameworks, CSDGs development process, implementation and monitoring, CCC in cooperation with other civil society organizations and relevant ministries will conduct a **National Consultation on “Policy Development and Legal Framework Related to Civil Society Organizations”** which will be convened on **29 June 2018** at **Tonle Bassac II Restaurant**, Building No.534, Preah Monivong Blvd, Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Khan Chamkarmon, Phnom Penh.

2. Objectives

- To share and discuss on key findings with recommendations from regional learning fora and other consultations on key challenges that civil society organizations faced, especially related to CSO Legal Frameworks to government, development partners and other stakeholders.
- To debate with relevant ministries and development partners on the key findings and recommendations related legal frameworks, and issues related Cambodia Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs).
- To identify way forwards for CSOs to toward full compliance of related legal frameworks and the implementation of Cambodia Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs).

3. Draft Agenda

Time	Topic	Facilitator / Speaker
7:30 – 8:00 AM	Registration	Mrs. SAN Vattanakvatey , CAN Assistant of CCC
8:00 – 8:15 AM	Introduction of the Aim of the National Dialogue and National Anthem	Mrs. Tou Chandara , GPP Specialist of CCC
8:15 – 8:30 AM	Key note remarks and update on the related Legal Frameworks relevant to the operation of Civil Society Organizations in Cambodia	Mr. SOEUNG Saroeun , Executive Director of CCC
08:30 – 8:45 AM	Key note remark from Development Partner	Mr. Franck Viault , Head of Cooperation at the EU delegation
8.45-9.00 AM	Welcome and Opening Remark to be given by representatives from GDT or MOI	H.E Bun Honn Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Interior (MOI)
9.00-9.45 AM	Presentation on the Brief Findings and Challenges of CSOs collected from the Four Regional Learning Forums and Field Visits to provincial	Mr. YOEURNG Sotheara , Legal Support Specialist

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	NGOs/associations in the Provinces.	(LSS) of CCC
9.45-10.00 AM	[Group photo] Refreshment	All
10:00 – 12:00 AM	<p>Panel Discussion on “Development policies and legal frameworks related to Civil Society Organizations”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LANGO - Taxation - Accounting & Auditing <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the requirements of these laws to the CSOs? 2. What are the challenges facing by CSOs in complying with these laws? 3. What key asks/recommendations in respond to challenges? <p>Question and Answer</p>	<p>Moderator:</p> <p>Dr. El Sotheary, Head of Program of CCC</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>H. E Prak Sameourn Director General of Administration Department of Mol</p> <p>Representative of GDT (tbc)</p> <p>Representative of NAC (tbc)</p> <p>Representative of MoFA (tbc)</p>
12:00 – 1:30 PM	Lunch (will be provided)	All participants
1:30 – 3:00 PM	<p>Panel Discussion on CSDGs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update the progress and content of “Cambodia Sustainable Development Goals” CSDGs and linkages to UNDAF - Sharing progress and preparation for Voluntary National Review (VNR) 	<p>Moderator: Mr. Mi Nac, Component Manager of CCC</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>H.E Poch Sovandy, Deputy Director of Planning Department of MoP</p> <p>Representative of UN Country Team (tbc)</p>
3:00 – 3:15 PM	Refreshment	All participants
3:15 – 4: 45 PM	<p>CSO’s intervention through “<i>Do No Harm and Conflict Sensitive Programming</i>”</p> <p>CSO’s intervention on <i>Community Based</i></p>	Mrs. Luy Theary , Do No Harm Project Coordinator of CCC

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	Organizations (CBOs)	Ms. Kao Peouleakhena, CBO Specialist of CCC
4:45 – 5:00 PM	Conclusion and closing remark	Mr. SOEUNG Saroeun, Executive Director of CCC

Note: Organizer reserves the right to change the agenda!

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