



**Minutes of Issues Briefing Workshop on
CSO Strategic Discussion for Policies and Programing**

5 September 2019

Battambang Province

Introduction

Civil society organizations (CSO) have played a critically important role since early 1990s to contribute to the development of Cambodia. Those contribution range from protecting betterment of society, especially, livelihoods, advocacy for better human rights protection and democratic development to environmental protection of natural resources. Since 2015, there had been significant changed from legal environment, development policies, as well as economic and financial development for CSOs. For instant, the Sustainable Development Goal (2015-2030) as well as Partnership mechanism-Development Cooperation and Partnership Strategy (DCPS). Those are critical documents to strategic reflect with the long term expeirences of CSO approaches in programing as well as the combination of evidents based result from research recommendations.

In this regards, Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) as the longest established membership organization in Cambodia has since 1990 in strengthening civil society, improvem enabling environment and promote financial sustainability, which working together with the provincial NGO network and CCC members in Battambang province to joint effort together to organize a full day workshop on “CSO Strategic Discussion for Policies and Programing”, which conducted in Battambang at Preseident Hotel on 5 September 2019. There are 63 CSO participants/22 female from north west provinces of Cambodia including Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap, and Pursat Provinces.

Objectives of the workshop

- Share on current policies impacts to civil society operation including CSDGs, DCPS and so on.
- Share and discuss on research finding related to CSOs (CSO Image, Enabling Environment, Sustainability Index, Older People, and CSO Road Map)
- Discusse and generate key strategic recommendation for better programing and policies..

Expected Results

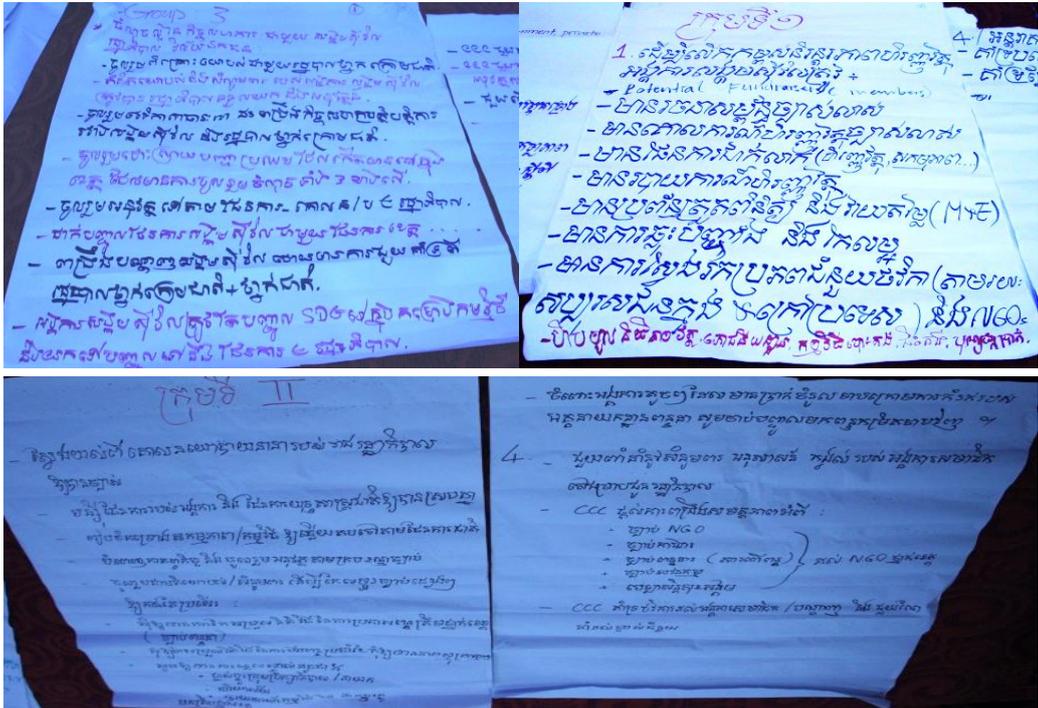
- Policies had been discussed and undertood
- Key research recommendations, challenges, and suggestions had been discussed for upcomming CSO programing
- Common strategic interventions had been generated for better programing and policies.

Detailed Agenda:

Topics	Detailed Discussion
Welcome Remark & Opening Remarks	<p>Welcome Remark by Mr. Soeung Saroeun, Executive Director of CCC He warmly welcome all participants and highlight this briefing workshop objectives as well as some key agenda that are going to share and discuss which hoping those will benefits for CSO program. Then thanks to provincial network to collaborate organize the event.</p> <p>Opening Remark by Ms. Kiet Thoeun, Represent of Provincial NGO Network in Battambang She briefly about the history of the provincial NGO network in Battambang, and some key activities of the network had been achieved so far. She appreciate with the effort of CCC in organizing the workshop in Battambang, and thanks to member of provincial network in Battambang and other provinces for their participants, and hope to have a fruitful workshop.</p>
<p>Session 1: Sharing Development Polices and Partnership Mechanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSDGs • DCPS <p>Q&A from participants</p>	<p>Mr. Soeung Saroeun, Executive Director of CCC He start with the video clip about SDGs and local context, then explain further detailed about the goals of SDGs and how CSOs program could better make the intervention and inline those goals.</p> <p>Then he introduce about the Development Cooperation & Partnership Strategy (2019-2023) with highlighted of the key contents within the docuements. Those include varouse mechanism such as Bilateral consultation with development partners, Technical Working Groups meeting, Sectoral multi-stakeholder dialogue, Government-NGO consultaitive meeting, as well as provincial Partnership dialogue. Then he give some further detailed about the provincial partnership dialogue at sub-antional level.</p> 
<p>Refreshment</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Session 2: Share Key Research Finding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO Public Image • CSO Ennabling Environment and Inclusive Partnership • CSO Sustainability Index • Needs and Challenges of Older People <p>Q&A from participants</p>	<p>Sharing of CSO visibilitiy by Dr. El Sotheary, Head of Program, CCC She highlight some of the key results which promote and demote the visibility of CSOs, those include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The associat of CSO image within the white book • level of independent of CSO from the respondents, which certain CSO affiliate to political party. Try to affiliate to donor support. Take opportunity of CSO work for other benefits. • If promote good image, CSO could better financial resource mobilization and partenrship from diverse sources, and gaining more trust. • If demote the image will reduce of funding support, some CSO may close, and effective implementation project will affect. • Some recommendations: if affiliate to political party needed to clear cut to CSO work and their entity, build more trust to stakeholders and partnership even among CSO, review exising internal regularations if enough and compliance, if regulations compliant to legal framework, consider about the accountability line both horizontal and vertical, effective communication channels, and harmonization among CSOs. <p>Sharing of CSO enabling environment and IP by Sochoeun, RMD Manger CCC used to collaborate with CIVICUS to conduct similar study in 2012. It focus on 10 dimensions of enabling environment, but this study is adapated framework which focus on 7 dimensions with addintional of inclusive partnership. The study study have</p>

Topics	Detailed Discussion
	<p>analys and have recommendation on each dimensions. The sampling is made the selection from the eight provinces among the four differents zones of Cambodia with 67 responded from selected 150 organizations within the survey. Other qualitative also made include group dicussion, and indepth interview with key informances. The study look back since 2015. Some key findings from the study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The registration and update of documents are often required to revise their documentation and statutes to contain text required that sometimes made the period longer than required in the law. • Over half of the surveyed CSOs (58%) believed that conditions for freedom of expression had deteriorated compared to 2015. • 59% of CSOs believed that freedom of assembly had been increasingly restricted. • CSOs were first considered liable to some form of taxes (usually salary tax) in the 1997 Tax Law. In 2018, a new Prakas (#464) specifically targeted NGOs requiring, all to register with the Department of Tax. • A general perception among Cambodian CSOs for access to (financial) resources is decreasing. • 36% of CSO survey found that access information from state at national levels was difficult; and some information could get from open access. • Some operation relationship with authorities is good, and some other is difficult which relevant to sector where they are working. • Some mechanisms exist for partnership with government, but about long way to go with the private sector. <p>Sharing of Needs and Challenges of Oder People by Mr. Tom Vira, Executive Director of HAC</p> <p>He share the statistic of older age group with 60+ from UNDESA in 2015 with 12.3% (901M) of world population to 21.5% (2,092M) in 2050. Then he share further of the survey results from 316 older respondents at the age from 60-90 years old. Commonly the challenges of older people include: physical, psychology, economic hardhip, and health care. Those need community support and policy interventions.</p> <p>Questions and Answers:</p> <p>Q1: This report reflect both poisitive and negative image of CSOs, if those repondents include with the authorities in the study? If the published report will be made in Khmer as the English version is difficult for provincial NGO network?</p> <p>Q2: Approach of working to support for older people? And If having some complementary work to support family livelihood?</p> <p>A1: There are 404 respondents from business/private, CSOs and government officials. The result also figure out different perspectives from different types of respondents. CCC will manage to make the translation into Khmer language.</p> <p>A2: The approach of working is through the network, which starting since 1992. We have some policy to suppor the older age people, and the program had pilit support older in some of the provinces.</p> <p><i>(please see the slide presentation)</i></p>
Solidarity Lunch	All
Session 3: Discussion and Share Key Research Finding and Challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO Road Map • Key challenges at 	CSO Road Map by Mr. Saroeun, Executive Director, CCC Before starting the dicussion, he ask the question about the need of need CSO, and then responded by participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fill in the gap and reduce the burden of government • Contribute to the global goal, i.e. SDGs.

Topics	Detailed Discussion
<p>the sub-national level</p> <p>Q&A from participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since the civil war, the discrimination among population exist and the present support the coordination. • CSO exist in all society as an angle of the three sphere • Support the constitution that mention about rights to association as well as political party. • Coordinate and support between rights holders and duty barrier. <p>Key points from the sharing of presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mega trend: the world civic space shrinking including Cambodia, financial shortage (72% reduced and increase legal compliance, and limit collaboration), technological improvement, and increase of entrepreneurship • Source of funding opportunities: Celebrity, joint project, responsive to people's needs, Alignment to CSDGs, Alignment to RGC's development plan (the budget could be shared cost or joint project implementation) • Working approaches: balancing of soft and hard advocacy, joint working committee among HR and development organizations, mix program of HR and development theme, constructive engagement • Future program activities: national policy engagement, gender and social inclusion, create digitalization program, empowerment and resilience, governance/anti-corruption, natural resource governance and management, support mainstream national reform agenda, social accountability and social justice, enabling environment, legal rights sensitization • We develop base on ABCD=Asset Based Community Development • Our approach to development could be linke to the context of development, ie. Right Based Appraoch (RBA) to develop could be associate with stakeholder partnership in ISAF or business partnership through CSR rather always raised only RBA to development. <p><i>(please see the slide presentation)</i></p>
<p>Session 4: Group Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing challenges and for betterment of programing and policies <p>What should CSO do:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- to promote financial sustainability? 2- to better response to policies and legal frameworks? 3- to promote inclusive partnership with government, private, and CSOs? <p>4- What should be the key interventions of CCC</p>	<p>Facilitate Group Discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- The sustainability of getting fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We must strengthening the capacity of the existing human resources • We must have potential fund raiser • Have a clear structure • Have clear financial plan • Transparency on spending the donor money • Have M&E system • Know how to find the source of fund both in local and international • Find attractive events to attract fund 2-The better response to policies and legal framework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better seek more understanding on policies and legal framework • Alignment of organizastion program to development polices • All update information of CSOs should be made at provincial levels rather to national level, as well as thre registration for tax. • The procedure for tax payment should be simply. 3-The goods that we could see from the partnership between CSOs and the government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can now participate in sub-national and national partnership dialogue with provincial administrative • The voice from NGO has been acknowledges and include in amendment • Participate in tackle the challenge • Participate in implement along with government national plan

Topics	Detailed Discussion
<p>to support for improve enabling environment for provincial based NGOs?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sub-national authority start to include CSOs in the agenda of discussion • Help in building capacity for NGOs provincial network by the subnational and national level • CSOs needs to include SDG in to their programs as well as include government plan into their program <p>4-What we want from CCC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Want CCC to help build the capacity for NGOs • Help in provide fund/grant • Want CCC to provide training on course especially to provincial network like Do No Harm and other legal compliance • Understand each other more with the respect on partnership manner • Help to bring voice of CSOs to national level • We want technical support on proposal writing skills • We want CCC include NGOs that work in similar field to work with one another.
Refreshment	All
<p>Session 5: Common suggestions and action to better programing and policies</p>	<p><i>Please see the result compile from the group dicussion in annex</i></p> 
<p>Wrap Up and Closing Remark</p>	<p>Dr. Sotheyay, Head of Program of CCC</p> <p>She raised about the this event which organize within this northwest term provinces of Cambodia, similar meeting had been planed to conduct at national level. We thanks to all the inputs, and it is useful for CSO as well as CCC, which we plan to make into the mid-term review of Governance Hub Program (GHP) of CCC. Finally, she thanks to provincial network in Battambang to organize the meeting, and all members who participate and wishe all the safe traveling and best of luck.</p>

អ្វីដែលអង្គការសង្គមគួរធ្វើដើម្បីធ្វើអោយប្រសើរឡើងសម្រាប់ផ្នែកហិរញ្ញវត្ថុ គោលនយោបាយ និងច្បាប់ និងភាពជាដៃគូ	
1	<p>ពាក់ព័ន្ធហិរញ្ញវត្ថុ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • លើកកម្ពស់សក្តានុពលក្នុងការកៀរគរធនធានជាមួយអង្គការសមាជិកភាព • រៀបចំអោយមានរចនាសម្ព័ន្ធច្បាប់លាស់សម្រាប់ការកៀរគរធនធាន • រៀបចំអោយមានគោលការណ៍ក្នុងការចាត់ចែង និងប្រើប្រាស់ហិរញ្ញវត្ថុ ក៏ដូចជាផែនការសកម្មភាពអោយបានច្បាស់លាស់ • រៀបចំរបាយការណ៍ហិរញ្ញវត្ថុ និងប្រកបដោយតម្លាភាព • រៀបចំអោយមានប្រព័ន្ធគ្រូតពិនិត្យ តាមដាន និងវាយតម្លៃ និងមានការឆ្លុះបញ្ចាំង និងកែលំអ • មានការស្វែងរកប្រភពជំនួយថវិកា (តាមរយៈសប្បុរសជន ក្នុងស្រុក និងក្រៅស្រុក និងជាមួយដៃគូផ្សេងៗ ក៏ដូចជាមួយសហគមន៍) • បង្កើតអោយមានហិបមូលនិធិផ្សេងៗនៅតាមវត្តអារាម ភោជនីយដ្ឋាន កម្មវិធីយុទ្ធនាការ បោះតង់ជិះកង់ និងបុណ្យផ្កាសាមគ្គីផ្សេងៗ។ • ស្វែងរកអង្គការដែលមានសកម្មភាពស្រដៀងគ្នា ដែលអាចរួមគ្នាក្នុងការរៀបចំ និងអនុវត្តគម្រោង • ស្វែងរកការចូលរួមពីក្រុមភាពល្អៗ ក៏ដូចជាក្រុមហ៊ុនផ្សេងៗ ដើម្បីកៀរគរធនធាន
2	<p>គោលនយោបាយ និងច្បាប់</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ពាក់ព័ន្ធច្បាប់ និងគោលនយោបាយ • ស្វែងយល់ពីគោលនយោបាយនានារបស់រាជរដ្ឋាភិបាលអោយបានច្បាស់ • បន្តផែនការអោយបានសមស្របរវាងផែនការអភិវឌ្ឍន៍របស់អង្គការ និងផែនការយុទ្ធសាស្ត្រជាតិសម្រាប់ការអភិវឌ្ឍ • រៀបចំគម្រោងសកម្មភាព/កម្មវិធីអោយឆ្លើយតបទៅតាមផែនការជាតិ • បំពេញកាតព្វកិច្ច និងចូលរួមអនុវត្តស្របតាមក្របខណ្ឌច្បាប់សមស្រប • ចូលរួមជាមតិយោបល់ឬជាសំណូមពរផ្សេងៗ ដើម្បីកែលម្អច្បាប់ផ្សេងៗអោយបានកាន់តែល្អ • សុំអោយមាន ការកែសម្រួលនីតិវិធីនៃការប្រកាសពន្ធត្រឹមថ្នាក់ខេត្ត (សម្រាប់ច្បាប់ពាក់ព័ន្ធពន្ធដារ) • សុំអោយកែសម្រួលនីតិវិធីនៃការបង់ពន្ធប្រចាំខែ ដើម្បីកុំអោយមានភាពស្មុគស្មាញ • សុំអោយមានការទទួលស្គាល់សម្រាប់ការផ្លាស់ប្តូរ និងរបាយការណ៍ ត្រឹមថ្នាក់ខេត្តរួមមាន៖ ប្តូរក្រុមប្រឹក្សាភិបាល/នាយក អាស័យដ្ឋានការិយាល័យ និងរបាយការណ៍កម្មវិធី និងហិរញ្ញវត្ថុ ជាដើម។
3	<p>ចំណុចណាមួយចំនួនកន្លងមកក្នុងការងារភាពជាដៃគូរួមមាន៖</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ចូលរួមពិគ្រោះយោបល់ជាមួយរដ្ឋបាលថ្នាក់ក្រោមជាតិ ហើយគំនិតយោបល់ និងសំណូមពររបស់អង្គការសង្គមស៊ីវិល ត្រូវបានយកទៅពិចារណា និងដោះស្រាយ។ • ចូលរួមពិភាក្សានិងដោះស្រាយតាមរយៈវេទិកាសាធារណៈ ដើម្បីពង្រឹងកិច្ចសហប្រតិបត្តិការរវាងសង្គមស៊ីវិល និងរដ្ឋបាលថ្នាក់ក្រោមជាតិ។ • ចូលរួមដោះស្រាយបញ្ហាប្រឈមដែលកើតមាននៅក្នុងខេត្ត ដែលមានការចូលរួមពីភាគីពាក់ព័ន្ធ។ • ចូលរួមតាមដាននិងអនុវត្តផែនការ និងគោលនយោបាយរបស់រាជរដ្ឋាភិបាល។ • ការដាក់បញ្ចូលផែនការសង្គមស៊ីវិលជាមួយផែនការអភិវឌ្ឍន៍ខេត្ត។

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ពង្រឹងបណ្តាញសង្គមស៊ីវិលដោយមានការជួយគាំទ្រពីរដ្ឋបាលថ្នាក់ក្រោមជាតិ និងថ្នាក់ជាតិ។ <p>ការលើកកម្ពស់ភាពជាដៃគូរវាងសង្គមស៊ីវិល និងភាគីពាក់ព័ន្ធ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • បន្តផ្តល់ការជាមួយគ្នាអោយបានកាន់តែប្រសើរ និង ពង្រឹងខ្សែសង្វាក់ផលិតកម្ម • ចែករំលែកធនធានផ្សេងៗ ក៏ដូចជាទំនួលខុសត្រូវផ្សេងៗអោយបានសមស្រប • ប្រជុំផ្តុះបញ្ចាំងពីដំណើរការនៃការអនុវត្តគម្រោង • លើកកម្ពស់ការយល់ដឹងពីគោលការណ៍ និង ឧបករណ៍មិនបង្កទំនាស់ (Do No Harm) ដល់ដៃគូដើម្បីអនុវត្តកម្មវិធីបានប្រសើរក្នុងការស្វែងយល់ពីកត្តាបែកបាក់ និងកត្តាផ្សារភ្ជាប់ • ពង្រឹង និងកសាងសមត្ថភាពដៃគូ និងគោរពគោលការណ៍ក្នុងភាពជាដៃគូ
សំណូមពរ និងយោបល់ផ្សេងៗ	
1	<p>ពាក់ព័ន្ធហិរញ្ញវត្ថុ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • គាំទ្រផ្នែកបច្ចេកទេស និងកសាងសមត្ថភាព រួមមានការសរសេរសំណើគម្រោងជាដើមដែលធ្លាប់បានធ្វើខ្លះៗហើយកន្លងមក • គាំទ្រផ្នែកថវិកា ពិសេសសម្រាប់កិច្ចប្រជុំប្រជុំប្រចាំខែ និងប្រតិបត្តិការផ្សេងៗ
2	<p>គោលនយោបាយ និងច្បាប់</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ជួយពាំនាំនូវរាល់សំណូមពរ និងបញ្ហាប្រឈម និងអនុសាសន៍ ព្រមទាំងកង្វល់របស់អង្គការសង្គមស៊ីវិល ជម្រាបជូនដល់រាជរដ្ឋាភិបាល ដើម្បីជួយសម្រួល និងដោះស្រាយ។ • ជួយពង្រឹងសមត្ថភាពដល់អង្គការនៅថ្នាក់ក្រោមជាតិ លើផ្នែកច្បាប់ពាក់ព័ន្ធជាមួយអង្គការដូចជាច្បាប់ការងារ ច្បាប់ពន្ធដារ (សារពើពន្ធ) ច្បាប់សវនកម្ម និងរបបបេឡាសន្តិសុខសង្គមជាដើម។ • ជួយគាំទ្រថវិកា ដល់អង្គការសមាជិក និងសមាជិកបណ្តាញ និងជួយថែទាំដល់ម្ចាស់ជំនួយពីតម្រូវការថវិកា និងបញ្ហាប្រឈមផ្សេងៗ • សិក្សាស្វែងយល់អោយបានច្បាស់ពីក្របខណ្ឌច្បាប់ពាក់ព័ន្ធផ្សេងៗរួមមាន៖ LANGO, Taxation, NSSF, Labor, and ICT. • បង្កើនទំនាក់ទំនងអោយបានល្អក្នុងចំណោមអង្គការសង្គមស៊ីវិល និងជាមួយរាជរដ្ឋាភិបាល • អង្គការសង្គមស៊ីវិលត្រូវតែបញ្ចូល SDGs ទៅក្នុងគម្រោងកម្មវិធី និងស្របតាមផែនការអភិវឌ្ឍន៍របស់រាជរដ្ឋាភិបាល។
3	<p>ការលើកកម្ពស់ភាពជាដៃគូរវាងសង្គមស៊ីវិល និងភាគីពាក់ព័ន្ធ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • សុំអោយបន្តការតស៊ូមតិ ដើម្បីអោយអង្គការតូចៗ ដែលមានប្រាក់ចំណូលទាបក្រោមការកំណត់របស់អគ្គនាយកដ្ឋានពន្ធដារ សូមបញ្ចូលមកត្រឹមពន្ធកម្រិតទាបវិញ • បន្តចែកចាយព័ត៌មានផ្សេងៗពីថ្នាក់ជាតិ និងពាំនាំសំណើ និងសំណូមពរផ្សេងៗ ទៅដល់ថ្នាក់ជាតិ • ជម្រុញអោយមានការប្រជុំបានទៀងទាត់រវាងបណ្តាញអង្គការថ្នាក់ជាតិ និងអង្គការថ្នាក់ក្រោមជាតិ • ជាអ្នកពាំនាំសម្លេងសង្គមស៊ីវិលទៅដល់តំណាងរាជរដ្ឋាភិបាល • ពង្រឹងបន្ថែមរវាងបណ្តាញ និងបណ្តាញ ក៏ដូចជាពង្រឹងសមត្ថភាពបណ្តាញ • រៀបចំជាវេទិកាបណ្តាញ ជាមួយដៃគូពាក់ព័ន្ធ • ជាអ្នកសម្របសម្រួល ជួយផ្តល់ជាសម្ភារៈ និងថវិកាបន្ថែម ក៏ដូចជាបណ្តុះបណ្តាលធនធានមនុស្ស។