



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

ទស្សនវិស័យ: ការអភិវឌ្ឍប្រកបដោយនិរន្តរភាពសម្រាប់ប្រទេសកម្ពុជា  
Vision: Sustainable development for Cambodia

# Minutes of Governance and Professional Practices Awarding Ceremony on

## “Promoting CSO Good Governance and Launching New GPP Standard”



Organized by: CCC-GPP  
Minutes Taker: Ms. Pheng Chandy, GPP Specialist  
Reviewed by: GPP Team

12 December 2019

Sunway Hotel Phnom Penh, No. 1, Street 92, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Partnerships for Sustainable Development in Cambodia

[www.ccc-cambodia.org](http://www.ccc-cambodia.org)  
[info@ccc-cambodia.org](mailto:info@ccc-cambodia.org)  
T +855 (0)23 214 152  
F +855 (0)23 216 009

#9-11, Street. 476,  
Toul Tompoung 1, Chamkamorn  
P.O. Box 885, Phnom Penh,  
Cambodia



# Contents

## Contents

- Abbreviations and Acronyms .....2
- 1. Background and Rationale .....3
  - 1.1. Brief Overview of the Key Topics of the Forum .....3
    - 1.1.1. GPP Awarding Ceremony .....3
    - 1.1.2. Launch new GPP Standards and Certification System .....4
  - 1.2. Objective .....4
- 2. Target Participants .....4
- 3. Summary Results of the Awarding Ceremony.....4
  - 3.1. Opening Speeches .....4
    - 3.1.1. Welcome and Update the Progress of NGO GPP by Mr. Soeung Saroeun .....4
    - 3.1.2. Opening Remarks by H.E. Ngy Chanphal .....5
  - 3.2. Awarding GPP Certificates to the Newly Certified NGOs in 2019 .....7
    - 3.2.1. Awarding GPP Certificates to the Newly Certified NGOs in 2019 .....7
    - 3.2.2. Introductory Video of the Awarded NGOs Certified by GPP in 2019 .....8
    - 3.2.3. Impression from Newly Certified NGOs .....8
  - 3.3. Promoting CSOs governance, accountability and transparency and professionalism.....9
    - 3.3.1. Launching new GPP Standard and Certification System .....9
    - 3.3.2. Closing Remark by Mr. Leng Vireak.....9
- 4. Conclusion ..... 10
- 5. Annex..... 11
  - 5.1. Venue and Agenda ..... 11
  - 5.2. Attendance List..... 12

## Abbreviations and Acronyms

API	Advocacy Policy Institute
BSDA	Buddhism for Social Development Action
CCC	Cooperation Committee for Cambodia
CDPO	Cambodian Disabilities People's Organization
CHS	Core Humanitarian Standard
CRC-Cambodia	Child Rights Coalition Cambodia
CSO	Civil Society Organization
ED	Executive Director
GPP	Governance Professional Practices
GPPS	Governance Professional Practices Specialist
IDE Cambodia	International Development Enterprise
KrY	Krousar Yerng Association
Mol	Ministry of Interior
NCCC	NGO Code Compliance Committee
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OWSO	One Window Service Office
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
UPWD	Urban Poor Women Development Organization
VCS	Voluntary Certification System
WG	Working Group

## 1. Background and Rationale

The Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) is known as the largest and longest-established membership based organization in Cambodia. The organization was established in 1990 and is now having around 200 NGOs as its members. CCC has played a unique role in strengthening the cooperation, professionalism, accountability, governance, and development effectiveness of the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) working across diverse sectors in Cambodia. CCC is implementing its unique Governance Hub Program phase 3 (GHP 2017-2021) through which four key program approaches including Member centered, Decentralization, Inclusive partnership and Rights based approach/Do No Harm have been adopted to catalyze the realization of its strategic elements.

Since 2004, CCC hosts the NGO Governance & Professional Practices (NGO GPP) program (component), which is originally known as the NGO Good Practice Project, aiming at promoting good governance, accountability, transparency, professionalism, and good practices within NGOs operating in Cambodia. The NGO GPP is operated as the Voluntary Certification System (VCS)/ GPP Certification System based on a set of GPP Standards (NGO Code in Cambodia). The Standards are in line with and responsive to the principles number 5, 6, and 7 of the Istanbul Principles on CSO Development Effectiveness which was globally endorsed in 2010 and Global Standard for CSO Accountability which was a joint initiative from nine managing code organizations in the world.

As of November 2019, 99 certificates (68 Certified NGOs) have been awarded to the international and local NGOs that have successfully complied with the GPP Standards. The GPP Certified NGOs (CNGOs) are seen as the role model to contribute to promoting good governance, accountability, transparency, and professional practices for NGO community. The impact study on the GPP certification system conducted last year indicated that the certification and practices beneficial to the target community, donors, the government, and beneficiaries. Moreover, the certification process helps build professionalism and adaptation of the organization against the changing environments that are impacting organizations positively and negatively. However, the study also informed the needs for GPP certification system to improve, specifically according to the five elements: accessibility, flexibility, cost effectiveness, shared ownership and effective program development. From this impact study, CCC has revised its current GPP certification system into a new modality that will be implemented from 2021.

This year, GPP conducted the Awarding Ceremony for newly Certified NGOs together with the Launching of new GPP Standard". This ceremony aimed to award the GPP certificates to the seven newly certified NGOs and to introduce the new GPP Standards and Certification System to the wider stakeholders.

### 1.1. Brief Overview of the Key Topics of the Forum

#### 1.1.1. GPP Awarding Ceremony

The Awarding Ceremony is celebrated to honor and appreciate seven NGOs who have successfully fulfilled all requirements of the GPP system in 2019. Within this special event, the certificates were honorably awarded by H.E. Ngy Chanphal from the Ministry of Interior and by the representative of the independent NGO Code Compliance Committee (NCCC). This GPP Awarding Ceremony also inspired more NGOs to play champion roles in promoting good governance, professionalism, accountability and transparency.

### 1.1.2. Launch new GPP Standards and Certification System

Governance & Professional Practices Standard is a living document and it is subject to be reviewed once every three to four years to expose the system to further possible improvement. Modifications to the codes and standards are made based on majority of inputs from NGOs community and their stakeholders. In 2019, the new modality of GPP system was developed through a consultancy assignment with various stakeholders. The new modality contains new features that could respond better to the needs of NGO community and others.

The new GPP modality was launched in this event in order to inform and seek for supports from the audiences on this new package. At the same time, CCC informed the strategy for the transitional period between the current GPP certification system and new GPP certification system and informed the journey and process of the new GPP certification system.

### 1.2. Objective

1. To award NGO GPP Certificates to the newly certified NGOs in 2019
2. To launch the new GPP Standard and Certification System
3. To present the transitional task between the current and new GPP certification system
4. To present the journey of the new GPP Standards and Certification system

## 2. Target Participants

This forum was participated by 97 participants, 33 women (34%) from GPP certified and GPP applicant NGOs, NGOs who wish to engage in the GPP Certification System, CCC members, Provincial-NGO networks, funding partners, and CCC's staff.

## 3. Summary Results of the Awarding Ceremony

The event was hosted by master of ceremonies namely Mr. Chea Vibol, GPP Specialist and Ms. Chan Somaly, MD Specialist. At the beginning of the ceremony they invited all guests and participants to start the event by following the set agenda including National Anthem, introducing the event's objectives and the program. Then, the show of blessing dance was done by youth group from BSDA following by the speeches of honorable guests.

### 3.1. Opening Speeches

#### 3.1.1. Welcome and Update the Progress of NGO GPP by Mr. Soeung Saroeun

Mr. Soeung Saroeun, Executive Director of CCC provided welcome remarks and update the progress of NGO GPP. On behalf of CCC and membership organization he would like to welcome and thank to H.E Ngy Chanphal and all ladies and gentlemen who have presence to today's event. This special forum was participated from all key actors and relevant stakeholders include government representatives, development partners, certified NGOs, applicant NGOs, CCC members, interesting NGOs, and other network. This event is going to award GPP certificate to 7 newly certified NGOs as well as to launch new GPP standard. GPP Certificate is one of the achievements of Governance and Professional

Practices program (GPP). NGO GPP is one of the 3 core elements of governance sub-program of CCC for 5 years.

NGO GPP was initiated in 2004 with the purpose to promote good governance, professionalism, transparency, and accountability for CSOs in Cambodia. In 2007, GPP certificate system was created to implement in accordance to the set code formulated in 2005. Because of the recognition and strong support from relevant stakeholders and considered it as an effective tool to promote good governance for CSOs in Cambodia. Then, from 2007 to end of 2019, GPP received 239 applications from 157 NGOs. After rigorous assessment from 3 different independent committees including GPP team to primary screening document and collect information, NGO GPP Working Group to screen desk review documents, and NCCC to evaluate and make final decision. All the assessments are based on GPP standard which is consisted of 6 headings, 25 standards, 65 guidelines, and 71 indicators. Up to now, 68 NGOs received 99 GPP certificates. It means that some NGOs received more than one certificates can be 2 times, 3 times or 4 times.

In this valuable occasion, he would like to proudly congratulations to 7 newly certified NGOs in 2019. In about 13 years, voluntary-based certificate system of NGO GPP have been revised 5 times. The 5th revision is named as “Standard of Governance and Professional Practices for NGOs operating in Cambodia”. The new standard resulted from participatory discussion of all relevant stakeholders almost a year to align with the needs of NGOs and 2 international standards, one is on Global standard for CSO accountability, and the other one is on Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS). The new revised standard was approved by various stakeholders under the facilitation of independent consultant team. Today, consultant team will present the results to all of you. The specialties of new standard are flexibility, accessibility, cost effectiveness, quality, and sustainability. The new standard also changed from 6 headings to 3 headings such as Good Governance, Good Resource Management, and Dynamic Program Practices. At the same time, the new standard also integrated Self-Assessment, Capacity Development, 3 milestone awards, and full certificate.

CCC still commits to promote and implement NGO GPP and pursue its mission to contribute the sustainable and democracy development of CSOs and Cambodia.

At last, he would like to wish all guests and participants all the best, full of happiness and success. Thanks!

### 3.1.2. Opening Remarks by H.E. Ngy Chanphal

On behalf of RGC and Mol, he mentioned that today’s topic on Promoting CSO Good Governance and Launching New GPP Standard is important for him to join. Take this opportunity he appreciates CCC who makes this significant event happened and he also would like to congratulations to 7 new CNGOs. Those are:

1. Cambodian Disabilities People’s Organization (CDPO)-3<sup>rd</sup> times of certification
2. Krousar Yerng Association (KrY)-2<sup>nd</sup> time certification
3. Urban Poor Women Development Organization (UPWD)-2<sup>nd</sup> times of certification.
4. M’Lop Tapang (MT)-2<sup>nd</sup> time of certification
5. iDE organization-2<sup>nd</sup> time of certification
6. Advocacy Policy Institute (API)-1<sup>st</sup> time of certification
7. Child Rights Coalition Cambodia (CRC-Cambodia)-1<sup>st</sup> time of certification

He added that promoting governance, transparency, and accountability is a priority activity of government, which was included in rectangular strategy phase 4 as the core strategy of acceleration of governance reform. The participation of government and CSOs to strengthen good governance are crucial to build trust and cooperation.

He also would like to highlight the key results regarding the acceleration of governance reform. There are 2 key challenges. The first one is effectiveness of public administration services which is referred to the responsiveness and implementation of relevant ministries and sub-national government. The second one is morality. With regard to these challenges, government had formulated the rectangular strategy since phase 1. And recently in the rectangular strategy phase 4 is to accelerate the governance reform as well as included in the agenda of 10-year national program until 2020. For 2019 what government has been achieved? Government has completed a lot of achievements such as strengthening partnership with all development partners which include local community, CSOs, and private sector. Government also continues to encourage all NGOs and associations created legally and practiced based on governance principle that participate in social-economic development, promote development, respect democracy and human rights.

In the framework of the reform of effectiveness of public services and promoting good governance, in 2019 government has made a lot of achievements. First, there was a revision of structure of Krong, District, and Khan Administration to ensure the effectiveness of services. Second, government has decided to provide additional budget to Commune and Sangkat. So, from 2020 in average each commune will receive 70,000 USD for local development and administration budget about 50,000USD to enlarge the response to the needs of citizens. Third, government has revised some policies such as gender policy and environmental safety policy. Besides, government has done regarding social accountability work and expanded to 21 provinces of 123 districts. This work needs more cooperation. So far, government has worked with national, sub-national, and CSOs. Another result is about formulating of One Window Service Office (OWSO) for Krong, District and Khan, up to now there is 115 Krong, District, Khan formed OWSO.

He announced that if NGOs/CSOs operate their activities and meet any difficulties please inform to government to support and help to address the issues. Please don't hide it because government will difficult to solve it. Government has a strong commitment to solve the problems, cooperate, make partnership, and build trust with all relevant stakeholders.

The implementation of NGO GPP of CCC on promoting good governance, transparency, accountability and professional practices is an important part in contributing to achieve the goal not only for CSOs but also for government. He also encourages all CSOs to participate and continue to monitor and improve public services, promote good governance, advocate for human trafficking, prevent drug trafficking and alcohol promotion. He hopes that all NGOs presented here and CSOs in Cambodia, all donors/development partners will continue to promote good governance and have good cooperation with government.

Last but not least, he again would like to congratulations to the newly certified NGOs and encourage other NGOs who are applying for GPP certificate to further improve and strengthen the capacity to meet the standard. He wished all participants all the best and announced to open the ceremony!

### 3.2. Awarding GPP Certificates to the Newly Certified NGOs in 2019

#### 3.2.1. Awarding GPP Certificates to the Newly Certified NGOs in 2019

The handed certificates to newly certified NGOs as the following:

- CDPO, IDE and M'Lup Tapang organizations were handed certificates by His Excellency Ngy Chanphal, Secretary of State, Ministry of Interior
- KrY by Mr. Keng Bunchhoeuth, NCCC Member
- API by Mr. Leng Vireak, NCCC Member
- CRC-Cambodia by Mr. Chhuon Vuthy, NCCC Member
- UPWD by Ms. Pen Monorom, NCCC Member



### 3.2.2. Introductory Video of the Awarded NGOs Certified by GPP in 2019

There were 4 videos of newly certified NGOs include API, iDE, UPWD and CRC-Cambodia and 3 slide shows of 3 other NGOs, KrY, CDPO, and M'Lup Tapang displayed during the forum in order to highlight about the profile of each organization.

### 3.2.3. Impression from Newly Certified NGOs

**M'Lup Tapang Organization, Iv Sok, Admin & HR Manager:** it is a second time for M'Lup Tapang to receive GPP Certificate. GPP Certificate helps MT get more trust from donors and partners. It also encourages MT's staff to work harder even though in the recent years MT has faced a lot of challenges such as flood and dramatically changes of Kampong Som from the big investment of Chinese (greatly increased of renting fee and other inflation). Thanks to GPP team that had done participatory and thoroughly assessment with MT's staff, beneficiaries, BoDs, and Donors.

**CRC Cambodia, Mr. Son Penh, ED:** GPP certificate is not only awarded from GPP team but also from beneficiaries, partners, donors, and member NGOs because GPP team had collected information from them and they supported CRC-Cambodia to be awarded. It is an evidence of accountability of CRC-Cambodia to target groups and beneficiaries particularly children and youth. It also shows the recognition from 56 member NGOs and donors regarding accountability and transparency of CRC-Cambodia. Moreover, it is also a part of all colleagues of CRC-Cambodia due to the fact that GPP team met and interviewed all of them. Therefore, GPP certificate can proof that the policies and system of CRC-Cambodia are met with GPP standard. GPP standard is valuable and necessary to reflect on the quality of policies, internal system, and the practices of NGOs. It is proud for NGOs who get GPP certificate and it also shows accountability to beneficiaries and relevant stakeholders.

**API, Mr. Lam Socheat, ED:** It is the first time for API to receive GPP certificate. It is not a coincident to receive this certificate. API has prepared for 10 years in order to get this certificate. API would like to thanks to Mr. Neb Sinthay, he is a member of GPP Working Group and a former ED of API. He has guided API a lot in order to meet GPP standard. GPP team had conducted in-depth assessment with all API's stakeholders before making decision for the certificate.

**iDE, Lay Chhun, HR Manager:** Thanks to CCC for organizing today's event and initiated to established GPP system. Generally, international NGOs have comprehensive internal policies. Even though we have comprehensive internal policies, we still have some gaps. For my personal view, GPP standard is not perfect but excellent. Why I said like this? Because I believe that there is no one and nothing perfect in this world. Excellences of GPP the first one is there are appropriate indicators and standard which we can measure each entity, it is like a mirror to reflect on each NGOs. Second, there is an independent team to do assessment in order to cross check between documents and real practices with all stakeholders. GPP system helps NGOs to be strong. Sometimes, Management Team members are busy with the implementation of the programs but forget about transparency and human resource management where it is also important the entity. Therefore, GPP standard can help reflect on all important factors. In brief, the benefits of GPP standard is incalculable that contribute to iDE be stronger, better, more sustainable, and more effective and efficient. I strongly encourage all NGOs who are not yet applied for or interesting to apply for GPP, please don't be hesitate.

**UPWD, Ms. Suom Samoun, ED:** UPWD is working with 50 women communities in Phnom Penh. It is the second time for UPWD to receive GPP certificate. It was not easy to get GPP certificate. We have to spend a lot of time and in order to meet the standard. But after we received GPP certificate, UPWD feels confident to work with all stakeholders and beneficiaries. At the same time, UPWD has to build capacity in order to fulfill all requirements of GPP. There were many challenges for UPWD as a local and small NGO but after UPWD struggles to deal those challenges, UPWD became more confident and stronger. GPP certificate can help UPWD works with confident. If any NGOs are interested to apply for GPP certificate, please don't hesitate. UPWD will continue to apply for next certificate.

**KrY, BoD member:** There is one donor encourage KrY to apply for GPP certificate. Pass or not pass GPP certificate is fine, only the progress from the process of application is good. But as the result, we do not only get the progress from the process of application but also get GPP certificate. It is good for KrY to show to its donors and also a part for fund raising.

**CDPO, Ngin Saoroth, ED:** We need to have a strong team, strong system, no corruption, no partisan, ensure accountability, and transparency in order to meet GPP standard. It takes time in the process of application and assessment because GPP team needs to check everything and meet all stakeholders. Take this opportunity, CDPO would like to call for the support from donors to value NGO GPP and NGO GPP should be recognized by government. NGO GPP is a key tool for NGOs to get success through protecting quality of work of NGOs.

### 3.3. Promoting CSOs governance, accountability and transparency and professionalism

#### 3.3.1. Launching new GPP Standard and Certification System

There were 2 presentations one was made by Mr. Lun Borithy, independent consultant, he introduced about the 5<sup>th</sup> generation GPP modality and the community of good governance and professional practices. Here is the slide presentation:



09 12 19 FINAL.pdf

The second presentation was made by Mr. Chan Pheakdey, GPP Manager to present about GPP Standard and Certification System Transitional Period and Next Plan. Here is the slide presentation:



Way Forward for GPP.pdf

#### 3.3.2. Closing Remark by Mr. Leng Vireak

The closing remark was made by Mr. Leng Vireak, Executive Committee of CCC and NCCC member of GPP. He would like to thank to all participants for active participation in the forum. From his opinion, GPP is

not belonged to CCC or anyone but it is belonged to all of us. We love our society and if we want to have a good/clean society we must be good/clean starting from ourselves to show to others to have good and clean people to work with us. So, it is a core value of GPP that is why the standard is regularly revised since version 1 and now it is version 5. It will continue to revise in the future to have a best practice. In the name of active NCCC member, he is proud to hear the good impression from certified NGOs that appreciate about the value of GPP. The value of GPP is not just a letter of certificate but it is valuable for the practices of NGOs. Thank you and best wish to all participants!

#### 4. Conclusion

The awarding ceremony was finished successfully and all participants appreciated about it particularly certified NGOs. They expressed the high satisfaction with GPP standard and value the incalculable benefits of GPP certificate. They added that it is not easy to get the certificate, the applicant NGOs have to be well prepared, put a lot of efforts, and have high commitment to improve the gaps in order to meet the minimum standard of GPP. GPP standard is an excellent tool where can help NGOs in Cambodia to reflect the internal system and quality of work.

## 5. Annex

### 5.1. Venue and Agenda

Time	Topic	Resource Persons
07:30am-08:15am	Registration and networking among participants	<b>Mr. Kem Sereyneath</b> GPP Assistant
08:15am-08:30am	National Anthem	<b>All</b>
	Introduction about the event objectives	<b>Mr. Chea Vibol</b> Governance & Professional Practices Specialist (GPPS) <b>Ms. Chan Somaly,</b> Membership Development Specialist (MDS)
	Blessing dance	Performed by youth group from (TBC)
<b>GPP Awarding Ceremony</b>		
08:30am-10:10am	<u>Session 1: Speeches and Awarding Ceremony</u>	
	Welcome and update the progress of NGO GPP	<b>Mr. Soeung Saroeun,</b> Executive Director of CCC
	Opening speech	<b>H.E. Ngy Chanphal,</b> Secretary of State, Ministry of Interior
	Chhayam Performance	Chhayam Team of TBC
	<u>Awarding the NGO GPP certificates to newly certified NGOs in 2019</u>	
	Cambodian Disabilities People's Organization (CDPO)-3 <sup>rd</sup> times of certification Krousar Yerng Association (KrY)-2 <sup>nd</sup> time certification  Urban Poor Women Development Organization (UPWD)-2 <sup>nd</sup> times of certification. iDE organization-2 <sup>nd</sup> time of certification Advocacy Policy Institute (API)-1 <sup>st</sup> time of certification Child Rights Coalition Cambodia (CRC-	<b>Honorably Awarded by H.E. Ngy Chanphal,</b> Secretary of State, Ministry of Interior (TBC)  <b>Honorably Awarded by</b> NCCC member

	Cambodia)-1 <sup>st</sup> time of certification M'Loap Tapang (MT)-2 <sup>nd</sup> time of certification	
	Introductory video and slide show to the awarded NGOs certified by GPP in 2019	<b>Moderated by Mr. Chan Bunthoeun,</b> IT Officer and <b>Mr. Chea Vibol, GPPS</b>
	❖ Impression from the Awarded Certified NGOs	<b>Moderated by Ms. Sin Putheary,</b> Head of Communications and Member Development of CCC
	❖ Flowers and gifts for honored speakers and group photos	<b>Moderated by Ms. Sin Putheary</b> Honored by: Mr. Soeung Saroeun, Executive Director of CCC.
10:10am-10:30am	Exhibition and Coffee Break	All
<b>Promoting CSOs governance, accountability and transparency and professionalism</b>		
10:30am-11:30am	<u>Session 2: Launching new GPP Standard and Certification System</u> ❖ Rationale of GPP revision and process of GPP revision ❖ The process of the transitional period of current and new GPP Standard ❖ Implementation plan of new GPP Standard and Certification System	<b>Mr. Lun Borithy and Mr. Russell N Peterson,</b> Consultant Team.  <b>Mr. Chan Pheakdey,</b> GPP Manager
11:30am-11:40am	Evaluation of the Forum	<b>Mr. Kem Sereyneath,</b> GPP Assistant
11:40am-12:00pm	Conclusion and closing remark	<b>CCC's executive committee representative</b>

## 5.2. Attendance List



Attend list of GPP  
Awarding Ceremony