

MINUTES
272ND CCC MEMBERS BI-MONTHLY MEETING

Date: 10 August 2023
(Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm)

Introduction

Based on CCC’s member satisfaction survey, Bi-monthly meeting was rated as one of the best services provided by CCC. Bi-monthly Members Meeting is arranged for member participants who are Country Representatives/Executive Directors and Senior Leaders/Managers of CCC members to attend and share knowledge, experiences, the common concerns on the development challenges.

The 272nd Bi-Monthly Members Meeting was convened on **10 August 2023 at Sunway Hotel**. This meeting was prepared among CCC members, therefore, all members from both domestic and foreign organizations are commonly invited in this meeting. Totally, there are 82 participants/31 females whom participated in the meeting.

The specific objectives for this particular meeting are as following:

- Welcoming new member, networking and sharing of members’ works
- Sharing updates on ISAF implementation
- Sharing survey results and legal compliance, and resources opportunity for CCC members



Detail discussion

Welcome and key opening remarks by Ms. Sin Putheary, Executive Director of CCC

Ms. Sin Putheary has provided a warmly welcome speech to all participant and also take this chance to update and illustrate three key achievements of CCC and its member as below:

CCC has co-organizing an event called Government and Civil Society Organization Partnership Dialogue. It is the important national dialogue that enable CCC’s member and other CSOs to join and discussed their concern with the representative from government. The event was attended by 500 participants from around 400 organizations. Even though during that time there are some burning issues raining about space of media and the concerns of the enabling environment of the CSOs, but in term of cooperation we can still raise up the concern with the government and continue the partnership work with each other. During this event, CCC had bring along the 12 common challenges of CSOs to present and request for solution in the meeting which included in short:

- Suggest to have the consultation and admission of the inputs collection in the legislative process
- Request the Ministry of Interior to highly consider accepting the inputs and recommendations of the CSOs to the proposal to amend the Law on Associations and Non-Governmental Organizations
- Suggest to have more cooperation between sub-national authorities and associations and non-governmental organizations
- Request the ministry to provide supports and open space for the activities of associations and non-governmental organizations
- Request to simplified the process of signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the foreign organizations.

CCC also take that chance to discuss on the topic of taxation with the Accounting and Auditing Regulator to solve the common challenges of the CSO regarding to this matter. The ministry of interior has created a committee which was participated by the taxation department, ministry of interior, ACAR and sub-national government across 24 provinces to discuss and solve the issue of the CSOs and CBOs. Beside this dialogue, we also witness the significant dialogue related to taxation and accounting and auditing to provide the opportunity to the CSOs to talk and provide input to the law on Associations and Non-Governmental Organizations.

- CCC has attended the high-level political forum at United Nation head office in New York for 10 days. This forum was participated by the country whom is the member at least 40-50 countries every year and this year the representative from Cambodian government has also attended in the event to do the voluntary national review to evaluate on the sustainable development goal that Cambodian as a membered country has achieved compared to the original goal. Every 4 years the representative from CSOs would be given chance to talk in this event and CCC as the representative of the CSOs in Cambodia has also attended in this event. We have also call for the meeting with CSOs in advance to gather the concern of the CSOs and submitted to the ministry of plan as in the input in that voluntary national review. We have also provided the opportunity to question and raise our concern to the leader of Cambodia via this event. The issue that we raise included three main agenda:
 1. The inequality of the education in Cambodia
 2. Inclusiveness of all marginalized group especially the LGBTQI
 3. Enabling Environment of CSOs

Presentation on Volunteer Services and Opportunities by France Volontaires (FV) by Mr. Liv Rithyra, Country Representative of France Volontaires Cambodge

- France Volontaires is a platform for consultation and dialogue between the actors of international solidarity volunteering. It is mobilized to ensure the qualitative and quantitative development of volunteering.
- France Volontaires, an operator of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, brings together the State, local authorities and associations, within the framework of a mission of general interest: **the development and promotion of international exchange and solidarity volunteering (VIES).**
- The platform relies on a presence in France (mainland and overseas) and on a network of Volunteer Spaces in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East and Oceania. It has 30 representations worldwide (24 internationally, 6 in France).
- Present since 2002 in Cambodia, France Volontaires opened the first Volunteering Space in Asia in Phnom Penh in March 2011. Its missions are: **PROMOTION, INFORMATION & GUIDING, SUPPORT, NETWORKING**

The Civic Service (Service Civique in French)

- from 16 to 25 years old
- mission of general interest from 6 to 12 months as a support to a project or a structure.
- open to everyone with no condition of experience or degrees for a first experience of interculturality and volunteering abroad.

The Volunteering for International Solidarity (VIS, or VSI in French)

- From 18 years old
- mission related to international solidarity from 12 to 24 months
- specific skills required to answer the needs of an organization.

Question and Answer:

Q1: What strategy do FV take to prevent the harassment in the work of sending people with different culture and experience abroad?

A: FV has tools to follow up the process such as:

- Provide orientation to candidate on how to work with different cultures
- Raising awareness about child protection and other tools

Q2: What are the conditions for NGO in order to get this scholarship?

A: As mention in the slide presentation, the main conditions are:

- Must be NGO
- Could apply to the objective of the volunteer program

Q3: How do staff from FV work with NGO since they speak French?

A: They could have a well communication since most of the staff do speak English.

Presentation from Rural Friend for Community Development (RFCD), new member of CCC, by Ms. Chan Theara whom is the Executive Director of RFCD

Project: Women-led options to adapt to climate change in Cambodia

- Objective: Women -Led incorporated with the community people, local authority, and development partners implement the project to reduce the risk of disaster and climate change.
- Project Activities included:
 - Gender-Based Climate Change Management Training for Outstanding Women
 - Disseminate climate change preparedness
 - Rehabilitation of infrastructure (roads, drains, canals, sluice gates, water supply for farmers))
 - Supporting planting materials and raising chickens to 72 farmers in 2 communes and 2 sangkat
 - Support outstanding women to participate in sustainable projects (knowledge, skills and budget)

Project: Local Right Program (LRP)

- **Objective:**
 - The poor and vulnerable take ownership of their community development.
 - Human rights, especially women's and children's rights, are respected with equality and equity.
 - The poor and vulnerable people have improved lives and autonomy
- **Core Value**
 - Respect each other's rights.
 - Recognize innate dignity.
 - Equity and justice.
 - Honesty and transparency.
 - Solidarity.
 - Ownership.
 - Learn regularly.
- **Project Activities**

- Training
- Outreach education
- Self-help group
- Savings group
- Rehabilitation of infrastructure through repairs (roads, drains, sluices, canals, schools and water supply).

➤ **Question and Answer**

Q: Has RFCD spread out enough information to the involving people such as community or local authority, so that they could contribute their resource such as budget via the commune investment plan?

A: Yes, RFCD has informed to all involving people about the project. We want to let them involved in the activities so they would feel the ownership of the product come from the project. Moreover, the project aims to give the complement the activity of the state main priority, so we did involve them but it is out of scope of the authority

Presentation on the update of ISAF project from World Vision International – Cambodia by Mr. Ry Sotharith, Deputy Chief of Party for Social Accountability Program

- ISAF project has reached phase II of implementation (2019-2023). The project is about engaging citizens to improve service delivery through social accountability.
- **The main objectives:**
 - Continue to encourage national and subnational authorities to engage with citizens and enable them to provide information that citizens can use to hold public service providers accountable for service delivery
 - Continue to enable civil society actors and CAF networks to organize and demand better public services, and to build the understanding and capacity of service providers to respond to feedback from citizens
 - Further support the institutionalization of the related structures, systems and processes for improved transparency, strengthened citizen engagement and responsive action in line with National program II (NP2)
- **Programs Challenges:**
 - Changed Leadership at Sub-national Level
 - Lack of budget to support CAFs
 - Lack of National Budget to allocate for ISAF project
- **Programs strategic focus areas 2023-2025**
 - Implementation of the approved I-SAF DMK guideline by about 30 percent
 - Pilot I-SAF to social protection sector/services, social assistant
 - Conduct a case study
 - ISAF on land service with four district offices
 - Develop ToRs for a potential study on I-SAF for climate justice
 - Possible expansion of I-SAF to solid waste management, environmental sanitation, rural water and sanitation, natural resources management, land administration

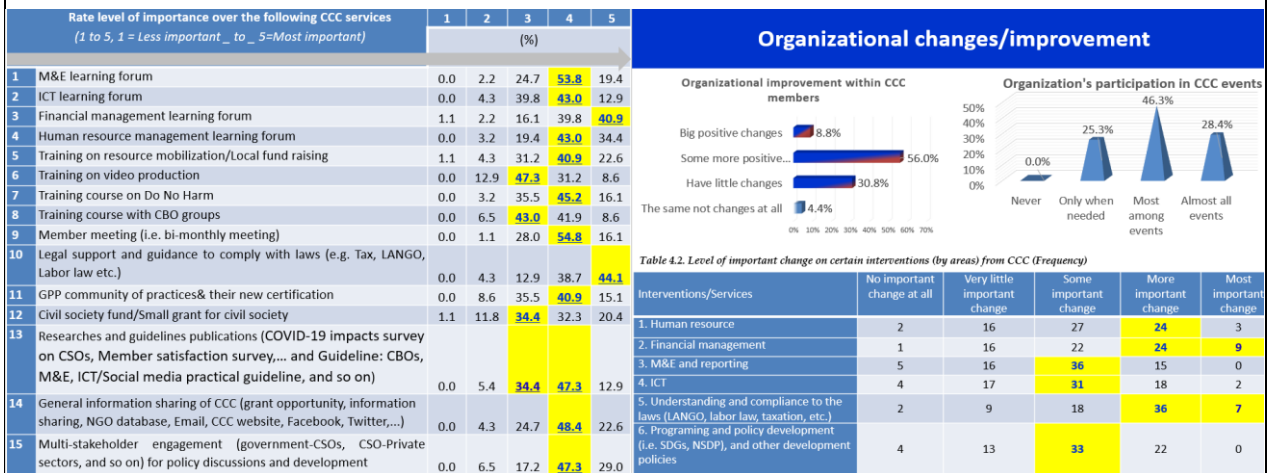
Presentation of Member Satisfaction Survey, INGO survey and Compliance Survey Results sharing by Mr. Chen Sochoeun, and Mr. Mr. Chan Pheakdey, Head of communication and resource mobilization of CCC

Member Satisfaction Survey:

- The survey was conducted via Google Form with 75 respondents from CCC’s members during February to March in purpose:
 - To learn about services and interventions in 2022
 - To identify emerging needs, comments and feedbacks

➤ The finding from the survey are as below:

- All respondents had rate satisfied to the services and interventions made by CCC, in which the majority rated as level 2 among the three level with 59%. Similarly satisfy level for response of CCC from member inquiries or seeking for support.
- For the overall improvement/changes and specific was shared as below:



Suggested new interventions and services from CCC:

- Conduct leadership program such as manager camp/retreat for top management.
- Collaborative grants between multiple members (e.g. consortium model).
- More advocacy for NGO regarding difficulty to fulfil the new legal requirements, taxation to avoid punishment.
- Reference members to donors to better engage and access to funding.
- Inform back to member where any gaps member's performance and implementation.
- More sessions/meetings in provinces, rather than in the capital city.
- More participatory approach, capture member's impacts and highlight their contribution in all dialogues.
- GPP system should focus on support for member to review for improvement.

INGO survey:

➤ INGO survey in the MOU processing. The survey was participated by 43 INGOs and via online from 22 May to 13 June 2023. The survey has illustrated key challenges, findings and suggestions as below:

- The delay responding, cannot meet in person
- Require support letter from government agenda and others
- Long process, not clear guideline, requirements
- No clear template and timeline
- Required original copy documents from head quarter.

Survey Results related report to ACAR:

- 86.3% had completed and sent the report, and 4.2% had different fiscal year and didn't yet send for 2022.
- There were 54.2% submitted financial report, and 45.8 submitted financial statement.
- 86.3% submitted report for 2021, and 7.8% got experiences of penalty.

➤ **All suggestion to ACAR:**

- Often sharing platforms about system use, and about submit financial report
- Speed up to review, response/get back to all submitted documents and letters
- Consider for NGO use modified cash basis, as additional to cash modified or accrual modified
- Excuse penalty for late submission during this period, or keep enough times for learning about

system for this submission

- Should have any particular person to address the case rather than many staff shifting that make case slow
- Need a regular information sharing and update

Presentation on the update of KKO by Mrs. NIN BOPHA, Executive Director KKO

- The presentation about the organization registered, and KKO programs which aims at ensuring that children living at the margins of Cambodian society, whether in remote areas, sub-urban community or provisional settlements can enjoy their fundamental rights and especially access to education, health and safe living environment.
- **Experience of KKO with ACAR:** Decision of ACAR dated 27 February 2023 on transitional fine for violations of the Law on Accounting and Auditing on KKO in 2021, with charge 18,000,000riel. Later KKO filed a complaint against the decision of ACAR, and came to discuss the issue. Finally, the charged had been decided to waive for KKO.

Sharing resource opportunities for civil society by Ms. Lim Siv Hong, Country Advisor of Give2Asia Cambodia:

- **Who We Are**
A U.S.-based nonprofit organization that connects donors with trusted local charities in 20+ countries across Asia, founded in 2000
- **Our Mission**
To strengthen communities in Asia by making cross-border giving easier and more effective
- **Our Value:**
 - International Expertise: One of the largest donor-advised funders to Asia with two decades of experience. Giving experts in 23 countries & beyond
 - Global Network: Our Myriad alliance supports borderless giving across multiple continents (cover Europe and Canada)
 - Risk Mitigation: Rigorous due diligence and compliance with regulations in both origin and destination countries
 - Trusted Relationships: Hands-on grant management to foster strong donor-grantee relationships
- **Core Service**
 - Donor-Advised Giving
 - Friends Funds
 - Corporate Services
 - Disaster Response Funds
 - Legacy Funds
 - Art Giving

Closing Remark by Ms. Onn Sokny, Member of CCC EXCOM, and Country Director of EPICARTS

Ms. Sokny has re-stressed on the opening statement which highlighted key achievements of CCC and the work that achieved from CCC's Bi-Monthly meeting. Furthermore, she has also said thank you to all the speakers whom gracefully present their works, achievements, challenges and recommendation which was a great contribution and sharing to other NGOs. Ms. Sokny has wished all the representative from each organization success and work together to achieve the set goal.

Note: - The meeting will be available interpret in Khmer and English languages Link to online for afternoon session will be shared later.

- Some of the pictures and key ideas will be quoted and shared in public through the organizers' social media and website.

<http://www.ccc-cambodia.org/en/resources/event-archives> www.facebook.com/CCCsince1990