

# **REPORT**

# CAMBODIA URBAN FORUM

Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development **27 November, 2019 I Phnom Penh, Cambodia** 







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### ಕಬಿಚಿತ್ರು

ប្រជាជាតិកម្ពុជាទាំងមួលកំពុងរស់នៅក្នុងសុខសន្តិភាព ឯកភាព ជាតិនិងទឹកដី ស្ថិរភាពឧយោបាយ សន្តិសុខ សណ្តាប់ធ្នាប់សង្គម និងការ អភិវឌ្ឍរីកចម្រើនលើគ្រប់វិស័យ ក្រោមការដឹកនាំរបស់រាជរដ្ឋាភិបាលដែល មានសម្តេចអគ្គមហារសនាមតីគេសៅ ហ៊ុន សែន ជាប្រមុខ តាមរយៈការ អនុវត្តនយោបាយ"ឈ្នះ ឈ្នះ" និងយុទ្ធសាស្ត្រចពុំកោណដែលជារបៀបវារៈ នៃការអភិវឌ្ឍសង្គម-សេដ្ឋកិច្ចកម្ពុជា។ ប្រជាជនកម្ពុជាបានគាំទ្រជាច្នុងមួយ ចំពោះការដឹកនាំជីត្រឹមត្រូវរបស់រាជរដ្ឋាភិបាលដែលបានតានាសុខសន្តិភាព



ការអភិវឌ្ឍសេដ្ឋកិច្ច និងការកាត់បន្ថយភាពក្រីព្រះដោយបានអនុវត្តយ៉ាងខ្ជាប់ខ្លួននូវលទ្ធិប្រជាធិបតេយ្យ សេរិ ពហុបក្ស ការលើកកម្ពស់សិទ្ធិមនុស្ស និងការពង្រឹងនិតិរដ្ធ ស្លែងឡើងតាមរយៈការបោះឆ្នោតសកលកាលពីខែ កក្កដា ឆ្នាំ២០១៨ ដែលបានប្រព្រឹត្តទៅដោយសេរី ត្រឹមត្រូវ យុត្តិធម៌ និងតម្កាភាពដែលមានប្រជាពលរដ្ឋចូលរួម បោះឆ្នោតដល់ទៅ ៨៣, ០២% នៃអ្នកមានឈ្មោះក្នុងបញ្ជីបោះឆ្នោត។

តជរដ្ឋាភិបាលកម្ពុជាបានដាក់ចេញខ្លួវយុទ្ធសាស្ត្រចតុកោណដំណាក់កាលទី៩ ព្រង់ចតុកោណទី៩ បាន កំណត់អំពីការអភិវឌ្ឍប្រកបដោយថីរភាពនិងបរិយាបខ្ម និងការពង្រឹងការគ្រប់គ្រងនគរូបនិយកម្ម ខាមរយៈ ការអភិវឌ្ឍទីក្រុងឱ្យមានបរិស្ថានលូសម្រាប់ការរស់ទៅ គុណភាព សុវត្ថិភាព សោភាណភាព សុទុមាលភាព និង ប្រសិទ្ធភាពសេដ្ឋកិច្ច- សង្គម ស្របតាមតោលការណ៍ទីក្រុងគ្នានវៃក្នុងពោលដៅអភិវឌ្ឍប្រកបដោយចីរភាព និង បរិយាបគ្នតាមរយៈការជំរុញការអភិវឌ្ឍ និងការពង្រឹងការអនុវត្តតោលនយោបាយ ច្បាប់ និងបទដ្ឋាននធិយុត្ត ដោយផ្សារភ្ជាប់យុទ្ធសាស្ត្រសេដ្ឋកិច្ចនិងហិរញ្ញវត្ថុទីក្រុងជាមួយការអនុវត្តនិងការអភិវឌ្ឍនតរូបនិយកម្ម រាជធានី ខេត្ត ក្រុង ស្រុក ខណ្ឌ ឃុំ សង្កាត់។

រាជរដ្ឋាភិបាលកម្ពុជាបានដាក់ឱ្យអនុវត្តគោលនយោបាយជាតិស្តីពីការរៀបចំដែនជីនៃព្រះរាជាណាចក្រ កម្ពុជា ដោយបានកំណត់ច្បាស់អំពីចក្តាស័យថា "ដែនជីនៅទូទាំងព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជាត្រូវបានគ្រប់គ្រង ប្រើប្រាស់ ការការ និងអភិវឌ្ឍតាមរយៈការធ្វើសមាហរណកម្មនូវថែនការយុទ្ធសាស្ត្ររៀបចំដែនជី និងការធ្វើឱ្យ រលួននូវវិធាន និងឧបករណ៍ចាំបាច់នានាតាមវិស័យប្រកបដោយភាពសុខជុមរមនានៅតាមតំបន់ភូមិសាស្ត្រ ទីមួយ។ ដោយបានកំណត់យុទ្ធសាស្ត្រពំបន់ប៉ូលអភិវឌ្ឍជាតិ តំបន់ស្វូល និងអ័ព្យនៃការអភិវឌ្ឍជាតិដែលមាន សក្ខានុពល និងអាទិភាពសម្រាប់ការអភិវឌ្ឍ និងការអភិវក្សចនធានចម្បជាតិដើម្បីឆ្នើយតបទៅនឹងកំណើន ប្រជាជន និងការអភិវឌ្ឍសេដ្ឋកិច្ច-សង្គម ព្រមទាំងកិច្ចការពារបរិស្ថាន និងចម្បាតិប្រកបដោយចិរភាព។

ក្រសួងរៀបតំដែនដី ឧត្យរបនិយកម្ម និងសំណង់បានរៀបចំ និងដាក់ឱ្យប្រើប្រាស់ជាបន្ទបខ្ទាប់ខ្វះ ដែនការរៀបចំដែនដី និងដែនការរូបវគ្គទីក្រុងជាច្រើនមានជានាទី ប្លង់គោលប្រើប្រាស់ដឹកជនានីភ្នំពេញ ដែនការ រៀបចំដែនដីខេត្តបាត់ដំបង ដែនការរៀបចំដែនដីខេត្តព្រះសីហនុ ឬង់គោលប្រើប្រាស់ដីក្រុងបាត់ដំបង ក្រុង សៀមរាប ក្រុងតាឡៅ ក្រុងកំពត ក្រុងកែប ក្រុងខេមរភូមិន្ទ ក្រុងបាវិត ក្រុងប៉ោយប៉ែត ក្រុងស្ទីងត្រែង តម្លោង អភិវឌ្ឍក្រុងប្លុកគោ ទីប្រជុំជនផ្ទៃធំ ទីប្រជុំជនត្បូងឃុំ ដែនការប្រើប្រាស់ដីឃុំ សង្កាត់ ឬងំហេដ្ឋារចនាសម្ព័ន្ធ ផែនទីព្រំប្រទល់រដ្ឋបាល ផែនទីប្រើប្រាស់ដីព្រប់រាជធានី ខេត្តដែលបានកំណត់ច្បាស់អំពីចកុរិស័យ យុទ្ធសាស្ត្រ និងផែនការសកម្មភាពក្នុងគោលដៅធានាការអភិវឌ្ឍទីក្រុង ការប្រើប្រាស់ពី និងការអភិវឌ្ឍនីឱ្យបានត្រឹមត្រូវ ចំទិសដៅ មានប្រសិទ្ធភាព ធានាបានចីរភាព និងតុល្យភាព។

ដើម្បីធានាប្រសិទ្ធភាពនៃការគ្រប់គ្រងឧត្យរបនិយារអូ និងការគ្រប់គ្រងការអភិវឌ្ឍអចលនទ្រព្យនិង សំណង់ ច្បាប់ស្ដីពីសំណង់ត្រូវបានអនុម័ត និងប្រកាសជាក់ឱ្យប្រើដោយព្រះរាជក្រមចុះថ្ងៃទី០២ ខែវិច្ឆិកា ឆ្នាំ ២០១៩ នេះ មានតោលការណ៍សំខាន់ពីការពារផលប្រយោជន៍សាធារណៈ សិទ្ធិបុគ្គល ប្រសិទ្ធភាព ចិរភាព និង បរិសាបន្ន ការរៀបចំដែនដីនិងឧត្សរបនិយកម្ម ការអភិវឌ្ឍបៃខង ការការពារធនធានធម្មជាតិ និងបរិស្ថាន ព្រមទាំងការរក្សា និងលើកកម្ពស់អគ្គសញ្ញាណជាតិ។

ក្រសួងរៀបចំផែននី ឧត្យបនិយកម្ម និងសំណង់បានសហការជាមួយតំណាងការិយាល័យសម្របសម្រួល
អង្គការសហប្រជាជាតិប្រចាំប្រទេសកម្ពុជារៀបចំជាលើកដំបូង "វេទិកានត្សបនិយកអ្នកម្ពុជាស្គីពីការអភិវឌ្ឍ
ទីក្រុងប្រកបដោយភាពឆ្នាតវៃ ចីរភាព និងហិយាបន្ទ" ក្នុងគោលបំណងខែករំលែកចំណេះនឹង បទពិសោធន៍
នៃការអភិវឌ្ឍ គោលនយោបាយ ចក្ខុរិស័យ យុទ្ធសាស្ត្រ វិស័យអាទិភាព ការពង្រីកទីក្រុង ការអភិវឌ្ឍទីក្រុង ការ
អភិវឌ្ឍនី សហតមន៍ខ្លាតវៃ ហិយាបន្ទ ស្ថានភាពទីក្រុង បញ្ហាប្រឈម ដំណោះស្រាយ និង្ខាការ កាលខុវត្តភាព
នវានុវត្តន៍ ការសម្របសម្រួល ភាពជាដៃគូ ការខ្ពស់ហិរញ្ញប្បទាន ការកសាងសមត្ថភាព ការការពារជនជាន
ធម្មជាតិនិងហិស្ថាន តារការពារគ្រោះមហន្តរាយ ការបន្ស៉ានិងការប្រែប្របែបអាតាសនាតុ ការអភិវឌ្ឍបៃពង និង
ក្នុងគោលបំណងពង្រឹងកិច្ចសហប្រតិបត្តិការរវាងក្រសួងរៀបចំដែនជី ឧត្យបនិយកម្ម និងសំណង់ជាមួយតំណាង
ការិយាល័យសម្របសម្រួលអង្គការសហប្រជាជាតិ។ វេទិកានេះត្រូវបានធ្វើឡើងនៅក្នុងយុគសម័យបដិវត្តន៍
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บุขาดสถา สถายที่ที่เป็นเรื่อเรื่องดหายอัพสมุฐาติเลิ

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### **FOREWORD**

Our whole Cambodian nation is living in peace, national sovereignty, political stability, social security and orders as well as achieving strong in growth all sectors under the leadership of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen through the "Win-Win Policy" and the Rectangular Strategy which is the agenda for Cambodian socio-economic development. The Cambodian people are consolidating to support the right leadership of the Royal Government that has ensured economic development and poverty alleviation in full compliance with democratic pluralism principles, human rights promotion, and strengthening the rule law which directly exhibited through the free, fair and transparent national election in July 2018 with 83.02% of those registered in the election participated.

The Royal Government has adopted the Rectangular Phase IV in which Rectangle 4 on sustainable and inclusive development includes strengthening the management of urbanization through city development to provide for good living environment, ensure quality, safety, aesthetics, wellbeing, and socioeconomic effectiveness according to the principles of smart cities of the sustainable and inclusive development goals by promoting the development and strengthening the implementing policies, laws, and legal framework by linking the city economic and financial strategy to the implementation and development of capital city/province, municipality, district/khan, and Commune/Sangkat urbanization.

The Royal Government has implemented the National Policy on Land Management. The vision for the National Policy on Land Management is "Land throughout the Kingdom of Cambodia which has been managed, used, protected and developed through integration of land management strategic plan and smoothening necessary sectoral approaches and tools to harmonize with specific geographic conditions" by determining strategic areas for national development poles, central areas, and axes of national development which are potential and prioritized for development as well as conservation of natural resources to respond to population growth and economic development as well as sustainable environment and natural resource protection.

Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction has issued various land management plans, city plans, infrastructure, and commune land use plans, for Phnom Penh, Battambang, Preah Sinahouk, Siem Reap, Takhmao, Kampot, Kep, Khemarak Phumin, Bavet,, Poy Paet, Steung Treng, Krung Boko, Chrey Thom, and Tbong Khmum urban area, commune/Sangkat land use plans, infrastructure plans, administrative boundary maps, and capital city/provincial land use plans which have clearly identified vision, strategies and action plan that aim at ensuring that city development, land use and land development are appropriate, effective, sustainable and balanced.

To ensure effective urbanization management, property development and construction, the law on construction has been enacted and promulgated by the Royal Kram dated 02 November 2019. The

Law outlines key principles to ensure benefits, individual's rights, effectiveness, sustainability, and inclusiveness, land management and urban planning, green development, protection of natural resources and environment, and the promotion of national identity.

The Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction partnered with the UN in Cambodia to organize the first Cambodia Urban Forum on "Smart, Sustainable, and Inclusive Urbanization" on purpose of sharing knowledge and experiences in developing policies, vision, strategies, priority sector, city expansion, city development, land development, smart and inclusive communities, city situations, challenges, solutions, trends, opportunities, innovations, coordination, partnership, financing, capacity building, natural resource and environmental protection, prevention of disasters, climate change adaptation, and green development and to strengthen the collaboration between Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction and UN Cambodia. This Forum was held during Industry 4.0 Revolution which provides great opportunity for developing countries such as Cambodia to use the technology to accelerate country development through digital and artificial intelligent production to increase productivity, quality, sustainability, and competiveness.

As the result, the Forum acknowledged that "urbanization approach" will be more efficient through strengthening cooperation, promoting participation, enhancing knowledge, strictly implementing national policy on land management, national housing policy, and working together with all relevant ministries and institutions in order to improve partnership on activity implementation at all level. In meantime, the first Cambodia Urban Forum is really important to have future cities with people-centered urban development to bring positive changes for the cities and housing, and to achieve the long-term prosperity for all people in Cambodia. This Forum is very important to make city in Cambodia to become core of inclusive and sustainable economic growth to ensure strong macro-economy and to achieve Cambodian vision 2030 to become high middle income country and high income country in 2050.

I look forward to continuing our close collaboration with the UN in Cambodia to implement the priorities identified in this first Forum to ensure smart, sustainable, and inclusive cities in Cambodia.

Phnom Penh, 01 February 2020

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction

Chairman of the National Committee for Land Management and Urban Planning

H.E Chea Sophara

### **FOREWORD**

If cities of the future could speak, what would they say?

I recently read an opinion piece titled 'It's 2059 and the Rich Kids Are Still Winning'. This provocation made me stop and think as it asks: What kind of world do we want to create?

It has also affirmed my belief that a truly radical future, is not just a technological one, but an inclusive one that does not replicate past inequalities. If we do things differently, could those headlines say 'It's 2030, and Cambodian Youth Have Won the Fight Against Inequality in Cities'?



### The future we want

The Cambodia Urban Forum in November 2019 is the start of a conversation about the future we want for Cambodia's cities. We have a long way to go, but the best way to predict that future, is to create it. Here are two important lessons we learnt unpacking urbanization:

First, who are cities for? Cities are for people. Beyond buildings and cars, cities are an answer to that original question, of how we bring people together. From tuk-tuk drivers, to school children, garment workers to grandparents, Cambodia's cities are filled with a thousand wisdoms, community solutions, and perspectives about urbanization.

How do we get these perspectives to listen and learn from each other? How do we make our cities speak in all of these ways? Citizens also face urgent challenges in terms of livability, waste, and basic services, especially for the urban poor who live in informal settlements.

Second, how should urban governance be structured? We need a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to ensure Cambodia's cities meet people's aspirations, including the future they want for their children and grandchildren. We also need better information for evidence-based planning, investments and policies.

### What action is needed?

This Report attempts to capture these initial conversations from the Cambodia Urban Forum. Here is what we said we would work on together:

- 1. Advocate for a vision of sustainable urbanization
- 2. Strengthen the use of data to inform planning and investment decision
- 3. Increase urban financing provided by public and private actors
- 4. Create an enabling environment through urban policies and sector plans
- 5. Ensure the participation of all people to create people-centered urban futures

On behalf of the United Nations in Cambodia, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, in jointly organizing the first Cambodia Urban Forum.

As the UN turns 75 in 2020, the world faces tremendous change. We will reimagine and renew our efforts to realize the future hopes and dreams of Cambodia's children, women and men who live in its vibrant cities. I look forward to listening and learning from the people of Cambodia to realize smart, sustainable and inclusive cities, as part of UN75 conversations about the future we want, to ensure that no one is left behind.

Pauline Tamesis
Resident Coordinator

United Nations in Cambodia

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### 1.1. Introduction

The speed and scope of urbanization in Cambodia is unprecedented. Official projections suggest that by 2030, around one third of the Cambodian population will have migrated and reside in urban areas¹. Challenges in expanding urban social services and infrastructure to match an increasing population may exacerbate poverty, environmental impacts and economic risks – just to name a few. Cambodia's development prospects therefore will increasingly depend on how its cities and urban areas are managed. UN Secretary-General António Guterres said during World Habitat Day in October 2019 "Well-planned and smartly managed cities can steer us towards inclusive growth and low-emission development. Solutions begin with small steps individuals can take to alter the way our cities function."

Urbanization can play a positive role, rather than a consequence that needs to be managed if

disparate actors are able to come together through a common platform to break down siloes and improve coherence of action. However, this situation calls for a new set of urban solutions.

The first Cambodia Urban Forum (CUF) provided a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue to discuss and agree on coherent policy, strategic, and programmatic priorities towards smart, sustainable and inclusive urban development. The Forum has also been an opportunity to prepare coordinated inputs to the follow-up and review processes for the global development agendas, including the Sustainable Development Goals (particularly Goal 11) and the New Urban Agenda, building on the work already done by Cambodia with the Habitat III National Report and under the UN Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023.

### UNDESA, 2018, World Urbanization Prospects 2018, New York

### 1.2. The Cambodia Urban Forum

The first CUF held on 27 November 2019, brought together more than 200 national and international stakeholders in an inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogue to discuss the current state of urbanization in Cambodia, identify priorities and trends, and share knowledge on smart, sustainable and inclusive urban development. The event was co-organized by the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction (MLMUPC) and the United Nations (UN) in Cambodia.

The CUF had five sessions to allow diverse stakeholders to identify key urban priorities and develop coordinated strategic and programmatic interventions at all levels of government towards a Cambodian vision of smart, sustainable and inclusive cities. The Forum aimed to agree on key urban priorities to be taken forward by lead agencies. The Forum also proposed interventions in relation to policy, strategy and programming, which focuses on finance, capacity development, innovation, coordination and strategic partnerships.

### 1.3. CUF1 Programme

The one-day event was opened by keynote addresses from leading international and national experts on smart, sustainable and inclusive cities. Session 2 provided an overview of the current urbanization situation, including challenges, and opportunities. Session 3 examined Cambodia's urban priorities and session 4 discussed urban financing. The Forum concluded with a statement of key recommendations and a way forward for shaping Cambodia's urban vision. The program details are shown in Annex 1.

### **OBJECTIVES**

### WHY?

• Share knowledge and experience on urbanization,



serving as a basis for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue, and providing an overview of the current urban situation, highlighting trends, key issues, solutions and best practices.

WHAT?

 Discuss and agree on urban priorities that shape Cambodia's vision of smart, sustainable and inclusive cities. Cambodia's vision of urbanization should be guided by an inclusive urbanization policy and realized through coherent and coordinated strategic and programmatic interventions at all levels of government. The Forum will therefore, agree on thematic priorities: for the short-, medium- and longterm, to be taken forward by lead agencies.

### HOW?

 Discuss and agree on the way forward to address key priorities that have been agreed upon. These include proposed interventions in policies, strategies, and programmes focusing on financing, capacity development, innovation, coordination and strategic partnerships, including with the private sector to

create investment in SDG oriented projects.

### 1.4. Summary of Participants

More than 200 participants attended CUF. The detailed list of attendees is noted in **Annex 2**.

No.	Category	Number of Participants
1	Ministries and government institutions	38
2	Provincial departments of land management, urban planning, and construction	25
3	Provincial administrations	25
4	UN agencies, development partners and foreign embassies	48
5	International organizations, NGOs, and civil society organizations	10
6	Academia and research institutions	41
7	Private sector	35
8	Media	14
	Total	236



### **SUMMARY OF HIGH-LEVEL SESSIONS**

### 2.1. Opening session

The Forum was kicked off by keynote addresses, from leading international urban experts, as well as from MLMUPC and the UN on smart, sustainable, and inclusive cities.

### Speakers included:

- Ms. Pauline Tamesis, UN Resident Coordinator in Cambodia
- Ms. Gabriella Gomez-Mont, Director of the Urban Task Force and Former Chief Creative Officer for Mexico City
- Dr. Kim Kyunghwan, Professor of Economics, Sogang University and Former Vice Minister, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Korea
- H.E. Dr Pen Sophal, Secretary of State, Representative of H.E Chea Sophara, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister for Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction

Moderator: **Mr. Mol Vibol**, Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction

# Speaker: Ms. Pauline Tamesis, UN Resident Coordinator in Cambodia

Ms. Tamesis opened by recalling the key objectives of the Forum and its aim to share aspirations for urbanization and to identify key priorities towards smart, inclusive and sustainable urban development. She stressed that urbanization that is well-planned and well-managed is a powerful force for sustainable development in Cambodia. A people-centered sustainable urban future is key to the transformation of cities, to support the long-term prosperity of all Cambodians. She proposed five key actionable recommendations for follow-up of the Forum.

### Speaker: Ms. Gabriella Gomez-Mont, Director of the Urban Task Force and Former Chief Creative Officer for Mexico City

Ms. Gomez-Mont shared the experiences from Mexico City's public space interventions which, were strategized by understanding the urban DNA and dynamism of the city and people's concerns about the future. Collecting data was the first challenge. She also stressed that social imaginaries



are important to find urban solutions. The right to the city is another aspect to consider. Mexico City's Constitution protects human rights and addresses how and what the city can do to enhance well-being of the citizens. This has increased the possibility of imagining the city.

### Speaker: Dr. Kim Kyunghwan, Professor of Economics, Sogang University and Former Vice Minister, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Korea

Dr. Kim stressed that a 'smart city' is not a goal in itself but an approach to underpin and enable the achievement of safe, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable cities. Cities are integrated open platforms. Korea was the first country to implement smart city policies. Examples of smart city solutions are: integrated control centres, mobile information databases,



public transport information systems, automatic garbage disposal systems, CCTV in a lakeside park etc. He highlighted that the national Government must provide a framework and engage coherently with the local government and the private sector in the operation, maintenance, and upgrading of solutions. Implementation should be opportunistic and flexible considering needs and capacity. Best use of collecting and analyzing data is also key.

Speaker: H.E. Dr Pen Sophal, Secretary of State, Representative of H.E Chea Sophara, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister for Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction

H.E. Dr. Pen Sophal commended the Forum's role in facilitating the sharing key concepts on visions to move forward on "smart, sustainable, and inclusive urbanization" including sharing of knowledge and experience of development, policy, vision, strategy, priority sector, city expansion, city development, land development, smart and inclusive communities, city situations, challenges, solutions, trends, opportunities, innovations, coordination, partnership, financing, capacity building, natural resource and environmental protection, prevention of disasters, climate change adaptation, and green development . Cambodia is implementing the free market economy and motivating investments by laws and has a comparative advantage of numerous active workforces. The administrative services for businesses and investments are convenient through the implementation of the One-Window Services System. Land ownership has been properly registered according to the rule of law principles, which is evidenced by 5.4 million land certificates have been registered. which is equivalent to 78.07% of the approximately total of 7 million plots of land, and the registration is scheduled to be completed 100% in 2021. The National Policy on Land Management of the Kingdom of Cambodia has been put in place for implementation by the Royal Government,



and clearly identifies its vision which is "Land throughout the Kingdom of Cambodia has been managed, used, protected and developed through integration of land management strategic plan and smoothening necessary sectoral approaches and tools to harmonize with specific geographic conditions" by identifying strategic areas for national development poles, central areas, and axes of national development, which are potential and prioritized for development as well as conservation of natural resources to respond to population growth and economic development. To ensure effectiveness in managing urbanization, property development and construction, the law on construction has been enacted and promulgated by the Royal Kram dated 02 November 2019. The Law provides key principles in protecting public benefits, individual's rights, effectiveness, sustainability, and inclusiveness, land management and urban planning, green development, protection of natural resources

and environment, as well as preservation and promotion of the national identity. The development of urbanization, properties and construction is rapidly growing, and becoming the core pillar for the Cambodian economic growth of around 7% per year. In this case, we can see how the needs for investments, preparation, development, and management of smart, sustainable and inclusive cities with high adaptability and competitiveness are in order to guarantee a sustaining strong macroeconomy and to achieve the 2030 Cambodia vision to become a higher-middle income country, and to become a high-income country in 2050, include housing development, particularly housing development with reasonable price, trade, services, industry, physical infrastructures, environment, economy, society, road network, water supply, electricity, drainage system, flood prevention system, waste water treatment station, management of wastes and solid wastes, open and green spaces, and city equipment.



# 2.2. Urbanization Overview: Situation, Challenges and Opportunities

Session 2 provided an overview of the current situation of urbanization in Cambodia, highlighting challenges and opportunities.

### Panelists included:

- H.E. Dr. Meng Bunnarith, Deputy Director General, General Department of Land Management and Urban Planning, MLMUPC
- Dr. Stefanos Fotiou, Director, Environment and Development Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)
- Dr. Frank Rijsberman, Director-General, Global Green Growth Institute
- Ms. Kou Sina, Programme Manager of Urban Poor Women Development

Moderator: **Mr. Laxman Perera**, Human Settlements Officer, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, UN Human Settlements Programme

### Speaker: H.E Dr. Meng Bunnarith, Deputy Director General, General Department of Land Management and Urban Planning, MLMUPC

Cambodia's current population is 16.24 million (2 million in the capital). According to Urbanization Study 2015, the urbanization level was 27.1% in 2008 and 30% in 2014 and is estimated to be around 44% in 2030. Cambodia's economic growth is mainly derived from several sectors comprising garment, tourism, construction and some manufacturing. The Rectangular Strategy of the Government has 4 pillars of inclusive and sustainable development and its pillar 3 encompasses land management. Urban development policy is planned at: 1) The national level; and 2) The sub-national

level.

# Speaker: Dr. Stefanos Fotiou, Director, Environment and Development Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

The future world needs to be carbon free. In 2015, the world adopted the ambitious plan to curb GHG emissions. We must achieve 45% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050. Social inclusion and environmental protection are key to promoting the SDGs. Cities are growing and are complex, but can help to solve those problems by making future urbanization more sustainable, localizing the SDGs for opportunities and benefits for people.

# Speaker: Dr. Frank Rijsberman, Director-General, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

Air pollution is so severe and has become a crisis in many cities all over Asia. Cities must provide solutions for all. Cities need to protect citizens from risk of being exposed to disasters including floods. Cities also need to manage traffic. Innovative solutions for transportation are required

as conventional means of transportation, e.g. buses, further aggravates air pollution. Green growth in many cities are commercially attractive. Recycling waste is vital and can produce fuels or electricity. With smart government policies and well-used concessional finance, we can leverage private investment in waste-to-energy, electric mobility and other green city solutions.

# Speaker: Ms. Kou Sina, Programme Manager of Urban Poor Women Development

National and sub-national institutions need to ensure affordable houses for all low-income and vulnerable groups in the country. Community ownership for new construction projects and developments must be ensured. The government should have policies, legislation and/or common standards on urban issues, incl. a law on land for landless populations. Access to reliable and accurate information for citizens should be improved and their participation in decision making should be granted in urban development processes. More public open spaces and facilities, e.g. parks and car parks should be built. Environmental and social impact assessments should



be conducted prior to designing urban development plans. Proper wastewater and solid waste management is needed. Public transportation systems should also be enhanced. Old historic buildings should be preserved for promoting national identity and tourism. Awareness about sustainable cities among citizens should be raised.

### Recommendations

Amidst Cambodia's rapid urbanization that brings formidable challenges, e.g. environmental degradation, traffic congestion and air pollution, improving the planning and management of cities can contribute to solving issues by making future urbanization more sustainable and provide better opportunities and benefits for people. Cambodia's Rectangular Strategy Phase IV that encompasses land management as one of the four pillars for achieving sustainable and inclusive development is a key instrument for the Government to create an enabling environment for urban planning management, both at the national and sub-national levels. Meanwhile, national and sub-national authorities need to ensure access to affordable houses for all as well as secure land tenure, with a special focus on low-income households and vulnerable groups in the country. Civil society engagement including with the urban poor is one of the most practical approaches among others to ensure urban priorities are advanced in a long-term manner.



# 2.3. Setting Cambodia's Urban Priorities: To Advance Policy, Strategies and Programme Interventions

Session 3 examined the priorities and actions being undertaken for planning and implementing policies and programmes to advance urban development.

### Panelists included:

- H.E. Suy Serith, Vice Governor of Phnom Penh Capital
- Mr. Taing Meng Eang, Director of the Department of Green Growth, National Committee for Sustainable Development (NCSD)
- Ms. Sandrine Capelle-Manuel, Cambodia Multi Country Office Director, UNOPS

Moderator: Ms. Kristin Parco, Chief of Mission, IOM

# Speaker: H.E. Suy Serith, Vice Governor of Phnom Penh Capital

The capital city of Cambodia has several plans related to urbanization, such as the Land Use Master Plan 2035; Transportation Master Plan 2035; Master Plan of Sewage and Waste Water System Improvement 2035; and the Sustainable City Plan 2018-2030. To transform Phnom Penh into a green city, 40,000 trees will be planted at various locations, e.g. pagodas, schools, hospitals, along the roads, and river banks. 8 priorities for Phnom Penh to realize its vision of inclusive, resilient, and sustainable city are: City development planning, vulnerability, power, transportation, environment and construction, production (factory), solid waste management, development of public space and preservation of cultural heritage.

Speaker: Mr. Taing Meng Eang, Director of the Department of Green Growth, National Committee for Sustainable Development (NCSD)



The urban population comprises about 27% of the total population, of which around 12% are concentrated in Phnom Penh (NIS, 2014) and in 2030 an estimated 36.3% of the population will live in city areas. The Sustainable City Plan for Phnom Penh has been launched, which provides key stakeholders with a roadmap for the path to green growth. The Sustainable City Strategic Plan for Secondary Cities is being updated and finalized. The Plans propose a holistic concept of green urban economic growth, social inclusion and resilience – addressing a broad range of urban issues including energy, transport, building and public space, solid waste, drainage and wastewater. NCSD has developed new guidelines and a new certification programme for green buildings.

# Speaker: Ms. Sandrine Capelle-Manuel, Cambodia Multi Country Office Director, UNOPS

With urbanization becoming more complex and more interdependent, new opportunities and risks for development are created. Urbanization should go hand in hand with comprehensive urbanization phenomena including poverty, lack of infrastructure, internal migration, informal economy

and financing. A holistic and integrated approach — in multisectors, at multi-levels with multi-stakeholders — is needed to deal with a range of urban context. Effective management and delivery are important within an Urban System, which comprises institutions, urban assets and knowledge. As a methodology for sustainable urban development, localized and georeferenced data is crucial for ensuring evidence-based planning and people-centered planning. Financial architecture then follows.

### Recommendations

Find a pathway to building inclusive, resilient, and sustainable cities, developing long term plans, policy frameworks and programmatic interventions, with participation from all stakeholders, are crucial. Phnom Penh City demonstrates that a holistic approach of integrating green urban economic growth, social inclusion and resilience can underpin the city's current and future development whereby a broad range of urban issues is addressed in an integrated manner. To that end, a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder based approach is required at all levels.

### 2.4. Urban Financing

Session 4 discussed financing for urbanization and the important role of the private sector in urban development processes.

### Panelists included:

- Mr. Hoy Vicheth, Representative from the General Department of Sub-National Administration Finance, Ministry of Economy and Finance
- Mr. Chey Sambath Phalla, Director of Policy Analysis and Development Unit, National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development (NCDD), Ministry of Interior
- Mr. Ajay Suri, Region Manager, Cities Alliance Asia
- **Dr. Tan Monivann**, Vice President of the Cambodian Chamber of Commerce (CCC)

Moderator: **Mr. Path Heang**, Urban Programme Specialist, UNICEF

### Speaker: Mr. Hoy Vicheth, Representative from the General Department of Sub-National Administration Finance, Ministry of Economy and Finance

Sub-national administration structure is divided into three levels: 1. Capital/province (25), 2. Khan/districts/cities (203), and 3. Communes/Sangkat (1646). Budget for the sub-national administration amounts to US\$ 822 million in 2020 (US\$ 562 million for capital/province, US\$ 61 million for district/city, US\$ 198 million for commune/sangkat). The 2020 budget increased by 51% since the 2019 budget of US\$ 543 million. Three main sources of sub-national budget are 1. Fiscal revenue (63%), 2. Non-fiscal revenue (5%), and 3. Support from national level (32%) while three main expenses of the budget are: 1. Salary (18%), 2. Capital expenditure (14%), and 3. Non-employee cost (68%). Subnational authorities have the right to plan a budget allocation based on the needs of their areas, aligned with the national strategic development and the financing strategy of the Ministry of Economy and Finance.



Speaker: Mr. Chey Sambath Phalla, Director of Policy Analysis and Development Unit, National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development (NCDD), Ministry of Interior

One of the main functions of the NCDD is to contribute to poverty reduction and major public services are delegated to sub-national level entities for serving people. The Ministry of Economy and Finance allocates budget to each municipality office given the annual revenue of the Government. Due to resource constraints, the total amount of budget delegation to the provincial- and commune-level entities have fluctuated in recent years. Capacity building of administration at the district- and commune- level is a pressing issue.

# Speaker: Mr. Ajay Suri, Region Manager, Cities Alliance Asia

Public-Private Partnership cannot be viewed in isolation but should be effectively decentralized. The New Urban Agenda, the SDGs and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction – all global frameworks – address the role that local government that can play in promoting sustainable and resilient cities and communities. Cities are facing challenges in terms of delivering sustainable development, e.g. jurisdictions, functionality/mismatch of functions, as well as the limited capacity of local authorities. What is evident is that the local taxation system and local government's flexibility to use the fund from the central government should be reconsidered.

# Speaker: Dr. Tan Monivann, Vice President of the Cambodian Chamber of Commerce (CCC)

Private sector engagement is key to unlock the potential of urban development. There is a total of 18 business associations in Cambodia. The two major ones are: Cambodia Construction Association (CCA) and the Cambodia Housing Association (CHA). CCC works closely with the government.



Cambodia's construction boom is creating challenges, e.g. shortage of workforce, financing for construction. The government needs to strengthen the taxation system, e.g. lower corporate tax for local construction companies. There is a law on affordable housing, but enforcement is limited. Businesses should be more involved in dialogues on urban futures.

### Recommendations

For urban development actors, particularly government authorities, building partnerships with the private sector is key to optimizing the potential of urban development in the national context. Cities are facing challenges in terms of delivering sustainable development due to resource constraints. Taxation systems should be carefully examined and strengthened, with a view to providing a more enabling environment for sub-national and local authorities to deliver on their functions. The private sector should be more involved in policy dialogues.

### 2.5. Youth Statements

There were four youth representatives who provided short statements of what they want for their cities.

### Mr. Chou Kimsreng, 4th year student of the Faculty of Land Management and Land Administration, Royal University of Agriculture

Urbanization in Cambodia should be a pathway to sustainable development by taking into account economic, social, and environmental aspects. In addition, urbanization should be able to provide basic services such as education, health care, entertainment, infrastructure, clean water, electricity, accessible roads, telecommunication, and technology.

# Ms. Chi Socheata, Grad 10, Chea Sim Chroy Changva High School

**Socheata** wants the city to be clean, safe, and inclusive. She requested Government to provide education so that everyone







cares about environment and reduce crimes in cities. She added that the urbanization should benefit all.

Mr. Nimith Panha, Grade 6, Preah Norodom Primary School Panha wants to have schools in all cities with experienced teachers. The tuition should be free for all students. He also wants the roads to have signs to allow children to walk safely. Last but not least, he believes that a clean city is important.

### Ms. Thai Sreylin, Grade 11 with a disability Hun Sen Phnom Penh Thmey High School

On behalf of people with disabilities, Sreylin requested to have inclusive access for all. Roads have significant barrier to access. In addition, there is need to be established schools for students with disabilities. We should also care more the environment. For people in rural areas or remote places, training programme or workshops on environmental issues are needed. Reduction of traffic jam and air pollution in Phnom Penh should be also prioritized.



### 2.6. Closing and Way Forward

The Forum concluded with a statement of key priorities and a way forward for shaping Cambodia's urban vision of smart, sustainable, and inclusive development.

Panelists included:

- H.E. Dr Pen Sophal, Secretary of State, Representative of H.E Chea Sophara, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister for Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
- Ms. Pauline Tamesis, UN Resident Coordinator in Cambodia
- H.E Dr. Meng Bunnarith, Deputy Director General, General Department of Land Management and Urban Planning, MLMUPC
- Mr. Lars Stordal, Regional Partnerships and Monitoring Officer, World Urban Forum Secretariat, UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Moderator: Mr. Sardar Umar Alam, UNESCO Representative to Cambodia

Mr. Stordal gave a brief summary of the main recommendations arising from the Forum. He highlighted the need for strong policies and regulatory framework to better guide urbanization. He further cited the many participants who had stressed the need to ensure 'cities for all' by considering a people-centred approach. He noted that implementing urban policies requires resources and harmonization of roles between national and local government. In this regard, partnership is key to advancing well-managed urbanization. Urban development cannot be achieved without the business sector's involvement.

H.E. Dr. Bunnarith, noted that the Forum had stressed the need for policy making as an important tool when discussing urbanization. Policy makers need to understand population





issues and the common good of cities.

Ms. Tamesis stressed the need to take action and ensure follow up on this Forum. She further noted the focus on a people-centred approach and the need to listen to people's concerns in order to ensure that services respond to local needs.

H.E. Dr. Pen Sophal recalled that whole Cambodian nation is living in peace, national sovereignty, political stability, social security and orders as well as achieving strong in growth all sectors under the leadership of Royal Government of Cambodia. Cambodia has adopted the Rectangular Strategy Phase IV in which Rectangular 4 identifies the sustainable and inclusive development and strengthening the management of urbanization to provide for good living environment, ensure quality, safety, aesthetics, wellbeing, and socioeconomic

effectiveness following the principles of smart cities of the sustainable and inclusive development goals by promoting the development and strengthening the implementing policies, laws, and legal framework by linking the city economic and financial strategy to the implementation and development of capital city/province, municipality, district/khan, and Commune/Sangkat urbanization. Urban development requires commitment from various sectors including land management, urbanization, environment, culture, public work, economy, society, and so on. Inclusive development means development for everyone by leaving no one behind.

This Forum was held during Industry 4.0 Revolution which provides great opportunity for developing countries such as Cambodia to use the technology to accelerate country development through digital and artificial intelligent production to increase productivity, quality, sustainability, and



competiveness.

As the result, the Forum acknowledged that "urbanization approach" will be more efficient through strengthening cooperation, promoting participation, enhancing knowledge, strictly implementing national policy on land management, national housing policy, and working together with all relevant ministries and institutions in order to improve partnership on activity implementation at all level. In meantime, the first Cambodia Urban Forum is really important to have future cities with people-centered urban development to bring positive changes for the cities and housing, and to achieve the long-term prosperity for all people in Cambodia. This Forum is very important to make city in Cambodia to become core of inclusive and sustainable economic growth to ensure strong

macro-economy and to achieve Cambodian vision 2030 to become high middle income country and high income country in 2050.

### Recommendations

Taking action in a people-centered approach is critically important to formulating and implementing policies and programmes. The formulation of clear national policy and regulatory frameworks is key. All stakeholders, along with the Government of Cambodia and the UN system, should monitor and follow up on the continued dialogue at the Forum. In line with global development agendas and national urban development frameworks, the Forum should continue to listen to people and find solutions for building smart, sustainable and inclusive cities for all in Cambodia.



### **CUF DECLARATION**

The CUF Declaration on smart, sustainable, and inclusive urban development, in support of the Rectangular Strategy – Phase IV and the Cambodia Vision 2050, was adopted by all stakeholders of the Forum as shown below, reflecting key priorities and actionable recommendations for implementation.

First Cambodia Urban Forum 27 November 2019, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

### **DECLARATION**

### Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development

WE, the participants of the 1st Cambodia Urban Forum (CUF) co-convened by the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction and the United Nations in Cambodia met under the theme "Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development" in Phnom Penh, on 27 November 2019.

Leveraging the inclusive nature of the Forum, we agreed to adopt and be guided by the following vision in our pursuit towards a smarter and more sustainable and inclusive urban development in Cambodia to achieve urban dimensions of the Rectangular Strategy — Phase IV and the Cambodia Vision 2050:

A people-centered sustainable urban future is integral to the transformation of cities and human settlements for the long-term shared prosperity in Cambodia. It is essential to re-focus attention on the building of effective partnerships spanning national and local government, as well as private sector and civil society which contribute to improving cities' economic efficiency and competitiveness, inclusive governance while enhancing the welfare of citizens and ensuring environmental sustainability. In achieving this vision, progressive national policy and legislation, innovative financing mechanisms, the sustainable use



of smart technologies and meaningful multi stakeholder engagement in decision-making are critical enabling factors in realizing inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities in Cambodia.

# A. Past progress and current agreements guiding our engagement:

- Reaffirming Cambodia's strong commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its nationalization and localization through the Cambodian SDGs, recognized in its first Voluntary National Review report, presented in September 2019.
- Reaffirming the key role of urbanization as an accelerator for sustainable development, as reflected in the adoption of SDG11 and the New Urban Agenda, and recognizing the importance of meaningful stakeholder engagement in decisionmaking, planning and follow-up processes (NUA para 41) and forming effective partnerships between governments at all levels, civil society and other stakeholders (NUA para 92);
- Noting that a CUF preparatory meeting with stakeholder organizations was convened by the United Nations in Cambodia on 25th November 2019 which provided recommendations for the present declaration on priorities and actions to be taken to implement smart, sustainable and inclusive urban development in Cambodia.

# B. Priority issues and outcomes identified from our engagement at CUF1

1. Note that, according to official data, the Cambodian urban population is expected to double by 2050 to

- more than 9 million people<sup>1</sup> or 41.2% of the total population, resulting in increasing demands for accessible urban infrastructure, natural resources, land and basic services;
- 2. Recognize that urbanization, if well planned and managed, is a powerful positive force for sustainable development and that Cambodia's urban transformation is an opportunity to implement a guided and forward-looking vision to achieve a better future for all citizens;
- Remain concerned that rapid unplanned urban growth is leading to growing informal settlements in urban and peri-urban areas, poor housing conditions, polluted local environments, traffic congestion, lack of access to infrastructure and basic urban services, climate vulnerability and precarious informal employment;
- Recognize that urbanization policies need to take into consideration the close link between migration and urbanization and the crucial role that cities play in governing human mobility.
- Commit to ensuring people-centered urban development, recognizing the positive role that women, youth and all people, regardless of socioeconomic status, play in the co-creation of inclusive, liveable, safe and prosperous cities;
- Recognize that access to and governance of land significantly impacts urbanization and that the lack thereof fundamentally hampers the way cities and towns can grow. Community ownership of development projects is key to long-term sustainability and shared prosperity.
- Reaffirm that an integrated people-oriented approach to urban planning includes a consideration of a mix of land uses, inclusive public spaces, conservation

UN DESA. World Urbanization Prospects, 2018 edition.

- of cultural heritage such, sustainable urban design, safety measures and the integration of land markets;
- 8. Reaffirm that lack of access to affordable housing remains a challenge and that implementation of diverse and appropriate options for housing, accessible for low-income groups, is a priority and requires new financing modalities and partnerships, including with the business sector.
- Acknowledge the need for infrastructure and planning to ensure resilience to climate change and natural shocks, resource efficiency and other measures to protect the natural environment and achieve green growth;
- Harness smart city technologies that can serve to support a vision towards inclusive and peoplecentered urban development in Cambodia and which can assist in the collection and use of accurate urban data for planning and management of cities;
- 11. Advocate that effective approaches to urbanization are made stronger through the co-production of knowledge and solutions with a diverse range of stakeholders and that forming action orientated partnerships at all levels should be promoted, particularly involving the business sector; and
- 12. Re-emphasize the need for inclusive, implementable and participatory urban policies to be adopted, supported by institutional and regulatory frameworks at all levels of government, and resolve to develop a National Urban Policy and National Housing Policy for Cambodia taking advantage of participatory, multi-stakeholder based platforms such as the CUF.

### C. Recommendations

Based on the aforementioned priorities and outcomes, the Cambodia Urban Forum resolved to:

- In supporting implementation of the Rectangular Strategy-Phase IV and the Cambodia Vision 2050, advocating for a vision of sustainable urbanization whereby cities and human settlements of all sizes are prosperous, inclusive, safe, smart and sustainable, and that accord to the Cambodia's history, values and context;
- 2. Work to establish a stronger knowledge base and deepen the use of evidence for policy making, including innovative forms of data collection and analysis, in order to inform planning and investment decisions
- Advocate with both public and private actors the need for increased, long term and predictable financing for sustainable urban development to tackle the major urban challenges at scale;
- Support the development of a robust national enabling environment for sustainable urbanization through effective national urban and housing policies and sector plans and an institutionalized, continuous multi-stakeholder dialogue of review;
- 5. Ensure the participation of all urban stakeholders throughout the urban policy and planning processes to create people-centered urban futures.

## **ANNEX 1: CUF AGENDA**

8:00 - 8:30	Registration
8:30 - 8:40	Session 1: Opening
	Introduction and objectives of the Forum and national anthem  Mr. Mol Vibol, Master of Ceremonies, Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction
8:40 - 8:50	Welcome remarks by Ms. Pauline Tamesis, UN Resident Coordinator in Cambodia
8:50 - 9:05	Keynote Address on inclusive, smart and sustainable urban development by Ms. Gabriella Gomez-Mont, Director at the Urban Task Force and Former Chief Creative Officer for Mexico City
9:05 - 9:20	Keynote address on the lessons learnt in Korea on smart and sustainable cities by <b>Dr. Kim Kyunghwan</b> , Professor of Economics, Sogang University and former Vice Minister, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Korea
9:20 - 9:40	Opening Remarks by H.E. Dr Pen Sophal, Secretary of State, Representative of H.E Chea Sophara, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
9:40 - 10:00	Coffee break
10:00 - 12:00	Session 2: Urbanization overview: Situation, Challenges and Opportunities Chair/Moderator: Mr. Laxman Perera, Human Settlements Officer, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, UN Human Settlements Programme
	Urbanization System in Cambodia by <b>H.E Dr. Meng Bunnarith</b> , Deputy Director General, General Department of Land Management and Urban Planning, MLMUPC
	Key challenges and opportunities for cities to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by <b>Dr. Stefanos Fotiou</b> , Director, Environment and Development Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.
	Cities for all: Why cities must be inclusive, resilient, and sustainable? By <b>Dr. Frank Rijsberman</b> , Director-General, Global Green Growth Institute
	Stakeholder Voices: Mrs. Kou Sina, Programme Manager of Urban Poor Women Development (feedback from Stakeholder pre-sessions)
	Discussion, Q&A
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch break
13:00 - 14:30	Session 3: Setting Cambodia's Urban Priorities: Advancing Policy and Achieving Sustainable Cities Chair/moderator: Ms. Kristin Parco, Chief of Mission, IOM
	Key priorities of Phnom Penh Capital to advance to the next level of inclusive, resilient, and sustainable city for all by <b>H.E. Suy Serith</b> , Vice Governor, Phnom Penh Capital
	Priorities for urbanization development in Cambodia by <b>Mr. Taing Meng Eang</b> , Director of Green Economy Department, the National Council for Sustainable Development
	Holistic Design and Planning for Sustainable Urban Development by Ms. Sandrine Capelle-Manuel, Multi Country Office Director, UNOPS
	Discussion, Q&A

14:30 - 15:45	Session 4: Urban financing Chair/moderator: Mr. Heang Path, Urban Programme Specialist, UNICEF
	Cambodia's sub-national budget system: How this contributes to urban development financing? by Mr. Hoy Vicheth, Representative of General Department of Sub-National Administration Finance, Ministry of Economy and Finance
	Decentralized financial system practice at sub-national level challenges and future perspective in Cambodia by <b>Mr. Chey Sambath Phalla</b> , Director of Policy Analysis and Development Unit of the National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development, Ministry of Interior
	Public-Private Sector Partnership: Contribution and Needs of Private Sector to urbanization by <b>Mr. Ajay Suri</b> , Cities Alliance Asia Region Manager
	Contributions and Needs of Private Sector in Cambodia to urbanization by <b>Dr. Tan Monivann</b> , Vice President of Cambodia Chamber of Commerce
	Discussion, Q&A
15:45 - 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 - 16:10	Session 5: Way forward and Closing Chair/moderator: Mr. Sardar Umar Alam, UNESCO Representative to Cambodia
	<ol> <li>Statements on urban development by University student, high school student, and children (3 mins each)</li> <li>Mr. Chou Kimsreng, Senior student of the Faculty of Land Management and Land Administration of the Royal University of Agriculture, Sophomore Student of the Department of English in the Institute of Foreign Languages, Royal University of Phnom Penh</li> <li>Ms. Chi Socheata, Grad 10, Chea Sim Chroy Changva High School</li> <li>Mr. Nimith Panha, Grade 6, Primary School Student</li> <li>Ms. Thai Sreylin, Grade 11, High School Student</li> </ol>
16:10 - 16:40	Plenary discussion on key takeaways, action points, ways forward by <b>Mr. Lars Stordal</b> , Regional Partnerships and Monitoring Officer World Urban Forum Secretariat, UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
16:40 - 16:50	Affirming results of the forum by highlighting agreed key takeaways, priorities, action points and ways forwards by H.E. Dr. Meng Bunnarith, Deputy Director General, General Department of Land Management and Urban Planning, MLMUPC
16:50 - 17:00	Closing remarks by H.E. Dr. Pen Sophal, Secretary of State, Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, Representative of H.E Chea Sophara, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction

### **ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

No	Institution	Participants
A. Ministrie	s and government institutions	
1	Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction	15
2	Ministry of Woman Affair	1
3	Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation	1
4	Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts	1
5	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	1
6	Ministry of Environment	4
7	National Council for Sustainable Development	2
8	Ministry of Rural Development	1
9	Ministry of Planning	1
10	Ministry of National Defense	1
11	Ministry of Tourism	1
12	Ministry of Public Work and Transport	1
13	Ministry of Justice	1
14	Ministry of Mine and Energy	1
15	Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport	1
16	Ministry of Post and Telecommunication	1
17	Ministry of Commerce	1
18	Ministry of Economic and Finance	1
19	Ministry of Civil Service	1
18	Office of the Council of Ministers	1
	Sub-total Sub-total	38
B. Provincia	l departments of land management, urban planning, and construction	25
C. Provincia	and capital administration	25
D. UN and I	Development Partners	
1	UN Resident Coordinator Office	1
2	UNICEF	1
3	UN Habitat	6
4	UNESCO	5
5	IOM	2
6	UNDP	1
7	UNFPA	1

8	UNFPA/UNYAP	1
		·
9	ILO	1
10	WHO	1
11	UNOPS	3
12	UNESCAP	1
13	UNIDO	3
14	WFP	1
15	UNAIDS	1
16	UNOHCHR	2
17	Asian Development Bank (ADB)	2
18	EU	1
19	JICA	1
20	Korea Exim Bank	1
21	Korea Exim Bank	1
22	KfW	1
23	USAID	1
	Sub-total	39
E. Foreign E	Embassy	
1	Japanese Embassy	1
2	German Embassy	1
3	Swedish Embassy	1
4	South Korean Embassy	1
5	Australian Embassy	1
6	French Embassy	1
7	Indian Embassy	1
8	Russian Embassy	1
9	Singapore Embassy	1
	Sub-total	9
F. Internatio	nal organization, NGOs, civil society organizations	1
1	GGGI	1
2	Habitat for Humanity	1
3	People In Need	1
4	Community Development Foundation	1
	1	

5	Cambodia Institute for Urban Studies (CIUS)	1
6	Asia Foundation	1
7	Urban Poor Women Development	1
8	WaterAid Cambodia	1
9	GRET	1
10	AIMF	1
	Sub-total	10
G. Academi	a and Research Institution	
1	Royal University of Agriculture	2
2	Paragon International University	4
3	Western University	1
4	NTTI	7
5	Institute of Technology of Cambodia	14
6	Royal University of Phnom Penh	3
7	Paññ s stra University of Cambodia	3
8	University of Fine Arts	2
9	Norton University	1
10	Future Forum	4
	Sub-total	41
H. Private S	ector	
1	Acleda Bank	1
2	Royal Group	3
3	Borey Peng Huot	1
4	WorldBridge Group	1
5	Cambodia Chamber of Commerce	2
6	Phnom Penh Special Economic Zone	1
7	Mitsubishi Cambodia	1
8	Urban Living Solutions	2
9	GoGreen Cambodia	1
10	Archetype	1
11	Young Entrepreneurs Association of Cambodia	1
12	Eurocham	1
13	Ecosun	1

14	Arup	1
15	Cambodia Constructors Association	1
16	Board of Architectures of Cambodia	1
17	Ramboll	1
18	PS Union Construction	1
19	PCLA	1
20	CKS	1
21	Lukcy Reality	1
22	RBG	1
23	Eastern Construction & Investment	1
24	The Room Design Studio	1
25	Dynamic Technologies	1
26	Bun&Associate	1
27	RWST	1
28	Amatak Property Service	2
29	CRC Cambodia	1
30	Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority	1
	Sub-total	35
I. Journali	sts/reporters	
1	Khmer Times	3
2	Property Area Asia	1
3	KHB	1
4	RNK	2
5	Phnom Penh Post	2
6	CNC	2
7	VCMOFM	1
8	Freshnews	1
9	APSARA	1
	Sub-total	14
	Total	236

# **ANNEX 3: PRE-SESSION REPORT**

# Stakeholder Pre-Session Report 25 November 2019

#### 1. Introduction

A pre-session of the Forum was convened on 25 November 2019 at the invitation of the UN Resident Coordinator in order to facilitate comprehensive inputs from key stakeholder organizations to the first Cambodia Urban Forum.

Facilitated in the form of roundtable discussion prior to the main event, the pre-sessions provided an opportunity for discussions, review and input on key challenges and priorities for sustainable urban development in Cambodia. The roundtables also provided for an effective preparation for stakeholders' contribution and proposals to the outcome document, follow-up and next steps of the Cambodia Urban Forum. The UN convene these meetings at UNOPS. Stakeholders representatives included research and academia institutions, business, urban planners and experts, development partners, civil society groups, and vulnerable groups such as women, youth, and people with disabilities. 34 participants from 20 organizations attended the meeting.

Participants formed three groups to exchange and discuss on the following guiding questions. The three first questions corresponded to the three main thematic areas of the Forum: 1. Urbanization overview: Situation, Challenges and Opportunities; 2. Setting Cambodia's Urban Priorities: Advancing Policy and Achieving Sustainable Cities; 3. Urban financing; 4. Stakeholder engagement in urban development; 5. The role of development partners. Further detail of the session is described in following parts.

# 2. Agenda

8:00 - 8:30	Registration	
8:30 - 8:40	Introduction and Objectives of the Pre-session for Cambodia Urban Forum (Laxman Perera, UN-Habitat)	
8:40 - 9:00	Brief Presentation, Q&A on CUF (Lars Stordal, UN-Habitat)	
9:00 - 9:20	Coffee break and assembly into three breakout groups	
9:20-11:00	Group discussion on draft Vision Statement (Miguel Garcia, UNOPS) related to (1) Urbanization overview: Situation, Challenges and Opportunities; (2) Setting Cambodia's Urban Priorities: Advancing Policy and Achieving Sustainable Cities; and (3) Urban financing	
11:00 - 11:40	Group Presentation/feedback, Q&A (Kristin Parco, IOM)	
11:40 - 12:00	Closing remarks (Kristin Parco, IOM)	

#### 3. Group Discussion

Participants formed three groups to exchange and discuss on the following guiding questions. The three first questions corresponded to the three main thematic CUF sessions:

# 3.1. Urbanization overview: Situation, Challenges and Opportunities

What do you regard to be the 3 main problems/challenges with regards to urbanization in Cambodia? What are some of the root causes of such problems and how could they be addressed? How can you include citizens into these solutions?

# Summary:

The most important challenges of urban areas in Cambodia can be grouped in three main categories:

## 1. Environmental quality

- a. High levels of pollution in air and water
- b. Poor management of water and solid waste
- c. Low quality of green public spaces for people to gather and enjoy

# 2. Mobility

- a. Traffic jams
- b. Lack of parking areas
- c. Poor network of public transport
- d. Overuse of private, petrol-based means of transportation
- e. People don't move by foot because there are no sidewalks to do so
- f. Low compliance of traffic regulations

# 3. Equitable access to resources and services

- a. Clean water and air is not available to everyone
- b. Electricity supply is not available to everyone
- c. Overuse of resources by a small part of the population (richer ones) affects availability of resources for basic needs of the majority (poorer/country side)
- d. Land distribution is not fair (poor people are evicted from their land to the outskirts with little or none improvement of their lives)
- e. Lack of regulation on the appropriation of public land
- f. Not enough public spaces for people to gather and enjoy
- g. No sidewalks or pedestrian areas
- h. Uncontrolled growth of informal settlements

# Solutions for these challenges:

#### Environmental quality:

- Some policies are already available but not yet enforced
- Local stakeholders should join forces to raise awareness and educate people about environmental challenges in urban areas

- Better and more transparent waste management services, and also better traffic coordination
- Better planning of land use and activities
- New designs for urban development should include innovative strategies to address the climate emergency.
- Enforce the realization of independent Environmental Impact Assessment studies for all types of developments.

#### Mobility:

- Law enforcement for traffic regulation
- Stronger taxation on individual, petrol-based means of transport to reduce number of (big) cars and motorcycles on the roads, streets and sidewalks
- Awareness-raising / Behavior change towards a lower use of cars and motorcycles (walking for short distances or cycling)
- Better planned cities so that all basic services are within a short distance
- Educate and promote the use of bicycles or walking as means of transport
- Increase safety in the streets so that people don't feel the need to move around by car. How? Making cities for the people; having families walking around, neighbors interacting in the public space and getting to know each other, trusting each other... This is what builds safety.

#### Access to resources and services:

- Simplify land tenure processes so that actual (poor) land owners are not easily moved away from their land, and their lives can be improved on the site instead of having to move away to remote areas
- Promote the use of alternative, sustainable sources of electricity
- Educate to change population's behavior towards a more rational and responsible use of resources (water and electricity), so that there is enough resource for everyone
- Promote the use of new and more resource-efficient construction systems
- Government to promote variable pricing schemes in electricity depending on the time within the day (cheaper cost when using electricity out of peak hours)
- Government needs to balance development and conservation, carefully considering pros and cons of each and making benefits accessible to the whole population
- Promote the creation of forums and platforms for all segments of the population (rich/poor, public/private/NGOs, etc.) to interact cooperate and participate in policy-making at the local level.
- Government to support initiatives by NGOs and other stakeholders aimed at building community, improving
  communications within the population (freedom of expression, make relevant information available to all social
  sectors, etc.), increasing education and raising awareness on relevant aspects as above mentioned.

# Final comments:

All these challenges and solutions are closely interrelated, so by improving a few strategic ones, the other ones will

improve, too.

- The most important in all of this is to always keep in mind that cities must be made for and by their citizens. Therefore, investing in better education and communication to empower them to participate in policy-making and for behavior change is an important first step in all the areas mentioned above.
- Also the need of a more serious, solid enforcement of existing laws and policies has been raised when thinking on how to address all the challenges.

# 3.2. Setting Cambodia's Urban Priorities: Advancing Policy and Achieving Sustainable Cities

What do you think the cities of the future in Cambodia should look like? what should be the main policy priorities moving forward to ensure a sustainable urbanization process in Cambodia, addressing the long-term needs of all citizens? Or a different way of putting it, what has to be changed today to archive this vision soon? What actions need to be taken and by whom?

#### Summary:

- Ensure a well-planned, well-managed city where all sectors (water, transport, waste etc.) are looked at in an interconnected, integrated manner.
- Cities should be clean; no trash on the streets with better resource management
- Commutes in the city should be less than 30 mins and a high proportion (80%) should be by public transport and walking. Challenge now: lack of safety and no room to walk.
- Cities should be planned with a people and community perspective. A holistic approach to urban planning should be
  taken, that captures the sense of community that Cambodia still has (big strength). Cities should be safe and accessible
  for all people, including children who should be able to walk to school. There should be no segregation between
  communities at different income levels; no "otherness".
- Cities should build on their identities. Old buildings and other forms of heritage should be conserved.
- Cities should have enough parks and other open spaces to serve public gathering, mobility and other needs. Open spaces are important for happiness.
- Government should facilitate an appropriate distribution of the population in cities, towns and villages across the urbanrural continuum, in order to avoid unnecessary congestion and pressure on basic services.
- Cities that are at crossroads in their development path, e.g. Battambang, have a great opportunity to put in place proper urban plans and management.
- Housing should be affordable for low-income and poor people. There is role to be played by government in making this a reality through regulation, subsidies and other tools.
- Conflict between political level and technical level requires inter- ministry coordination
- Local governments should be strengthened to deliver services at the local level. Their strengthening should be based on a clear policy and regulatory framework, reflecting priorities and resource allocation.

- There should be more transparency in resource spending and management.
- Local communities should be able to engage with different levels of government. e.g. local government or City Hall.
   Local government should be empowered to properly engage with communities on their needs and address these.
   Programmes towards this purpose, such as ISAF 2 (Implementation Plan for Social Accountability), should be supported.

#### 3.3. Urban financing

What needs to be done to ensure that actions are backed-up by financing? How can cities be better equipped with financing tools? How can local resources (own-source-revenue) be leveraged?

#### Summary:

- Policy development to foster cities' investment capacities. Empower government at the sub-national and local level, within a clear policy and regulatory framework, to attract and manage investments.
- SMEs and other NGOs can fill some financing gaps at the smaller scale
- Strengthen local taxation—build accountability and build interest in local participation, and local accountability.

# 3.4. Stakeholder engagement in urban development

How can stakeholder organizations (non-government) contribute to the process? What should be their roles in urban governance?

# Summary:

- The formulation, implementation and review of government policies and strategies should involve stakeholders.
- Many stakeholder organizations, such as private and non-profit sectors, community based organizations, civil society, can contribute data points, reporting, that can inform the planning and management of urban areas. For example, knowing the location of private schools and the location of their students can help build a picture of inner-city movements.
   This can be reported in a centralized system that can inform policies/processes.
- Stakeholder organizations should advocate for compliance with environmental and social safeguards. For example, real estate companies (especially international moguls) should be appealed to in order to engage with local government policy and strategies so that real estate is more synergized with community needs.
- Stakeholder organizations should have a strong role at the design stage of the projects, in order to make them fit for purpose
- Identify gaps in large scale investments and provide room for NGOs to fill the gap

#### 3.5. The role of development partners

What should be the role of development partners such as bilateral donors, development banks and the UN system?

#### Summary:

- Support strengthened capacity of government to ensure policies and plans are well implemented
- Fund students who want to study urban planning anywhere in the world
- Fostering collaboration among each other and awareness on the risks associated to each of the support schemes
- "Connecting the dots" > Partnerships > "Broker"

## 4. Statement to the CUF Plenary: Expressions of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

# Statement made by Mrs. Kou Sina, Programme Manager of Urban Poor Women

Many Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that have been implementing poor community support projects in the capital city, municipalities and urban areas believe that in the last few years, there has been remarkable growth in the urbanization sector for the development of Phnom Penh, and the area of Phnom Penh capital city is being expanded rapidly which is an opportunity for economic growth and for all sectors. Particularly, the Royal Government of Cambodia has also developed many policies responding to various needs, and implemented those policies sustainably for the benefits of general population and poor communities. The Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction has paid attention and tried to inform sub-national authorities of the 25 capital city/provinces to support and implement those policies and circulations aiming at enabling those people with low and medium income, and the vulnerable ones to live in a decent house with dignity as others in line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966).

We also have observed that the national and sub-national institutions are highly committed to identifying their own action plan towards solving and responding to all issues, such as temporary slums or disorganized slums, urbanization, public health, education for all, and other basic public services, in order to provide access to our people to decent house. In fact, some temporary slums of community people living along the Stueng Meanchey waste channel, Tumnub II community, Samraong Meanchey Sen Sok Community, Veal Sbov community, as well as Budin building have been resolved. These actions have been applauded by the general population, national and international view, and the Non-Governmental Organizations with reasonable and just compensation according to the market price, comprehensive consultation, and people needs-based resolution, especially, the community people could receive the property ownership, maintain their business, basic services and education for their children. Furthermore, the Royal Government has collaborated with private companies for development of decent houses for sale to people who have low and medium income.

We also have seen the Livelihood Improvement for poor people Project (LIP), which is the collaboration between development partners, the World Bank, the Ministry of Interior, Phnom Penh Municipality, and Siem Reap province, has helped communities in temporary slums with vocational skills training, business, saving scheme, and physical infrastructures in the communities. Especially, the Royal Government lately has instructed the local authorities and officials to review architecture and law on construction to ensure quality, safety, and aesthetics of the communities.

Even though having these progress and commitment to implement the Rectangular Strategy of the Royal Government, the Civil Society Organizations have observed that Cambodia has yet have adequate policies to manage urbanization and development of Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive City in a standardized form. The existing policies are enforced for case by case of different development projects only, particularly, the absence of national policy on reasonable and just compensation in Cambodia.

# Challenges for the Capital City, Municipality and Urban Areas

- The support for physical infrastructures within communities of temporary slums or disorganized slums is still limited and narrow.
- Management of waste/solid waste, and environmental management in the capital city, municipalities, urban areas, and communities requires more improvement (waste transportation, people's behavior in packing waste and access to health services for the poor, etc.).
- Air population, air quality and noise produced by old vehicles, and traffic congestions contributed to loss of time and money, as well as road accidents for people and the society.
- There is not enough open space for community and the public, particularly as roads have been used for car-parking, business, and being claimed ownership for private use.
- There is no social residence for people who have low and medium income, as well as the vulnerable groups.
- National policies are not being implemented comprehensively, particularly for temporary slum communities.
- The implementation of the Phnom Penh Master Plan is not clear, and no public dissemination of the Master Plan.
- Municipalities and a number of urban areas do not yet have their land use master plan which could result in future problems and being behind urbanization growth within the municipalities and urban areas.
- Free education has not been fully extended to poor communities.
- Lack of budget and limited ability to have decent houses (debts).
- There is no reserve land for the social residence construction for people with low and medium income.
- There is yet motivation for those who are active in social development work.
- Access to land ownership for communities living in temporary slums is limited.
- Lack of full participation of people in the city development in a transparent way.

#### Suggestions for solutions:

- Continue the settlement of temporary slums and enable those with low and medium income to live in decent houses with clear and step-by-step yearly plan to resolve the issues in collaboration with development partners.
- Facilitate true and accurate information for people and civil society organizations to participate in the city development.
- Build and increase open spaces within communities for the consumption of people of all ages.
- There should be land use master plan for capital city, municipalities and urban areas across the country.
- There should be participation of people from all classes in all stages of decision-making for the city development.
- There should reserve land for social residence construction before starting the city development.
- There should be considerations on how to manage human-made and natural disasters before starting the city

# development.

- The management of wastes/solid waste of factories and general people.
- Should pay attention and motivation for the use of public transportation by focusing on both quality and quantity.
- Should arrange public roads for all (pedestrians, cyclists...).
- Public parking lots should be accessible by all.
- Should preserve identity and historical locations where city development takes place for tourism attraction purpose.
- Promote education and training to increase awareness on relevant laws and policies, as well as their effective implementation related to environment quality, vehicle usage, transportation, and equal access to services and resources.

# **ANNEX 4: HIGH-LEVEL NETWORKING AGENDA**

On the sidelines of the Forum, the Future of Asian & Pacific Cities Report 2019 was launched at the high-level networking event.

## A Dialogue on The Future of Asian & Pacific Cities

The cities of 2030, 2050 and 2100 will be very different from today. They will be cities transformed: in their demographic composition, in their implementation of technology and in their wider ecological contexts. The challenges of building cities sustainable enough to meet the changing needs of the future will require new ways of thinking and working, as well as new kinds of multi-stakeholder initiatives and partnerships. Learning to ask new and better questions, and building new approaches to tackling old problems, will be the role of any stakeholder, private or public, looking to be part of the solutions to these challenges.

The Future of Asian & Pacific Cities Report 2019 was jointly developed by UNESCAP and UN-Habitat, in close collaboration with the Asian Development Bank, the European Union, Singapore's Centre for Livable Cities, The Rockefeller Foundation and UNDP. The report proposes critical policy pathways that are essential to ensure a better urban future in four thematic priorities: urban & territorial planning, urban resilience, smart & inclusive cities and urban finance.

#### **Programme**

- Welcoming remarks from Ms. Pauline Tamesis, UN Resident Coordinator in Cambodia, and H.E. Mr. Ribaun Korm, Secretary-General, National Committee for ESCAP (5 mins)
- Introductory video for The Future of Asian & Pacific Cities Report (2 mins)
- Keynote presentation on the report by Dr. Stefanos Fotiou, Director, Environment and Development Division, ESCAP (10 mins)
- Interventions from Mr. Laxman Perera, Human Settlements Officer, UN-Habitat ROAP, Mr. Julien Chevillard, Representative of Mr. Nick Beresford, Resident Representative, UNDP Cambodia (15 mins)
- Q&A, followed by networking reception



Download the report here:

<a href="http://bit.ly/FoAPC20">http://bit.ly/FoAPC20</a>
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