



វិទ្យាស្ថានបណ្តុះបណ្តាល និង ស្រាវជ្រាវដើម្បីអភិវឌ្ឍន៍កម្ពុជា

Cambodia Development Resource Institute

របាយការណ៍ថ្លីៗស្តីពីសេដ្ឋកិច្ចកម្ពុជា

Flash Report on the Cambodian Economy

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<p style="text-align: center;">បកស្រាយសារព័ត៌មានខ្លីៗ</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Highlights</p>
<p>សេចក្តីសង្ខេបនេះ គូសបញ្ជាក់ពីនិន្នាការស្ថានភាពសេដ្ឋកិច្ចមួយចំនួនរបស់កម្ពុជា និងប្រទេសជាដៃគូ ដោយផ្តល់ការប្រៀបធៀបតួលេខនៃខែនេះជាមួយនឹងខែមុនៗ ក្នុងឆ្នាំ២០០៨ និង ២០០៧ ។</p>	<p>This section highlights trends of a number of economic indicators of Cambodia and its partners. It compares figures of the current months with earlier months in 2008 and 2007.</p>
<p>នៅត្រីមាសទី២ ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ អនុម័តវិនិយោគគិតជាទ្រព្យសកម្មជាប់លាប់ក្នុងវិស័យសេវាកម្ម កើនឡើងខ្ពស់ ដោយសារមានកំនើនយ៉ាងខ្លាំងក្នុងអនុម័តវិនិយោគខាងទេសចរណ៍គឺ ៤០១៥លានដុល្លារ ធៀបនឹង ៩៣.៧លានដុល្លារ នៅត្រីមាសមុន។ អនុម័តសណ្ឋាគារនៅថេរត្រឹមសូន្យដដែលចាប់ពីត្រីមាសទី៤ ឆ្នាំ២០០៧ មក។ តំលៃអនុម័តសេវាកម្មកើនឡើងមួយជាសាមសិប ធៀបនឹងតំលៃអនុម័តឆ្នាំមុន ។</p>	<p>The second quarter of 2008 experienced a substantial rise in fixed asset investment approvals in services. The rise was mainly driven by a huge increase in tourism investment approvals, which were USD4015 m compared to USD93.7 m. a quarter earlier. Hotel approvals have remained null since fourth quarter 2007. The value of service approvals was 30 times that of a year earlier.</p>
<p>នៅខែមិថុនា ២០០៨ ចំនួនភ្ញៀវទេសចរមកដល់កម្ពុជា ធ្លាក់ចុះ ១៣% ។ ចំនួនភ្ញៀវមកសំរាកលំហែថយចុះ ១៩% និងភ្ញៀវមកធ្វើជំនួញថយចុះ ១១% ។ ធៀបនឹងឆ្នាំមុន ចំនួនភ្ញៀវទេសចរមកដល់កម្ពុជា កើន ៣% ។</p>	<p>In June, the number of foreign visitor arrivals dropped by 13 percent. Holiday arrivals fell 19 percent, while business arrivals were by 11 percent. From a year earlier, the number of foreign tourist arrivals was up by 3 percent.</p>
<p>នៅខែមេសា ២០០៨ តំលៃអនុម័តគំរោងសាងសង់នៅភ្នំពេញកើន ៧៣% ដែលបណ្តាលពីកំនើនមួយជាបីនៃតំលៃអនុម័តគំរោងសាងសង់ផ្ទះល្វែង និងសំនង់ផ្សេងៗទៀត។ តំលៃអនុម័តគំរោងសាងសង់នៅភ្នំពេញ កើនឡើងជិតមួយជាប្រាំបួន ធៀបនឹងតំលៃអនុម័តឆ្នាំមុន ។</p>	<p>In April, the value of construction approvals in Phnom Penh grew by 73 percent, backed by a triple surge in values of flats and other construction approvals. The value was almost nine times that of April 2007.</p>
<p>នៅខែកក្កដា ២០០៨ ថ្លៃទំនិញប្រើប្រាស់គ្រប់មុខកើន ២២.៣% ធៀបនឹងឆ្នាំមុន។ ថ្លៃម្ហូបអាហារកើន ៣៩.៣% និង ការដឹកជញ្ជូននិងគមនាគមន៍កើន ២៨.៣% ។ នៅខែសីហា ២០០៨ សាំង និង ម៉ាស៊ូត ធ្លាក់ថ្លៃមកត្រឹម ៥៥៥២រៀល/លីត្រ និង ៥៤៥០រៀល/លីត្រ ធៀបនឹង ៥៨១២រៀល/លីត្រ និង ៥៦៦០រៀល/លីត្រ នៅខែមុន ។ ថ្លៃសាំង និង ម៉ាស៊ូតនៅខែសីហា ២០០៨ នេះ នៅតែខ្ពស់ជាងកាលពីមួយឆ្នាំមុននៅឡើយ ។</p>	<p>In July, overall prices of consumer goods were up by 22.3 percent from a year earlier. Food prices were up 39.3 percent, followed by transportation and communications, 28.3 percent. In August, diesel and gasoline prices were at 5542 riels/l and 5450 riels/l, down from 5812 riels/l and 5660 riels/l of the preceding month. August prices were still higher than a year earlier.</p>
<p>នៅខែឧសភា ២០០៨ អត្រាការប្រាក់លើកំរិតធនាគាររយៈពេល១២ខែ នៅថេរគឺ ១៥.៨% សំរាប់កំរិតប្រាក់ដុល្លារ និង ២២.៥% សំរាប់កំរិតប្រាក់រៀល។ នៅខែសីហា ប្រាក់រៀលឡើងថ្លៃ ទល់នឹងប្រាក់ដុល្លារ និង ប្រាក់បាតថៃ ដោយប្តូរបាន ៤១០៨រៀល/ដុល្លារ និង ១២១.៧រៀល/បាត ។ ប៉ុន្តែប្រាក់រៀលបានធ្លាក់ថ្លៃ ទល់នឹងប្រាក់ដុល្លារវៀតណាម ដោយប្តូរបាន ២៤.៨រៀល/១០០ដុល្លារ ។</p>	<p>In May, interest rates on 12-month dollar and riel bank loans were unchanged at 15.8 and 22.5 percent, respectively. In August, the riel appreciated against the US dollar and Thai baht trading at 4108 riels per dollar and 121.7 riels per baht, and depreciated against the VN dong selling at 24.8 riels per 100 dong.</p>

នៅខែមេសា ២០០៨ អតិរេកថវិការបស់រដ្ឋាភិបាលថយចុះ ៧% ធៀបនឹងខែមុន មកត្រឹម ២៦២ពាន់លានរៀល ។ ធៀបនឹងឆ្នាំមុន អតិរេកថវិកាកើន ៤៦% ។ ទន្ទឹមគ្នានេះ ចំនួនថវិកាចរន្តថយចុះបន្តិច ប៉ុន្តែធៀបនឹងចំនួនឆ្នាំមុន វាកើន ៤០% ។ នៅខែមេសា ២០០៨ ចំនាយថវិកាចរន្តថយចុះបន្តិច មកត្រឹម ២១០ពាន់លានរៀល ធៀបនឹង ២១៨ពាន់លានរៀលនៅខែមុន ។

នៅខែសីហា ២០០៨ នៅខេត្តសៀមរាប និង បាត់ដំបង ត្រីស្រស់បានឡើងថ្លៃយ៉ាងខ្លាំង រីឯនៅខេត្តកំពង់ស្ពឺ ត្រីស្រស់បានធ្លាក់ថ្លៃ ។ នៅខេត្តសៀមរាប ថ្លៃសាច់គោគុណភាពលេខ១ បានថយចុះ ១២% ប៉ុន្តែវានៅថេរតាមខេត្តជ្រៃសរើសផ្សេងទៀត ។ នៅកំពត សាច់ជ្រូកគុណភាពលេខ១ បានធ្លាក់ថ្លៃ ២០% ។ អង្ករផ្កាខ្លីមានថ្លៃនៅថេរដដែល ។

នៅខែកក្កដា ២០០៨ អត្រាអតិផរណាពីមួយឆ្នាំទៅមួយឆ្នាំនៅ US តំបន់អឺរ៉ុប និង ជប៉ុន បានកើនឡើង ។ ទំនិញប្រើប្រាស់គ្រប់មុខនៅ US បានឡើងថ្លៃ ៥.៦% នៅតំបន់អឺរ៉ុប ៤.១% និង នៅជប៉ុន ២.៣% ។ ទន្ទឹមគ្នានេះ អត្រាអតិផរណាមានកំរិត ៦.៣% នៅហុងកុង និង ៥.៩% នៅកូរ៉េខាងត្បូង ។ អតិផរណាប្រចាំឆ្នាំនៅចិន ថយចុះមកត្រឹម ៦.៣% ធៀបនឹងខែមុន ៧.១% ។ នៅថៃ ថ្លៃទំនិញប្រើប្រាស់គ្រប់មុខកើន ៩.២% និង នៅម៉ាឡេស៊ីកើន ៨.៥% រីឯអតិផរណានៅសិង្ហបុរី ថយចុះមកត្រឹម ៦.៥% ធៀបនឹងខែមុន ៧.៥% ។

នៅខែសីហា ២០០៨ ដុល្លារUS ឡើងថ្លៃទល់នឹងរូបិយវត្ថុចំបងៗ ដូចជា ដុល្លារហុងកុង ប្រាក់វ៉ុនកូរ៉េខាងត្បូង ប្រាក់យ៉េនជប៉ុន ប្រាក់អឺរ៉ុប និង ដុល្លារសិង្ហបុរី ដោយប្តូរបាន ៧.៨១ដុល្លារហុងកុង/ដុល្លារUS, ១០៤៥.៧៥វ៉ុន/ដុល្លារUS, ១០៩យ៉េន/ដុល្លារUS, ០.៦៧អឺរ៉ុប/ដុល្លារUS និង ១.៤០ដុល្លារសិង្ហបុរី/ដុល្លារUS ។ ទន្ទឹមគ្នានេះ ដុល្លារUS ក៏ឡើងថ្លៃទល់នឹងប្រាក់បាតថៃ ដោយប្តូរបាន ៣៣.៨១បាត/ដុល្លារUS ។

នៅខែកក្កដា ២០០៨ អង្ករ សណែ្តកសៀវង ពោត និង ប្រេងឆា ធ្លាក់ថ្លៃជាលើកដំបូងចាប់ពីត្រីមាសទី៤ ឆ្នាំ២០០៧ មក ។ អង្ករ (Thai 100% B) ធ្លាក់ថ្លៃ ១១%, ពោត ៨% និង ប្រេងឆា ៧% ។ ទន្ទឹមគ្នានេះ ប្រេងនៅសាំង និង ម៉ាស៊ូត ធ្លាក់ថ្លៃយ៉ាងខ្លាំង ដោយប្រេងនៅ សាក់ថ្លៃ ១១៤ដុល្លារ/ប្រេង, សាំង ៧៧.៨៦សេន/លីត្រ និង ម៉ាស៊ូត ៨៥.៧៥សេន/ លីត្រ ។

In April, there was a 7 percent decline in the government budget surplus, from the preceding month, to KHR 262 bn. April's surplus was 46 percent higher than the surplus in the same month last year. During the same month, a slight drop of current budget revenues was also evident, but they were 40 percent higher than revenue of a year earlier. Current budget expenditure in April declined slightly to KHR 210 bn, from KHR 218 bn a month earlier.

In August, prices of fresh fish in Siem Reap and Battambang provinces increased markedly, but fell in Kompong Speu. Prices of first quality beef in Siem Reap dropped by 12 percent, but were stable in other selected provinces. Prices of first quality pork in Kampot decreased 20 percent. Prices of *Phka Khmhei* rice were steady.

In July, year-on-year inflation accelerated in the US, euro zone and Japan. US overall consumer prices were up by 5.6 percent, in the Euro zone 4.1 percent and Japan 2.3 percent. During the same period, inflation was 6.3 percent in Hong Kong and 5.9 percent in South Korea. China's annual inflation was 6.3 percent, lower than the 7.1 percent of a month earlier. Prices in Thailand were up 9.2 percent and in Malaysia 8.5 percent, while in Singapore inflation was 6.5 percent, lower than the 7.5 percent of the preceding month.

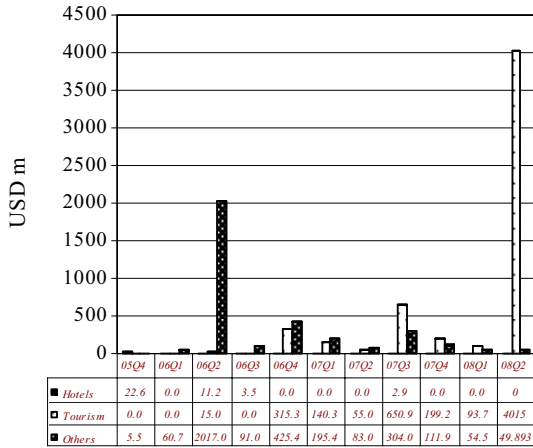
In August, the US dollar gained strength against major currencies. It was traded higher against the Hong Kong dollar, Korean won, Japanese yen, euro and Singapore dollar, exchanging at 7.81 HKD/USD, 1045.75 KRW/USD, 109 JPY/USD, 0.67 EUR/USD and 1.40 SD/USD. The dollar also appreciated against the baht, trading at 33.81 THB/USD.

July marked a fall in prices of rice, soybeans, maize and palm oil for the first time since the last quarter of 2007. Rice (Thai 100% B) fell 11 percent, followed by maize, 8 percent and palm oil, 7 percent. During the same period, crude oil, gasoline and diesel showed a marked fall. Crude oil sold at USD114/barrel, while gasoline and diesel traded at US 77.86 cents/litre and US 85.75 cents/litre.

សកម្មភាពសេដ្ឋកិច្ចសំខាន់ៗ និង ថ្លៃទំនិញរបស់តម្កល់

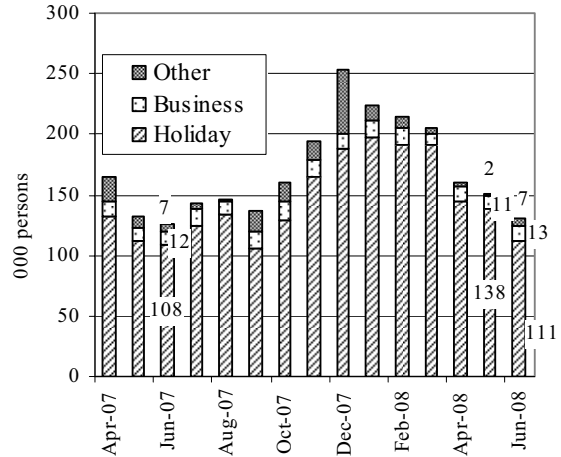
Main Economic Activities and Consumer Prices in Cambodia

Fixed Asset Investment Approvals: Service Sector 2005 Q4–2008 Q2



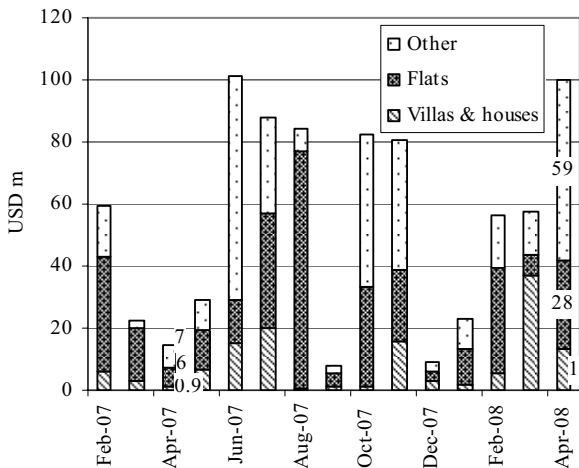
Including expansion projects.
Source: Council for the Development of Cambodia

Cambodia: Foreign Visitor Arrivals April 2007–June 2008



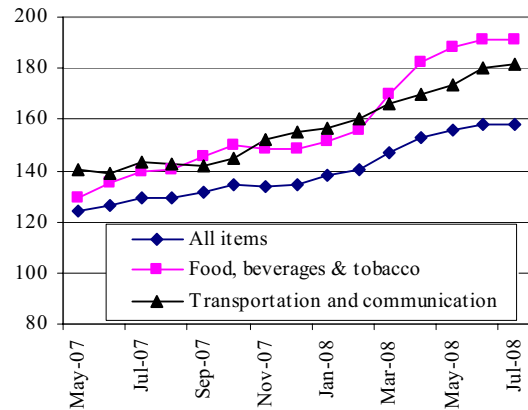
Source: Ministry of Tourism

Phnom Penh: Value of Construction Approvals February 2007–April 2008



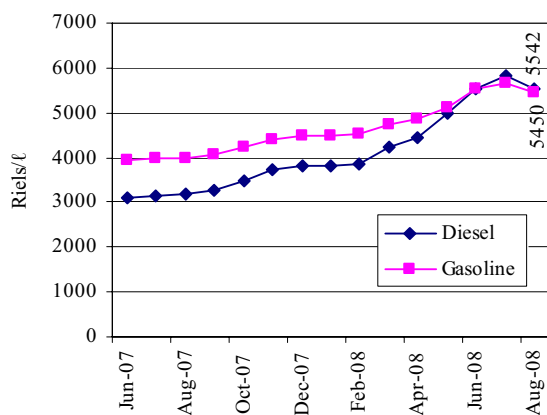
Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC

Cambodia: Consumer Price Index (July–December 2000=100) May 2007–July 2008



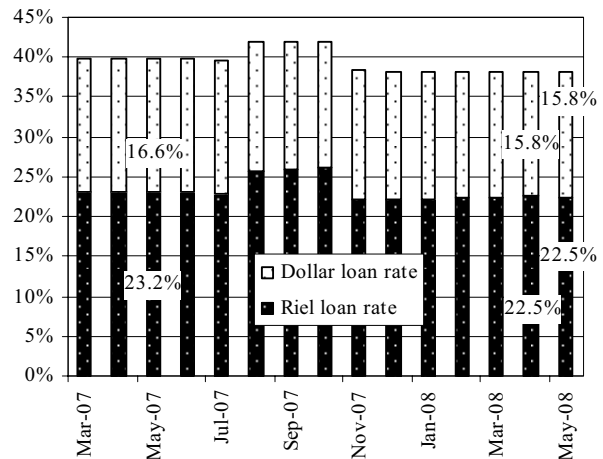
Source: National Institute of Statistics

Phnom Penh: Gasoline & Diesel Prices June 2007–August 2008



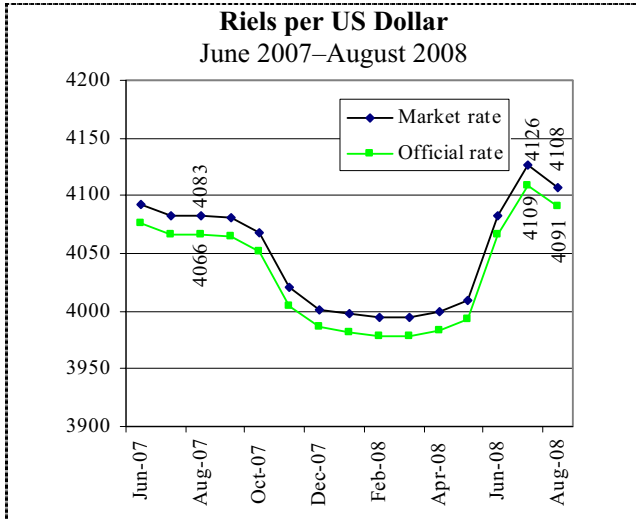
Source: CDRI

Interest Rates on 12-Month Bank Loan March 2007–May 2008

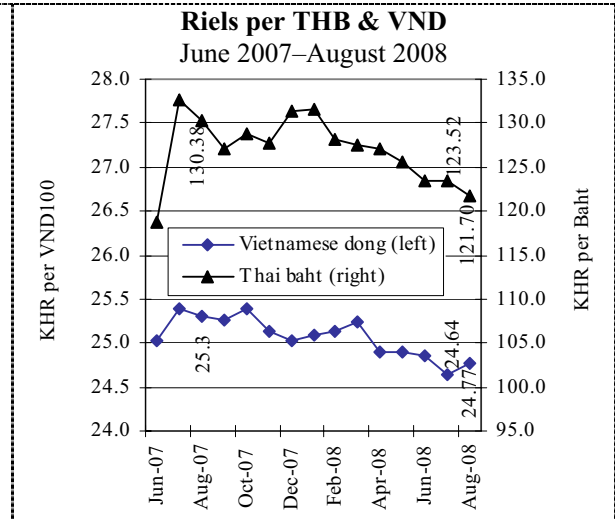


Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC

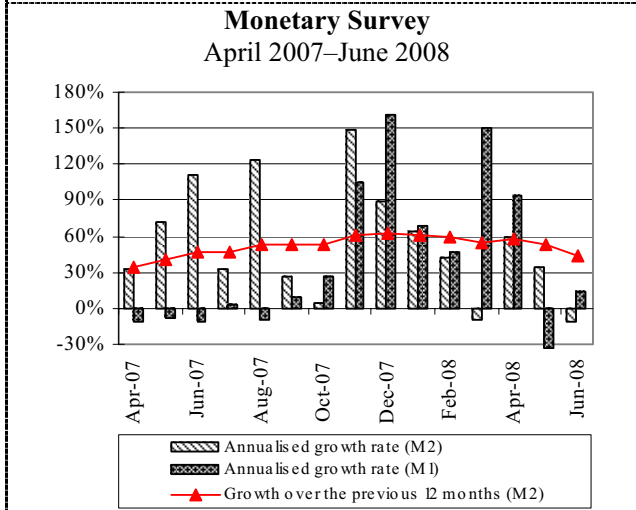
ស្ថានភាពកម្រៃប្តូរប្រាក់ និង ជំនួយអភិវឌ្ឍន៍ពីក្រៅប្រទេស
Exchange Rates and External Development Assistance



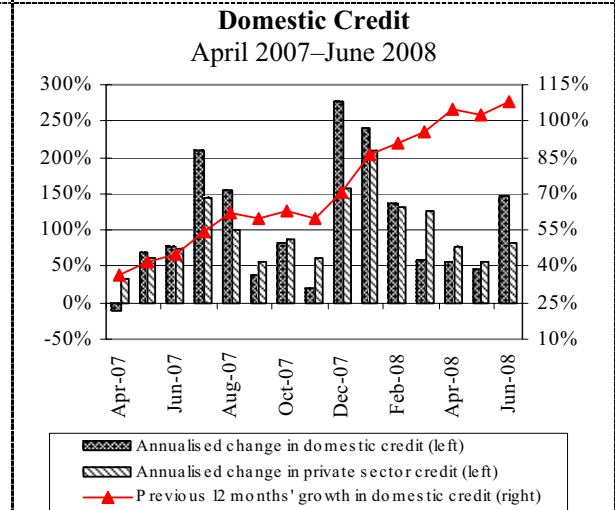
Source: National Bank of Cambodia



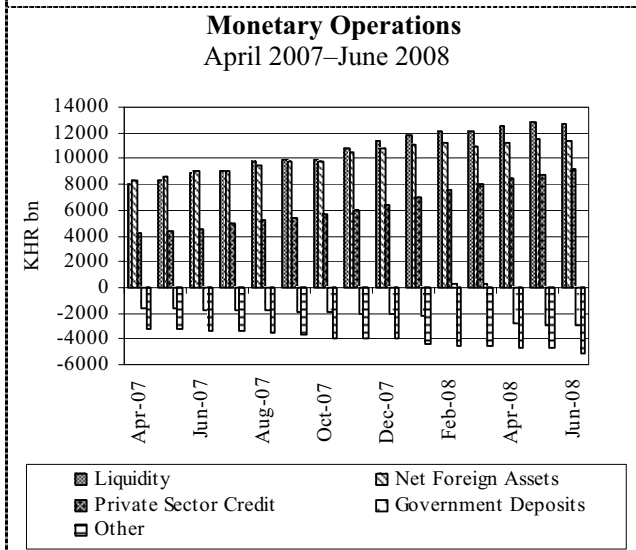
Source: National Bank of Cambodia



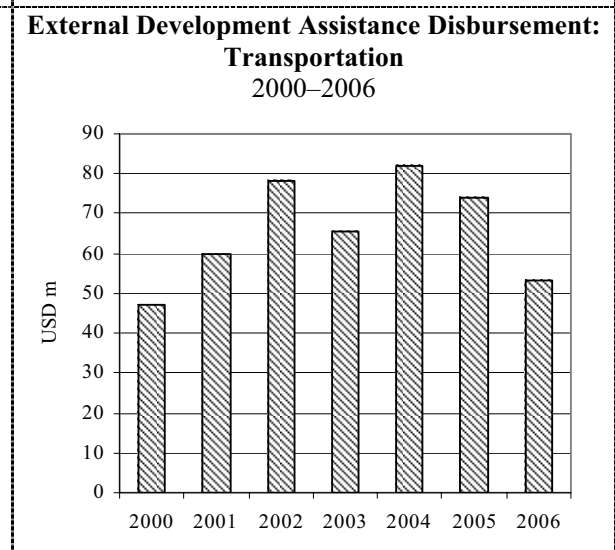
Source: National Bank of Cambodia



Source: National Bank of Cambodia

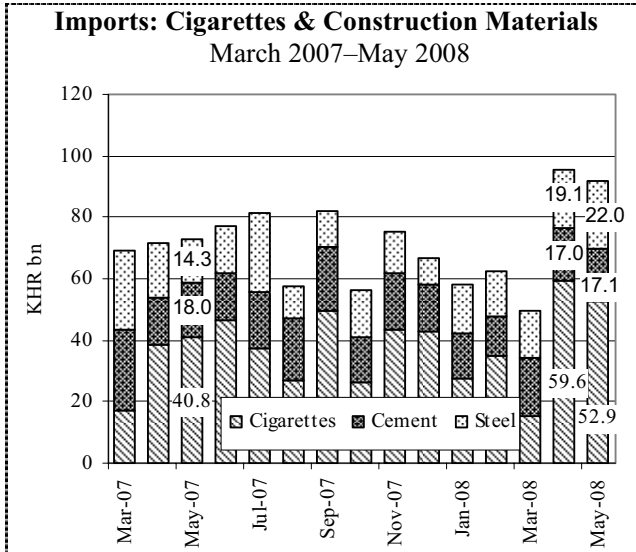


Source: National Bank of Cambodia

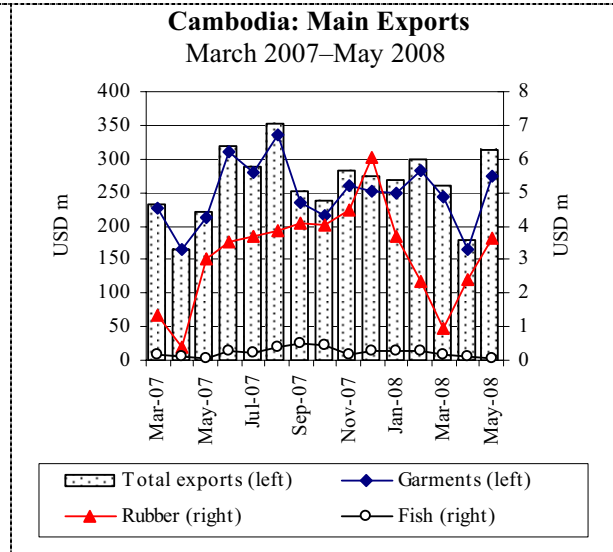


Source: Cambodia Aid Effectiveness Report 2007, CDC

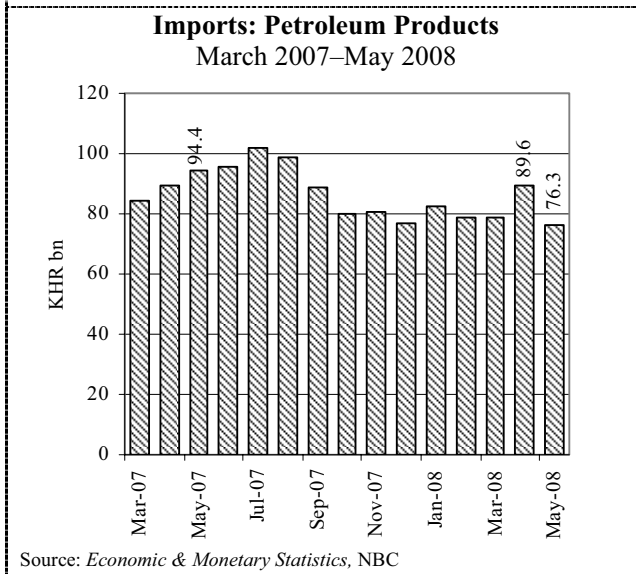
ពាណិជ្ជកម្មក្រៅប្រទេស និង ការអនុវត្តថវិកាជាតិ
External Trade and National Budget Operations



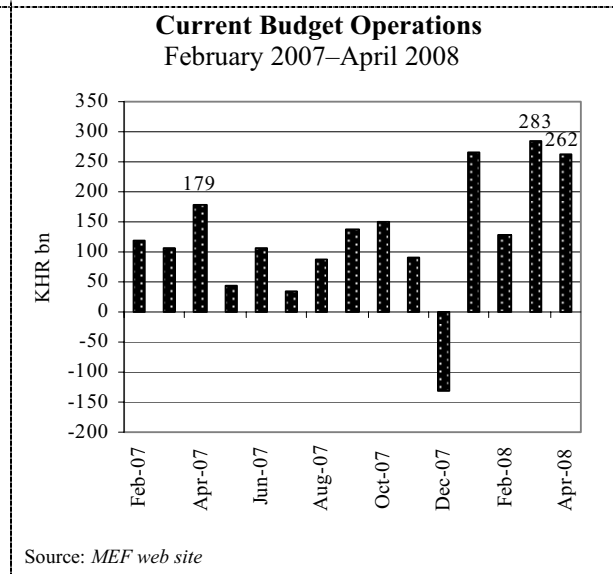
Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC



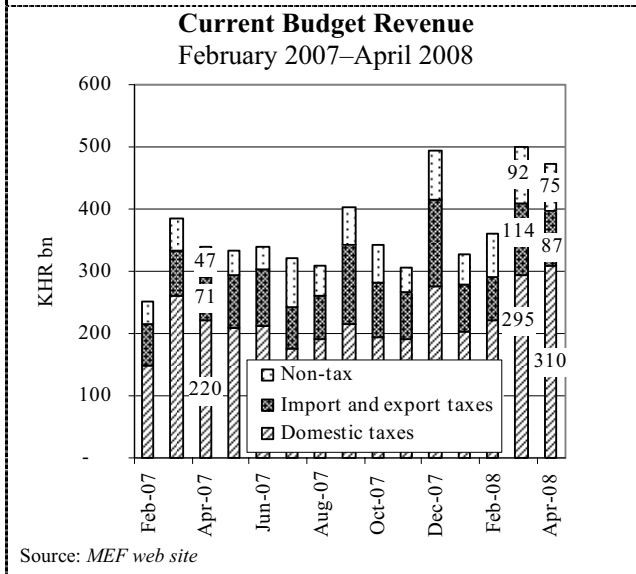
Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC



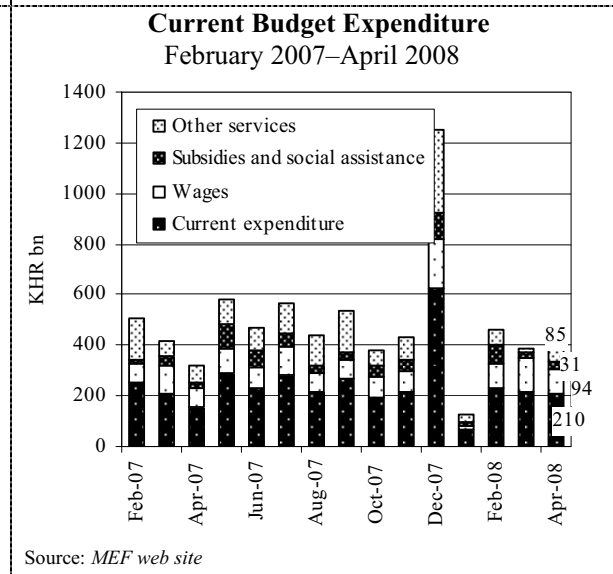
Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC



Source: MEF web site



Source: MEF web site

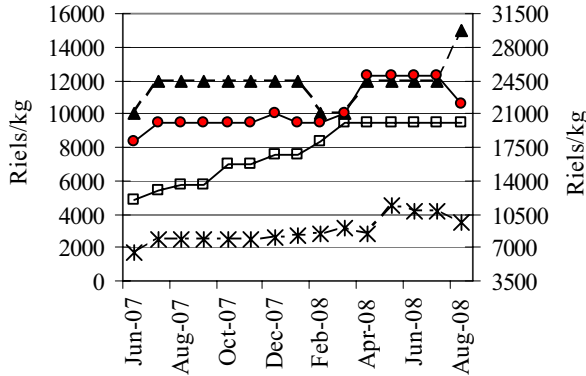


Source: MEF web site

ថ្លៃទំនិញអាហារបណ្តាខេត្តស្រុះស្រួលសកម្មជា

Provincial Food Prices

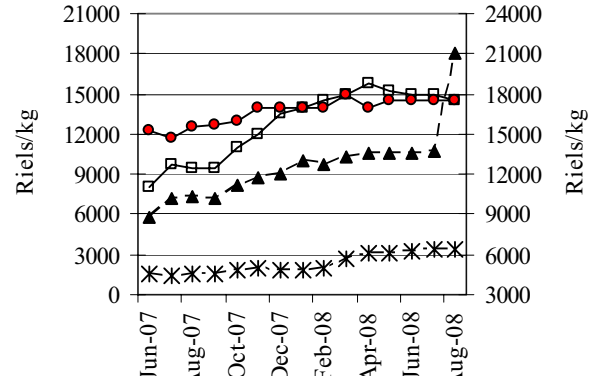
Cambodia: Food Prices in Siem Reap Province
June 2007–August 2008



-- * -- Rice-Phka Khnhei (left) -- ▲ -- Fresh fish (left)
— □ — 1st quality pork (right) — ● — 1st quality beef (right)

Source: CDRI

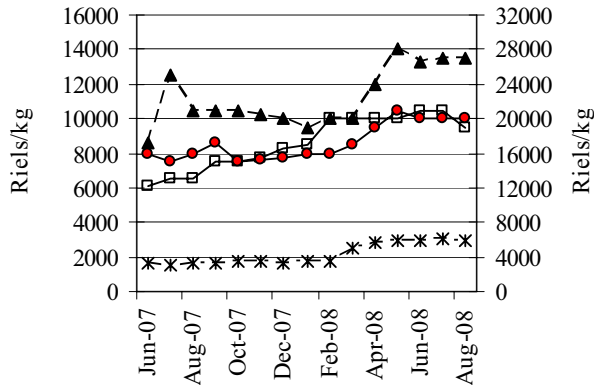
Cambodia: Food Prices in Battambang Province
June 2007–August 2008



-- * -- Rice-Phka Khnhei (left) -- ▲ -- Fresh fish (left)
— □ — 1st quality pork (right) — ● — 1st quality beef (right)

Source: CDRI

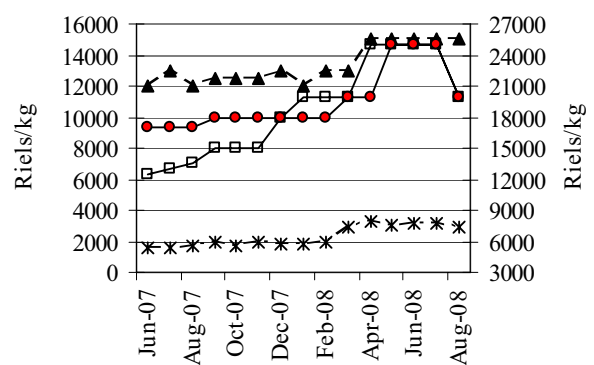
Cambodia: Food Prices in Kg. Cham Province
June 2007–August 2008



-- * -- Rice-Phka Khnhei (left) -- ▲ -- Fresh fish (left)
— □ — 1st quality pork (right) — ● — 1st quality beef (right)

Source: CDRI

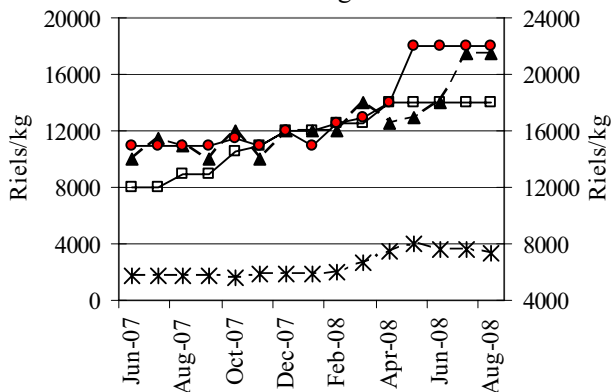
Cambodia: Food Prices in Kampot Province
June 2007–August 2008



-- * -- Rice-Phka Khnhei (left) -- ▲ -- Fresh fish (left)
— □ — 1st quality pork (right) — ● — 1st quality beef (right)

Source: CDRI

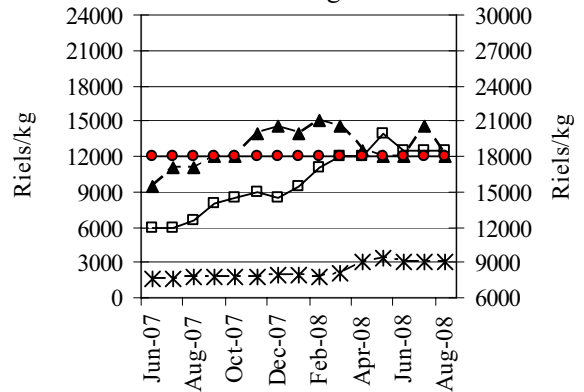
Cambodia: Food Prices in Svay Rieng Province
June 2007–August 2008



-- * -- Rice-Phka Khnhei (left) -- ▲ -- Fresh fish (left)
— □ — 1st quality pork (right) — ● — 1st quality beef (right)

Source: CDRI

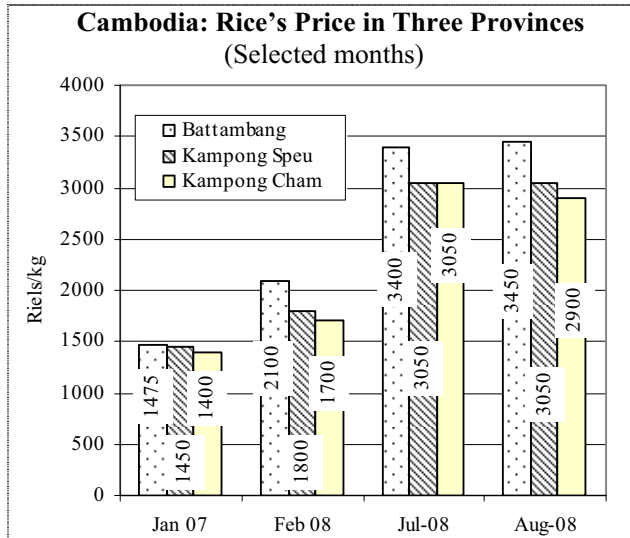
Cambodia: Food Prices in Kg. Speu Province
June 2007–August 2008



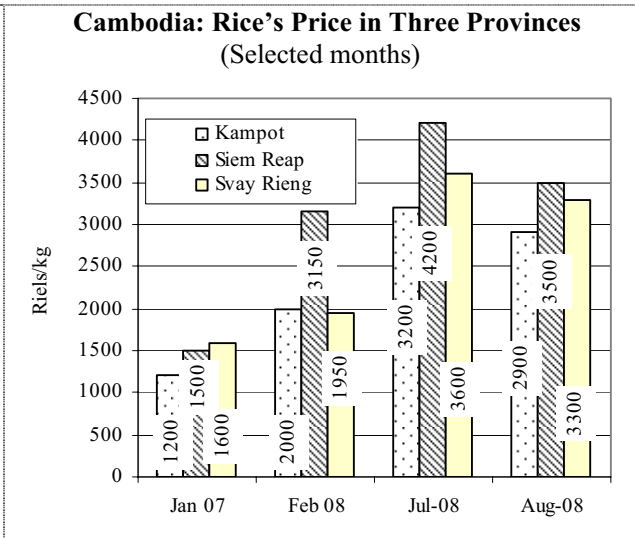
-- * -- Rice-Phka Khnhei (left) -- ▲ -- Fresh fish (left)
— □ — 1st quality pork (right) — ● — 1st quality beef (right)

Source: CDRI

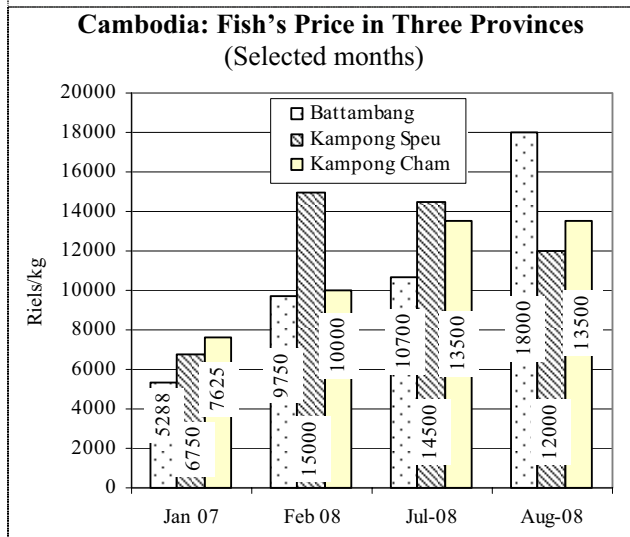
ផ្លូវដំណើរការតម្លៃទំនិញសម្រាប់ផលិតផល: តាមមូលដ្ឋានភូមិសាស្ត្រ
Provincial Goods Prices in Cambodia by Products



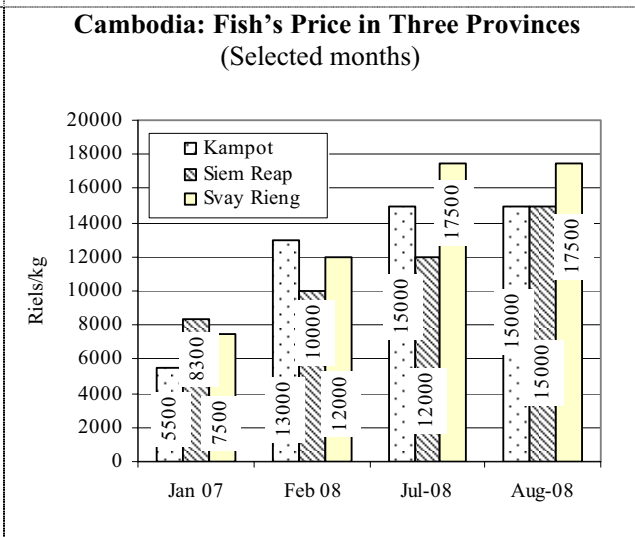
Source: CDRI



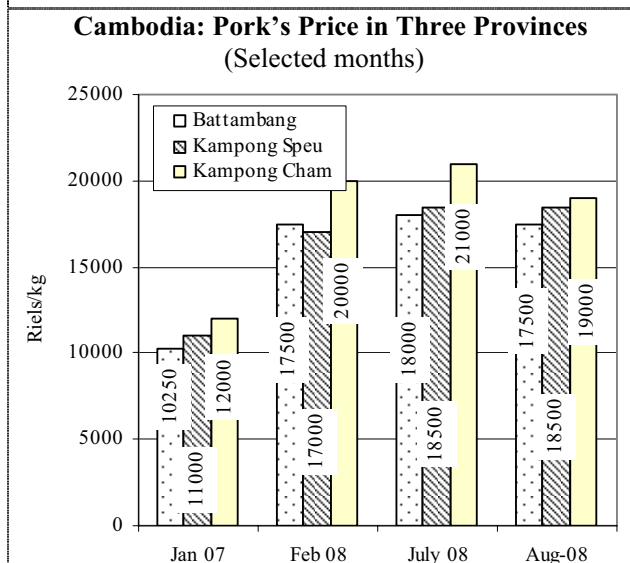
Source: CDRI



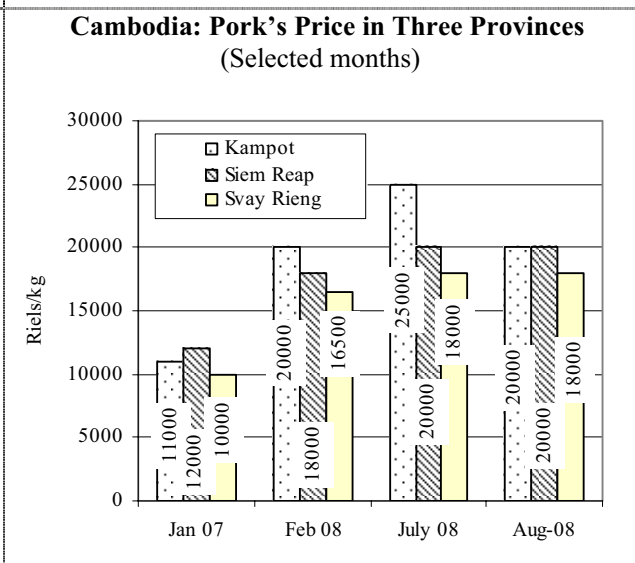
Source: CDRI



Source: CDRI

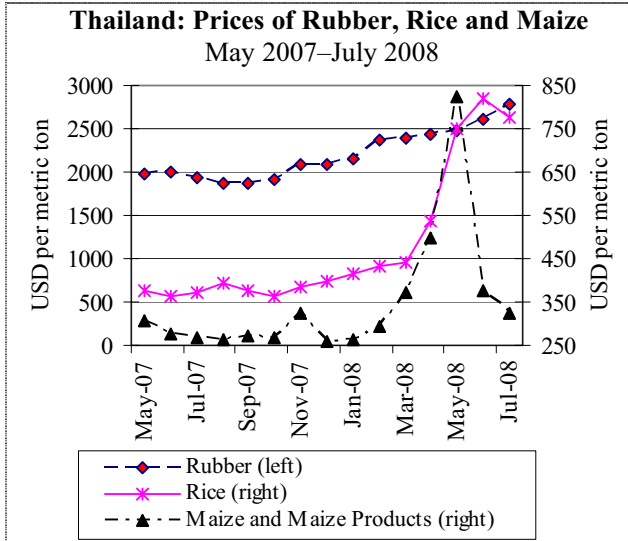


Source: CDRI

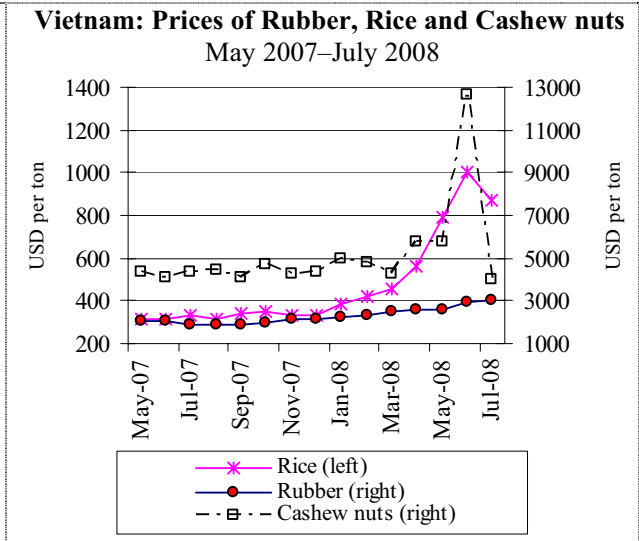


Source: CDRI

តម្លៃទំនិញ ការនាំចេញ និង ចំនួនទេសចរអន្តរជាតិទៅក្នុងប្រទេសជាដៃគូរបស់កម្ពុជា
Goods Prices, Exports and International Tourist Arrivals to Partners of Cambodia



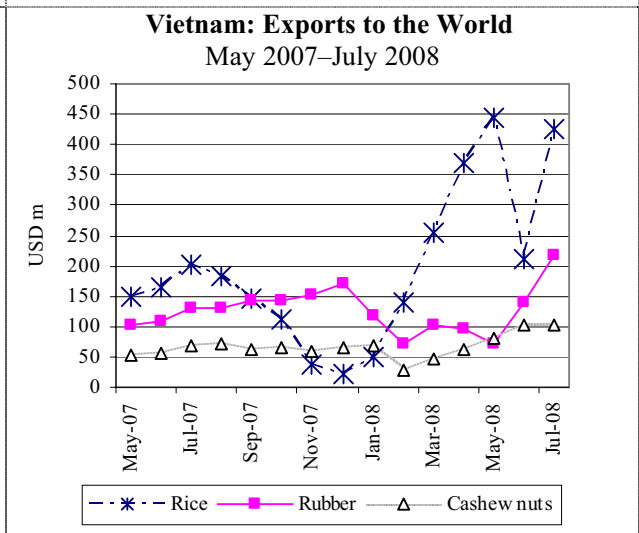
Source: Bank of Thailand, *Foreign Trade and Balance of Payments*



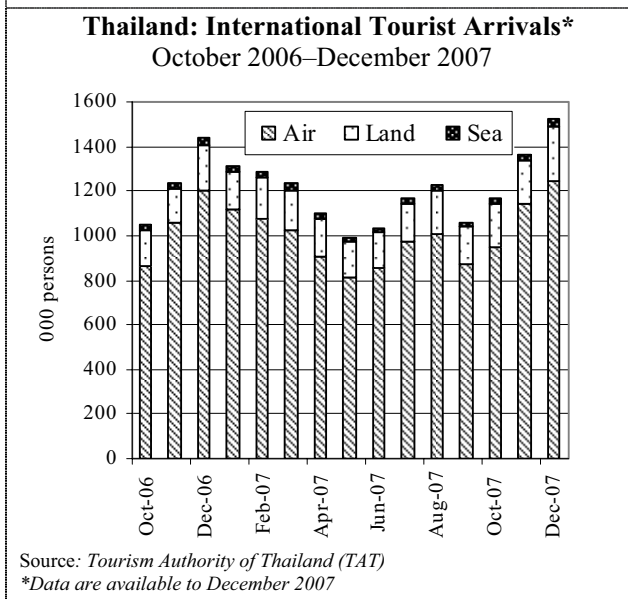
Source: General Statistics Office of Vietnam



Source: Customs Department of Thailand



Source: General Statistics Office of Vietnam

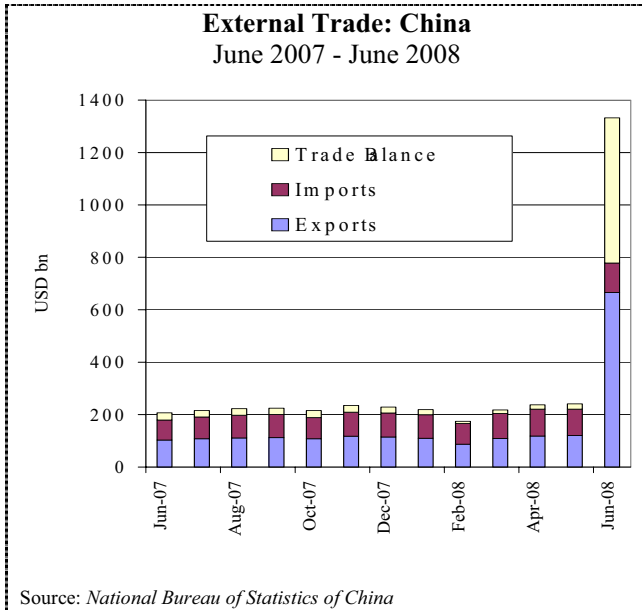


Source: Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT)
 *Data are available to December 2007

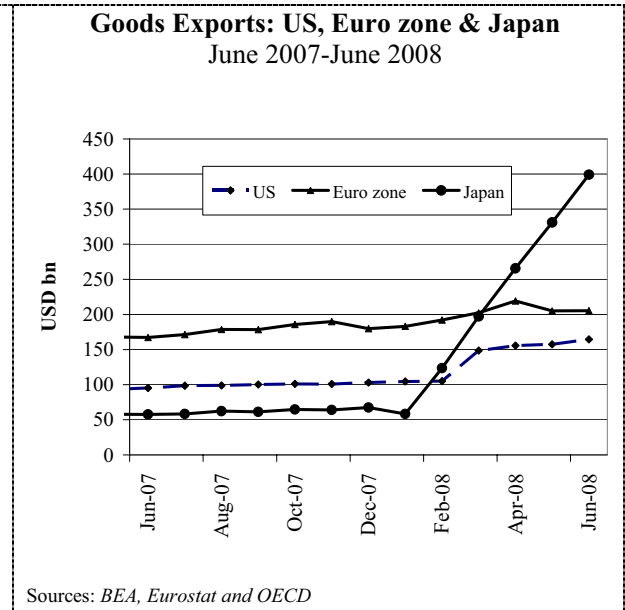


Source: General Statistics Office of Vietnam

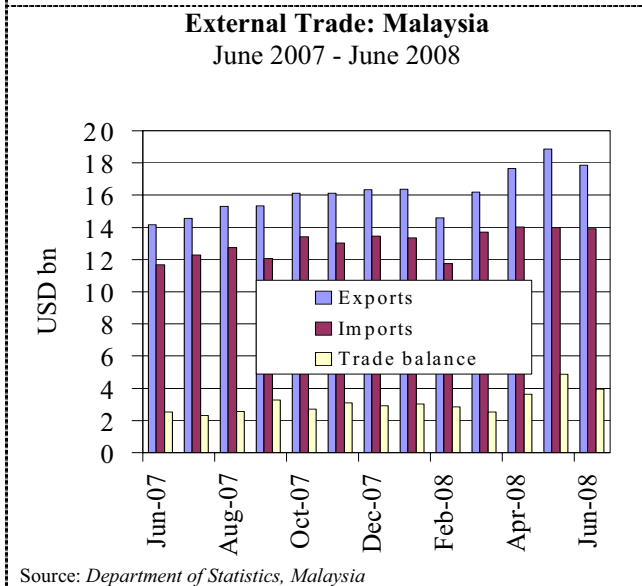
សកម្មភាពសេដ្ឋកិច្ច និង ស្ថានភាពអត្រាអន្តរជាតិជម្រើសដៃគូសហប្រតិបត្តិការ
Economic Activity and Inflation Rates of Selected Economic Partners of Cambodia



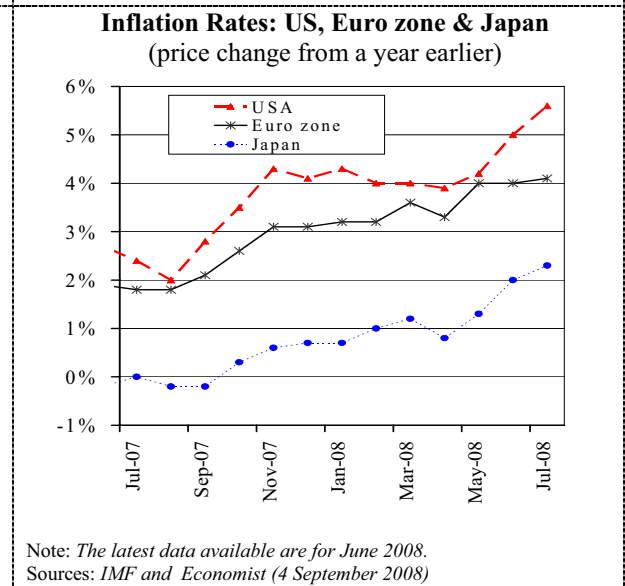
Source: National Bureau of Statistics of China



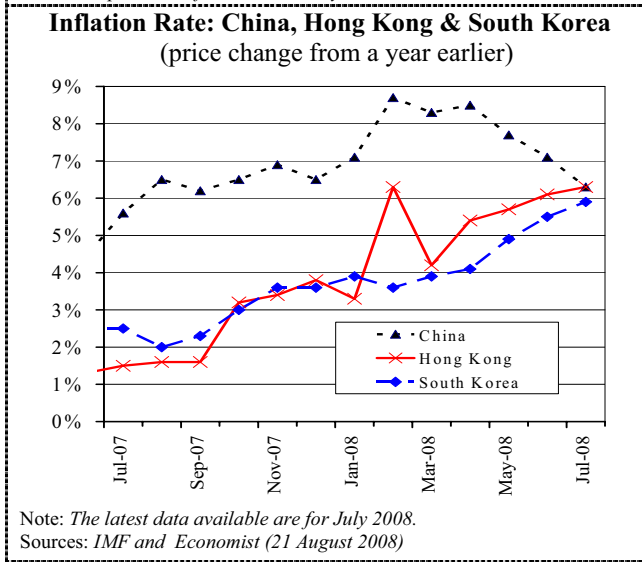
Sources: BEA, Eurostat and OECD



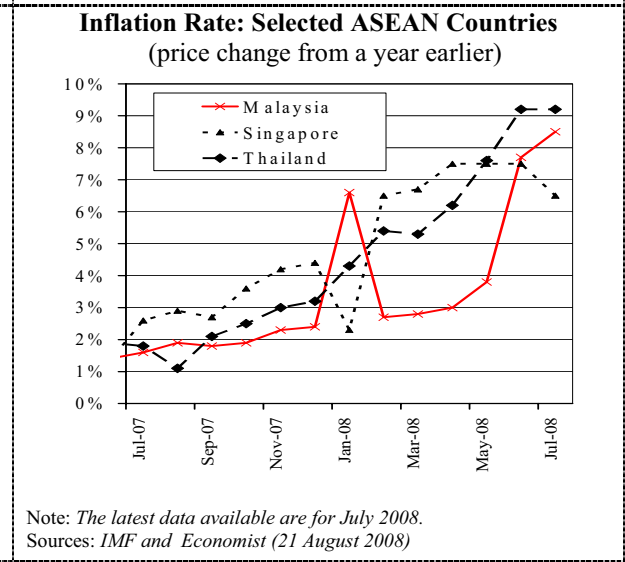
Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia



Note: The latest data available are for June 2008.
 Sources: IMF and Economist (4 September 2008)

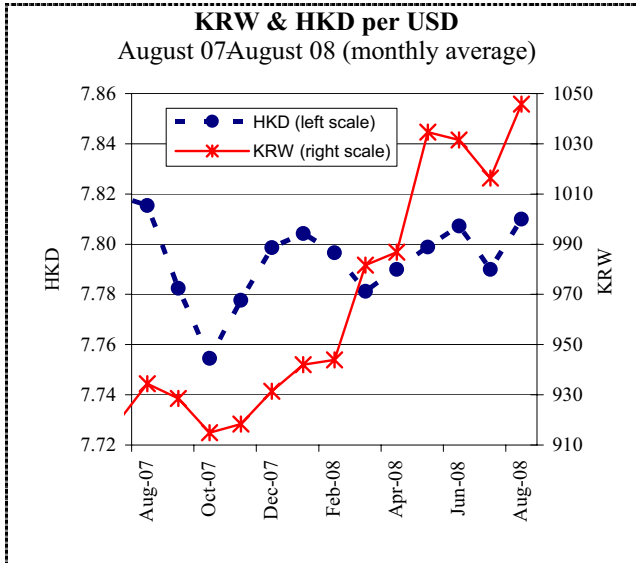


Note: The latest data available are for July 2008.
 Sources: IMF and Economist (21 August 2008)

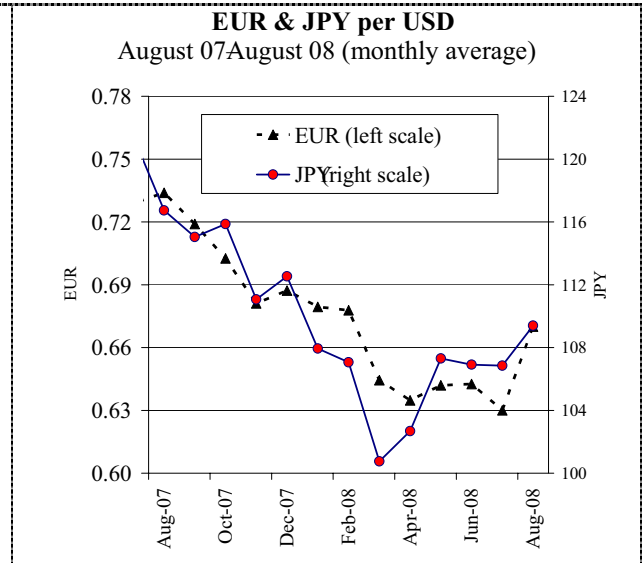


Note: The latest data available are for July 2008.
 Sources: IMF and Economist (21 August 2008)

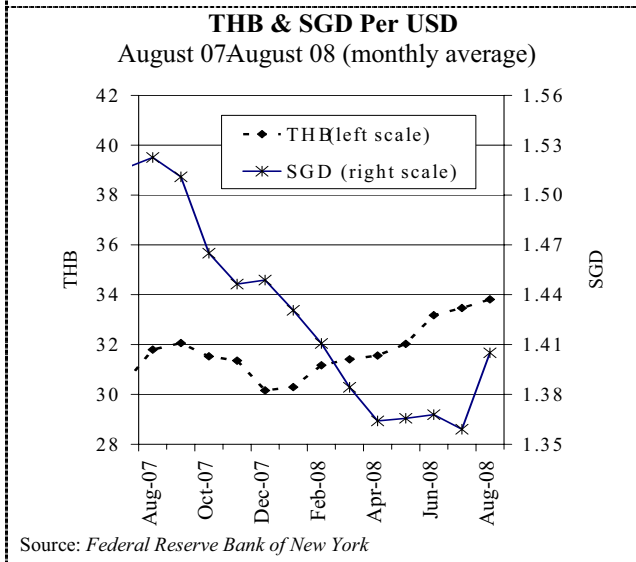
អត្រាប្តូរប្រាក់ និង គ្រួសារសាងសង់លើទំនិញលើទីផ្សារអន្តរជាតិ
Exchange Rates and Commodity Prices in World Markets



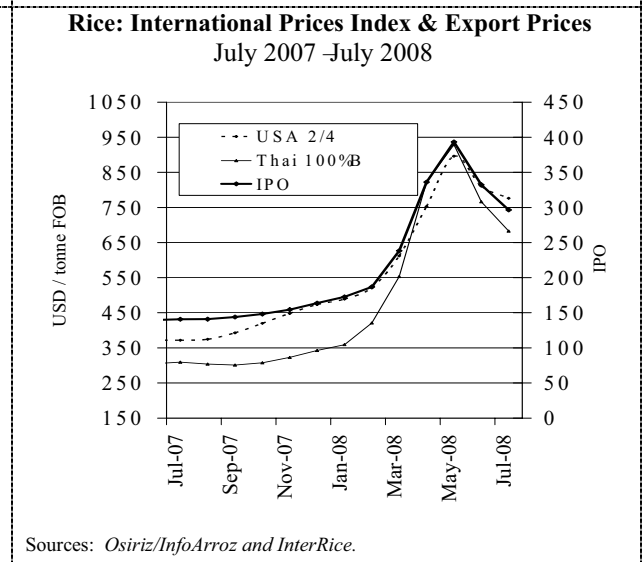
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York



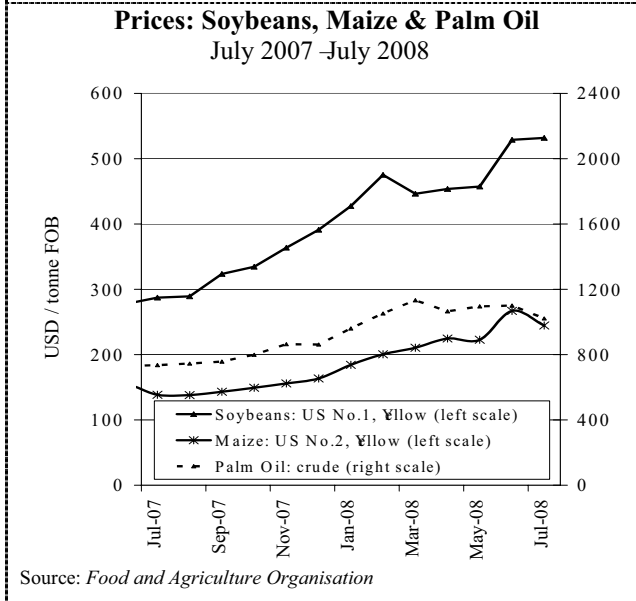
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York



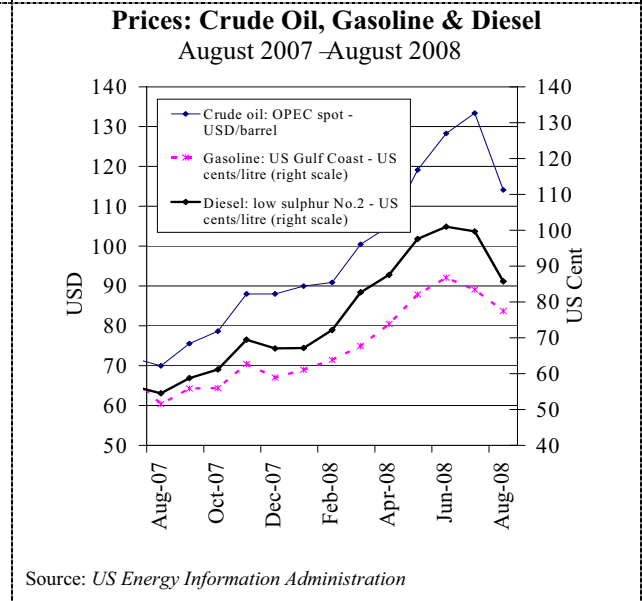
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York



Sources: Osiriz/InfoArroz and InterRice.



Source: Food and Agriculture Organisation



Source: US Energy Information Administration

ព័ត៌មានសេដ្ឋកិច្ច
Economic News

ព័ត៌មានសេដ្ឋកិច្ចសំខាន់ៗ:

ក្រុមហ៊ុន រ៉ូយ៉ាល់ ប្រមូលទុន ២ពាន់លានដុល្លារដើម្បីអភិវឌ្ឍន៍កោះ:

ក្រុមហ៊ុន រ៉ូយ៉ាល់ ជាក្រុមហ៊ុនពហុធនធានមួយនៅកម្ពុជាដែលមានសាខាចំរុះតាំងពីធនាគាររហូតដល់ក្រុមហ៊ុនទូរស័ព្ទចល័ត ។ ក្រុមហ៊ុននេះកំពុងប្រមូលទុន ២ពាន់លានដុល្លារ ពីវិនិយោគិនឯកជនមួយចំនួន ព្រមទាំងក្រុមហ៊ុន Millennium Group ដែលមានមូលដ្ឋាននៅប្រទេសកម្ពុជាដើម្បីអភិវឌ្ឍន៍ កោះរុងនៅក្រុងព្រះសីហនុ ដែលជាកំពង់ផែទឹកជ្រៅតែមួយគត់នៅកម្ពុជា។ ចលនាប្រមូលទុននេះ កើតមានដោយសារវិនិយោគិនមានផែនការតំលៃរាប់ពាន់លានដុល្លារ ដើម្បីអភិវឌ្ឍន៍ឆ្នេរសមុទ្រកម្ពុជាឱ្យក្លាយជា គោលដៅដំណើរលំហែកំសាន្តឈានមុខមួយនៅអាស៊ី ។ វិនិយោគបែបនេះបានរៀបចំឡើង ដើម្បីជួយធ្វើចំរុះកម្មវិស័យទេសចរណ៍កម្ពុជាដែលកំពុងពឹងផ្អែកយ៉ាងខ្លាំងលើប្រាសាទអង្គរវត្ត និងសំណង់ប្រវត្តិសាស្ត្រផ្សេងទៀតនៅក្នុងប្រទេស ។ MPDI ដែលជាសាខាមួយរបស់សហគ្រាសត្រកូលសេង (ក្រុមហ៊ុនកាន់កាប់ដោយគ្រួសារ) និងជាក្រុមហ៊ុនសំណង់សំខាន់ៗ កំពុងដំណើរការគំរោងមានតំលៃ ២ពាន់លានដុល្លារ មួយទៀតដោយរួមដៃជាមួយវិនិយោគិនមិនពេញលេញឈ្មោះមកពីអាមេរិក ជប៉ុន និងមជ្ឈិមបូព៌ា ។ គំរោងនេះនឹងពង្រីកមួយជាចំនួនទំហំទីក្រុងកែប ដែលជាកន្លែងលំហែកំសាន្តតាំងពីសម័យអាណានិគមបារាំង និងដែលព្យាបាលផ្លូវចិត្តមានការយកចិត្តទុកដាក់ច្រើន ។ គំរោងរបស់សហគ្រាសត្រកូលសេងរួមមាន ការចាក់ដីតាមបណ្តោយឆ្នេរសមុទ្រ ៦គ.ម និងការសាងសង់អគារខ្ពស់ៗ និងផ្ទះប្រណិតៗ ដែលអាចទទួលអោយស្នាក់នៅបានដល់ទៅ ១០.០០០គ្រួសារ ។ លោកស្រី សេង វ៉ាន់ថា ប្រធានហិរញ្ញវត្ថុនៃសហគ្រាសត្រកូលសេង បានបញ្ជាក់ថា ការសាងសង់នៅទីក្រុងកែបប្រហែលចាប់ផ្តើមនៅឆ្នាំក្រោយ ដោយប្រើហិរញ្ញប្បទានមួយវគ្គដំបូងចំនួន ២៥០លានដុល្លារ ដែលមានការចូលហ៊ុនពីសហគ្រាសល្បីឈ្មោះនៅជប៉ុន អាមេរិក និងមជ្ឈិមបូព៌ា និងក្រុមហ៊ុនវិនិយោគឯកជនមួយចំនួនទៀត។ លោកស្រី បានលើកទៀតថា គំរោងនេះអាចនឹងក្លាយជាសហគ្រាសកម្ពុជាទី១ ដែលមានសន្លឹកហ៊ុនដាក់លក់ក្នុងផ្សារហ៊ុននៅក្រៅប្រទេស គឺអាចនៅផ្សារហ៊ុនហុងកុង រឺ កូរ៉េខាងត្បូង ។ ចំពោះអតិថិជនវិញ ក្រុមអ្នកអភិវឌ្ឍន៍ ផ្តោតជាពិសេសលើអ្នកចូលនិវត្តន៍ ដែលមានធនធានច្រើនមកពីប្រទេសសិង្ហបុរី កូរ៉េខាងត្បូង និង ជប៉ុន ។ ប៉ុន្តែក៏មានផ្ទះមួយចំនួន ដែលត្រូវមនុស្សរាប់ប្រជាជនកម្ពុជាដែរ ។

(ប្រភព: Financial Times, 17 August)

Economic News Highlights:

Royal to raise USD2 bn to develop island: Royal Group, a Cambodian conglomerate whose interests range from banking to mobile telephony, is raising USD2 bn from private investors, together with the Hong Kong-based Millennium Group, to develop Koh Rong, an island off Sihanoukville, Cambodia's only deep-water port. The move comes as property developers are planning billion-dollar investments to transform Cambodia's coastline into one of Asia's leading holiday destinations. Such investments are designed to help diversify a Cambodian tourism industry that is heavily reliant on Angkor Wat and the country's other inland historic treasures. MPDI, a subsidiary of Seng Enterprise, a family-owned group that is one of Cambodia's leading construction companies, is working on another USD2 bn project with unnamed US, Japanese and Middle Eastern investors. The project will triple the size of Kep, a neglected former French colonial resort. Seng's plan involves reclaiming land along a 6 km stretch of coastline and building luxury towers and bungalows that will be able to house about 10,000 families. Vantha Seng, chief financial officer of Seng Enterprise, said construction in Kep was likely to start next year, thanks to a first round of financing of about USD250 m, with contributions from "well-known" Japanese, US and Middle Eastern funds and private equity firms. She said the project could become Cambodia's first offshore listing, on either the Hong Kong or South Korean stock exchange. As to the targeted clientele, the developers are betting particularly on wealthy pensioners from Singapore, South Korea and Japan. Some of the housing will also be reserved for Cambodians. (Source: Financial Times, 17 August)

Links to other economic news:

1. "ASEAN needs to be strong and integrated to woo investors" (<http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v5/newsworld.php?id=353975>)
2. "Rising Chinese salaries push Adidas to look elsewhere: report" (<http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5jKGxlQWF7mTO3L8twyAgjrUe8Lw>)
3. "Thailand economic growth probably slowed, easing rate pressure" (<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=a756OhTK3vTA&refer=home>)
4. "Vietnam pours \$1.28 billion into investment in Laos" (<http://asia.news.yahoo.com/080813/4/3nksj.html>)