

## **The 4<sup>th</sup> Education Policy Forum** **“Towards Future-Ready Schools: Building Resilience and Ensuring Quality”**

**Venue: NIE Meeting Hall**

**Date: 20-21 March, 2024**

### **Concept Note**

#### **I. Introduction**

The Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport (MoEYS), the Cambodian Development Resource Institute (CDRI), and Future Forum (FF) are collaboratively organizing the annual Education Policy Forum. The theme of this year's forum is "Towards Future-Ready Schools: Building Resilience and Ensuring Quality." This gathering serves as a pivotal platform for stakeholders to deliberate on crucial issues shaping the education landscape in Cambodia. Given the complexities of the 21st century, it is imperative to adapt our educational strategies to equip students with the requisite skills and competencies for success in an ever-evolving global landscape.

In late 2023, the MoEYS introduced a new strategy aimed at transforming schools into model schools. This initiative seeks to enhance the quality of teaching and learning by creating examples that serve as benchmarks for other schools to emulate. Central to this strategy is the five standards of model schools, which include i) Student learning results, ii) Teaching and learning, iii) Community engagement, iv) School operation and administration, and v) School accountability.

Furthermore, MoEYS has put great efforts into the transformation of the education system through digital education as a means to enhance student learning outcomes and school management. Recognizing the transformative potential of technology in education, the government has made substantial investments in infrastructure, teacher training, and digital resources. Notable among these initiatives is the School Information System (SIS). By harnessing the power of digital tools and platforms, MoEYS aims to cultivate dynamic and engaging learning environments that cater to the diverse needs of learners.

Additionally, MoEYS has underscored the significance of effective school management and community participation in advancing educational excellence and school accountability. This has been underscored through the introduction of the School Management Committee (SMC), aimed at bolstering community participation and enhancing school decision-making. The government also endeavours to empower school leaders and stakeholders to assume active roles in school governance and teaching and learning processes. By fostering collaboration between schools and communities, MoEYS aims to foster environments conducive to student learning and well-being.

The forum will convene a diverse array of stakeholders and partners from across Cambodia, including policymakers, practitioners, implementers, academia, representatives from development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector, teachers, and students. Discussions during the forum will focus on key priority areas aimed at enhancing learning and teaching in Cambodia. These priority areas include but are not limited to, model school reform,

integration of educational technology (edtech) in teaching and learning, effective school management, continuous professional development for teachers and school directors, and public-community partnership.

**The objectives of this forum are as follows:**

- To review the progress and challenges in school reforms, community engagement, and teacher professional development that aim at enhancing student’s learning outcomes.
- To explore innovations in education using technology that can help address existing challenges, examine how technology can enhance the resilience of the education system, and identify best practices and successful case studies of technology integration in education.
- Facilitate collaboration and partnership between the government and relevant stakeholders in education sector research and identify areas of mutual interest and potential research themes for future collaboration that contribute to evidence-based policymaking and enhance the quality of education research in Cambodia.

**III. Tentative Agenda**

**Day 1: 20 March, 2024**

Time	Activities
08:00-08:30	Registration
08:30-09:00	<b>Opening Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National anthem</li> <li>• Purpose of “The 4th Education Policy Forum” by <b>Prof. Bo Chankoulika</b>, Director of Policy Department, MoEYS</li> <li>• Welcome remark by <b>Dr. Eng Netra</b>, Executive Director, CDRI</li> <li>• Remark by <b>Mr. Justin Whyatt</b>, Australian Ambassador to Cambodia</li> </ul>
09:00-9:45	Opening Remark by <b>H.E Dr. Hang Chuon Naron</b> , Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of MoEYS
09:45-10:00	Coffee Break
10:00-10:45	Keynote presentation by <b>Dr. Song Sopheap</b> , Deputy Executive Director, CDRI
10:45-11:30	Keynote presentation by <b>Dr. David Ng Foo Seong</b> , Associate Dean, NIE Singapore
11:30-13:30	Lunch Break
13:30-15:00	<b>Panel Discussion 1</b> <i>Good school leadership and school governance for improved learning outcomes</i>  Moderator: <b>Mr. Ul Run</b> , Senior National Adviser, KAPE Speakers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Hul Siengheng</b>, Undersecretary of State, MISTI</li> <li>2. <b>Mr. Seurng Vann</b>, Principal of Hun Sen Kampong Cham High School</li> <li>3. <b>Mr. Seung Ratha</b>, Principal of Deam Rus High School</li> <li>4. <b>Mr Phat Houch</b> Representative from BELTEI High School</li> </ol>

Time	Activities
	5. <b>Mr Dominic Sharpe</b> Representative from Liger Academy
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break
15:15-17:00	<p><b>Panel Discussion 2</b> <i>Continuous Professional Development through Mentoring and Coaching</i></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Dr. Khan Bophan</b>, National Technical Advisor, UNESCO</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Chhouk Chanchhaya</b>, Deputy Director, Teacher Training Department, MoEYS</li> <li>2. <b>Dr. Chea Sathya</b>, Research Fellow, CDRI</li> <li>3. <b>Mr Phing Pov</b>, Management Deputy, See Beyond Border</li> <li>4. <b>Mr Keo Mono</b>, Education Advisor, VVOB</li> <li>5. <b>Ms. Tuok Nara</b>, Teacher of Phrea Sihanuk High School</li> </ol>

## Day 2: 21 March, 2024

Time	Activities
07:30-08:00	Registration
08:00-09:45	<p><b>Panel Discussion 3</b> <i>Does Technology Bridge Gaps or Widen Disparities? How to Better Use Technology for Improve Learning</i></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Dr. Chhinh Sitha</b>, Independent Researcher</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Siev Sokly</b>, Deputy Director General, MISTI</li> <li>2. <b>Dr. Chea Phal</b>, Fellow Researcher, CDRI</li> <li>3. <b>Mr. Phel Phearoun</b>, Deputy Director, National Committee for Lifelong Learning</li> <li>4. <b>Ms. Chem Srey Oeun</b>, Representative from Smart</li> </ol>
09:45-10:00	Coffee Break
10:00-11:30	<p><b>Panel Discussion 4</b> <i>Public-community partnership best practices</i></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Representative from Future Forum</b></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Kann Puthy</b>, Deputy Director, Department of Primary Education, MoEYS</li> <li>2. <b>Mr. Keo Sarath</b>, Advisor to GEIP Project, MoEYS</li> <li>3. <b>Mr. Ly Yany</b>, Principal of Sam Pan Lower Secondary School</li> <li>4. <b>Ms. Chen Khena</b>, Chair of School Management Committee, Ta Nuong Primary School</li> </ol>
11:30-13:30	Lunch Break
13:30-15:30	<p><b>Setting Policy Research Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint presentation on potential research themes</li> <li>• Discussion for future collaboration</li> </ul>
15:30-15:45	Coffee Break

Time	Activities
15:45-17:00	<b>Closing Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrap-up by <b>Prof. Bo Chankoulika</b>, Director of Policy Department, MoEYS</li> <li>• Closing remark by leadership of MoEYS</li> </ul>

#### IV. Key Participants and Speakers

##### Government

- Ministry of Education Youth and Sport (MoEYS)
- Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI)
- Ministry of Post and Telecommunication (MoPTC)
- Ministry of Economic and Finance (MEF)
- Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MLVT)
- And other relevant government agencies

##### Development Partners

- Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI)
- Future Forum (FF)
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- The Asia Foundation (TAF)
- UNICEF
- UNESCO
- JICA
- World Bank
- NEP Cambodia
- KOICA
- EU
- World Education
- USAID
- Open Institute
- Teach for Cambodia

##### Private Sector

- Cambodia Higher Education Association (CHEA)
- Cambodia Women Entrepreneur Association (CWEA)
- Cambodian Federation of Employers and Business Association (CAMFEBA)
- Young Entrepreneur Association of Cambodia (YEAC)
- Federation of Education Services in Cambodia (FESC)
- EZECOM
- SMART
- Metfone
- Cellcard
- Steaming Cambodia

## **Educational Institutions**

- Royal University of Phnom Penh
- National Institute of Education (NIE)
- Phnom Penh Teacher Education College (PTEC)
- National Institute of Special Education
- Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)
- Cambodia Academy of Digital Technology (CADT)
- Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)
- National University of Management (UME)
- University of Health Sciences (UHS)
- National Institute of Public Health (NIPH)
- Upper Secondary Schools