The Asia Foundation has conducted research on a range of topics to support policy development in Cambodia.

To make a positive contribution to Cambodia’s knowledge sector, The Asia Foundation with support from the Australian Government is implementing an initiative called Ponlok Chomnes.

**PONLOK CHOMNES**

A four-year initiative (2019 - 2023) strengthening the capacity of knowledge sector institutions to undertake quality research that informs public policy analysis and dialogue in Cambodia.

**PROGRAM COMPONENTS**

- Conduct diagnostic assessments of Cambodia’s knowledge sector landscape
- Support five local research institutions by providing technical and institutional capacity development
- Provide up to ten small grants to organizations to conduct research focused on priority policy areas at local and/or national level, with a focus on gender equality and social inclusion
- Foster policy dialogue by encouraging partners to host regular policy discussions and forums
- Create opportunities for greater and more inclusive networking across knowledge sector actors

**KNOWLEDGE SECTOR**

- **The knowledge sector** is the institutional landscape of government, private sector, and civil society organisations that provide research and analysis to support the development of public policy.

- The knowledge sector includes:
  - Think Tanks
  - Universities
  - Specialized Agencies
  - Private Research Consultants
  - Non-Governmental Organizations

"The Asia Foundation has worked for peace and prosperity with the people of Cambodia since 1955."  www.asiafoundation.org
HOW DOES PONLOK CHOMNES WORK?

- It is not sector-specific: local research institutions are empowered to determine research topics that align with Cambodia’s development priorities.
- It supports home-grown talent: the technical and organizational capacity development available through the program aims to help Cambodian research organizations to build on their existing strengths.
- It is a learning program: the program is iteratively refining its approach using evidence gathered during implementation.
- It is a convening mechanism: the program connects partners in Cambodia, other ASEAN countries and Australia to build research networks and promote collaboration.

ENGAGE WITH US

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