

PONLOK CHOMNES

Data & Dialogue for Development in Cambodia

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



The Asia Foundation

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

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.



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