

## National Open Data Conference 2024

### Open Government Data for Inclusive Development

Date: March 26-27, 2024

Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Venue: CADT Innovation Center, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

#### Background:

According to the [Cambodia Digital Economy and Society Policy Framework 2021–2035](#), data plays an increasingly important role in Cambodian public governance for several reasons. Commitment to the reforms (and continued economic growth) is expected to make Cambodia a middle-income nation by 2030 and a high-income country by 2050.

The process of digital government administration begins with the formulation and adoption of necessary policies and the creation and updating of relevant legislative frameworks and regulations by the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC). It continues with the development of digital government standards and architecture through principles, norms, models, technological evolution, and national and international best practices. These are the foundations for establishing digital government effectively, efficiently, and securely to support the construction and growth of a robust and dynamic digital economy and society.

The Open Data Policy is one of several that the government is working on and gathering input for. In accordance with existing laws and regulations, the new Open Data Policy would define principles, standards, licenses, and procedures for opening, storing, and sharing government data with public institutions, the business sector, and individuals. The ultimate objective of open data is to increase transparency, fairness, and accountability, as well as the quality of services, hence increasing public trust in government and promoting research and innovation with sustainability and inclusion.<sup>1</sup> Open data will permit non-state actors to participate, offer comments, and hold the government responsible, in addition to aiding in the promotion of openness inside the government. However, non-state actors in Cambodia have only achieved sluggish advancements<sup>2</sup> in terms of data access and data usage for policy objectives.<sup>3</sup>

To accomplish our shared goal of bridging the gap between government and non-state actors on open data dialogue, the **Open Development Cambodia Organization (ODC)**, in partnership with **The Asia Foundation (TAF)** will host a two-day National Open Data Conference in Cambodia from March 26 to 27. In addition to promoting national and regional collaboration and open data efforts, we expect that the open and inclusive involvement in this event will increase public knowledge of open data and awareness of the challenges facing Cambodia's open data adoption. The outputs from the group discussion during this two-day event will be an additional complement to the government's efforts to develop a meaningful and effective open data policy.

This National Open Data Conference 2024 is funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through The Asia Foundation's Ponlok Chomnes: Data and Dialogue for Development in Cambodia Program.

<sup>1</sup> Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC), "[Cambodian Digital Government Policy 2022-2035](#)," January 28, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Open Development Cambodia, [Open Data Survey](#), May 31, 2020.

<sup>3</sup> The Asian Foundation's Ponlok Chomnes Program, "[Open Data Intermediaries for Non-State Actors in Cambodia](#)," May 29, 2023.

## Purposes of the National Open Data Conference:

- 1) To increase public awareness of the progress and obstacles to open data adoption in Cambodia and the region,
- 2) To gather inputs and suggestions to contribute to the draft open data policy and data governance legislation,
- 3) To encourage data transparency and accountability initiatives in diverse sectors,
- 4) To strengthen the open data network in Cambodia and the region.

## Participants

The National Open Data Conference will gather at least 75 participants from a variety of backgrounds, including international and local NGOs, the private sector, researchers and policymakers, indigenous youth groups, people with disabilities, women, and LGBTQI+.

## Organizers:

**Open Development Cambodia Organization (ODC)** is the leading open data platform in Cambodia, which makes up-to-date and reliable data and information on socioeconomic and environmental issues publicly available as a “one-stop shop”. ODC promotes the use of accurate data for evidence-based and transparent decision-making processes towards the sustainable development of the country. For the past ten years, ODC has actively worked to enhance the amount of public data, raise public awareness, and build the capacity of relevant stakeholders. ODC uses its expertise in data and ICT, mapping and GIS, digital security, and research to compile, analyze, and disseminate information in user-friendly and accessible digital formats. Material available on ODC’s online platform includes datasets, information topic pages, interactive maps, news, and legal documents, among others. ODC does not promote any particular perspective, agenda, or bias other than to provide objective information about Cambodia and its development.

**The Asia Foundation** is implementing the Ponlok Chomnes: Data and Dialogue for Development in Cambodia Program between July 2023 and June 2027 with support from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The goal of [Ponlok Chomnes II](#) is that public policy decisions, based on evidence and informed by inclusive dialogue, are operationalised and become the norm in Cambodia.

## Disclaimer:

This event is funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through The Asia Foundation’s Ponlok Chomnes: Data and Dialogue for Development in Cambodia program. The views expressed in this event are the speakers’ alone and are not necessarily the views of the Australian Government, The Asia Foundation, or Open Development Cambodia Organization.



**National Open Data Conference 2024: Open Government Data for Inclusive Development**  
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

**Day 1: March 26, 2024,**

*Both state and non-state actors will use this forum to contribute their perspectives and other key challenges, fostering a productive dialogue on advancing open data initiatives in the country.*

8:00 – 8:30	<b>Registration</b>
8:30 – 8:35	<b>National anthem</b>
8:35 – 8:45	<b>Welcoming Remark</b> <i>Mr. Thy Try, Executive Director, Open Development Cambodia Organization (ODC)</i>
8:45 – 8:55	<b>Keynote Speech</b> <i>Ms. Meloney C. Lindberg, Country Representative, The Asia Foundation</i>
8:55 – 9:05	<b>Remark</b> <i>Mr. Connor Floyd, Second Secretary, the Australian Embassy in Phnom Penh</i>
9:05 – 9:15	<b>Opening Remark</b> <i>Representative of the Ministry Post and Telecommunications (MPTC) or Cambodia Academy of Digital Technology (CADT) [TBC]</i>
9:15 – 9:30	<b>Group photo and coffee break</b>
	<b>Booth display</b>
9:30 – 11:00	<p><b>Session 1: Overview of the Open Data landscape in Cambodia and at the regional</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The regional and national open data landscape and why having open data policy and law to access information is significant</b> (video 10 mins) - <b>Speaker:</b> <a href="#">Open Data Charter</a> (ODC)</li> <li><b>The feasibility study on Open Data Intermediaries for Non-State Actors in Cambodia</b> (20 mins) - <b>Speaker:</b> <i>Dr. Pak Kimchoeun, Policy Advisor, CAPRED</i></li> <li><b>The Open Data in Taiwan and How to Develop a Successful Open Data Policy</b> (Virtually 20 mins) - <b>Speaker:</b> <i>Mr. Dongpo Deng, Project Director for Civic Sense for Open Culture Foundation &amp; Deputy Chairman for Open Data Alliance (ODA)</i></li> <li><b>Open Government Data Policies and Data Portal of Korea</b> (30 mins) - <b>Speaker:</b> <i>Ms. Rawon Jang, Manager at the National Information Society Agency (NIA)/Open Data Portal (data.go.kr)</i></li> </ol> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Thy Try, Executive Director of Open Development Cambodia Organization (ODC)</i></p>
11:05 – 12:05	<p><b>Policy Dialogue: Inclusive Development of Cambodia’s Open Data Policy</b> Exploring Cambodia's Draft Open Data Policy and other relevant legislation, as well as gathering diverse and essential points of view to help shape the inclusion and impact of Cambodia's new Open Data Policy and data governance legislation.</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The Ministry Post and Telecommunications (MPTC) [TBC]</b></li> <li><b>Mr. Mean Vibolratanak, Program Coordinator, Cambodian Disabled People’s Organization (CDPO)</b></li> <li><b>A female representative [TBC]</b></li> </ol> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Veng Seanghai, Managing Editor, Open Development Cambodia Organization (ODC)</i> Q&amp;A (10 mins)</p>
12:15 – 13:30	<b>Solidarity lunch</b>

13:30 – 14:10	<p><b>Session 2: Use of data science for better public service [Topic TBC]</b> Data science holds immense potential for revolutionizing public services. By harnessing data effectively, governments can make informed decisions, optimize resource allocation, and ultimately deliver better services to their citizens.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b> <i>Mr. Heng Soklay</i>, Artificial Intelligence Research Coordinator, and <i>Mr. Thear Sophal</i>, Researcher, Cambodia Academy of Digital Technology (CADT)</p>		
14:10 – 14:15	Q&A		
14:15 – 15:30	<p><b>Session 3: Unlocking the Power of Data: Introduction to Data-driven Storytelling</b> Data-driven storytelling is the art of transforming complex data and analysis into a compelling narrative that resonates with your audience. It's about using data as evidence to support a clear message and inspire action.</p> <p><b>Speaker:</b> <i>Mr. Vong Pisith</i>, Senior Data Research &amp; GIS Officer /Capacity Building Coordinator, Open Development Cambodia Organization (ODC) Q&amp;A (15 mins)</p>		
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break		
15:45 – 17:00	<p><b>Group Discussion 1: Data sharing and building trust amongst data contributors</b> Discuss the challenges that hinder trust and wider data contribution, such as data privacy concerns, transparency, accessibility of community to participate meaningfully, unequal benefits, and societal impact. <b>Facilitators:</b> <i>Mr. Veng Seanghai and Ms. Siv Vatana</i>, Open Development Cambodia Organization (ODC)</p>		
<p><b>Day 2: March 27, 2024</b> <i>To expand and connect the open data network in Cambodia and the region, facilitating collaboration and championing data transparency and accountability in diverse sectors.</i></p>			
8:00 – 8:30	Registration		
8:30 – 9:00	Recap Day One		
<p><b>Breakout Room: Open data showcases in Cambodia and other countries</b> <i>Format: 30 minutes of presentation, 10 minutes of Q&amp;A, and 20 minutes for participants to move around and settle</i></p>			
9:00 – 12:00	<p><b>Theme 1: Open Government Data for Better Public Services</b> (Room: COSMUS Hall)</p>	<p><b>Theme 2: Open Data for Education</b> (3 topics)</p>	<p><b>Theme 3: Open Government Data for Sustainable Development</b> (3 topics)</p>
9:00 – 9:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Open Data in Taiwan</b> (Virtually)</li> </ul> <p><b>Speaker:</b> - <i>Mr. Dongpo Deng</i>, Project Director for Civic Sense for Open Culture Foundation &amp; Deputy Chairman for Open Data Alliance (ODA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Open Development Cambodia: The Learning Platform</b></li> </ul> <p>The speaker will demonstrate and explore different functions and content on the LP platform. The speaker will discuss the key challenges and prospects of the LP platform, and call for data contribution among the CSOs.</p> <p><b>Speaker:</b> - <i>Mr. Sam An Mardy</i>, IT and Website Manager, Open Development Cambodia Organization (ODC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>National Institute of Statistics (NIS): Cambodia Statistics (CAMStat)</b></li> </ul> <p>The discussion on key significant data, and web demo of the CAMStat portal, which is a data reporting platform and dissemination of the national development indicators for monitoring and evaluation of the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP), Cambodian Sustainable Development Goal (CSDG/SDG) and others. The speaker will also focus on the key challenges of implementing a data portal in Cambodia and the future action of the platform.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b> - <i>Mr. BUOY Somethea</i>, Director of the Department of Statistical Information Services, National Institute of Statistics (NIS) - <i>Mr. CHAO Pheav</i>, Director of the Department of Data Management Application Development and Technology, National Institute of Statistics (NIS)</p>
9:40 – 10:00	Coffee break		

10:00 – 11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Ministry of Interior: <a href="#">NCDD Database</a></b></li> </ul> <p>The National Committee for Sub-national Democratic Development (NCDD) is the inter-ministerial mechanism for promoting democratic development through decentralization and deconcentration reforms throughout Cambodia.</p> <p><b>Speaker: [TBC]</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Ministry of Education of Cambodia: <a href="#">Sala Digital</a></b></li> </ul> <p>The discussion on the current state of integration of digital and technology into Cambodia's education system (ex: New Generation School), its challenges, and future aspects. Also, the speaker will demo and explore the function of the Sala Digital Website.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Piseth Kheng,</b></li> <li>- <b>Mr. Sovann Pho,</b></li> <li>- <b>Mr. Sovandy Chomraoen,</b></li> <li>-</li> </ul> <p>Department of Information and Technology (DIT), Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (MoEYS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Open Development Cambodia: <a href="#">Sustainable and Responsible Business in Cambodia</a></b></li> </ul> <p>The session will illustrate a quick overview of sustainable and responsible business principles, and why there should be centralized information on the CSR practices in Cambodia. The speaker will discuss the current CSR landscape in Cambodia, its benefits, challenges, and opportunities.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Ban Chanphalla,</b> Social Development Editor – Researcher, Open Development Cambodia (ODC)</li> </ul>
11:00 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Showcase in Korea: <a href="#">OPEN DATA PORTAL (data.go.kr)</a></b></li> </ul> <p><b>Speaker:</b> <b>Ms. Rawon Jang,</b> Manager at the National Information Society Agency (NIA)/Open Data Portal (data.go.kr)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>National Census Data on Indigenous people [TBC]</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Speaker:</b> Representative of the Indigenous People's CSOs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>The National Council for Sustainable Development: <a href="#">Climate Change Data</a></b></li> </ul> <p><b>Speaker:</b> <b>Mr. SEM Savuth,</b> Vice Chief of Office of the Department of Climate Change, General Directorate of Policy and Strategy (GDPS)</p>
9:00 – 9:40	<b>Hackathon - Expert Talks &amp; Workshops (Speaker Meeting Room)</b> <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Ms. Rawon Jang,</b> Manager at the National Information Society Agency (NIA)/Open Data Portal (data.go.kr)</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Sana Oung Ty,</b> Lead Data Visualist, at Datasr.co [TBC]</li> </ul>		
9:40 – 10:00	Coffee break		
10:00 – 12:00	<b>Hackathon - Rehearsal session</b> <b>Mr. Oum Vantharith,</b> Open Data Advocate and Hackathon Organizer		
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch Break		
13:30 – 14:30	<b>Session 4: Inclusive Social Development and Protection for All</b> The speaker will address the Impact of Open Data on Cambodia's SDGs and briefing about UNDP's global and national initiatives to ensure a sustainable and inclusive development policy. <b>Speaker: Mr. Shakeel AHMAD,</b> Deputy Resident Representative of the UNDP Cambodia		
<b>Plenary: National Open Data Hackathon (Main Hall)</b>			
14:30 – 16:00	<b>Hackathon Pitch – Final Presentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Teams present their solutions to a panel of judges consisting of experts on data and visual storytelling, gender, and inclusive development.</li> <li>❖ Judges ask questions.</li> </ul>		
16:00 – 16:10	Coffee break		
16:10 – 16:40	<b>Announcement of the Hackathon Winners and Awarding</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Judges provide feedback to each team</li> <li>- The three best project initiative teams will be selected for the awarding for ongoing exploration of their project ideas to create an impact on society.</li> </ul>		
16:40 – 17:00	<b>Recap and Closing Remark</b> <b>Mr. Thy Try,</b> Executive Director/Editor-in-Chief of Open Development Cambodia Organization (ODC)		

**Note:** Modifications to the agenda are possible.

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