

# NEWSLETTER THIRD QUARTER JULY - SEPTEMBER 2025

## Ponlok Chomnes' Events

On 29–30 July 2025, Ponlok Chomnes hosted the **Strategic Communications Fundamentals Training**, where 60 partners strengthened skills in inclusive messaging, GEDSI-integrated communications practices, digital accessibility, and media engagement. The interactive sessions enabled the participants to reflect, share, and apply practical tools to enhance the impact of their communications work.

Within the same week, from 31 July - 1 August 2025, Ponlok Chomnes also delivered an **Advanced Communications for Impact Training** for its Strategic Partners (CDRI, CKS, CPS, and FF). Through tailored coaching and storytelling exercises, they developed stronger impact stories and refined strategies to communicate research more effectively for policy influence.



On 15 August 2025, Ponlok Chomnes and CDRI co-hosted the **Fourth Semi-Annual Technical Steering Committee (TSC) Meeting**. TSC Members, Strategic Partners, and the GEDSI Consortium reviewed progress in amplifying diverse voices, sharing knowledge, and using evidence for policy. The meeting highlighted program implementation, Policy Engagement Fund collaborations, cross-sectoral initiatives, and Strategic Partners' 2025 plans—strengthening coordination to ensure that research, collaboration, and dialogue continue driving positive policy outcomes.

On 18–19 August 2025, the GEDSI Consortium (WPM, GADC, and CDPO) co-facilitated the **GEDSI in Research Training**. Participants deepened their understanding of gender concepts, disability inclusion, and CEDAW principles, while reflecting on personal perceptions and applying tools such as the Gender Equality Continuum. The training also offered practical approaches to embedding GEDSI dimensions into research processes, promoting more inclusive, gender- and disability-sensitive research and policymaking in Cambodia.



Policy Pulse is an initiative of The Asia Foundation, founded in 2015 and formerly known as the Reform Inventory Initiative. It aims to improve the public's understanding of important policy reforms in Cambodia through high-quality research. Policy Pulse promotes thoughtful and inclusive policy dialogue and analysis in order to establish a resource for evidence-based policy recommendations. It is a platform through which researchers and stakeholders can gather to organize policy forums at the national and provincial levels to disseminate research and facilitate broad policy discussions.

The Policy Pulse Newsletter is a new medium to share updates with the public regarding recent policy developments in Cambodia.

[www.policypulse.org](http://www.policypulse.org)





With support from the Australian Government, on 5 September 2025, **Ponlok Chomnes National Policy Forum 2025** convened over 200 stakeholders to advance inclusive policymaking in Cambodia. The forum underscored progress in integrating research and data into strategies on gender equality, disability, climate adaptation, and social protection, while elevating the voices of women, youth, ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities. It also marked the launch of the Ponlok Chomnes Guidelines to strengthen research quality and inclusive dialogue, and celebrated outstanding innovative efforts through the Inclusive Awards 2025. Together, these outcomes strengthen Cambodia's knowledge-to-policy ecosystem and its move toward more inclusive, evidence-based, and resilient policymaking.

To view more events, please visit: [www.policypulse.org](http://www.policypulse.org)



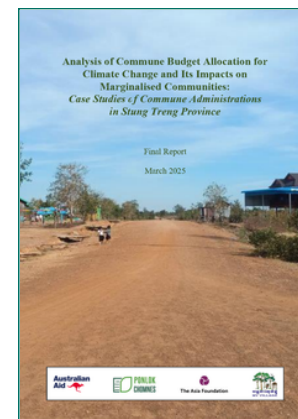
## Publications

Ponlok Chomnes Program is delighted to share the four newly developed research reports by our program partners under Ponlok Chomnes Innovation Fund as follows:

- **[Sustaining Safety Across Borders: The Enduring Impact of COVID-19 on Social Protection for Cambodian Migrants in Thailand and at Home](#)** by Analyzing Development in Cambodia (ADIC)
- **[Analysis of Commune Budget Allocation for Climate Change and its Impacts on Marginalised Communities: Case Studies of Commune Administrations in Stung Treng Province](#)** by My Village Organization (MVi)
- **[Climate Change Adaptation Through a Cash-transfer Program \(CTP\) in Cambodia: Empirical Evidence from Coastal Communities](#)** by National Institute of Social Affairs (NISA), and
- **[Upgrading the Regional Innovation System through the Collaboration between University, Provincial Authority, Relevant Ministerial Departments and Industry in North-West Cambodia](#)** by National University of Battambang (NUBB).

Ponlok Chomnes Innovation Fund supports local initiatives responding to emerging policy issues either at national or subnational level.

*Click on each report's title or cover to read it full.*



## Policy Updates from Ministries

**Ministry of Interior** issued a Notice on the official implementation of standardised toilet plans across commune and district halls throughout the country, dated 01 July 2025. (Source: Ministry of Interior)

**Royal Government of Cambodia** released the Cambodia's Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0), dated 8 August 2025. (Source: Royal Government of Cambodia)

**Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training** released an announcement on the determination of minimum wages for workers in textile, garment, footwear, and travel products and bags sectors for 2026, dated 17 September 2025. (Source: Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training)

To view more policy updates, please visit: [Policy Inventory](#)

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