



NEWSLETTER FIRST QUARTER JANUARY - MARCH 2026

Ponlok Chomnes' Events



On 5 February 2026, with support from the Australian Government (Australian Embassy, Cambodia), The Asia Foundation convened the **Ponlok Chomnes Provincial Policy Forum 2026** in Siem Reap under the theme “Connecting Communities, Evidence, and Policy: Strengthening Subnational Decisions for Cambodia’s Future.” Held under the Ponlok Chomnes II: Data and Dialogue for Development in Cambodia program, the Forum brought together over 150 provincial and national policymakers, community representatives, researchers, civil society, and local institutions.

On the afternoon of 4 February 2026, representatives from the Australian Embassy, Ponlok Chomnes Technical Steering Committee, strategic partners, and the GEDSI Consortium visited **Preah Dak Village in Banteay Srei District** to explore inclusive community development approaches, particularly the use of local data and community consultations in planning and decision-making. The visit showcased sustainable livelihoods, local products, solar energy initiatives, and tourism, and featured a sharing session led by H.E. Khim Finan, offering practical insights into data-driven planning and collaborative approaches.



On 27 March 2026, Ponlok Chomnes and SheThinks Network co-convened a sharing session titled **“From Barriers to Breakthroughs: Women Researchers in Cambodia’s Research and Policy Ecosystem,”** bringing together over 40 participants, including Technical Steering Committee members, researchers, and network members. Held in commemoration of International Women’s Day 2026, the session fostered dialogue on the experiences, challenges, and opportunities faced by women researchers, while strengthening connections between research and policy actors and promoting the integration of Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) in Cambodia’s knowledge ecosystem.



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



Publications

Ponlok Chomnes would like to share the newly developed/ published products (Podcast4Inclusion, List of Publications, and Blog4Insights) as follows:

- [Podcast4Inclusion EP3: Inclusive Research Award](#)
- [Podcast4Inclusion EP4: Inclusive Communications Award](#)
- [Podcast4Inclusion EP5: Inclusive Dialogue Award](#)
- [List of Publications by Ponlok Chomnes II Partners \(2023-2025\)](#)
- [Blog4Insights: Listening That Leads to Change: Stories from the Inclusive Forums](#)



Podcast4Inclusion Episode 3



Podcast4Inclusion Episode 4



Podcast4Inclusion Episode 5



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

Policy Updates from Ministries

Ministry of Interior has issued a compilation of the Law and its amendments on Nationality, together with a Sub-Decree on the implementation of the Law on Nationality, dated 22 January 2026. (Source: Ministry of Interior)

Ministry of Economy and Finance launched a Digital Ecosystem Architecture Framework for Public Investment Project Management, dated 6 January 2026. (Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance)

Royal Government of Cambodia issued a sub-decree establishing the National Research Foundation as a Public Trust, dated 20 January 2026. (Source: Royal Government of Cambodia)



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