

# NEP NEWSLETTER

## November 2006 – Issue # 3

The NGO Education Partnership Newsletter is published quarterly (in English and Khmer) and distributed to all NEP member organizations. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep members up-to-date on changes in MoEYS policy, activities at the Secretariat, and other relevant news about what is happening in the education sector. In addition, the newsletter is a place where NEP members can share news about what your organization is doing, resources you wish to offer for circulation, workshops or training opportunities, and any other information you feel would be of interest to our membership.

### NEP Secretariat News and Updates

#### NGO Report 2006

In the May 2006, NEP sent the NGO Activity Survey form to NGOs working in education (both its members and non-members). The purpose was to collect information about the NGO's intervention and contribution to the MoEYS policies, particularly the ESP and the ESSP.

The data was provided by 48 NEP member organizations and 1 non-NEP member organization. Information gathered in the survey was analyzed and interviews and focus group discussions were also done with NEP members and other key stakeholders.



Participants in ESSP feedback workshop

Now the NGO Report is finished and the findings have been shared with donor groups and presented in the National

Education Congress. The results of the survey were also shared with members in the membership meeting on November 28 at the CCC Meeting Room from 8:00 to 12:00.

Both English and Khmer copies of the report are now available at NEP. You can download from the NEP website: [www.nepcambodia.org](http://www.nepcambodia.org).

#### Global Campaign for Education

NEP Executive Director, Seng Hong, has been elected to chair the leading committee to organize the Global Campaign for Education action week in April 2007. The theme of this year's campaign is Education as a Human Right.

In preparation for this campaign Seng Hong will be attending trainings in Thailand and the

Philippines sponsored by Asian South Pacific Bureau for Adult Education (ASPBAE) on strategies for planning and organizing a national public awareness campaign.

### **Change in Chair of JTWG-ED**

The new Chair of the Joint Technical Working Group on Education is his Excellency Mak Vann, Secretary of State for MoEYS. He is replacing Excellency Pok Than. NEP welcomes Excellency Mak Vann for his new role and thanks Excellency Pok Than for his hard work up until now.

### **Education Congress**

The Education Congress, which was held on October 24-26<sup>th</sup>, was a well attended and informative event. Participants from the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport, the donor community, and the NGO sector all came together to share ideas in the spirit of cooperation. The first day consisted of Ministry reports on the current state of education in Cambodia as well as statements from the NGO sector and the Donors.

Mr. Seng Hong, Executive Director of NEP, gave a presentation on the recent survey results from member organizations working in the NGO education sector. Among the recommendation NEP members made to the Education Congress were to:

- expand existing programs and increase budgets especially for ECCD

- train more teachers and decrease classroom sizes
- raise salaries and improve working conditions for teachers at all levels
- increase access for poor, disabled and otherwise excluded children
- improve monitoring and evaluation to ensure quality of education, transparency, and accountability
- streamline and decentralize the disbursement and procurements process within the MoEF and MoEYS to ensure that operational funds for schools are available on time

On the second day participants attended small group discussions on topics of concern. Some of the topics discussed were:

- Promotion and drop-out rates
- Teacher supply and quality of teaching
- Increasing access to higher education

On the final day of the Congress the small groups made their recommendations at the plenary session. Final remarks were made by the Secretary of State his Excellency Im Sethy.

Also on the last day the Congress participants were invited to attend an address from the Prime Minister of Cambodia, Samdech Hun Sen.

### **Valuing Teacher Research**

NEP, in partnership with VSO Cambodia, is undertaking a

research project that will examine what motivates teachers.

Peter and Margaret Harvey, two VSO volunteers from England, are coordinating this research effort and will be traveling to eight provinces to interview teachers, school directors, NGOs working in education and other stakeholders.



*Peter and Margaret Harvey with  
NEP Executive Director Seng Hong*

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