



ភាពជាដៃគូរបស់នៃអង្គការអង្គការភ្នំព្រះសីហនុ
NGO EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Monthly Digest January-February 2018

VISION
Working together to
achieve equal and
timely access to high
quality education for
all Cambodian
people.

Welcome to NEP's Monthly Digest for January and February 2018! NEP participated in the Joint Technical Working Group on Education, Organized District AoP Training for P-ESWG, Organized General Assembly of the Network on Early Childhood, Care and Development, Organized Training DoE to co-lead the Social Audit Forums, Organized Primary Education Sub-Sector Group Meeting

1. National Joint Technical Working Group on Education Meeting 12th January 2018

The National Joint Technical Working Group on Education meeting was held on 12th January 2018 with participation from ministry representatives, development partners, NGO representatives and GPE focal points. The meeting discussed six agenda items and the results of the discussed are summarized as follows:

1. Progress report of Program Budget Implementation in 2017

The Director of Finance Department presented briefly on Budget Execution compared between 2016 and 2017, SOB and Scholarship Budget Execution. Some key successes were highlighted in 2017 budget execution, outcomes of 2017 budget execution, challenges and ways forward. Temporarily the PB execution in 2017 was 93.7% which increased 2.5% compared to 2016. At the central level, the rate was 79.3% and at PoE level was 95.8% by comparing with 2016 the central level was 76.4% and at PoE level was 93.7%. The Director of Finance proposed Ministry of Economy and Finance to facilitate some concerns at the budget controller and other checking points and to consider giving more authorization to MoEYS in order to avoid any delay of budget follow and reducing unspent budget and improving execution rate. Moreover, DoF suggested having more capacity development training such as IT, Finance skills, budget planning at national and sub-national level.

2. Presentation on variable part of GPE 3 project (UNICEF/DGPP)

UNICEF representative summarized on what have been discussed with H.E. Nath Bunroeun, Secretary of State, DGPP team and relevant technical departments. With regard to "Equity" the scholarship program of primary education grade 1-3 in 26 target districts, MoEYS will strengthen the scholarship management without discrimination, conduct regular monitoring and increasing amount of scholarship up to 400,000 Riel per year. Regarding "Learning" the continuous Professional Development mentoring scheme which will be implemented in primary schools in the 21 target districts and issue of feasibility of outcome indicator as data is reported from SY 2018-2019 but CPD implementation/ school based mentoring start in SY 2019-2020. The mentoring is to support quality of teaching and improve students' learning. The verification is done in March annually at the education congress and any major training has to be completed before start of the new academic year in November. Then 20% of grade 1 teachers in 21 target districts apply core early grade learning methodologies on reading. Regarding "Efficiency" to make more effective teaching hours and reduce teacher absenteeism. The intention is to reduce the



average grade 3 repetition rate in 26 target districts. MoEYS need to harmonize, conduct some comprehensive training packages and prepare guidelines on school based management for school directors and develop an implementation plan by March 2018.

3. Progress report on Education Congress 2018 preparation

The Director of Monitoring and Evaluation Department presented briefly on the Progress of Education Congress 2016-2017 and Directions for 2017-2018 preparations as follows:

- a) The report format of PoE and 7 sub-sectors have been sent
- b) 16 discussion topics were presented.
- c) Schedule of the congress was set 19-21 March 2018 at Institute of Technology of Cambodia
- d) Schedule of all 25 provincial education congress have been set and the events will start in early January 2018

The ESWG suggested MoEYS to share English version of the draft report 10 days before education congress event. H.E. Minister suggested all DGs especially DG of Education to facilitate the report preparation and translation into English and share with ESWG by 1st March 2018

4. Presentation on Education Strategic Plan 2019-2023 preparation framework

The Director of Planning Department presented briefly the framework for education strategic plan 2019-2023 formulation which focuses on structure, key steps of the plan preparation. ESWG Chair suggested time for ESWG members to review and provide feedback in one week and GPE mission representative recommended conducting the appraisal earlier that can help improvement sector plan.

5. Approval of 2018 JTWG Education Work Plan

The Deputy Director of Planning Department briefly presented JTWG Annual Work Plan 2018 regarding 14 agenda/topics for policy dialogue and 4 agenda for policy dialogue and monitoring and the timeframe. In 2018, there will be first meeting in January, 2nd meeting in April, JTWG retreat in June and 3rd meeting in October. UNICEF representative expressed interest in policy dialogue on curriculum reform and suggested adding the topic on Equity and Inclusive Education because there are lot of efforts and supports on these at the moment. With this regard, VSO representative showed interest to join sharing topic with NEP.

2. AoP training for district level in Battambang Province – 7 February 2018

Training on “Annual Operational Plan Formulation” for NGOs working at the district level was conducted on 7 February 2018 with the participation of 38 people (16 females) from 36 NGOs from 3 districts of Battambang province. The objective of the training is an extension of the current AOP orientation, to delve specifically into a joint review of the previous plan for each respective province, the precise areas where its quality could be strengthened, and to go through extensively the participatory creation of a



ភាពជាដៃគូរបស់វិទ្យាស្ថានកម្រិតខ្ពស់
NGO EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Monthly Digest January-February 2018

VISION
Working together to
achieve equal and
timely access to high
quality education for
all Cambodian
people.

strategy for how to ensure strong collaboration between CSOs and provincial offices of education, as well as a module on how to monitor and follow-up implementation.

NEP in collaboration with Provincial of Education in Battambang provided the training to P-ESWG members, who are working at district level to understand how to make the Annual Operational Plan (AoP) for 2018 that is required by provincial of education, Youth and Sport. The training supported by Mr. Yi Songky, deputy director and Mr. Po Vannarith, Chief of Planning Office at provincial office in Battambang province.

During the training, participants had a very active participation and contributed with ideas and managed to clarify the point that they didn't understand. The successful method used by the trainer was to give time to practice by individual exercise how to complete the AoP form and comment on the participant's paper.

At the end of the training, as the post test results shows, participants gained knowledge and are happy with the training and especially with the exercise, which they found very helpful and will implement in their own organization. Participant's feedbacks will be used again in order to adapt even more effectively the training to participant's needs.

Thanks to the European Union and BMZ for their financial support in the framework of the project "Tackling the Implementation Gap in Education Reform; Mobilizing Civil Society".

3. General Assembly of Network on Early Childhood Care and Development (N-ECCD) 9th February 2018

The Network on Early Childhood Care and Development (N-ECCD) coordinated by NEP has had its 1st general assembly meeting on 9 February 2018 with 17 participants (11 female) from 15 NGOs. Last year, on the same day, NEP took the coordination of the network from Krousar Yoeung. Thank to the European Union and BMZ for their financial support in the framework of the project "Tackling the Implementation Gap in Education Reform; Mobilizing Civil Society"

The main objectives of the meeting are to review achievements of the network for 2017, to share knowledge and Community Preschool sub-degree and to discuss governance of NECCD Network

As the results, N-ECCD members understand how to comply with CPS standards and the Management of CPS as stated in the sub-degree. As part of the follow up from the last meeting, the members will send membership application form to NEP by 28th February 2018 to reconfirm their commitment with N-ECCD network. The members have also approved the removal of membership fee for N-ECCD for those who are members of NEP. In the case on NEP non-member, the local NGO will need to pay \$20 and for international NGOs and private institutions will pay \$50 per annum



4. Training of District Office of Education (DoE) staff to co-lead Social Audit Forums

The training of DoE staff to co-lead Social Audit Forums (SAF) was conducted in Battambang Province from 13th – 14th February 2018 with 19 participants 3 NGO partners (KHEN, KAFDOC, and SAMAKY). The key participants were DoE staffs from each partner’s target districts and NGO partner SAF focal staffs. There were 3 main trainers Mr. You Arun, KAFDOC, Mr. Khun Bunlee, KHEN, and Mr. Sim Kimhun, SAMAKY. This training was held under the financial support of UNICEF.

The main objectives of the training were to build understanding of the foundational concepts, objectives and methodologies of Social Audit Forum, to develop capacity to implement each stage of the Social Audit Forum cycle and build sustainability.

This training was designed based on the existing SAF training manual and practical experiences of the 3 SAF implementing partners and developed clear facilitation process and guide. The most interesting session of the training was that Role play method which allowed all participants to create a real situation of the forum and drawing great lessons learnt through debriefing session after the role play. Based on evaluation, it showed the increase in both knowledge and confidence of all participants in leading Social Audit Forums process at their target schools.



Opening remark by Mr. Chin Chanveasna, Executive

In conjunction to this important training, NEP facilitated all 3 partners to develop joint SAF work plan between partners and DoE. NEP will provide small grants to each partner to implement the SAF. The co-facilitation between NGO partners and DoEs needed to be highlighted in their plan both the forum process and monitoring the action points from the forums. All the 3 partners committed to conduct Social Audit Forums in first quarter of 2018 and continue to follow up and update the progress of action points to all levels: school, DoE, PoE and NEP.

In conclusion, this training was so important to strengthen the capacity of both NGO partners and Government staffs (DoE) to ensure the sustainability of Social Audit Forum practices at primary school level and make best use of the learning to improve the quality of student learning outcomes even there is no presence of NGOs in their target areas.

E N D