Welcome to NEP’s Monthly Digest for April 2018!

Please check out our highlights information from the events NEP has organized such as Educational Financial Training, Global Action Week Campaign, and NEP Sub-Grants Kick off events. Beside the highlights from events, NEP has uploaded the documents into our library that available for public access.

1. Educational Financing Training – 4th-5th April 2018

NEP and ASPBAE organized a two-day training on "Education Financing" on 4th-5th April 2018 at Phnom Penh Era Hotel. There were 22 participants (10 Females) from NGO members.

The training was conducted under the coordination of NGO Education Partnership (NEP), the Global Campaign for Education (GCE) team in Cambodia has been undertaking collective advocacy on the theme of “Education Financing” through Global Action Week for Education (GAWE) campaign at national and local levels since 2016 demand for increasing education budget for at least 20% of the total government expenditure.

Two trainers from ASPBAE: Mr. Rene Raya, Policy Analyst and Mr. Bernie Lovegrove, Regional Coordinator together with other two Cambodian Trainers provided the trainees with the Capacity Building on Budget Work and Advocacy. As a result, the participants improved their knowledge on the budget process and analysis, tracking advocacy and revenue generation, acquired basic skills in engagement in budgeting for education, deepened their understanding on how to undertake budget advocacy from the right to education (RTE) perspective.

Participants and Trainers in Education Financing Training
2. NEP Sub-Grants Kick-Off Event – 25th April 2018

NEP organized a sub-grant kick-off event for 4 winning NGOs (The Affiliated Network for Social Accountability Cambodia, Non-Timber Forest Products, Youth Council of Cambodia, Organization for Improving Communication and swallowing therapy services in Cambodia). The sub-grant provision organized under the EU funded project named “Tackling the Implementation Gap in Education Reform; Mobilizing Civil Society” aimed at improving educational services in Cambodia.

The awarded projects focus on local research and advocacy related to School Health Policy Monitoring at primary and secondary school level in Takeo, Kampong Chhnang, Battambang, and Pursat province and drop out school children in Ratanakiri province. The other awarded projects focus on local research and advocacy related to School Health and Textbook Policies Monitoring at primary school level in Kampong and Ratanakiri provinces, action research on speech therapy in Kandal province and the grassroots research on education gap in Ratanakiri province. A total of 20 participants (10 female) from 6 NGOs joint this kick-off event at NEP to sign the sub-grant contracts and capacity building sessions on financial management procedures, EU visibility and other guidelines in order to implement the project successfully.

Remarkably, NEP also prepared the kick-off event on 22nd March 2018 to award 4 NGOs successful applicants (Coalition for Integrity and Social Accountability, Green Umbrella, Buddhism for Social Development Action and Save Vulnerable Children as with their partners (9 NGOs). The projects focus on local research and advocacy related to School Health Policy Monitoring at primary and secondary school level in Takeo, Kampong Chhnang, Battambang, and Pursat province.

3. Global Action Week for Education – 27th April 2018

NEP prepared 3rd Global Action Week for Education (Gewe) Campaign with the theme of “Education Financing for SDG4 Accountability” with 47 participants (22 Female) from 25 NGOs and 3 participants from MoEYS at Raffles Hotel Le Royal on 27th April 2018. Meanwhile, the local campaigns were also organized in the provinces such as Kampong Chhnang and Koh Kong.

The Campaign is a global civil society movement aimed to promote education as a human right, and advocates to ensure that governments deliver equitable, inclusive, free and quality of public education for all. The main objective of the 2018 campaign is to call for the Cambodian government to increase national budget for education to achieve the above objectives. This includes raising the budget for education to at least 20% of the government expenditure, or 4%-6% of GDP. The campaign identified concrete recommendations to strengthen education financing and highlight particular areas where targeted investment will be needed to improve education quality and expand access to marginalized groups. The slides presentation from the campaign can be accessed here.
4. New Documents Uploaded to Library

NEP has uploaded documents and research that we hope it might be useful for the members to access through library platform (memlib.nepcambodia.org). Those documents are:

- **Education NGO Program Intervention Mapping 2016**: The Education NGO Program Intervention Mapping 2016 aims at mapping out the NGOs in the education sector and their program interventions, identifying areas of expertise and highlighting the trends of NGO activities/programs on education as compared to the previous year—2015. The documents are both available in English and Khmer.

- **Evidence Based Advocacy for Education Development**: A process based on the real result of information of the research on a particular issue or concern, and it used to advocate to address or improve the current situation or gap in an acceptable way by all parties.

- **A Typical Guide to Grassroots Research**: Grassroots Research is a research which is mainly friendlier, more common, and more relevant to local or grassroots people as data sources so that they will not feel a new idea or a weird intervention being introduced to them in any part of the research, especially in the data collection.

- **An Assessment of Early Grade Teaching Quality in Cambodia**: This assessment report identifies priority Quality Teaching and Learning in School (QTLS) interventions to address the “learning crisis” in relation to Cambodia, and improve learning in early grades.

- **Provincial Education Sector Working Group Handbook**: The P-ESWG handbook aims to help representatives and members of P-ESWG to understand the structure, roles and responsibilities of each involved (i.e. Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary and members) so that they can work collaboratively to achieve the common goal.

- **Checklist for Health Policy Data Entry Form-Khmer**

- **Enhancing Collaboration Between School Management and District and Provincial Offices of Education**: This research topic was proposed by members of the Siem Reap Education Support Team (SEST), a provincial working group bringing together non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working in the field of education in Siem Reap province to coordinate information sharing, advocacy, and support of member programs.

- **Report of 6th National Forum on Inclusive Education**: The forum was organized by the Working Group on Education and Disabilities (WGED). The theme of the forum on Inclusive Education was, "Making Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities Red in Cambodia".

- **Education Congress 2018 Report**
• Outcome of Education Congress 2018: The summary report of 2018 Education Congress: The Education held on 19-21 March 2018 at the Institute of Technology of Cambodia.

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