



**MINUTE OF**  
**CCC CSR/RBC program launching**  
**17<sup>th</sup> July 2017**  
**At CCC space/DI office, Phnom Penh**

**I. Rationale**

Awareness and understanding of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Responsible Business Conduct (RBC) and the linkages with business and human rights, and sustainable development is in its infancy in Cambodia, as it is to varying degrees across the ASEAN region. While a number of Cambodian NGOs and CBOs are engaged in advocacy and campaign work to address the adverse impacts of private sector investment (particularly concerning hydropower, extractives, agribusiness and garments), knowledge of international mechanisms such as the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principle on Business and Human Rights, is low.

Further, multi-stakeholder initiatives (MSI) and ‘dialogue platforms’ are increasingly being used to foster responsible business conduct and sustainable development. However, civil society in Cambodia is not always adequately equipped or empowered to effectively participate in such initiatives, or to understand both the opportunities and risks that can accompany MSIs.

CCC is the longest established and largest membership organization for NGO in Cambodia. Currently, CCC members reach about 170, which comprises both local and international organizations. From 2017, CCC implements its Governance Hub Program (GHP 2017-2021) through which the Multi Stakeholder Initiative (MSI) was adopted as one of the methodologies for CCC to realize its objectives. Alongside with this particular methodology, CCC has promoted other interventions in terms of awareness raising, capacity development, and networking related to the Responsible Business Conduct, Corporate Responsibility, and Business and Human Rights. Recently, CCC has become the member of Cambodia CSR Network, OECD Watch, and is implementing a project funded by the ASEAN CSR Network.

Internally, and under financial support from ASEAN CSR Network, CCC has developed a five year strategic program on Corporate Social Responsibility and Responsible Business Conduct (CSR/RBC) with the objectives 1) To influence for an enabling environment that fosters Responsible Business Conduct, Corporate Social Responsibility and sustainable inclusive development and 2) To strengthen CCC and member capacity to engage with the private sector, and understand and promote responsible business conduct for sustainable development .As the membership based organization and as responding to the MSI initiative, the CSR/RBC program will benefit all CCC members, staff, partners, and other stakeholders who are concerned with the sustainable development in Cambodia.

To promote the participation of stakeholders into the implementation and monitoring of this CSR/RBC program, CCC organized a launching meeting with CCC staff, donors and other stakeholders. The launching took place on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at CCC space rental/DI office.

**II. Objectives**

1. To officially launch and promote the visibility of the CSR/RBC program
2. To introduce interventions of the program to CCC staff and key stakeholders
3. To promote collaboration and commitment of key stakeholders towards achieving the program objectives

### III. Participants

23 participants (14 Female) attended the meeting in which 12 (5 female) of them were the organizers and technical staff from CCC, and another 11 persons (9 female) were from donor agencies and other stakeholders. For more detail, please see the attendance list in the attached file.



Attendance list.jpg



### IV. Presentation and discussion

#### A. Welcome and opening remarks

At the opening remark Mr. Soeung Saroeun, Executive Director of CCC expressed his sincere thanks all the participants, including the donor (ASEAN CSR network) that provided fund for CCC to implement the CSR program and he thank to organizers and participants that spend the value time to join the event. He expressed that private sector is an important actor for development and this perception is also supported by the elements of the 17<sup>th</sup> goal of SDGs which highlights the importance of multi-stakeholder engagement, and the specific contribution from private sector as the financing engine to realize the SDGs. Currently, CCC is one member of the Cambodia CSR platform, OECD watch members and got fund support from ASEAN CSR network to implement a project. As indicated in its new phase Governance Hub Program and with special funding support from ASEAN CSR network, CCC has developed as program call CCC CSR/RBC program with objective 1) Awareness raising for CCC members, other interest NGOs for them be able to engage with private sectors for development, 2) To engage with CSOs, government and private sectors and 3) To advocate for national action plan to integrate the CSR/RBC program. From this launching meeting we will get the input from participants for future collaboration.

#### B. CCC CSR/RBC program presentation

In this session, Dr. El Sotheary, Head of program of CCC has presented the CCC CSR/RBC program to to the audience in which the presentation covers some key outlines such as the rationale for the RBC Program, its objective, its program focus, its activities and proposed partners for change.

In her presentation she highlighted why we have this program, the result is that the Roles and contribution from private sector become significant means to support the implementation of SDGs (2016-2030), and Cambodia needs proper mechanisms to promote multi-stakeholder partnership and their accountability to development. Moreover, the private sector can make an important contribution to economic prosperity, but only if there is good governance, transparency, accountability and appropriate mechanism. However, civil society itself needs skills and knowledge to engage with the private sector to promote responsible business conduct, due diligence, an enabling environment, and sustainable inclusive development and CSOs in Cambodia will need to prepare for increased engagement with the private sector.

This program was developed to respond to the two objectives 1) To influence for an enabling environment that fosters Responsible Business Conduct, Corporate Social Responsibility and sustainable inclusive development and 2) To strengthen CCC and member capacity to engage with the private sector, and understand and promote responsible business conduct for sustainable development. This program will be focused on 1) Raise awareness of RBC and CSR in a development context among CCC staff, members and partners, 2) Design and deliver training and materials to CCC staff, members, certified NGOs, provincial networks and other interested CSOs and stakeholders, 3)

Join CSR/RBC networks and multi-stakeholder initiatives to facilitate collaboration, support and succession planning and 4) Promote responsible business conduct with the private sector and government by using the UNGPs and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises as a framework.

Specifically covered by the objective one, a number of activities have been proposed which are related to awareness raising, partnership, collaboration and multi-stakeholder engagement (e.g. engage with Cambodia CSR platform, ESEAN CSR network, OEDC watch, collaborate with UNOHCHR, develop multi-stakeholder guideline, participate in relevant policy reviews and support efforts by members, INGOs, and NGOs to establish and use grievance mechanisms to foster access to remedy for adverse development impacts). On the other hand, the objective two covers the series activities related to capacity development including capacity building need assessment, curriculum and materials design and conduct training course on CSR/RBC, business and human right, UNGP guideline and OECD guideline to CCC staff, CCC members and other interested CSOs in Cambodia.

This program will work for different types of target audience including CCC staff and ExCom, CCC members, Provincial NGO networks, GPP Certified NGOs, Other NGOs whose interventions cover the areas of RBC, CSR and Business and Human Rights, CSR Cambodia platform members, Development Partners, Regional networks (e.g. ASEAN), Global networks (e.g. OECD Watch), Technical Working Groups and relevant government consultation processes. For more information please see the presentation in the attached file.



Presentation of program launching La

**C. Group discussion**

There are a few organizations, either the members or non-members of CCC, have already in place their respective CSR/RBC program. In order to understand what different agencies are doing and how their efforts can be consolidated, further studies need to be made, and last but not least, the roles and responsibilities for each of them need to be well identified. A group discussion session was conducted after the presentation on the RBC strategy, to allow all participants to discuss and identify the further actions for CCC and other stakeholders. The participants was divided into two small groups to discuss on three questions as below:

- Beside the activities proposed in the program, are there any intervention that CCC can do to respond the need of its members and other stakeholders?
- What kind of support that you can support to implement the CCC CSR/RBC program?
- How can stakeholders work together to promote the CSR/RBC, business and human right in Cambodia?

And then each small group has presented their results to the plenary session by following the questions and clarification.

**The result of group discussion:**

Group One	Group Two
<p><b>Q1. What should be added to the proposed activities and interventions?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capture the aspect of ASEAN Economic Integration and reflect this in the CCC CSR Strategy</li> <li>- Consider some activities that are aligned or</li> </ul>	<p><b>Q1. What should be added to the proposed activities and interventions?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Emphasize the engagement with private sector (Develop strong strategy)</li> <li>- Ensure that CCC and NGOs forum have the same approach for their members (E.g. follow up with the action plan for UNGP)</li> </ul>

<p>complimented to the CSR Network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CCC to promote engagement with private sector for enabling environment for RBC (add activity)</li> <li>- Documentation on successful/unsuccessful in engagement with private sector</li> <li>- Research to develop evidence base information/data and share data for compilation of the document</li> <li>- OECD watch advocacy effort-strengthening NCPs</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q2. How do we know the needs of private sector on CSR?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CCC to engage with government to promote the quality of EIA</li> <li>- Raise issues to the government and promote the inclusive dialogue</li> <li>- Support to implementing the CSR program</li> <li>- Provide human resource to the student and lecture</li> <li>- CSR round table discussion</li> <li>- CSR event support and engagement</li> </ul>	<p><b>Q2 How can we support each other?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use UNGP with private sector (OHCHR/CSR platform)</li> <li>- Dialogue with all stakeholder</li> <li>- OHCHR will share the new tool for UNGPs</li> <li>- Online discussion and sharing information</li> <li>- CSR platform as a forum for sharing the activities/research/document</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q3. How can stakeholders work together? CSO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide capacity development</li> <li>- Soft approach of advocacy</li> <li>- Raise issue and seek for genuine discussion</li> <li>- To play role as the watchdog (observer)</li> <li>- Knowledge sharing</li> </ul> <p><b>Private Sector:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Include and involve them into activities and other meetings</li> </ul> <p><b>Government:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identify key agencies to be the partners of CSOs and private sector</li> <li>- Access to the information between private sector and govt.</li> </ul> <p><b>Should have more researches on:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Level of CSR.</li> <li>- Mapping of CSR.</li> <li>- Perspective of CSR.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Q3. How can stakeholders work together?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Look at example in Thailand and Myanmar to apply more</li> <li>- Engage with CCC, YEAC, SNEC</li> <li>- Dialogue and engagement rather than confrontation considering of CSO</li> </ul>

**D. Ways forward**

Based on the result of group discussion we have come up with ways forward including:

- CCC will facilitate to have the development of a multi-stakeholder engagement guideline in which commitment and feasibility of partnership could be taken up by all stakeholders. The guideline should cover the good and bad practices of multi-stakeholder engagement and the clear approach to better keep everyone engaged.



- CCC should also conduct further researches to see the way of engagement between CSOs, private sector and government.
- CSOs will consolidate and share the new tools on promoting CSR/RBC each other.
- The CSOs will consider having online platform for discussion and sharing information among each other.
- CCC and other stakeholders will use the Cambodia CSR platform as forum for sharing the activities/research/document.
- CCC and other stakeholders to learn more from the examples in Thailand and Myanmar on promoting the CSR/RBC.
- CCC and other stakeholders will engage with CCC/YEAC (Young Entrepreneur Association of Cambodia)/SNEC (Supreme National Economic Council) to promote CSR/RBC and business and human rights.
- CCC and related stakeholder to understand the perspective and possibility that the agenda on ASEAN Economic Integration could be integrated on their CSR/RBC strategy.
- CCC will provide capacity building and knowledge sharing to the target audience and use soft approach advocacy.
- CSOs play role as watch Dog(observer) for CSR/RBC implementation in Cambodia

**E. Closing Remark**

At the end of the meeting, Dr. El Sotheary, Head of program, CCC provide a closing remark which highlights that the launching meeting today is fruitful and went smoothly as expected. She sincerely thanked everyone for not only participating but also providing valuable inputs into the today event. This meeting cannot be achieved without the full participation from all of the participants. Finally, she hopes that all of these results we will be used to improve the program implementation. She thank to organizer and participants and closed the event.

**Appendix 1: Concept note for launch and question for group discussion**



Concept Note for  
CSR program launchir



Question for group  
discussion.docx