



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Organisation  
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pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Final National Workshop “Culture for Development Indicator Suite” at the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, Phnom Penh 24 April 2013, at 8AM-12:30PM**

On 24 April 2013, a final workshop of the project “Culture for Development Indicator Suite” will take place at the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts. The Culture for Development Indicator Suite (CDIS) project was launched in 2009 to establish indicators focusing on the contribution of culture to development at the national level. Intended primarily for actors in national and international development, the UNESCO “Culture for Development Indicator Suite” is a research and advocacy tool, which helps to clearly demonstrate the importance of culture in development processes. The Culture for Development Indicator Suite is also a tool of the 2005 Convention on the Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, which Cambodia has ratified in 2007.

This project started to be implemented in 2011 in six test countries (Bosnia, Herzegovina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ghana, Uruguay and Vietnam). In 2012, Cambodia has been selected as one of the five second test phase countries (Namibia, Ecuador, Egypt and Burkina Faso). This project strengthens recent efforts in developing Cambodia’s cultural industries and cultural policies, such as the Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund’s Creative Industries Support Programme, as well as the UNESCO/European Union Technical Assistance in Cultural Governance Programme, among others.

These efforts will be crucial to the development of the cultural sector in Cambodia and will contribute towards the adoption of the first National Cultural Policy. The project has been implemented in Cambodia between 2012 and 2013. It is expected that implementation of the Indicator Suite in Cambodia will demonstrate culture’s contribution to development by creating new statistical data, and help to strengthen these important pre-existing initiatives to develop the cultural sector in the country. By providing new information and an analysis of the existing context, the project will also directly support the Royal Government of Cambodia in the processing of adopting a National Cultural Policy. This Cultural Policy will establish clear and appropriate guidelines to enhance and sustain the preservation of

tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Cambodia, and ultimately improve Cambodia's cultural and creative industries.

The half-day national workshop will present all final results to the relevant stakeholders and officials from the relevant ministries, institutions, civil society and NGO representatives to actively take part in the final workshop. The final results for Cambodia will be presented across six of the seven dimensions: Economy, Education, Governance, Communication, Social Participation and Gender Equality. For the first time, the "Culture for Development Indicator Suite" proposes indicators on the contribution of cultural activities to the national GDP and employment in the cultural sector. It also gives an overview of the existing challenges in education in arts and culture, on the opportunities for the training of cultural professionals, and on the system of cultural governance in Cambodia, among others. Over seventy participants are expected to join this unique workshop.

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