



Press Release

A2I Working Group Marks International Day for Universal Access to Information

Phnom Penh, Cambodia – A group of civil society organizations (CSOs) in Cambodia are convening a National Workshop on the occasion of the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAL).

The event will take place at 8:00 AM on September 27, 2024, at Sunway Hotel in Phnom Penh.

Under the theme of “**The Access to Information Law will Boost Investments and Economic Growth in Cambodia**”, the gathering aims to push for the adoption and implementation of a comprehensive Access to Information (A2I) Law in the Country.

The Workshop will bring together key stakeholders with over 330 invitees, including policymakers, government officials, representatives of political parties, the private sector, media outlets, CSOs, youth, and communities. The Participants will engage in discussions on the critical importance of A2I in fostering transparency, accountability, and good governance.

Access to information is a linchpin of freedom of expression and a fundamental human right that boosts investments and economic growth and the daily lives of citizens and their ability to fully participate in civic life. We believe that citizens, armed with critical information, can protect their rights and hold the government accountable. However, at present, Cambodian citizens do not have the information they need to fulfill their rights and receive the services they are entitled to.

The CSO members of the A2I Working Group (A2IWG) have worked and advocated for the Draft Access to Information Law every year for the last decade requesting that the government disclose key information to the Public.

The objectives of the Workshop are:

- **Reactivate the A2I Law Agenda and influence Policymakers** - To advocate for the swift passage of the A2I Law by urging decision-makers to prioritize this critical piece of legislation.
- **Raise Public Awareness** - To increase public understanding of the significance of A2I and the benefits it can bring to the economy, individuals, communities, and society as a whole.

By fostering dialogue and collaboration among diverse stakeholders, the Workshop seeks to create a strong impetus for the adoption of an A2I Law that will empower citizens and promote a more transparent and accountable government.

For media inquiries or registration details, please contact: 098 86 22 55