

CCHR appoints Seng Sovathana as new Executive Director

Sen David / Khmer Times



Seng Sovathana, the new Executive Director of the Cambodian Center for Human Rights. CCHR

With 20 years of experience working with local and international NGOs related to advocacy on land rights, natural resources, and indigenous rights, Seng Sovathana became the new Executive Director of The Cambodian Center for Human Rights (CCHR) on the 2 January 2025.

Sovathana holds a PhD in Political Science from the Royal Academy of Cambodia (RAC) with a focus on “Evolution of Local Power,” and a Master of Arts in Sustainable Development from Chiang Mai University, Thailand.

Becoming the new Executive Director of CCHR, Sovathana is committed to cooperating with other partner organisations in promoting and protecting human rights, in line with the government’s goal of protecting civil rights, as stated in National and International law.

He said that he is pleased to be able to contribute to the mission to promote and protect human rights with the CCHR. He highlighted that the CCHR is a prominent human rights institution, which has played a principle role in monitoring the communities affected by human rights abuses.

He added that, being able to work with the team and partner organisations to ensure respect and protection of citizens' rights is a good thing, and he will strive to lead the CCHR to achieve this mission.

"I hope that based on my 20 plus years of work experience with national and international organisations, as a PHD and with a Master's, I will continue CCHR's mission in accordance with the principles and in the sense of promoting improvements in the promotion of human rights," he said.

He highlighted, working in the field of human rights is fraught with challenges, as we have seen in the past, with arrests, accusations, and persecution. Despite these challenges, he still has strong faith in CCHR's work with many civil society organisations who have continued their mission with principle.

"I expected that through participation, contributions, and collaboration with relevant actors, including the government, which is a key player in protecting citizens' rights, we will be able to fulfil our roles and achieve our shared goal of ensuring citizens' rights," he added.