Concept Note
On
JTWG-Education Retreat 2019
Location: LBN Asian Hotel, Kampong Cham
Date: 26-28 November

1. Background

The JTWG-Education Retreat is an annual event, jointly organized by the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport (MoEYS) and Education Sector Working Group (ESWG). The Retreat is a platform that enables stakeholders to identify and discuss key challenges and emerging opportunities, and to reach agreement on key priorities.

The retreat represents an important opportunity for MoEYS and development partners to reflect upon data and discussions from the 2019 Education Congress; on matters related to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG4) attainment; and to assist education sector partners to reflect on how Cambodia can achieve its higher level development targets, including transition to a middle-income country by 2030 and to a high-income country by 2050, as reflected in the country's Industrial Development Policy.

The retreat will provide an opportunity to reflect on matters relating to the quality and relevance of education in the context of the newly adopted Rectangular Strategy IV, which prioritizes human resource development as its most important development strategy – including: 1). Improving the quality of education, science and technology; 2). Vocational training; 3). Improving public healthcare and nutrition; and 4). Strengthening gender equality and social protection.

This year the retreat will discuss key priority sectoral issues and identify priorities to inform the implementation of the Education Strategic Plan (ESP) 2019-2023.

1. Date:

The retreat is held during the 26-28 November 2019. The Retreat is Co-Chaired by the Minister of Education and the Chair of the ESWG.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the retreat is to:

- Discuss and identify key immediate priorities for the implementation of the ESP 2019-2023.
- Identify key education reforms and discuss necessary areas for coordination and support.

3. Expected output

The retreat is expected to make recommendations for:

- the immediate priorities for implementation of the new ESP.
- on how development partners and Ministry resources can support pressing education reforms, including any particular coordination and harmonization needs.

The main areas to be discussed:

- Review of progress against Joint Monitoring Indicators (JMIs), which are expected to be newly adopted in June 2019.
- Review of education sector trends.
- Discussion about emerging capacity development needs in relation to ESP implementation and SDG Roadmap implementation.
- Education reforms such as teacher development, including continuous professional development, school leadership and school-based management.
- Education financing, including: (i) bigger picture budgeting for the education sector with reference to regional examples; (ii) discussion about budgeting at school level, relating to school operating funds and respective funding formulas, including government and development partner financing for schools; (iii) reporting from MoEYS on 2020 budget preparation, and identification of areas where MoEYS could use development partner support to prepare for budget defense with the MEF.
- Equity (such as gender, inclusion and MLE): reflection on the trends analysis and recent PISA-D results that identify boys are being more susceptible than girls for not completing school. May include discussion about regional and/or international experiences using 'pro-boy' retainment policies and lessons learned.

4. Participants

The retreat participants include the following:

- MoEYS leaders and officials - 34
- ESWG members including NGOs - 28
- JTWG and ESWG secretariats - 11

5. Logistical Arrangement

Upon request the JTWG-Edu and ESWG secretariats can arrange hotel booking for the participants.

6. Program

Date/Time	Topic/activity	Responsible person
	Day 1: Tuesday 26 November 2019	
AM	Travel: Phnom Penh –Kampong Cham	
12.00-13.30	*Lunch at LBN Asian Hotel*	
13.30-14.30	**Session 1: Opening**	
	- Introduction by retreat facilitator - Remarks by Ms. Cristian Munduate, ESWG Chair & UNICEF Representative - Opening remarks, including action points from last Retreat by H.E Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport	Retreat Facilitator ESWG Chair H.E Minister
14.30-15.30	**Session 2: Plenary on JMIs and Education Trends Analysis**	
	Presentation on:	Retreat Facilitator

	- Progress against newly adopted joint monitoring indicators for the education sector. - Review of education sector trends, across all major education sub-sectors. - Plenary discussion	DGPP/DoP UNICEF Retreat Facilitator
15.30-15.45	*Coffee break*	
15.45-17.00	**Session 3: Plenary on ESP, SDG Roadmap & medium-term capacity development needs**	
	- Discussion about emerging capacity development needs in relation to ESP implementation and SDG Roadmap attainment – in the context of Capacity Development Master Plan preparation. - Plenary discussion	Retreat Facilitator UNESCO/DGPP
17.00-17.30	Wrap-up for Day 1	Retreat Facilitator
17.30-	Welcome Reception Dinner at Sky Bar, LBN Asian Hotel	
Day 2: Wednesday 27 November 2019		
8.00-9.45	**Session 4: Education reforms - Panel discussion on T eacher Development**	**Chair of Panel Discussion: Minister**
	- Short presentation of key issues concerning teacher development. (30 minutes) - The panel discussion will focus on teacher development, and may include continuous professional development and/or teacher training/qualifications upgrading (45 minutes) - Q&A discussion and wrap up (30 minutes)	Panellists: JICA/UNESCO/H.E Nath Bunroeun/TTD/DGE Retreat Facilitator
9.45-10.00	*Coffee break*	
10.00-12.00	**Session 5: Education reforms – Plenary discussion on School-based Management**	
	- Presentation on school-based management – framework and programming, with reference to ESP targets, delivery strategies etc. - May refer to continuous professional development system & how it could support SBM roll-out in the future. - Plenary discussion	UNICEF/World Bank/ TTD/GSED/DGE

	- Retreat Facilitator –to explain logistical arrangements for the afternoon session (Session 6)	
12.00-13.30	*Lunch at LBN Asian Hotel*	
13.30-17.00	**Session 6: Plenary - discussion on education financing**	
13.30-14.10	*Session 6A: Education Financing:* - Macro level financing discussion for the education sector with reference to regional examples.	NEP/DoF
14.10-14.50	*Session 6B: Education Financing:* - Reporting from MoEYS on 2020 budget preparation, including reflection of significant gaps in relation to ESP implementation & how to better align budget to support ESP implementation. - Identification of areas where MoEYS could use development partner support to prepare for budget defense.	DoF/DGPP/WB/ADB
14.50-15:00	*Coffee break*	
15.00-15.40	*Session 6C: Education Financing:* - Presentation about budgeting at school level (School Operating Funds and funding formulas – quantum of funds and how these will be prioritized for an equitable approach); - Other non-government financing sources flowing to schools.	EU/Sida/DoF
15.40-16.40	- Q&A (covering sessions 6A to 6C)	Retreat Facilitator
16.40-17.00	- Wrap-up for Day 2	Retreat Facilitator
18.00-22.00	Dinner at Boeung Tonle Meas Restaurant	
Day 3: Thursday 28 November 2019		
8.00-10.00	**Session 7: Parallel sessions/small group discussions on inclusive and equitable education**	
8.00-8.15	- Re-cap and logistics for the morning	Retreat Facilitator
8.15-10.00	Session 7A: Inclusive Education - Brief presentation on the new policy and action plan for inclusive education - Priorities for inclusive education in the ESP and budgeting for this work. - Q&A	USAID/SED

8.15-10.00	Session 7B: Multilingual education - Brief presentation on the new MENAP, including reflection of how evidence was used to inform the new plan (e.g.: recent MLE evaluation). - Priorities for multilingual education in ESP and budgeting for this work. - Q&A	CARE/SED/DoPo
8.15-10.00	Session 7C: Equity –support to boys and girls - Brief presentation of the situation of boys and girls in Cambodia in respect to school performance. - Presentation of equity policies in use in other countries. - Q&A	UNICEF/DoPo
10.00-10.15	*Coffee break*	
10.15-10.45	**Session 8: Plenary**	
	- Report back from equity-related sessions	Retreat Facilitator
10.45-12.00	**Session 9: Wrap up and closing**	
	- Wrap up on education retreat 2019 - Remarks by Ms. Cristian Munduate - Closing remark by H.E Dr. Hang Chuon Naron	Retreat Facilitator ESWG Chair H.E Minister
12.00-13.30	*Lunch at LBN Asian Hotel*	
PM	Travel: Kampong Cham - Phnom Penh	