



ILO/CHINA SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION PROJECT

June 2015

Expanding Employment Services & Enhancing Labour Market Information in Cambodia & Lao PDR

Mid-term Achievements

Drawing from the ILO South-South Triangular Cooperation, where knowledge is regarded a product that is gathered and shared, the mid-term achievements listed below have either been realized or taking form. Both the ILO and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security provided technical advisory services along with contribution of good practices so to ameliorate Public Employment Services provisions in both countries.

- ◆ Improved labour market efficiency and participation and enhanced linkages and information flow between job seekers and employers.
- ◆ Strengthened client orientation and enhanced capacity of officials by providing better and more efficient and energetic delivery of employment services to clients including the vulnerable groups.
- ◆ Better appreciation by Public Employment Services agents on a variety of interventions to aid job seekers, for example, employment counselling and career guidance for youth.
- ◆ Increased availability of mechanisms in assisting job seekers finding decent employment.
- ◆ Increased channels that would help Chinese businesses recruit quality workers in both Cambodia and Lao PDR.
- ◆ Enhanced profiling and communications in order to raise people’s awareness on effective Public Employment Services—through Communications Strategy for 2015-17.
- ◆ Availability and furnishing of quality labour market information.
- ◆ Human resources development plan to continue to build and enhance the capacity of officials of Public Employment Services.
- ◆ Better understanding of the constituents in the two countries on ILO’s Public Employment Services Convention No. 88, 1948.
- ◆ Inputs for national level development and planning (Cambodia: National Employment Policy and Lao PDR: Eighth National Social and Economic Plan).

“Activities supported by the Project is essential for Lao PDR to achieve and sustain economic growth, and translate that growth into the creation of more and better jobs, leading to poverty reduction....”

*- H.E. Ms Onechanh Thammavong
(Minister of Labour & Social Welfare)*

“The National Career Fair, an essential PES mechanism, is a good event and important milestone of Cambodia to tackle the issue on employment promotion, especially for youth.

*- H.E. Mr Pich Sophoan
(Secretary of State, Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training & Vice Chairman of National Training Board)*



Job Fairs

Highly effective Public Employment Services mechanisms implemented by NEA (Cambodia) and MoLSW (Lao PDR) with support from Project (good Job Fair layout from China studytour experience).

National Career Fair in Phnom Penh, October 2014

Mega Job Fair in Vientiane, June 2015

Highlight



3 Weeks Studytour in PRC

Twenty six participants from Cambodia and Lao PDR, tripartite representation, joined a three weeks long studytour and training on public employment services and labour market information system in China during October 2014. The following cities were visited: Beijing, Jiu Jiang and Shanghai. The comprehensive studytour combined job immersion, practical training with lectures and theoretical overview on China's achievements in the area of public employment services and dissemination of quality of labour market information. The technical contents of this studytour included mechanisms to help strengthen the capacity of the participants on PES and LMI, to enable the participants to learn about the institutional arrangements and linkages and roles of employers and workers' organizations. Importantly, participants gained practical experiences and good examples from China.

Remarkable Project Progress

During 2014 and until the first half of 2015, remarkable progress has been achieved towards strengthening institutions in providing public employment services and labour market information in both countries, resulting in solid progress and delivery. The immediate results are highlighted above, and in more concrete terms, sample activities are listed below.

- Lao PDR's Ministry of Labour & Social Welfare's (MoLSW) proposed internal restructuring so to provide enhanced services to streamline employment services functions and services including better policy development.
- Training to higher level Lao officials in the provinces to understand the significance of PES and contribution towards Lao PDR's economic growth.
- A stronger and more qualified staffing in Cambodia whose aggressive marketing and approach has enhanced more registration of youth (and migrant workers), enabling better job matching through the implementation of labour market programmes tailored for them.
- On-going tools development by National Employment Agency (NEA) to cater to target groups.
- More active collaboration from government with respective employers and workers' organizations.



Xayaboury ESJC Employ'm't Forum



Savannakhet ESJC Registering Jobseekers en masse



H.E. Mr Xin Changxing, Vice Minister, presiding over opening ceremony in Siem Reap Job Fair



NEA's Forum to Young Women Migrant Workers



NEA's Youth Outreach Forum