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## INTERNATIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

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### Summary NGO Registration in Cambodia

#### I. General Introduction

In many ways, Cambodia is a unique home for CSOs. One of the poorest countries in Asia, after nearly two decades of isolation and conflict, it opened up to the modern world with the arrival of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) in 1992-1993.

For many years, Cambodia was seen as a “haven for NGOs”, with considerable funding available from national development partners and INGOs, and a relaxed regulatory environment. In recent years, the Cambodian government has attempted to tighten requirements and restrictions on the CSO sector. The most obvious manifestation of this is the draft Law on Associations and NGOs (LANGO), which is currently under review by senior officers of the government.

According to the report of “CSO Contribution to the Development of Cambodia 2012” there are about **4000 NGOs** which have registered with Ministry of Interior (MOI) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MOFA), therefore only **1350 NGOs** are active in implement their project and program in Cambodia. Among these active **1350 NGOs**, they have contributed around **500-600 million US dollars** for the development of Cambodia.

#### II. Registration

There are two kind of NGOs operation in Cambodia: 1) Local Non-Governmental Organization (LNGO) which is including Associations and Community Based Organization (CBO) and 2) International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO).

##### A. Registration of LNGO

In order to implement their activities all LNGO are required to register with Ministry of Interior. Under the notification of MoI No. 474, all NGOs must have the following steps in order to register at MoI office:

1. Completed Packet of Forms purchased from MoI
2. Organizational Statute
3. Organizational Chart/Structure
4. Office address document and map
5. Approval Letters  
(Commune/Sangkat→District/Khan/Municipality→Capital/Province)
6. Final decision by MoI



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## **B. Registration of International Organization**

Since 1979, all international NGOs have applied for registration at the NGOs Bureau of the Department of International Organization at Ministry of Foreign Affair (MFA). International NGOs were required to write letters requesting approval to operate in the country to a relevant ministry, attaching documents with the following information:

1. Organization philosophy
2. Program of activities
3. Location of operation project
4. Duration of program
5. Number of international and local staff
6. Source and amount of funding
7. Personal history of the founder

## **III. Conclusion**

We have no official form for NGO to register, therefore it hard for CSOs to fulfill the requirements because sometime the government officers require a difference needs for difference NGOs, it also course to have a corruption within the registration process too.