



ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA
National Committee for ESCAP

Workshop on
Driving structural transformation beyond LDC graduation
towards sustainable development of Cambodia, Lao PDR and
Myanmar

Co-organized by:
the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
and
the National Committee for ESCAP, the Royal Government of Cambodia

8 December 2020
2pm – 4pm Cambodia, Lao PDR and Thailand
1:30pm – 3:30pm Myanmar
Virtual meeting (via Microsoft Teams)

Programme

14:00 – 15:00	<p>Welcome remarks by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Oliver Paddison, Chief, Countries with Special Needs Section, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division, ESCAP• Mr. Korm Ribaun, Secretary-General, National Committee for ESCAP (NC-ESCAP, Royal Government of Cambodia) <p>Moderator: Mr. Yusuke Tateno, Economic Affairs Officer, Countries with Special Needs Section, ESCAP</p> <p>Session 1. Structural Transformation, LDC Graduation and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Policy Options for Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar</p> <p>This session will provide an overview of the progress made by Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar in structural transformation, highlight potential impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as those from the loss of international support measures (ISMs) after graduation from the LDC status, and discuss pathways to structural transformation and recommend strategies for building productive capacity and resilience to external shocks. To facilitate the discussion, ESCAP will present preliminary findings of a study on structural transformation in the three Southeast Asian LDCs. After the presentation, representatives from the Governments of Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar will be requested to make a brief (5-7 minutes each) intervention. These interventions should ideally include: (a) comments, questions, and/or suggestions</p>
------------------	--

	<p>about the study; (b) a short evaluation of the national implementation progress of the Istanbul Programme of Action, with a focus on structural transformation, productive capacity and resilience to external shocks; (c) suggested priorities for the next Programme of Action for LDCs for the decade 2021-2030; and (d) suggestions or requests on how ESCAP can support their countries in driving structural transformation towards sustainable development.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Anisuzzaman Chowdhury, ESCAP Consultant and Former Director of Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division of ESCAP • Mr. Sitthiroth Rasphone, Acting Director General, Center for Development Policy Research, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Lao PDR • Ms. Thway Thway Chit, Director General, Planning Department, Ministry of Planning, Finance, and Industry, Myanmar <p>Q&A Short break</p>
15:00 – 16:00	<p>Session 2. The impacts of COVID-19 on Cambodia's progress towards the SDGs and its impacts on graduation from the category of LDCs</p> <p>This session will focus on the possible impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Cambodia's progress towards achieving SDGs and LDC graduation, review the current plans and strategies and identify possible challenges and opportunities that the country may face in the post-COVID era. NC-ESCAP will present a study prepared in consultation with ESCAP to facilitate the discussion. After the presentation, a representative from the Royal Government of Cambodia will be requested to deliver a brief (5-7 minutes) intervention, covering the same three elements suggested above.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Kim Veara, Deputy Secretary General of NC-ESCAP and Lecturer of Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia • Mr. Poch Vandy, Deputy Director General, General Department of Planning, Ministry of Planning, Cambodia <p>Q&A Online evaluation Closing remarks by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Oliver Paddison, Chief, Countries with Special Needs Section, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division, ESCAP • Mr. Korm Ribaun, Secretary-General, National Committee for ESCAP (NC-ESCAP, Royal Government of Cambodia