



## SDGS FOR THE FUTURE OF MEKONG REGION COUNTRIES AND JAPAN

### "CAMBODIAN JUDICIAL REFORM"



MS. SUN SOKUNVORY  
MS. EK APSARA

1

#### TABLE OF CONTENT

- I. Introduction of Cambodian Judicial System
- II. Introduction to Cambodian SDGs
- III. Judicial Reform
- IV. Challenges
- V. Accelerating Strategies
- VI. Conclusion
- VII. Reference

## 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



2



## COUNTRY'S PROFILE

**Official Name:** Kingdom of Cambodia

**Independence:** November 9, 1953  
(France\_1863 – 1953)

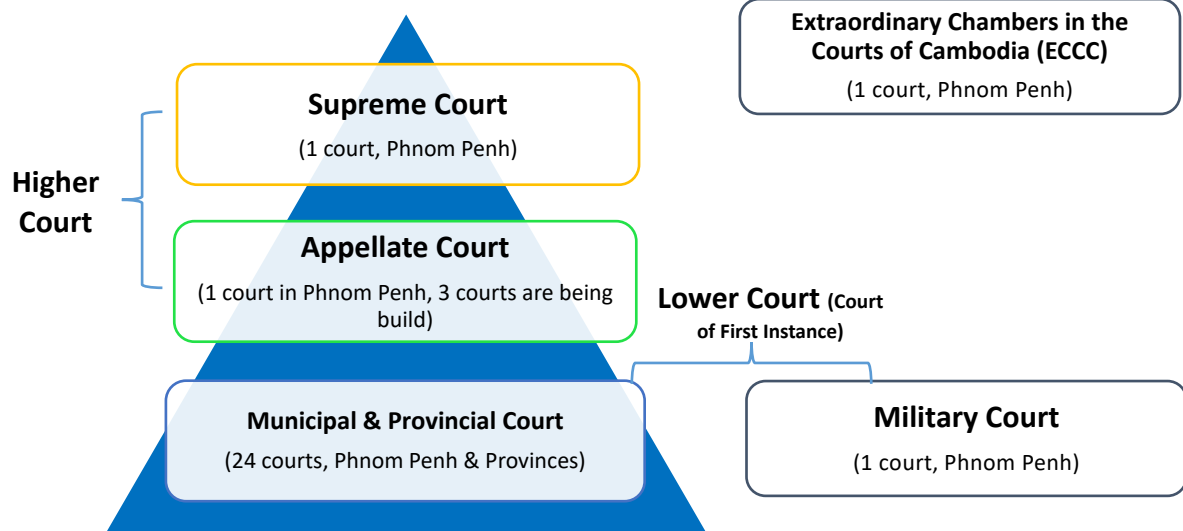
**Political Regime:** Constitutional Monarchy  
(Liberal Multi-Party Democracy)

**Population:** 15.29 million (2019)

**Ethnicities:** Khmer (97.6%), Cham (1.2%), Chinese (0.1%), Vietnamese (0.1%), and other (0.9%)

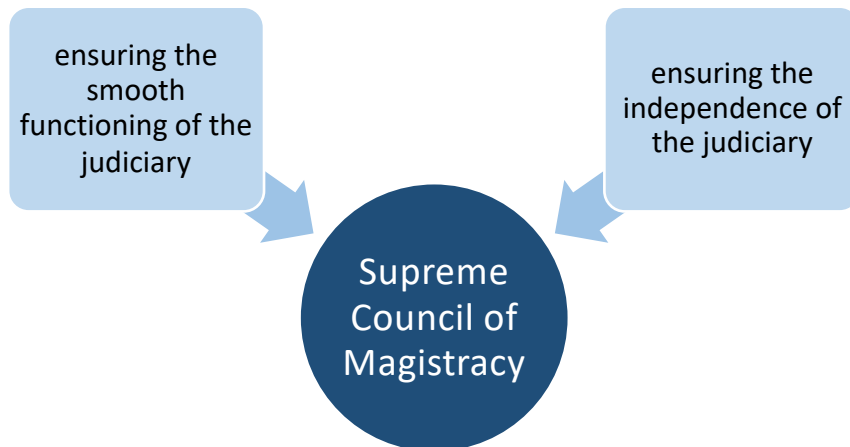
**Religions:** Theravada Buddhism (95%), Christian (1%), Muslim (2%), others and none (2%)

## I. INTRODUCTION TO CAMBODIAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM



## I. INTRODUCTION TO CAMBODIAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM

### The Supreme Council of Magistracy:



## I. INTRODUCTION TO CAMBODIAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM

### The Constitutional Council:

Safe-guard constitutional supremacy

Interpret constitutional provisions

Review constitutionality of law and Settle electoral disputes

## II. INTRODUCTION TO CSDGs

- Following Cambodia's endorsement of the SDGs at the UN General Assembly in late 2015, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) has adopted the Cambodian SDGs (CSDGs).
- Cambodia's voluntary national review 2019 on the implementation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development



7

## III. JUDICIAL REFORM

RGC has been progressing on implementing all major reforms including:

1. The Fight against Corruption
2. The Public Administration Reform
3. The Legal and Judicial Reform
4. The Reform of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces
5. The Public Financial Management Reform
6. The Decentralization and De-concentration reform

-(Cambodia's VNR 2019 on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)



8

### III. JUDICIAL REFORM

The progress related to this includes key efforts made to improve legal and judicial systems as follows:

❖ **Necessary legal frameworks were introduced to:**

- Enhance the competence;
- Enhance the independence and impartiality of judiciary.



9

### III. JUDICIAL REFORM

❖ **Major laws are continuing implemented including :**

- Criminal Code 2011;
- Criminal Procedure Code 2008;
- Civil Code 2007;
- Civil Procedure Code 2006;



10

### III. JUDICIAL REFORM

❖ **Immediate action has been made including:**

- The rotation of the judges and prosecutors from one area to another which is deemed as the strategies of the government in fighting against corruption within the judicial system.
- 03 appellate courts have been build in 03 provinces.



11

### III. JUDICIAL REFORM

❖ **Action plan in strengthening the judicial system have been made includes:**

- The RGC's strong commitment to partner with states and non-states actors for further developments.
- For instance, the Ministry of Information has collaborated with the Swedish Embassy and UNESCO to establish a Joint Technical Working Group to establish law on access to information. According to The Phnom Penh Post in August 2019, the draft law will be submitted to Council of Minister by the end of September or beginning of October to be stamped.



12

### III. JUDICIAL REFORM

- In the sixth legislation of the National Assembly, the RGC aims to focus on:  
*"Enhancing judicial service by improving work effectiveness of enforcement officials, strengthening public confidence in the judicial system, and fighting all kinds of abuse and violation in the society."*- (Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency Phase IV, September 2018)
- A series of initiatives have been taken by the RGC's ministries to eliminate certain administrative requirements.
- RGC has held regular consultative fora with CSOs and establishing an inter-ministerial working group to address their requests and concerns.



13

### III. JUDICIAL REFORM

#### Case study

In February 2019, the RGC ordered the establishment of volunteer group of lawyers to defend poor women who cannot afford to pay for representation, who were victims of land grabbing by powerful people, and underprivileged people who had been sued by powerful individuals.



14

### III. JUDICIAL REFORM

- 315 women out of 6, 268 peacekeeping troops are Cambodian.
- Cambodia is one of the largest contributors of blue helmets in the ASEAN region.



សូមអរគុណ  
កម្ពុជា

សំរាប់បេសកកម្មនិងការលះបង់របស់អ្នក



[peacekeeping.un.org/service](http://peacekeeping.un.org/service) #ServingForPeace

<http://www.en.freshnewsasia.com/index.php/en/localnews/14060-2019-05-24-03-37-45.html>

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

15

### III. JUDICIAL REFORM

	Targets & Indicators	CSDG target			Actual			Progress
		2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	
16.3	Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all							No data
16.7	Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels							On track
16.7.1	Proportion of female government official in ministries/agencies	40	41	42	40	40	41	On track
16.9	By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration							No data

Sources: CSDG Framework and Ministries

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

16



#### IV. CHALLENGES

##### ❖ Challenges:

- Lack of budget in enforcing law
- Corruption
- Lack of data
- Lack of awareness
- Lack capacity, resources and mechanism...



17

#### V. ACCELERATING STRATEGIES

##### ❖ Accelerating strategies:

- RGC continues to reform legal and judicial system
- Create sustainable legal framework and laws
- Building capacity
- Raise more awareness
- Enforce existing laws by increasing of the information, training programs for law enforcement officials...



## VI. CONCLUSION

- After the adoption of SDGs into our National Strategic Development plan, Cambodia is turning itself into a better Cambodia.
- Together with ASEAN, Mekong Region country, and the World, Cambodia will make itself one contributor to the achievement of SDGs in 2030.



<http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/news/articleView.html?idxno=38369>

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

19

## II. REFERENCE

Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge platform Cambodia, Voluntary National Review 2019

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/cambodia>

Cambodia's Voluntary National Review 2019 on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development, June 2019

[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23603Cambodia\\_VNR\\_SDPM\\_Approved.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3R387iKq7Xl4sUozjtpJx\\_qo-IULdQAKN8BnQC03NAdyblFMV3kSKnNKwf4](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23603Cambodia_VNR_SDPM_Approved.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3R387iKq7Xl4sUozjtpJx_qo-IULdQAKN8BnQC03NAdyblFMV3kSKnNKwf4)

Hor, P. (2012). Introduction to Cambodian Law (Eds.), Phnom Penh: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

[https://www.kas.de/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=06c676e4-ba12-d4c5-0a9e-5de4070272e9&groupId=252038](https://www.kas.de/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=06c676e4-ba12-d4c5-0a9e-5de4070272e9&groupId=252038)

Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency: Building Foundation towards Realizing the Cambodia Vision 2050 Phase IV

[http://cnv.org.kh/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Rectangular-Strategy-Phase-IV-of-the-Royal-Government-of-Cambodia-of-the-Sixth-Legislature-of-the-National-Assembly-2018-2023.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3-OmF6ywQdJFmpDM4IUhreU94SHbFS493NG6ow\\_pFDEgY5Xfy4Ku3tifs](http://cnv.org.kh/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Rectangular-Strategy-Phase-IV-of-the-Royal-Government-of-Cambodia-of-the-Sixth-Legislature-of-the-National-Assembly-2018-2023.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3-OmF6ywQdJFmpDM4IUhreU94SHbFS493NG6ow_pFDEgY5Xfy4Ku3tifs)

"Information Access law to be finalised next month", Dara, V. The Phnom Penh Post, 21 August 2018,

<https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/information-access-law-be-finalised-next-month>

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

20