



Intervention Statement
Mr. IECH SETHA
Deputy Director General, General Department of Digital Economy
Ministry of Economy and Finance, Cambodia
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Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen!

[Introduction to Cambodia's Commitment to Digital Innovation]

On behalf of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia, I am honored to participate in this important discussion on leveraging digital innovation for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. Cambodia firmly believes that digital technology is not just a tool but a catalyst for progress across all dimensions of sustainable development. We are committed to harnessing its potential to build a more inclusive, prosperous, and resilient future for all Cambodians.

[Digital Economy and Society Policy Framework 2021-2035]

In recent years, Cambodia has embarked on a transformative journey towards a digital economy and society. Our efforts have been guided by the Digital Economy and Society Policy Framework 2021-2035, which serves as a comprehensive roadmap for digital transformation. This framework sets out a clear vision and strategy to promote digital adoption and transformation in all sectors, laying the foundations for new economic growth and improved social welfare in the new normal.

[Promoting Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation]

To foster economic sustainability, Cambodia is actively promoting digital entrepreneurship and innovation. We have established programs to support startups, provide incubation support, mentorship, and funding opportunities. Our user-friendly online business registration platform streamlines the process of starting a business, nurturing a vibrant startup ecosystem. Furthermore, we are

currently developing a digital platform for Informal Economy enrollment. This platform will serve as a cornerstone for the informal economy, providing informal economic entities with the necessary tools and resources to thrive in the digital age. By leveraging digital technology, we aim to formalize and empower informal businesses, fostering economic growth and inclusivity.

[Enhancing Financial Inclusion]

Enhancing financial inclusion is another key priority for Cambodia. Through initiatives like the Cambodia FinTech Development Policy 2023-2028 and the Bakong payment system, we are promoting the use of mobile banking and digital financial services. This empowers unbanked individuals and small businesses to participate in the formal economy, fostering financial inclusion and growth. Additionally, we are actively developing an e-Invoicing system that will modernize and digitize invoice processes, enabling businesses to conduct transactions more efficiently and securely. By reducing paperwork and administrative burdens, the e-Invoicing system will contribute to a more favorable business environment, fostering economic growth and competitiveness.

[Building a Skilled Digital Workforce]

Building a skilled digital workforce is essential for sustainable development. Cambodia is investing in initiatives to enhance digital literacy across all segments of society. Programs like the "Roadmap for digital skills development in Cambodia 2024-2035" and the "Improve Digital Competency in Education Project 2023-2026" aim to equip our people with the skills needed to thrive in the digital economy.

[Efficiency in Business Processes]

Efficiency in business processes is crucial for economic growth. Cambodia has introduced e-Tax and e-Customs platforms to streamline tax filing and customs procedures. These platforms offer increased efficiency, reduced time, and costs, contributing to a more favorable business environment. Additionally, the Financial Management Information System (FMIS) plays a pivotal role in managing government budget and accounting. By digitizing budgeting and accounting processes, FMIS enhances transparency, accountability, and efficiency in financial management. Moreover, FMIS incorporates business streamline initiatives and reduces paperwork, further contributing to the modernization of government operations and fostering economic growth.

[Bridging the Digital Divide]

Bridging the digital divide is a top priority for Cambodia. We are expanding internet access, particularly in rural areas, and improving access to healthcare and public services. Additionally, we are developing digital platforms for public service

delivery and citizen feedback mechanisms to promote transparency and accountability.

[Building Digital Infrastructure]

Building digital infrastructure is fundamental to fostering innovation. Cambodia has developed key platforms like CamDX, CamDigiKey, BAKONG, and verify.gov.kh to support innovation and streamline processes. These platforms facilitate secure data exchange, digital identity verification, and online payments, laying the groundwork for future innovation.

[Leveraging Digital Innovation for Environmental Sustainability]

Furthermore, Cambodia is committed to leveraging digital innovation for environmental sustainability. We are promoting precision agriculture, building smart cities, enhancing environmental monitoring, and reducing paperwork through digital platforms and systems. Government administration and budget management through digital system like Financial Management Information System (FMIS)

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[Acknowledgment of Challenges and Opportunities]

Despite our progress, Cambodia acknowledges the challenges that remain. Ensuring equitable access to digital infrastructure and services, keeping pace with rapid technological advancements, and addressing digital literacy gaps are ongoing challenges. However, these challenges also present opportunities for regional collaboration.

[Proposals for Regional Collaboration]

To maximize the transformative potential of digital innovation, Cambodia proposes strengthening regional cooperation in digital skills development, facilitating knowledge transfer on developing affordable digital infrastructure solutions, and promoting the responsible use of digital technologies.

[Conclusion and Commitment]

By working together, we can unlock the immense potential of digital innovation to create a more prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable future for all citizens of Asia and the Pacific. Cambodia remains committed to actively participating in regional dialogues and collaborative initiatives to achieve this shared goal.

Thank you!