Regional Women’s Leadership Initiative

Australia Awards Cambodia in partnership with the Australian Alumni Association of Cambodia (AAA-C) are proud to announce an exciting event that will bring women alumni from across the ASEAN region together to connect, mobilise, celebrate and to further their development as leaders and influencers of regional development.

An invitation is issued to Australia women alumni in Cambodia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Philippines, Lao and Myanmar to participate in the Regional Women’s Leadership Initiative.

3-day formal program - Thursday 4 April to Saturday 6 April 2019
1-day recreational program - Sunday 7 April 2019
Raffles Hotel Le Royal
92 Rukhak Vithei Daun Penh, Sangkat Wat Phnom, Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia.

The Australian Government maintains a steadfast commitment to supporting women’s empowerment, professional participation and leadership. This recognises the important role and contribution that women make to the achievement of national and regional development outcomes, through their work in communities and organisations.

The development of leadership capacity amongst Australia women alumni is an important priority for Australia Awards. Many high-quality country-based leadership development programs have been established across the region, each designed to target the specific needs and interests of women, and offer development that builds confidence and practical capability.

The Regional Women’s Leadership Initiative represents a first step toward establishing a regional forum that links Australia women alumni from across ASEAN through the Australia Awards programs, and supports the collective growth of women’s leadership capacity and contribution to national and regional development.

The theme of the Initiative is:

Enhancing women’s access to professional opportunity – what more can we do to empower and support women as leaders in the region?

The program will be highly participatory, interactive and offer opportunities to build practical professional skills, learn from each other, and contribute ideas through discussion about complex issues related to the theme and relevant to the ASEAN region. It is anticipated that relationships formed through the shared experience of the event will lead to lasting and valuable professional connections and increase access for women to regional opportunities and peer support. It is also hoped that the experience will leave participants inspired and motivated to mobilise leadership action on their return to their home country.

For all these reasons, the event is designed to achieve three Goals:

1. Connect: To connect Australia women alumni from across the region, and strengthen and expand mutually beneficial professional networks.

2. Mobilise: To advance gender equality, women’s empowerment and professional participation by offering continuing engagement in leadership learning and development; and to embrace the power of collective engagement in key regional issues including through deliberation during the event, and mobilisation after the event.

3. Celebrate: To offer a forum for the recognition and celebration of the significant achievements of Australia alumni.

Christine Santos - Philippines
Women Alumni from Cambodia

Limited places are reserved at this event for Cambodian women who have studied in Australia under an Australian Government funded scholarship\(^1\). If you would like to submit an expression of interest to attend this event, please refer to the accompanying instructions from AAA-C. You will be notified if your place at the event is confirmed.

Please note that if you are provincially located, you will be provided with a travel allowance, per diem and overnight accommodation in a hotel near the event venue. Details of these arrangements will be advised with each participant on confirmation of their place at the event.

International Travel and Accommodation

Each Australia Awards program will make their own travel and accommodation arrangements for their nominated participants travelling to Phnom Penh.

Australia Awards Cambodia have prepared recommendations and secured accommodation rates (including breakfast) at a number of venues in close proximity to the event venue.

For details please refer to the separate document – Travel and Accommodation Advice.

Do you want to deliver a TED Talk?

The program includes opportunities for individual participants to self-nominate to deliver a 10-minute presentation in TED Talk style. Assistance will be given before and during the event to help presenters prepare for their TED Talk.

If you are someone who has a story or a key message or insight to share that is relevant to the event theme and you would like an opportunity to strengthen your presentation skills and confidence, please contact Australia Awards Cambodia.

Looking for inspiring Guest Speakers from ASEAN

The program includes spaces to hear from inspiring guest speakers from the ASEAN region. Do you know of someone who could deliver an inspiring speech (in English) on a topic related to the theme? If you do, please contact Australia Awards Cambodia.

What will be provided at the event

You will be provided with all printed program and writing materials. The event venue will provide morning and afternoon refreshments, as well as lunch. The dinners on Day 1 and Day 2 are also included.

What to bring

The event dress code is smart casual.

Participants are invited to bring traditional dress to wear at the formal dinner on Day 1. Also, bring business cards if you have them.

Bring clothing that is suitable for any recreational activities that you would like to do while in Phnom Penh – casual, modest dress is required for entry into significant sites such as the Royal Palace.

Other than that, just bring your lovely self and a willingness to share your ideas and learn with others! We look forward to welcoming you!

\(^1\)Australian Government funded scholarships include Australia Awards or predecessor scholarships, Endeavour Awards, ACIAR scholarships.
Program in Brief
(Note the program will be subject to change as details are confirmed)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday 4 April</th>
<th>Friday 5 April</th>
<th>Saturday 6 April</th>
<th>Sunday 7 April</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Day 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Day 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Day 4 Recreation Day (Optional)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>0830 Registrations open</td>
<td>Welcome Reconnect and reflect</td>
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<td>An organised program of activities designed to offer a cultural experience will be organised based on demand:</td>
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<tr>
<td>0900 – 1200 Morning session</td>
<td>Welcome address Program review Group Interactive Who is in the room? What values will guide us? Learning session Review of the event theme and the current situation.</td>
<td>Keynote address Learning session Working with complex issues – what it means for leadership action Group Interactive What have we learnt from our own journeys of change so far?</td>
<td>A morning tour of the city sights by cyclo including a visit to the Royal Palace and National Museum. A Khmer-style lunch. An afternoon with more sightseeing including a visit to Wat Phnom, Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and shopping at the Central Market.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1200 – 1315 Lunch break</td>
<td>Lunch break</td>
<td>Lunch break</td>
<td>All parts of the tour will be guided and accompanied by members of the organising team and local participants.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1315 – 1700 Afternoon session including afternoon tea break</td>
<td>TED Talk Group Interactive What is the change we want to see? Learning session Foundation of leadership – emotional intelligence Group Interactive What do I bring to leadership?</td>
<td>TED Talk Learning session Leadership for socially inclusive development Group Interactive How inclusive are we? What more can we do? Guest Panel Discussion addressing issues related to the event theme</td>
<td>TED Talk Group presentations Group Interactive What’s next – facilitated evaluation and discussion about the way forward Plenary session Closing address</td>
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<td>1700 Close</td>
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<tr>
<td>1800 – 2100 Evening session</td>
<td>Formal Dinner with the Australian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia and special guests</td>
<td>Group dinner – format to be confirmed</td>
<td>Free time</td>
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Please direct all inquiries to the event organisers:

**All general inquiries:**
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Equity and Program Enrichment Specialist,
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**Accommodation and travel inquiries:**
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Learning, Communications and Events Coordinator,
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**Alumni from Cambodia may also direct inquiries to AAA-C Board members:**
Ms Phany Sok: [phansok@gmail.com](mailto:phansok@gmail.com)
Ms Sereyroth Lim: [sereyroth.lim@gmail.com](mailto:sereyroth.lim@gmail.com)