



# POSITION PAPER

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**on Lifelong Learning Policy**

# Position Paper on Lifelong Learning Policy in Cambodia

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**NFE/LLL Working Group - (NEP) supported by DVVI Cambodia**

## Introduction

Under the framework of SDG#4 “*Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all*” and the *National Policy on Lifelong Learning in Cambodia*, the Lifelong Learning (LLL) concept is crucial for personal, professional and societal development especially for the rural poor and disadvantaged groups. However, various challenges impede the effective implementation of LLL policies. This portfolio analyzes these challenges and presents actionable recommendations, integrating the proactive measures undertaken by the Lifelong Learning Secretariat of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to enhance the LLL initiatives.

## Key Challenges and Recommendations

### 1. Lack of Understanding of the Overall Concept of Lifelong Learning

**Position:** Stakeholders lack clarity on LLL objectives and benefits.

**Recommendation:**

- **Awareness Campaigns:** Launch comprehensive campaigns targeting educators, policymakers, and the public to clarify LLL’s importance.
- **Training Workshops:** Conduct workshops to deepen understanding of LLL concepts.
- **Build a culture of learning as personal and professional development regardless their levels of qualifications**

### 2. Lack of Technical Team Capable of Producing Learning Materials

**Position:** Insufficient skilled professionals hinder the development of quality educational materials responsive to the actual needs of learners.

**Recommendation:**

- **Establish Technical Teams:** Form dedicated teams to develop tailored educational resources for LLL programs.
- **Invest in Capacity Building:** Provide training in resource development for professionals.
- **Encourage every society member to be a giver and taker of ideas and knowledge as everyone is valuable to one another**

### 3. Lack of Support, Evaluation, and Accreditation for Learners

**Position:** Absence of support mechanisms undermines the values of LLL programs.

**Recommendation:**

- **Create Accreditation Frameworks:** Develop systems to recognize achievements in LLL programs.
- **Implement Support Services:** Establish mentorship and career guidance for learners.
- **Launch a national campaign that Every Khmer Citizen is a lifelong learner.** National Award to LLL community/city

### 4. Lack of Funding

**Position:** Insufficient funding limits the reach and quality of LLL initiatives.

**Recommendation:**

- **Advocate for Budget Allocation:** Urge government and private sectors to increase financial support for LLL.
- **Seek International Partnerships:** Engage with global organizations for funding and resources.
- **Raise fund from social media users to LLL program in poor communities to produce learning contents and educational influencers**

### 5. Lack of Resources

**Position:** Scarcity of educational resources hampers effective learning.

**Recommendation:**

- **Upgrade Educational Infrastructure:** Invest in modern facilities and digital tools.
- **Develop Online Learning Platforms:** Ensure access to digital resources, especially in rural areas.
- **Encourage all districts and cities to mobilize resources (persons, finance, materials and time) for LLL activities**

### 6. Lack of Collaboration

**Position:** Fragmented efforts reduce the effectiveness of LLL initiatives.

**Recommendation:**

- **Promote Partnerships:** Foster collaboration between government, NGOs, and the private sector.
- **Engage with the NFE/LLL Working Group:** Strengthen coordination for unified LLL program development.
- **Convince that everyone has values in educating and training other.**

## 7. Inadequate Training for Educators

**Position:** Many educators lack ongoing professional development opportunities.

### **Recommendation:**

- **Support Educator Training:** Champion professional development initiatives focusing on Adult Learning principles.
- **Organize Certification Programs:** Equip educators with necessary skills for LLL facilitation.

## 8. Socio-Cultural Barriers

**Position:** Traditional views on education hinder participation.

### **Recommendation:**

- **Promote Inclusive Education:** Develop programs that address cultural attitudes and engage marginalized groups.
- **Community Involvement:** Partner with local organizations to create relevant learning opportunities.
- **Break the cultural barrier that in all learning society, “No One is Left Behind”**

## 9. Limited Accessibility to Learning Opportunities

**Position:** Rural areas often lack sufficient educational facilities.

### **Recommendation:**

- **Increase Educational Centers:** Expand the number of learning centers in underserved areas.
- **Facilitate Mobile Learning Initiatives:** Use mobile resources to reach remote learners.
- **When everyone believes in learning, no one can stop them from learning new areas**

## 10. Technological Barriers

**Position:** Limited access to technology affects participation.

## Recommendation:

- **Enhance Digital Literacy Programs:** Provide training on technology use in education.
- **Invest in Technology Infrastructure:** Ensure access to the internet and digital tools in educational institutions.

## 11. Short-Term Focus of Educational Programs

**Position:** Emphasis on immediate job skills undermines long-term learning goals.

### Recommendation:

- **Broaden Educational Curricula:** Integrate long-term skill development into vocational training.
- **Promote Holistic Learning Approaches:** Encourage educational institutions to focus on broader competencies.
- **Diagnostic study on individual needs to learn and should share what they already have**

## 12. Bureaucratic Inefficiencies

**Position:** Bureaucratic challenges slow down LLL program implementation.

### Recommendation:

- **Streamline Approval Processes:** Simplify regulatory frameworks to expedite program development.
- **Encourage Innovation:** Foster an environment that supports responsive educational policies.
- **Learning is a liberation of the mind – joyful learning environment to be built anywhere for anytime needed**

## 13. Fragmented Policy Framework

**Position:** Inconsistent policies lead to confusion in LLL implementation.

### Recommendation:

- **Develop a Cohesive Policy Framework:** Integrate LLL policies with other educational strategies for clarity and consistency.
- **Engage Stakeholders:** Involve diverse groups in policy formulation to ensure alignment.

## 14. Insufficient Research and Data

**Position:** Limited research hinders evidence-based decision-making.

**Recommendation:**

- **Conduct Comprehensive Research:** Invest in studies to evaluate LLL program effectiveness.
- **Establish Data Collection Mechanisms:** Create systems for ongoing assessment and feedback.
- **Partner with university research institutions and private education providers to conduct diagnostic studies on community learning needs**

## 15. Economic Constraints

**Position:** Economic hardships limit individuals' ability to engage in education.

**Recommendation:**

- **Address Economic Barriers:** Implement financial aid and support programs for learners.
- **Encourage Employer Sponsorship:** Engage businesses in funding employee education initiatives as their staff continuous professional development schemes

## 16. Lack of Motivation Among Learners

**Position:** Previous negative educational experiences lead to apathy.

**Recommendation:**

- **Inspire Learner Engagement:** Share success stories and positive outcomes from LLL participation.
- **Implement Motivational Programs:** Develop initiatives that encourage lifelong learning.

## Call to Action

In light of the identified challenges and the recommendations provided, we call upon all

### Call to Action

In light of the challenges identified, we call upon all stakeholders including government officials, educational institutions, civil society organizations, and the private sector to take immediate and coordinated action focused on the following key areas:

#### 1. Enhance Understanding of Lifelong Learning

**Mobilize Awareness Initiatives:** Launch comprehensive campaigns to educate all stakeholders about the principles and benefits of lifelong learning.

**Organize Training Workshops:** Facilitate workshops for educators, policymakers, and community leaders to deepen their understanding of LLL concepts. A series of orientation workshops to be organized for young educational social media influencers

## **2. Develop Technical Capacity**

**Form Technical Teams:** Establish dedicated teams of experts to create high-quality educational materials tailored for lifelong learning programs.

**Invest in Capacity Building:** Provide training for professionals in the development of educational resources and materials.

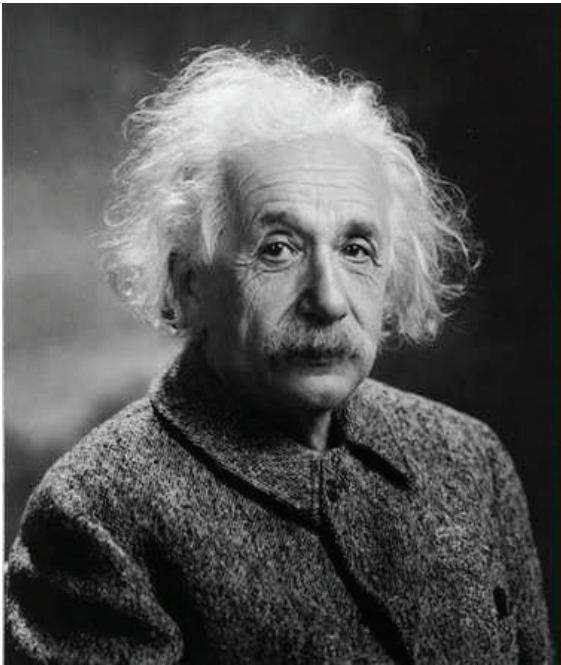
## **3. Strengthen Support Systems for Learners**

**Create Accreditation Frameworks:** Develop robust accreditation and evaluation systems to recognize the achievements of learners who complete LLL programs.

**Implement Support Services:** Establish support mechanisms for learners, including counseling, mentorship, and career guidance.

## **Conclusion**

The challenges to effective LLL policy implementation in Cambodia are significant but not insurmountable. The active measures taken by the Lifelong Learning Secretariat General of the NCLL—such as policy advocacy, stakeholder collaboration, and the establishment of training frameworks—are essential in addressing these barriers. By implementing the recommendations outlined above and responding to this call to action, Cambodia can create a robust framework for lifelong learning, ultimately equipping its population with the skills needed to thrive in a rapidly changing world. Continuous evaluation and adaptation of LLL policies will be crucial to ensuring their success and relevance.



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Once  
you  
stop learning,  
you  
start dying.

—  
ALBERT EINSTEIN

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