

Memorandum of Understanding  
on Framework of the Teaching of  
“A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)”  
between Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport (MoEYS)  
and Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam)  
from 2018 to 2022

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**A. Project Description:**

- Project’s name: The Teaching of “A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)” at secondary schools, 6 regional pedagogical centers, National Institute of Education (NIE), and the foundation year of public and private higher education institutions.
- The institution in charge of implementing: Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) and Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (MoEYS).
- Financial Assistance will be provided by DC-Cam.
- Project’s purpose: Provide advanced and effective methodology for teaching and learning the History of Democratic Kampuchea to secondary school teachers, pre-service teachers at 6 regional pedagogical centers, pre-service teachers at NIE, and lecturers at public and private higher education institutions during the foundation year nationwide. Since the past few years, from 2014 to 2017, the project has trained, in total, 2,135 teachers, pre-service teachers and lecturers. The project will be strengthened to ensure that students all over the country gain knowledge and understanding about the History of Democratic Kampuchea much more fairly as well as to educate them the tolerating, understanding, forgiving, and reconciling attitude.
- Project’s duration: From January 2018 to December 2022.

**1. Documents and Capacity Building:**

- 1) The book “A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979),” published by DC-Cam will be used as a core document for teacher trainings and for producing lesson plans in order to add to the existing content or to integrate lessons on the History of Democratic Kampuchea into school curriculum.
- 2) Updating of the Teacher’s Guidebook on the teaching of “A History of Democratic Kampuchea” and other assisting documents will be conducted by MoEYS in collaboration with DC-Cam, in respond to the actual situation of teachers’ needs.
- 3) Organizing training course for 1,500 secondary school teachers who are specialized in History, Geography, Khmer Literature, and Moral Education.
- 4) An annual meeting will be held with national and provincial teachers. The meeting will aim to strengthen teachers’ capacity in conducting research, documenting, and teaching the history of Democratic Kampuchea more effectively.
- 5) Organizing training courses for pre-service teachers, 3,000 people in total, at 6 regional pedagogical centers, including Phnom Penh, Kandal, Takeo, Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, and Battambang. This training will be organized annually.

- 6) Organizing training course for pre-service teachers, 200 in total, at NIE every year.
- 7) Conducting training on the methodologies in teaching the history of Democratic Kampuchea for lecturers of the foundation year, 1,000 lecturers in total, from all Cambodian higher education institutions, both public and private.
- 8) Building genocide education memorials in 20 high schools nationwide in the purpose of remembering and forgiving. The memorial consists of two slogans which read: "Talking about experiences during the Khmer Rouge regime promotes reconciliation and educates children about forgiveness and tolerance" and "Learning about the history of Democratic Kampuchea prevents genocide."
- 9) Distributing "A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)" books to secondary schools, 6 regional pedagogical centers, NIE, and public and private higher education institutions nationwide.
- 10) Conducting 15 public forums on "Remembering the History of Democratic Kampuchea" at the rural communities, in particularly in the final stronghold of Khmer Rouge. These forums are conducted because they reveals about the relations between the elder generations and the generations after Khmer Rouge regime, which is a kind of emotional healing method for the victims of Khmer Rouge regime, as well as shows about the relations of studying of the history of Democratic Kampuchea in schools and communities.
- 11) Conducting classroom forum on "The importance of studying of the history of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)" in "5 Ka" region. This forum helps expand the knowledge of students on the history of Democratic Kampuchea and enhance the critical thinking on peace building, reconciliation, emotional healing, and prevention of Genocide from taking place in Cambodia in the future.
- 12) Collecting stories from villages and communes to compile as references for teachers to use in their teaching. Teachers will be trained on the method of researching before they personally do research at their home villages.
- 13) Disseminating and instructing the new generations to understand about the history of Democratic Kampuchea through internet and their mobile phones. A number of Khmer Rouge documents were posted on a website which is created to let youths feel convinient in following up and studying about the history of Democratic Kampuchea. Cambodian youths and general public can learn about this history by themselves.
- 14) Organizing short workshop on additional understanding about the history of Democratic Kampuchea 45 times with teachers and students at high school level nationwide. This workshop includes presentation of the important events which took place in Democratic Kampuchea, the importance of the studying history, field trip to the killing fields, labor camps remaining from Khmer Rouge regime, and historical memorials which are available in their province, and interviews related to the knowledge of the history of Democratic Kampuchea.

- 15) Including the training on the teaching of the history of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979) into MoEYS's curriculum for pre-service teachers who study at the pedagogical centers in 6 regions and NIE as well as foundation year university students in all universities.
- 16) Adding information about the current events related to the background of Khmer Rouge leaders and the evolution of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) into "A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)" and re-publish this book in order to facilitate the teaching and learning of the history of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979).

**2. Quality Control: Observation and strengthening the teaching in schools:**

- Observations of teaching "A History of Democratic Kampuchea" for the purpose of quality control will be conducted during the period of this agreement, in collaboration with specialized body of MoEYS. The results from the observations will be collected in order to make recommendations to improve the Teacher's Guidebook to be more effective. The results will be used to assess the level of content inserted into the curriculum and improve the teaching of "A History of Democratic Kampuchea" to be more effective.

**B. General Conditions:**

- DC-Cam supports the educational policy of MoEYS, the administrative work of MoEYS, as well as the announcement of the Council of Ministers, No. 1134 SChN, dated June 11, 2013, on request for government decision related to reparation project for Civil Parties and Victims before the ECCC in Case 002.
- DC-Cam cooperates closely with MoEYS to enlarge, build and strengthen skills and capacity of relevant specialized officials of MoEYS effectively.
- MoEYS is to approve public reports or documents which result from the cooperation between DC-Cam and MoEYS.
- MoEYS will facilitate the locations for workshops or teacher trainings and provide proper visa as requested by relevant officials and staff members as stated in point "A" to perform the targeted tasks agreed upon.
- MoEYS will facilitate administrative tasks for DC-Cam to distribute "A History of Democratic Kampuchea" books to secondary schools, high schools, 6 regional pedagogical centers, NIE, and all higher education institutions in the Kingdom of Cambodia. Within the past period, DC-Cam has distributed about half a million of "A History of Democratic Kampuchea" books. DC-Cam will continue distribute this history books and collection of documents related to the history of Democratic Kampuchea in digital format.
- The MoEYS has the right to end the project's activities and the collaboration in case the Ministry sees that DC-Cam tends to serve a specific ideology or the interest of a political party or causes conflicts that are against state law.
- MoEYS and DC-Cam will evaluate the progress and effectiveness of the project's implementation at least three months before the project ends in order to decide whether to end or to continue the project.

The purpose of this Agreement on Framework of the Teaching of “A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)” at secondary schools, 6 regional pedagogical centers, NIE, and foundation year of public and private higher education institutions is to provide a framework that covers the activities in which MoEYS and DC-Cam will collaborate over a five-year period, ensuring the practicality and the accountability before the implementation. This agreement does not create legal obligations, but it is a joint agreement identifying the project responsibilities of MoEYS and DC-Cam.

The original of this document is written in Khmer.

Phnom Penh, April 25, 2017

Representative of MoEYS  
Minister of MoEYS

Representative of DC-Cam  
Director of DC-Cam

[Signed and sealed]  
Dr. Hang Chuon Naron

[Signed and Sealed]  
Chhang Youk