

CADT



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Assessing Internet Development in Cambodia

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Cambodia Internet Governance Forum 2025
Digital Government Forum 2025
06 December 2025



Supported by



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CBRD Fund

Background

- Initiative of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications of Cambodia (MPTC) and the UNESCO Phnom Penh Office, as a part of cooperation to support Cambodia in its transition towards a digital and knowledge society in achieving Cambodia-localized SDG2030 (CSDGs) and the development of digital economy and society.
- At the 65th Meeting, IPDC approved to support the assessment on Internet Development in Cambodia. Cambodia Academy of Digital Technology (CADT) is carried out the assessment in partnership with the UNESCO Phnom Penh Office, and with the support of MPTC.

Mulistakeholder Adivsory Board (MAB)



5 Experts from the Government:

Ministry of Post and Telecommunications
Ministry of Information
National Institute of Statistic



1 Expert from Internet Technical and Professional Community:

Cambodia Journalist Alliance Association



3 Experts from Private Sector:

Young Entrepreneur Association of Cambodia
Association of Telecommunication Operator



3 Experts from the Academia:

Institute of Digital Research and Innovation (IDRI)
Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)
Asian Vision Institute (AV)



2 Experts from the Internet Users:

Gender and Development for Cambodia
Youth Resources Development Program



5 Experts from IOs and Civil Society:

UNESCO OHCHR UNICEF
Open Development Cambodia (ODC)
Cambodia Center for Human Rights (CCHR)



Assessing Internet Development in Cambodia: 109 Core Indicator



21 **CONTEXTUAL**
INDICATOR



34 **ACCESSIBILITY
TO ALL** INDICATOR



22 **RIGHTS**
INDICATOR



10 **MULTISTAKEHOLDER**
INDICATOR

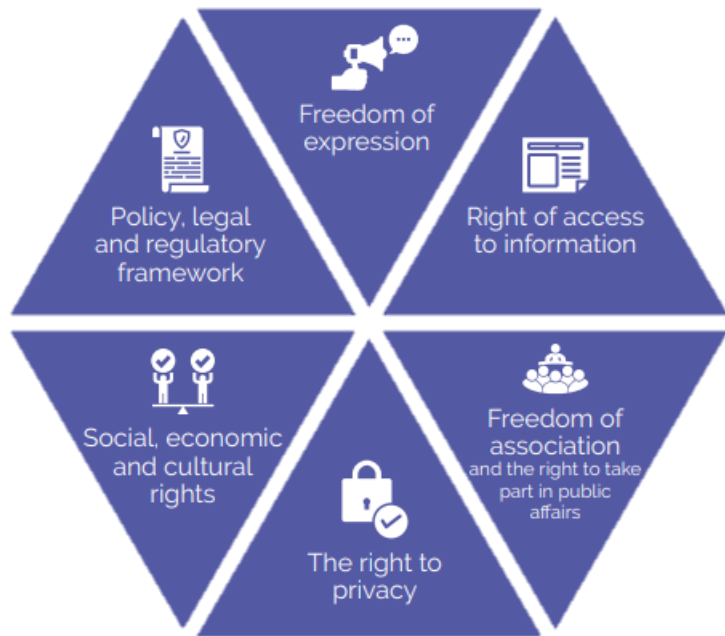


17 **OPENESS**
INDICATOR



26 **CROSS-CUTTING**
INDICATOR

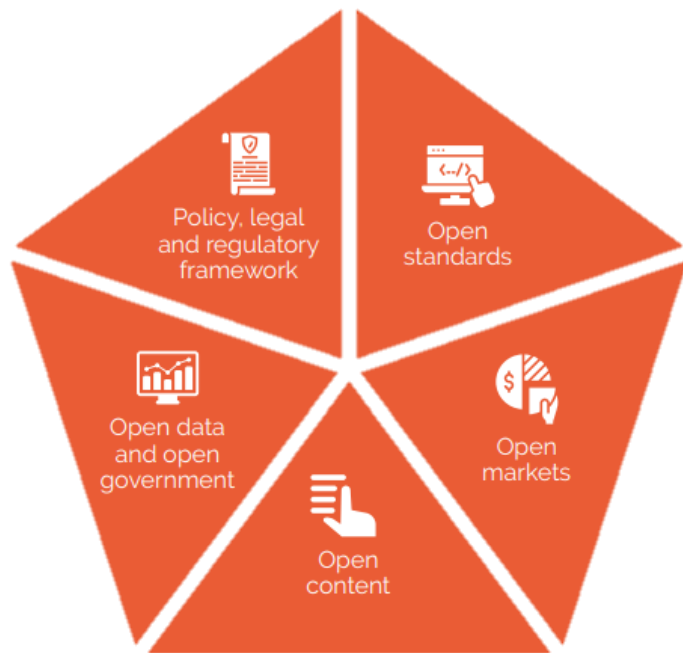




22 **RIGHTS** **INDICATOR**

- No express legal regulation defines an online/offline equivalence.
- Defamation and Insult: a type of cybercrimes (committed via Online).
- Computer related offenses in the Criminal Code 2009 in Articles 317-320 and 427-432, the crimes of “Infringement on the secrecy of correspondence and telecommunication” and “Offenses in the information technology sector”
- Personal Data Protection law and Cybercrime law is being drafted by RGC.
- Telecom Law is the legal framework for the lawful interception of data.

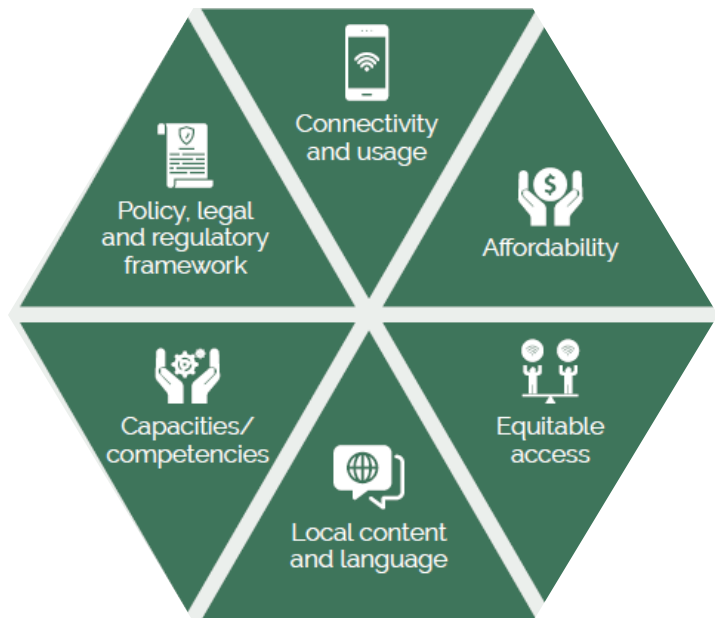




17 **OPENESS** INDICATOR

- Internet governance and e-Governing framework is not sufficient for the Internet as Open, Public and Universal Resource.
- Fragmented regulatory framework to promote Innovation on the Internet
- Independent Regulator, however, consumer interest required more efforts. Spectrum Management s recently adopted, as WTO commitment
- Absent of specific open data policy or regulation, except, the right to access to open data stated in the 2005 Archive Law.
- Cambodia was ranked fairly low in the E-Government Development Index (EGDI) with slight improvement recently.

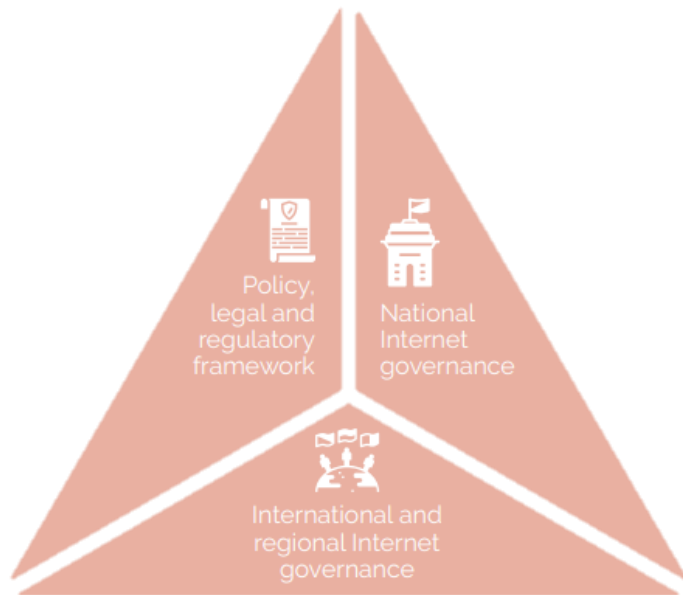




A 34 ACCESSIBILITY TO ALL INDICATOR

- Universal Service Obligation Fund Regulation & Capacity R&D Fund
- Despite significant improvement, the connectivity network is not sufficient to enable inclusive access and use of the Internet to all.
- Affordable but Quality of Services is in Question.
- Limited access for people with disability and digital divide
- Majority of Population use Khmer Language; however, local content remain limited.
- Users' capabilities and competence remain low; however, strong government commitment: Basic Digital Literacy & Digital Skill and STEM





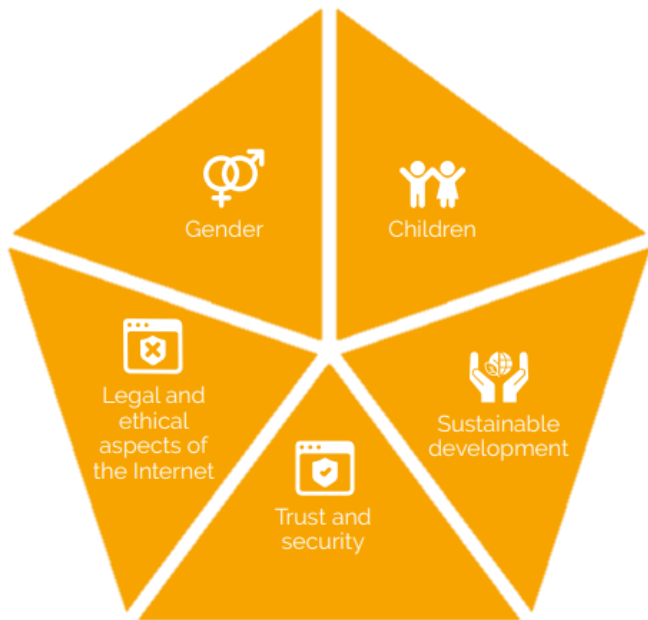
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Multistakeholder participation

MULTISTAKEHOLDER INDICATOR

- MPTC is primarily responsible for Internet and telecommunications policymaking. Several ICT-related policies and regulation has been seeking inputs from varied stakeholders; however, the concept of multi-stakeholder-based Internet governance has not been fully expressed and received by the government.
- The government has involved interest groups in national policies development; however, it is not sufficient nor extensive.
- Absent of form of **Annual Internet Governance Forum in Cambodia**.
- Limited public participation on important digital policy problems.





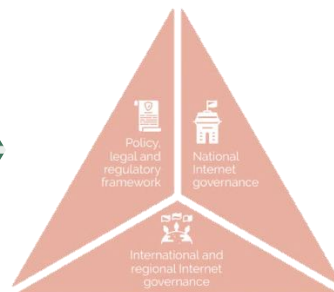
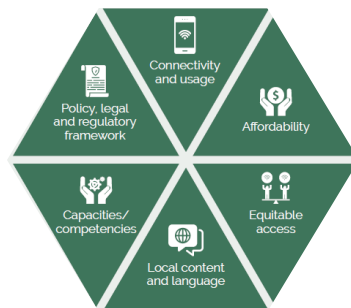
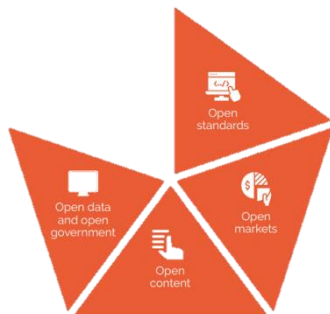
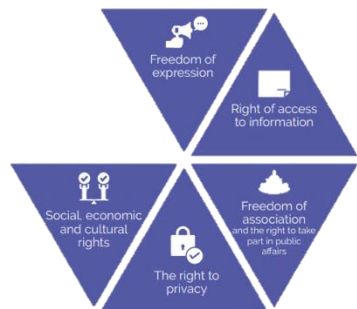
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CROSS-CUTTING INDICATOR

- Gaps in addressing cross-cutting issues: gender, marginalization, children, which also affect the Internet ecosystem.
- No Digitalization and Gender policy, and existing policies remains broad and limited to the reference to education and women with specific focus on digital literacy (STEM) or women and e-commerce.
- A central policy for gender mainstreaming in digitalization is needed, and MOWA has initiating the process.
- Limited information on digitalization and children, especially cyberspace security, and other issues: dropped or suspended school during COVID-19 and risks and crimes that attacked children was not investigated



Key Recommendations for Stakeholders



Government:



Private Sector:



Internet Users:



Internet Technical Community:



Academia:



Civil Society:





For Government

- Laws and regulations:
 - Human Rights **Impact Assessment**
 - Promotion independent online media, press, and protection of freedom of expression, right to access to information and privacy.
- Data Governance:
 - Establishment of **Independent Data Protection Agency**
 - Make available **public data and information online** in an easily accessible format.
- Local Content and inclusiveness:
 - Public websites and portals with **local languages and inclusive**.
 - Strategy and plan for the promotion of **universal access**.
 - Broadband internet connection to all communes across the country





For Government (Cont.)

- Digital Skills and Digital R&D:
 - **Update curricula to DMIL and STEM** in all levels of education and TVET.
 - **Digital skill essential training** and digital pedagogy of teachers.
 - Skill Development Fund: upskill and reskill the workforce in the field of ICT and for the future of work.
 - **Digital skill competency framework** for higher education and TVET
- Multi-stakholder :
 - Promote the principles of multi-stakeholder governance in all Internet-related forums.
 - Organize a multi-stakeholder forum such as the **Internet Governance Forum-Cambodia**



For Judiciary



- Capacity Building of the Judges and related personnels:
 - **Capacity building on Internet-related law** to judges, prosecutors, court clerks, lawyers, police officers, and related officials.
 - Human rights principles and internet-related rights in ruling a judgment.
 - Integrate a **digital technology related module in all training** involved judicial sector
 - Clear procedure governing the admissibility of digital evidence, its integrity, and its preservation in the absence of relevant legislation.
 - Increase the number of **judges and prosecutors specializing in cybercrime**
- Accessible of judiciary document and decision
 - Make judiciary documents and court decisions available online.



For Private sector



- Coverage and Quality of Services (QoS):
 - 4G coverage & **ensure quality of service (QoS)** in compliance with laws, regulations, and quality standards. .
 - **Promotion of customer's rights** to information and be informed in the use of data
 - **Protection for personal** data concerning access, modification, and transfer.
- Active Participation in Policy Formulation & Enforcement
- Capacity building and Promotion of R&D
 - **University-industry linkage:** digital skills, upskill and re-skill programs, and R&D.
 - **Upskill and re-skill programs for employees**
 - Work with financial institutions to provide **access to finance for start-ups.**
 - **Use of digital technologies** in business.

For Technical Community



➤ Standard and Guideline

- **Ethical values**, such as achieving the highest possible degree of **security and privacy protection**, in the development of technical standards and products.
- **Open-source software**: Innovate and develop software and applications.
- Mechanisms for user to protect data and set up a support accessible and user-friendly to all the genders across all generations, including people with disabilities. .

➤ Active Participation in Policy Formulation & Enforcement

- Participation in law and policy consultation to represent the technical aspect.
- Support **mechanism in the law enforcement authorities** in combating crimes against girls and women in cyberspace while safeguarding important legal interests, privacy, and data protection.



For Civil Society



- Advocacy and participation in the development of **law and policy consultation process**.
- Monitor and report the result of the implementation of new Internet-related laws and regulations
- **Collaboration** to provide **media and digital literacy to citizens**; especially in rural and remote areas.
- **Awareness raising programs on safety in cyberspace** for children, young people and parents to prevent online crimes.
- Implementation of Universal Service Obligation Fund Support: Support the communities in the rural and remote areas.
- Initiative to **monitoring and combating human rights violations** on the Internet, particularly children and women



For Academia



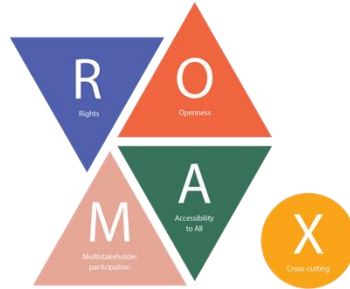
- M&E of internet rights: the impact of recent legislation on vulnerable and disadvantaged people.
- Policy input and recommendations: research, **cross-sectional and longitudinal data**.
- Access to academic research, publications, and scientific journals.
- Join efforts with the MoEYS, and MPTC on curricula development on **STEM and digital skills at all educational levels**.
- Promote R&D for digital adoption: Khmer Natural Language Processing.
- **Cyber-security literacy programs** for children and vulnerable group
- **Research on children's access and usage of ICT**



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Thank you



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