



PRESS RELEASE

BEEP Learning Center Launch

WHAT: Launch of 3 Learning Centers of Basic Education Equivalency Programme (BEEP)

WHO:

- **H.E. Dr. Pich Sophoan**, Permanent Secretary of State and senior officials of the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MoLVT)
- **Mr. Sardar Umar Alam**, UNESCO Representative to Cambodia
- Representative of Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS)
- Representative of Smart Axiata
- UN Joint Program Team on Youth Employment, World Education EdTech Center, DPs & youth-centered NGOs

WHEN: Thursday, **2 May 2019**, from **8:00 am to 11:00 am**

WHERE: National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Innovation (NIEI)

Dear Journalists,

Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and UNESCO Phnom Penh Office have the pleasure to announce the official launch of another 3 BEEP Learning Centers in Phnom Penh: (1) National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Innovation (NIEI); (2) JVC Technical College; (3) National Institute of Business (NIB) on 2 May 2019 at National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Innovation (NIEI), following the recent official launch of 4 learning centers in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap.

BEEP is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) and the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MoLVT) with UNESCO support to provide flexible alternative education to out-of-school youth to complete lower secondary/basic education, equivalent to grade 9. BEEP enables the Cambodian youth to pursue their educational interest while continuing professional activities. Having a basic education qualification will enable them to build their knowledge and skills for further decent employment opportunities.

Within just two months after the official launch of the first learning center in Phnom Penh in February, 734 learners have registered online (25% female) from different parts of Cambodia and enrolled 60 students in 4 learning centers under MoEYS. The announcement has been made at the 5 learning centers under the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training which have been set up with facilities and ready for students. By 29 April 2019, 32 students (10 female) have enrolled at these centers. During the twelve months, BEEP has generated a very dynamic dialogue about the importance of continuing education and lifelong learning in Cambodia among the policy makers, employers, partners in development and the youth. There are 17 UN Young Volunteers supporting BEEP and BEEP Facebook has 8,688 followers/likes. BEEP Team is excited to see this grow.

Supported by the United Nations Joint Programme (UNJP) on Youth Employment in Cambodia, BEEP course is available online on Moodle, an open-source learning management system, which is now available in Khmer thanks to BEEP in collaboration with World Education's EdTech Center. A total of 11 e-learning subjects are available for students to choose and learn from. BEEP will be piloted in 10 centers (5 in Phnom Penh and 5 in Siem Reap). Enrolled students will be given free internet access by Smart Axiata to the e-learning courses and can take courses of their interests and needs at their own pace. Successful students who complete all required subjects and pass required assessments/examinations will be awarded basic education certificate and have a chance to continue their education either at vocational high schools or at TVET Secondary Schools.

H.E. Dr. Pich Sophoan, Permanent Secretary of State of the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training will preside over the event in the presence of senior officials from MoEYS and MoLVT and UNESCO Representative along with other development partners, youth-centered NGOs, teachers and students. During the launch, a brief progress report and video about BEEP activities will be presented. Honored guests will be invited to tour the BEEP learning center as well.

For further information, please contact:

Ms. Sophan Long, Special Training and Gender Office, MoLVT, , 092 676 776

Mr. Kimlay Leav, Education Programme Officer, UNESCO, k.leav@unesco.org, 069 891 234