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**NTU, Temasek Foundation launch inaugural training programme in public administration and governance for senior Cambodian officials**

Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Temasek Foundation, in collaboration with Cambodia's Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), is launching a new training programme to train senior Cambodian government officials in public administration and governance. MEF, the main coordinating agency for Cambodia's economic development, oversees economic and financial policies and administers the national budget.

With a grant of S\$490,000 from Singapore's Temasek Foundation and co-funding from MEF, the training programme will be conducted by NTU's Nanyang Centre for Public Administration (NCPA). It will be taught by senior NTU faculty and experienced practitioners, including former Singapore ministers. The former Singapore government leaders who will be sharing their insights and experiences include former Deputy Prime Minister Wong Kan Seng, and former ministers Mah Bow Tan and Yeo Ning Hong, in addition to former Minister of State Chan Soo Sen.

The opening ceremony of the Training Programme on Public Administration, Policy and Governance for Senior Cambodian Government Officials, was held today at the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

H.E. Dr Aun Pornmoniroth, Cambodia's Minister for Economy and Finance, Chief Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister and Chairman of the Supreme National Economic Council of Cambodia graced the event as Guest-of-Honour. Also present as part of the Singapore delegation was Mr Kevin Cheok, Singapore Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia, Mr Benedict Cheong, Chief Executive Officer, Temasek Foundation, Singapore, and NTU Associate Provost (Student Life), Associate Professor Kwok Kian Woon.

The two-week training programme aims to equip more than 80 senior Cambodian government officials with knowledge and skills in the areas of governance and public finance policy and administration strategies. This will enable them to enhance their public financial management capabilities.

To be conducted in both Phnom Penh and Singapore, the programme participants will include senior officials, including vice-ministers and director-generals from various government agencies across Cambodia.

This new programme is also expected to enhance the people-to-people relations between Singapore and Cambodia, and support the Cambodian government's efforts to update its public administration and governance initiatives.

Professor Kwok Kian Woon, NTU Associate Provost (Student Life) said, "Singapore's public governance and administration is one of the key factors that resulted in the country's rapid transformation from third to first world. As such, the new training programme tailored especially for senior Cambodian government officials aims to introduce to participants new concepts and applications in the areas of public administration and governance based on the Singapore experience, and to equip them with knowledge and skills to manage change and development."

Temasek Foundation Chief Executive Officer Mr Benedict Cheong said, "We are excited to partner NTU and Cambodia's Ministry of Finance and Economy in this new initiative. By continuously reviewing their public policies, regulations and public service delivery, the senior public officials participating in this programme will be able to bring about positive changes that they are planning in public financial reforms to benefit the larger community in Cambodia."

The training programme will commence in Phnom Penh from 5 to 9 May 2014, followed by one-week training in Singapore from 18 to 24 May 2014.

Participants will get the opportunity to visit key Singapore's government agencies such as the Urban Redevelopment Authority, Housing Development Board, and JTC Corporation.

The training programme is expected to conclude by March 2015.

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## **About Nanyang Technological University**

A research-intensive public university, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has 33,500 undergraduate and postgraduate students in the colleges of Engineering, Business, Science, and Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences. It has a new medical school, the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, set up jointly with Imperial College London.

NTU is also home to four world-class autonomous institutes – the National Institute of Education, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Earth Observatory of Singapore, and Singapore Centre on Environmental Life Sciences Engineering – and various leading research centres such as the Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute (NEWRI), Energy Research Institute @ NTU (ERI@N) and the Institute on Asian Consumer Insight (ACI).

A fast-growing university with an international outlook, NTU is putting its global stamp on Five Peaks of Excellence: Sustainable Earth, Future Healthcare, New Media, New Silk Road, and Innovation Asia.

Besides the main Yunnan Garden campus, NTU also has a satellite campus in Singapore's science and tech hub, one-north, and a third campus in Novena, Singapore's medical district.

For more information, visit [www.ntu.edu.sg](http://www.ntu.edu.sg)

## **About Temasek Foundation, Singapore**

Temasek Foundation is a non-profit philanthropic organisation anchored in Singapore that seeks to contribute to sustainable growth and a bright future of hope and opportunities for people in Asia. The foundation works with partners to support programmes that build people through health care and education, programmes that build bridges between peoples, programmes that build institutions of excellence through governance and ethics, programmes that rebuild lives and livelihoods affected by natural disasters. For more information, please visit [www.temasekfoundation.org.sg](http://www.temasekfoundation.org.sg)

## **About Ministry of Finance and Economy, Cambodia**

Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) is delegated by the Royal Government of Cambodia to perform the mission of guidance and administration of the economy and finance of the Kingdom of Cambodia in order to support economic development and to improve the living standards of Cambodian people based on the principles of a free market economy and social equality.