



News Release

The *Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia* would like to take this opportunity to inform local and international media, radio, and television network partners, as well as local and international organizations (NGOs) that COMFREL will be conducting workshops on voter voice in **10** different Communes across Cambodia. The purpose of these workshops is to set local agendas (priority needs) that can be used for political platforms in remote and indigenous communities in these **10** different Communes. These workshops are a direct result of the financial support provided by the European Union (EU), OXFAM NOVIB, NPA and Forum Syd.

These workshops' aim is to increase voter's knowledge on their rights, role they can play in creating a democratic society and obligation in their commune. Each workshop will provide the opportunity for voters to create and discuss local agendas (priority needs) that will be used as political benchmarks in their respective communes. The local agendas (priority needs) created in each workshop directly by the participants will be accurately documented, filed and used as a benchmark for monitoring the implemented campaigns of commune councils. In addition, the documented local agendas (priority needs) for each commune will be forwarded to each major political party.

At each workshop, COMFREL will invite commune council members, political party representatives, civil society representatives and community based organization representatives to be guest speakers and express their local agendas (priority needs) which were directly raised by local citizens. These local agendas (priority needs) will be submitted to elected officers.

COMFREL would like to invite all interested individuals, organizations, political parties, and media outlets to attend and participate in a workshop that is convenient for you. Please see below a list of when and where each workshop will take place. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask.

Date and Location of Workshops on Voter Voice

No.	Date	Commune	District	Province	Contact Persons	Telephone
1	05/03/2012	Preh Meru	TbaengMean Chey	Preah Vihear	Ms. Lun Sithan	012 891 627
2	12/03/2012	Rum Maney	Rovieng			
3	14/03/2012	Angk Keo	Treang	Takeo	Ms. Seng Sunnry	012 892 486
4	17/03/2012	Sam Ang	Thalat Rikvat	Stung Treng	Mr. Sok Song	092 590 686

Vision: A democratic society that democratization in particular democratic elections are promoted and qualified to bring benefits to people.

ទស្សនៈវិស័យ ៖ ដើម្បីឱ្យការបោះឆ្នោតតាមបែបប្រជាធិបតេយ្យ និងប្រកួតប្រជែងគ្នា ត្រូវបានលើកកម្ពស់ និងមានគុណភាព ដើម្បីនាំមកនូវផលប្រយោជន៍ដល់ប្រជាជន។

5	19/03/2012	Bak Anloun	Trapeng Prasat	Oudor MeanChey	Mr. Chao Vuthy	012 563 598
6	19/03/2012	Chi Kar Kraom	Sre Ambel	Koh Kong	Miss. Chea Sovannalin	017 915 593
7	21/03/2012	Tum Ring	Sandan	Kampong Thom	Ms. Kun Sitha	012 967 194
8	21/03/2012	Kampong Khleang	Sot Nikoum	Siem Reap	Mr. Phal Bunki	092 676 981
9	22/03/2012	Samraong Saen	Kampong Leaeng	Kampong Chhnang	Mr. Leap Bunleang	012 342 417
10	23/03/2012	Svay Chacheb	Baseth	Kampong Spue	Mr. Leng Puthy	012 331 640

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COMFRELs mission is to help create an informed and favorable climate 1)- *for free and fair elections* through lobbying and advocacy for a suitable legal framework, education to inform voters of their rights and monitoring activities that both discourage irregularities and provide comprehensive monitoring data to enable an objective, non-partisan assessment of the election process, and 2)- *for meaningfulness of post elections* through education and public forums to encourage citizens to participate in politics and decision-making, advocacy/lobby for electoral reforms that increase accountability of elected officials and provide comprehensive monitoring data to enable an objective, non-partisan assessment of the fulfillment of political platform and performance of elected officials.