



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 06 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 06 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	11/01/2012	Banteay Chakrei	Preah Sdach	Prey Veng	Mr. Kim Sokhom	016 959 265
2	12/01/2012	Prarmoay	Veal Veng	Pursat	Ms. Bin Bophacheat	097 68 444 68
3	16/01/2012	Kampong Cham	Sambaur	Kratie	Ms. Im Many	092 582 678
4	18/01/2012	Seda	Lumphat	Ratanakiri	Mr.Choun Phindara	012 587 012

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

ទស្សនៈវិស័យ ៖ ដើម្បីឱ្យការបោះឆ្នោតតាមបែបប្រជាធិបតេយ្យ និងប្រយោជន៍ដល់ប្រជាជនកម្ពុជាត្រូវបានលើកកម្ពស់ និងមានគុណភាពខ្ពស់

5	20/01/2012	Phan Nheum	Prasat Balangk	Kampong Thom	Ms. Ren Madina	0977 277 323
6	20/01/2012	Thma Kor	Lvea Aem	Kandal	Miss. Leng Channavy	089 964 345

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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.