

Courtesy Visit and Signing of Implementation Agreement of ARISE Plus Cambodia Project between Ministry of Commerce and GIZ

10 June, 2019

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Ms. Christine Bowers, the Head of Project of ARISE Plus Cambodia, has commenced her new assignment with GIZ in Phnom Penh earlier this month. On Monday 10 June 2019, **Dr. Günter W. Riethmacher**, Country Director of GIZ Cambodia, led the project team for a courtesy visit to **H.E. Sok Sopheak**, Secretary of State of MoC along with the participation from **Ms. Marta Abrantes**, the representative of the EU Delegation. In that occasion, the **Implementation Agreement (IA) between MoC and GIZ** has also been signed successfully. The IA helps facilitate faster and smoother cooperation between MoC and GIZ throughout the project implementation phase.



Welcome drinks from H.E. Sok Sopheak and his colleagues in MoC to GIZ and EU representative during the courtesy visit and signing of IA on 10 June 2019

The EU Delegation has announced the start of the ASEAN Regional Integration Support – Trade Related Assistance Project (ARISE Plus Cambodia) early this year. It was addressed to MoC as the project's political partner. ARISE Plus Cambodia Project is the national component of the ARISE+ Regional Programme and will consolidate and enhance the results already achieved with past and on-going EU trade related technical assistance. The project is based on a financing agreement between the EU and the Kingdom of Cambodia and co-financed by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and



Signing of Implementation Agreement between MoC and GIZ presided over by H.E. Sok Sopheak, Secretary of State of MoC and Dr. Günter W. Riethmacher, Country Director of GIZ

Development (BMZ). It is equipped with funds of 9.35m EUR and commissioned for a period of 54 months (01/2019-06/2023). The project is implemented by GIZ and aims to support greater connectivity and economic integration between Cambodia and the rest of ASEAN

through implementing the AEC Blueprint 2025 and strengthening institutional capacity. The main direct beneficiaries are MoC, the Ministry of Economy and Finance and selected other public and private entities.

The first six months of the project (January – June 2019) constitute the project's inception phase, which serves to validate and adjust the project concept outlined in the 'Description of the Action'. The result of this process will be an inception report preparing the project's first annual plan of activities.

The project has 3 result areas: 1. trade facilitation and standards; 2. institutional and human capacities development for the formulation and implementation of trade-related policies, 3. enhancement of private sector engagement, notably SMEs, and better preparedness for AEC's seamless, single economic space.

“Good coordination and involvement among relevant ministries and other relevant stakeholders is the key success of the implementation of project mandate”, highlighted by H.E. Sok Sopheak during the courtesy visit and signing of project IA.

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