Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education and Recognition

Webinar with CIMEA, in the framework of the RecoASIA project

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WEBINAR ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19
Educational during covid-19 in Cambodia

02 Challenges (Public support policies or investment

03 Issue as changes of upper secondary school leaving qualification

04 Consequent issues in access to higher education

05 Changes in higher education qualifications (impact on mobility)
The regulation adopted to tackle education issues

Cambodia’s first confirmed case of Covid-19 occurred in late January. The Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport (MoEYS), in an abundance of caution, closed the schools until further notice.

Education in Cambodia ground to a halt, or so one might have imagined, but the MoEYS quickly found creative ways to a new e-learning initiative. With schools closed, the responsibility for teaching has now shifted from teachers to families. While the online lessons from the MoEYS are vital to keep kids on track during this enforced hiatus.

Source: ministry of education
As with other respiratory infections like the flu or the common cold, public health measures are critical to slow the spread of illnesses.

Public health measures are everyday preventive actions that include:
- staying home when sick;
- covering mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of used tissue immediately;
- washing hands often with soap and water; and
- cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects.

Source: WHO
Challenges ahead (public support policies or investments needed)

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread and people are:
- forced to stay home,
- workers are losing their jobs,
- health care systems are being stressed,
- local businesses are at risk of closing permanently,
- and the country is bracing for recession.

The crisis has laid bare the inequities and injustices that threaten people’s well-being, safety, and lives.

Source: www.worldbank.org
- The outbreak caused sharp deceleration in most of Cambodia’s main engines of growth in the first quarter of 2020, including weakened tourism and construction activity. Growth is projected to slow sharply to 2.5 percent in 2020 under the baseline scenario.

- The COVID-19 outbreak and slow recovery in global economic activity alongside prolonged financial market turmoil pose risks to Cambodia’s growth outlook.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has forced 810 million children out of schools worldwide. Cambodian children are facing the same reality.
- All of Cambodia’s 13,300 schools have been closed since March 16th, leading many children and families to seek distance learning opportunities to continue their education.
- H.E. Dr. Hang Chuon Narong, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport, is personally encouraging families to support the education of their children, despite the pandemic.

Source: www.unicef.org and ministry of education
To respond to this education crisis, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) to establish continuous learning activities from early childhood through to primary, lower and upper secondary education.

- Distance learning assets, including videos and e-lessons, are being broadcast through various social media platforms, TV and radio, aiming to reach every household in Cambodia.

- One of the key concerns has been to ensure that no child is left behind - that every child, despite their ability, gender, socio-economic, or ethnic background has access to learning opportunities.
As the coronavirus continues to spread and the death count increases, the question remains – is Cambodia ready?

Source: ministry of health
Public health officials at all levels in both public and private institutions should be prepared and well-equipped. Despite three hospitals being designated, those with symptoms will likely visit their local public healthcare provider. We still don’t know how bad this can get. But, we must be prepared and do what we can now.
- March 122 cases has been confirmed, and 122 patients have recovered.
- May 21 has found 2 new cases.

Ministry of education has prepared the planed to start the school again, but on May we found 2 cases more, So, we have to delay the school to start on November.

Source: www.worldometers.info
### COVID-19 data as of 20 March: Total tests performed by country

Data collected by Our World in Data from official country reports. For some countries the number of tests corresponds to the number of individuals who have been tested, rather than the number of samples.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Tests (March 20, 2020)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>316,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>167,000 (Mar 15, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>143,519 (Mar 19, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>113,615 (Mar 20, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>103,945 (Mar 19, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>64,621 (Mar 19, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>43,735 (Mar 20, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>36,747 (Mar 15, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>18,360 (Mar 18, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>15,637 (Mar 20, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>15,613 (Mar 20, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>8,103 (Mar 20, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>3,000 (Mar 19, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>2,927 (Mar 13, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>1,979 (Mar 19, 2020)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Our World in Data
Note: Data for the United States corresponds to estimates from the COVID-Tracking Project.
Consequent issues in access to higher education

Study. Problem in Cambodia
- Money. Problem: Tuition costs are rising at alarmingly high rates.
- Depression.
- Sickness/Health Conditions.
- Desirable soft skills: Self-motivation, problem-solving, personal initiative, and tenaciousness.
- Acquiring successful time management skills was the **biggest challenge**.
- Most of the students are come from the poor family and live in country side.
- The use of technology is limited
- Student are yet familiar to use the online learning and cannot study regularly: lack of smart phone and internet
- Psychologically impacting students: for the social subject no much problem because we can provide the theory through online class but for the science students that have to conduct experiment and practice in laboratory of field cannot do it.
- For University of Battambang the solution for science students:
  1. UBB has cooperated with University of Toulouse II and ADEPASE about Psychology to advertise for students who have problem about their mental can contact to the person who in charges this program to solve problem on time
  2. Cooperate with ministry of education youth and sport to prepare the program for online class. The staffs lecturers have to come to work normally
3. Now a day, UBB has started the online class for students, we provide them the theory first and when the situation of covid-19 become normal we will let students conduct their experiment and field practice. (Note: some students have been allow to conduct experiment but not too many students because we have to keep distance.
4. We have project of HEIP supported by world bank that UBB has requested to support online equipment for university

5. Microsoft company has sponsored UBB to use Microsoft team for online learning for students freely. So, we would like to thanks Microsoft company that support us during the hard situation.
The arrival of new technologies has been slowly changing the higher education landscape for years. However, with the COVID-19 pandemic, institutions around the world are now being forced to offer courses online, which leads to a more widespread adoption of online communication and learning platforms – which so far were merely complementary, except for distance education.

However, many individuals in academia are struggling with this sudden move, due to technological limitations and insufficient experience. This situation potentially affects academic quality and student learning. Nevertheless, these technologies can be effectively leveraged to keep international students connected to the home campus or as bridge programming for new students awaiting international travel.
As international student enrolment patterns shifted over time, the term ‘study abroad’ was gradually replaced by the term ‘education abroad’ to encompass other modalities, such as undergraduate research abroad, global service-learning and international internships.

The COVID-19 pandemic is now giving rise to lesser known modalities through which students can engage in international learning without travelling abroad.

For example, student interest in real-world work experiences that improve their skills and employability in an increasingly digital world has been growing.

- Private University: it’s so high risk for the private university about preparing the online learning for students because need time and spend more money. It will be easily to break up.

- For government university, we have budget and other supporting from other project.
Conclusion

Even now a day we face with many problems about education during Covid-19 but we do hope to fight together.

- As we move forward, let us consider new partnerships that bring us together, embrace new and emerging technologies that enable intellectual exchange, test new modalities for student learning, engage new populations in the collective pursuit of knowledge and reframe our best ideas to boost student success during this transition. The road ahead will be challenging for international education, but hasn’t it always been?
The critical message we need to convey is that the ability to innovate is not restricted to only those in certain roles, in certain sectors, or with certain expertise. Everyone is an innovator, and your innovative solutions can help support the COVID-19 response. Humanity needs this everyday innovation on all fronts.

- In Cambodia. Even we face with the problem but we will try to find the way to solve the problems by cooperating with national and international partnership.

- We should help the world to take care the environmental by making it clean, and also living healthy and hygiene.
Thank you

COVID-19