



Annual Forum on Artificial Intelligence “Artificial Intelligence and Society”

Wednesday, August 10, 2022 1:30-5:00pm
Conference Hall 6th Floor, CamTech Campus

Concept Note

1. Background

Artificial Intelligence (AI), as a technology in the Fourth Industrial Revolution, opens a new chapter to global socio-economic growth, enhances efficiency, lowers production costs, and addresses various challenges including productivity gains, poverty, inequality in healthcare, low-quality education, and sustainable agriculture, etc. At the micro-level, AI also contributes to improving the quality of life and helping people make better-informed decisions. AI technology, however, is still in its early stage of development, and there remains much to be done for AI to live up to its initial promise of being a tool to promote innovation and growth, revolutionize human life, and transform existing production line. With that said, given the speed of AI development, it is not surprising that it is a top priority on national and international policy agendas which aim to put it as an instrument or servant at the service of people and not the other way around.

Regardless of that, questions have also been raised about the possible negative impacts of AI on society, especially on ethical concerns and how personal data should be treated. There are also issues about the trustworthiness of machine learning results, including the dangers of algorithms biases such as those related to sex and race. For example, it may predict a greater likelihood of disease on the basis of sex and/or ethnicity, but those factors do not actually cause such outcomes. Other related concerns include exacerbating the current inequalities among countries or among different social groups within a country, displacement of blue-collar workers, the digital divide, increase in energy consumption and hence climate change, and an increase in firms' power to control over the market. And unfortunately, no single actor has all the capacity to offer solutions to the problems. Therefore, it is necessary to act now and act together using the quadruple helix approach to provide responses and direct the development and use of AI for the greater good.

With the establishment of the National Data Center at the Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation (MISTI) this year, Cambodia is bringing a new hub for public policy on AI which is still largely uncharted. As a result, there is an emphasis on the need for multi-level and multi-stakeholder collaboration to shape and re-shape a policy environment that fosters trust in and adoption of artificial intelligence technology. This AI forum under the theme “**Artificial Intelligence and Society**”, investigates the AI landscape in Cambodia and its influence on society as a whole and highlights key policy questions for promoting and strengthening the development of Industry 4.0 technologies in general, AI in particular. This forum is also to help raise awareness of AI's current status and future trends and encourage discussion among relevant stakeholders on several key issues such as privacy, security and safety, education, health, labor market, industrial development, and upskilling or reskilling for the digital age.

2. Objectives

This forum is organized to bring academia, private sectors, government, civil societies, and other relevant stakeholders to discuss the current development of artificial intelligence, its future trends, and opportunities and challenges up ahead that Cambodia should prepare itself for if it decides to fully embrace such technology. The forum has five main objectives:

- Provide a platform for the representatives from the government, industries and academia to discuss, express, and exchange ideas on the AI landscape and its impacts on society;
- To raise public awareness of the significance, opportunities, benefits and challenges of AI applications;
- Formulate policy suggestions and recommendations for promoting and strengthening the development of Industry 4.0 technologies in general, AI in particular;
- Promote multi-stakeholder collaboration for knowledge mobilization and development of artificial intelligence in Cambodia;
- Disseminate the results of research studies on Artificial Intelligence Landscape in Cambodia: Current Status and Future Trends.

3. Expected Outputs

At the end of the forum, the following deliverables are expected:

- Gaining an updated understanding of the AI landscape in Cambodia and its impact on society;
- A policy brief for promoting and strengthening the development of Industry 4.0 technologies in general, AI in particular;
- Launching of the Report on Artificial Intelligence Landscape in Cambodia: Current Status and Future Trends;
- Strengthen and build solidarity and network among Cambodian academics, government, and industries to promote Industry 4.0 technologies.

4. Participants

This AI forum will be presided over by **H.E. Kitti Settha Pandita CHAM Prasith**, Senior Minister, Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation (MISTI); joint by **H.E. Prof. Dr. CHHEM Kieth Rethy**, Minister Delegate Attached to the Prime Minister of Cambodia and Secretary of State, Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation (MISTI), and **H.E. Dr. Khieng Sothy**, President of the Cambodia University of Technology and Science (CamTech).

Targeted participants for the AI forum include high-ranking government officials, policymakers, representatives from the Nation Council of Science, Technology, and Innovation, civil servants from the Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation (MISTI), faculty members, tech industries, private sectors, representatives from the universities, research institutes, and think-tanks, and students.

Agenda

Annual Forum on Artificial Intelligence “Artificial Intelligence and Society”

Wednesday, August 10, 2022

1:30 – 5:00pm

Conference Hall 6th Floor, CamTech Campus

Time	Activities
Wednesday, August 10, 2022	
1:00pm – 1:30pm	Arrival of distinguished guests
1:30pm – 1:40pm	Welcoming remark by Dr. KHIENG Sothy , President of CamTech
1:40pm – 1:50pm	Opening remark by H.E. Kitti Settha Pandita CHAM Prasith , Senior Minister, Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology, and Innovation
1:50pm – 2:10pm	Keynote Address by H.E. Prof. Dr. CHHEM Kieth Rethy , Minister Delegate Attached to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State, Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology, and Innovation
2:10pm – 3:10pm	Panel Discussion #1: AI Landscape in Cambodia Moderator: Dr. HUL Seingheng , Director General, General Department of Science, Technology & Innovation Panelist <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof. Alamgir Hossain, Vice President, CamTech• Mr. Richard Yim, CEO, Demine Robotic• Dr. Kuok Fidero, Director General, National Institute of Science, Technology & Innovation• Dr. Phauk Sokkhey, Institute of Technology of Cambodia
3:10pm – 3:30pm	Refreshment Break
3:30pm – 4:30pm	Panel Discussion #2: AI Roles in Cambodian Society

Moderator: **Mr. CHHEM Siriwat**, Co-Founder of AI Forum and Director,
Center for Inclusive Digital Economy, Asian Vision Institute

- **Mr. Chum Pharino**, Dean of Faculty of Engineering, CamTech
- **Mr. Ted Blizzard**, International consultant
- **H.E. Ms. Chea Ratha**, Undersecretary of State, MISTI
- **Dr. Chen Sovann**, Deputy Director, MISTI

4:30pm – 4:45pm Wrap-up and Closing remark by **Prof. Alamgir Hossain**, Vice
President, CamTech

4:45pm – 5:00pm Launching of the **Report on Artificial Intelligence Landscape in
Cambodia: Current Status and Future Trends**
