

PRESS RELEASE

EuroCham Launches Skills Gap Assessment Report

PHNOM PENH, 28 JUNE 2024 - EuroCham Cambodia and [the Skills Development Program \(SDP\)](#), a project mandated by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and implemented by Swisscontact, today launched the [EuroCham Skills Gap Assessment 2024](#), a research-based analysis of Cambodia's labour market.

The report aims to help policymakers, development partners, and private sector actors better understand the country's skills gaps. Most importantly, the end goal is to help the Cambodian workforce increase their chances for better employment opportunities and higher incomes by supporting more dynamic and targeted training platforms.

The study surveyed 106 companies on their hiring ambitions, skills gaps, and training priorities for 2024 with a focus on five key sectors: electrical, mechanical, construction, tourism and hospitality, and manufacturing. The findings reveal a substantial need for both technical and soft skills training, with **leadership, quality control, and project management** topping the list for most-needed skills.

Swisscontact Cambodia Country Director **Rajiv Pradhan** said the Skills Gap Assessment will help the government and other stakeholders identify the skills gaps and tailor their training programmes to address the most-needed skills. "As Cambodia embarks to graduate from LDC status by 2030, skills will be the driver for the growth of Cambodia. Hence this assessment is very timely," he said.

Narath CHHEAV, Chairman of EuroCham's Human Resources Committee, said: "By supporting and investing in your staff's learning, you develop a talent pool that elevates both your company and the business community around you. The combination of prosperous businesses and empowered people will make Cambodia a more alluring place to live and invest in."

Chris Ramseier, Expert of [Senior Expert Contact \(SEC\) programme of Swisscontact](#) who consulted on the report, said the report shows that training many cross-sector/transferrable skills to large groups of workers makes economic sense and can help improve the labour market.

"The fact that the majority of companies surveyed are willing to invest in the professional development of their employees shows that the private sector in Cambodia is ready and willing to do its part to improve the country's competitiveness," he said.

As a next step, EuroCham is supporting in the crafting of training proposals, which will be considered for co-financing by the [Skills Development Fund \(SDF\)](#) – administered by the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

"We look forward to working together with our members and local training institutes to design training programmes focused on Cambodia's evolving workforce needs," said **Zandre Van Straten**, Services Coordinator at EuroCham. "The SDF have also been very supportive, and we will explore co-financing trainings with them to make them more accessible and affordable across the country."

EUROCHAM'S FOUNDING CHAMBERS AND NATIONAL CHAPTERS



European Chamber of Commerce in Cambodia

#30 Preah Norodom Boulevard, 3rd floor BRED Bank Building,
Khan Daun Penh, Sangkat Phsar Thmey 3, 12210 Phnom Penh, Cambodia

+855 23 964 141

info@eurocham-cambodia.org

www.eurochamcambodia.org

EuroCham's Training Academy has also acted on the survey findings by revising its training plans to better align with the most in-demand skills identified across all sectors. On 11-12 July, EuroCham is offering a [Project Management training course](#).

About EuroCham Cambodia

The European Chamber of Commerce in Cambodia (EuroCham Cambodia) was created in 2011 by French, German and British business associations in Cambodia to act as the official chamber of the European business community in the Kingdom. Since then, it has grown to over 400 members and 7 national chapters, comprising 11 European countries. [EuroCham Cambodia](#)'s core activities are to promote, support and represent its members and European business interests in dialogue with the Royal Government of Cambodia, with the aim of developing a more efficient and fertile business and investment environment for all.

EuroCham's key objectives are to

- Consult & advocate on key issues related to doing business in Cambodia;
- Promote investment in Cambodia
- Work to improve access for European business to the Cambodian market, and vice-versa; and facilitate business between small and medium size companies of Cambodia and EU Member States;
- Provide services relating to economic, legal, technical, financial, market and other business issues in the EU and Cambodia and industry-specific information to investors;
- Promote a strong European Union business identity vis-à-vis the Cambodian business community;
- Work closely with Cambodian stakeholders in supporting inclusive and sustainable growth of the Cambodian economy

For more information, please contact:

Brian Badzmierowski, Communications Coordinator

pr.officer@eurocham-cambodia.org

Vosumtey Seng, Communications Officer

comm.officer@eurocham-cambodia.org

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About Skills Development Program (SDP)

The Skills Development Programme (SDP) is a project of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The second phase of SDP from 2020 to 2024 is implemented by Swisscontact and INBAS in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MoLVT) and the Ministry of Tourism (MoT). The programme works closely with the government at the national and the provincial level and with partners in the hospitality and other sectors.

About Swisscontact

Swisscontact is an independent non-profit development organisation established in 1959 by representatives of the Swiss private sector and civil society. Our work focuses on private sector-led, sustainable economic development and improved quality of life for all in developing and emerging countries. A key focus is to strengthen the skills of individuals and foster the competitiveness of businesses.

For more information, visit: <https://www.swisscontact.org/en>

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