



Transports & Logistics Forum, 2025

Concept note

Wednesday 12th of February 2025

Event Background

Cambodia has the highest logistics costs compared to other Southeast Asian countries. This is due to inefficiencies in customs procedures and a lack of infrastructure, or its poor condition. These factors hinder the attractiveness of investment in the kingdom.

The government has recognized this issue and launched the "Comprehensive Master Plan on the Cambodian Inter-modal Transportation System and Logistics 2023-2033" to improve the situation. The private sector is also pushing for modernization, as evidenced by the recent arrival of the 11 KiHa 183 Series DMU locomotives, which will bolster logistics for businesses.

These initiatives are even more important considering the trend of regionalization. While Singapore serves as the Southeast Asian logistics hub, Cambodia's strategic location positions it well to become the sub-Mekong Region's hub.

The Transports & Logistics Forum 2023

Last year's Transport and Logistics Forum, held by EuroCham Cambodia's Transport and Logistics Committee on April 20th at Raffles Hotel Le Royal, was a successful event. It brought together officials from the Ministry of Public Works and Transportation (MPWT), including the then-minister His Excellency Sun Chanthol, and logistics experts. The forum's primary focus was twofold: sharing the latest information on Cambodia's transport and logistics infrastructure development from the MPWT's perspective and exploring the recent developments at Sihanoukville port within a local context.

The audience also received updates on the latest legal developments concerning customs and road regulations. The event concluded with a comprehensive panel discussion featuring various stakeholders from the air, sea, and land logistics sectors.

2025 Edition

The Transport & Logistics Committee is excited to announce a new edition of its successful forum. This event will provide a valuable platform for private companies in the logistics sector to gain crucial insights from the Ministry of Public Works and Transport. The forum will explore strategies to strengthen Cambodia's position as a key logistics hub for the Sub-Mekong region.



This forum will present the findings of a study conducted by the Ministry of Public Works and Transports, with support and in partnership with JICA. The study, which involved a survey of the private sector, including members of the EuroCham Transports & Logistics Committee, aimed to evaluate Cambodia's logistics landscape, including transportation costs and time. This forum will serve as a platform to share these survey results with the international community, providing valuable insights into the current state of logistics in Cambodia.

The Forum will also explore into trends and best practices for cold chain logistics in Cambodia. A robust cold chain system is vital for preserving perishable goods such as food, medicine, and vaccines at the appropriate temperatures. A reliable cold chain minimizes spoilage, reduces waste, and safeguards public health. In light of international standards, Cambodia must develop of a strong cold chain infrastructure to effectively export and import products.

About EuroCham Cambodia and its Transports & Logistics Committee

The European Chamber of Commerce in Cambodia (EuroCham) is a business association established in June 2011 by the founding French, German, and British chambers. EuroCham Cambodia's core activities are to promote, support, and represent its members and European business interests with the aim of developing a more efficient and fertile business and investment environment.

EuroCham has more than 400 members and is supported by 12 sectoral committees. These committees are an integral part of EuroCham's advocacy activities, and their work includes the drafting of working documents which subsequently form the basis of EuroCham's White Book – the Chamber's main advocacy tool. However, the Committee does not only serve for the public dialogue purpose, but also for information sharing especially when it comes to innovation. One of these committee is the Transports & Logistics committee.

The Transports & Logistics Committee is open to companies working in shipping lines, freight forwarding, airlines, consulting firms, and parcel delivery companies. The key focus area of the committee is the simplification of customs procedures and the improvement of transportation safety in the Kingdom.

The Transport & Logistics Committee recently requested high-level intervention to address critical gaps in Cambodia's transport and logistics sector. International standard connectivity is paramount for attracting investors, fostering economic growth, particularly for SMEs, and driving regional logistics integration. Enhancing Cambodia's access to international markets hinges on improved connectivity and faster, more efficient movement of goods, significantly reducing logistics costs and benefiting consumers, businesses, and the overall economy. Following this request, the Transport & Logistics Committee leadership presented the



identified issues during the 7th National Logistics Council, chaired by H.E. Sun Chanthol. Furthermore, they engaged with the General Department of Customs and Excise (GDCE). This engagement resulted in a significant improvement: the removal of one document, the letter to the Director of Customs at the Airport, from the customs clearance process.