

Learn about the latest  
developments in Autonomous  
Schools Policy & Practice.

Space is limited so register  
NOW . . .

28-29 September 2023

**Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel,**  
Street Keo Chanda, Phnom  
Penh 12110



**NGS INTERNATIONAL**



# International Conference on Autonomous Schools as a Key to Education Reform:

## Planning for a New Generation of Schools for Southeast Asia & Beyond

### Sponsored by:

- Ministry of Education, Youth, & Sport (Cambodia)
- Kampuchea Action to Promote Education
- Child Fund Cambodia
- New Generation Pedagogical Research Ctr.
- Prek Leap New Generation School
- Hun Sen Kampong Cham New Generation School
- Prek Anchanh New Generation School
- Preah Sisovath New Generation School
- Peam Chikong New Generation School

### Conference Goals

1. Create a better-informed and networked international constituency that can effectively advocate for educational reforms involving Autonomous Schools.
2. Document innovative thinking on a variety of topics that relate to Autonomous Schools through an annual publication linked to the New Generation Pedagogical Research Center.
3. Create a permanent Autonomous Schools Secretariat based in Cambodia that will advocate for autonomous school reforms

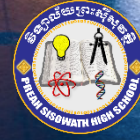
### Conference Overview:

This international conference seeks to bring attention to global efforts to establish autonomous public schools as a key strategy through which to promote educational reforms focused on improved educational quality in the Southeast Asia Region and beyond. The conference will in particular focus on specific exemplars of autonomous schools such as *New Generation Schools*, which are now being expanded in two countries in the region (Cambodia, where it began, and Lao PDR). Similar exemplars of autonomous schools will also be showcased such as *World Class Schools* in Thailand, Charter Schools in the United States, Academies in the UK, etc.

### Conference Registration & Participation:

- **Online Participation is free.**
- **On-site Participation is \$30/person and includes lunch and refreshments.**
- **Link for Registration:**  
<https://forms.gle/RCHWf8JLpGLTn67V9> or scan QR Code
- **For Conference Information, contact:**  
Mr. Phann Bunnath (KAPE)  
([p.bunnath@kapekh.org](mailto:p.bunnath@kapekh.org))  
Dr. Sun Somara (NGPRC)  
([somara@kapekh.org](mailto:somara@kapekh.org))





## Planned Conference Program

### 28-29 September 2023 – Phnom Penh, CAMBODIA

*(Note: Conference Topics may change depending on speaker availability)*

Time	Program Topic	Kind of Event	Speakers
<b>Day 1</b>			
7:30 – 8:00 AM	<b>Participant Registration</b>	--	--
8:00 – 8:15 AM	<b>Welcoming Remarks</b>	<b>Plenary</b>	<b>Mr. Sao Vanna, KAPE Executive Director</b>
8:15 – 8:45 AM	<b>Introduction to the Conference: Prologue &amp; Future Prospects of Autonomous Schools</b>	<b>Plenary</b>	Mr. Kurt Bredenberg, Sr. Technical Adviser, KAPE
8:45 -9:15 AM	<b>Key Note Address</b>	<b>Plenary</b>	<b>H.E. Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, Minister of Education, Youth, &amp; Sport</b>
9:15 – 9:30 AM	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
9:30 – 10:30 AM	Do Mainstream Donors Have a Role to Play in Autonomous School Reforms like New Generation Schools?	Panel Discussion/ Q&A	<b>Moderator:</b> Dr. Andrew Jones, Education Consultant <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ H.E. Sann Vathana, Undersecretary of State, MoEYS</li> <li>○ Mr. Ul Run, Senior National Adviser (KAPE)</li> <li>○ Mr. Mar Sophea, Asian Development Bank/Cambodia</li> <li>○ Kiew Chetra, NGO Education Partnership Director (NEP)</li> <li>○ Mr. Simon Franks, Chairperson, Franks Family Foundation (UK)</li> </ul>
10:30 – 11:15 AM	Perceptions of Elitism and How This Impacts Autonomous Schools (Cambodia)	Plenary	Mr. Kurt Bredenberg, Sr. Technical Adviser, KAPE
11:15 – 12:00 PM	Lamplimat Pathana School: An Early Pioneer of School Autonomy in Thailand	Plenary	Dr. Vichian Chaiyabang, Director of Lamplimat Patana School, (Thailand)
12:00 – 1:30 PM	<b>Lunch (to be provided to all participants)</b>	Lotus Restaurant	

Time	Program Topic	Kind of Event	Speakers
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Autonomous Schools in Laos: The Latest Developments in Lao PDR	Break-out Session (Main Hall)	Dr. Sounieng Vongkamchanh, Director, Faculty of Education, National University of Laos
	Autonomous Schools in Thailand	Break-out Session (Room A)	Ministry of Education, Royal Thai Government
2:30 – 3:00 PM	<b>Coffee Break &amp; Short Documentary on New Generation Schools</b>	Main Hall	
3:00 – 4:00 PM	The Autonomous School Paradigm and 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Education	Break-out Session (Main Hall)	Mr. Ul Run, Senior National Adviser (KAPE)
	Autonomous School Movements and the Link with Leadership	Break-out Session (Room A)	Dr. Andrew Jones (Education Consultant)
4:00 -4:30 PM	<b>Wrap-up Session &amp; Preparation for Day 2</b>	Main Hall	Mr. Kurt Bredenberg, Sr. Technical Adviser, KAPE
DAY 2			
8:00 – 9:30 AM	<p>What are the Best Practices for Autonomous Schools throughout the World?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>USA:</b> Charter Schools</li> <li>○ <b>UK:</b> Academies</li> <li>○ <b>Australia:</b> Independent Schools</li> <li>○ <b>France:</b> Ecoles sous Contract</li> <li>○ <b>Cambodia/Laos:</b> New Generation Schools</li> <li>○ <b>Thailand:</b> World Class Schools/ Public-Private Independent Schools/Science High Schools</li> </ul>	Panel Discussion/ Q&A (Main Hall)	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Mr. Ul Run, Senior National Adviser (KAPE)</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dr.Nela Navarro, Assistant Teaching Professor, Rutgers University (USA)</li> <li>○ Dr. Vichian Chaiyabang, Director of Lamplimat Patana School (Thailand)</li> <li>○ Mr. Phann Bunnath, NGS Accreditation Coordinator (USA &amp; Cambodia)</li> <li>○ Mr. Stan Kowalski, Master Mentor, NGPRC (France)</li> <li>○ Mr. Benedick Ashmore-Short (UK)</li> </ul>
9:30 – 9:45 AM	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
9:45 – 10:45 AM	How Autonomous School Movements Can Meet the Educational Needs of Youth in the Digital Age: A Case Study	Break-out Session (Main Hall)	Mr. Dan Donaldson, Founder of Aptessence (Education Technology Firm, Canada)
	The Role of NGOs in Scaffolding the Creation of New Generation Schools	Break-out Session (Room A)	Mr. Stan Kowalski, Master Mentor, NGPRC

Time	Program Topic	Kind of Event	Speakers
11:00 – 12:00 PM	Autonomous Schools and New Opportunities for Mentoring	Break-out Session (Main Hall)	Dr. Sun Somara, Training Coordinator, NGPRC Mr. Stanislas Kowalski, Master Mentor, NGPRC
	A Farewell to Private Teaching? (The Impact of New Generation Schools on Shadow Teaching in Cambodia)	Break-out Session (Room A)	Dr. Nhem Davut, Royal University of Phnom Penh (Researcher)
12:00 – 1:30 PM	<b>Lunch</b>	Lotus Restaurant	
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Innovative School Governance for Sustainable Quality of 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Learning & Instruction	Break-out Session (Main Hall)	Dr. Bo Chankouluka, MoEYS Policy Department
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Accreditation Mechanisms to Protect the Brand of Autonomous Schools	Break-out Session (Room A)	Mr. Phann Bunnath, Accreditations Coordinator NGS
2:30 – 3:00 PM	<b>Coffee Break &amp; Small Group Organization for Discussions on Permanent Secretariat Establishment</b>		
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Discussion on Permanent Secretariat Establishment</b>	Small Group Discussion (Group A)	Main Hall Conference Facilitators
		Small Group Discussion (Group B)	Main Hall Conference Facilitators
		Small Group Discussion (Group C)	Room A Conference Facilitators
4:00 – 4:45 PM	<b>Short Group Reports</b>	Plenary	Group Reporters
4:45 – 5:15 PM	<b>Wrap -up Session and Next Steps</b>	Plenary	Mr. Kurt Bredenberg, Sr. Technical Adviser, KAPE

### Registration Instructions

- Registration for this conference is open to all interested parties for Online Participation. Registration for Online Participation is free.
- However, In-person Participation is highly limited. Organizers have reserved 50 seats (out of 100) for In-person Participation registrants. Priority will be given to those individuals representing development agencies, government, universities, and other educational institutions.
- Once your registration for In-person Participation has been approved, you will receive bar code instructions for the payment of the registration fee of \$30. Nevertheless, all registrants are guaranteed access to the conference as Online Participants.