

CANCHAM CAMBODIA NEWSLETTER



ADVANCING DIALOGUE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT

On August 5, 2026, CanCham Cambodia, alongside Mr. Thierry Tea representing our Honorary Board Member, Mr. Vincent Kou of OCIC Group, was honoured to meet with **H.E. Dr. Say Samal**, Minister of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction.

The discussion explored Cambodia's urban development priorities and opportunities for future collaboration, with a focus on land management, urban planning, and the development of economically strategic cities. Participants also discussed opportunities to promote investment across key sectors, including infrastructure, education, banking, trade, energy, and food processing.

We sincerely thank H.E. and the Ministry for the kind welcome and constructive exchange. We look forward to strengthening collaboration in support of Cambodia's sustainable urban development and long-term economic growth.



URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

On August 7, 2026, CanCham Cambodia hosted its monthly Urban Development Committee Meeting on the topic, "Why Projects Fail and How to Stop It?", featuring **Mr. Lyaun Hay**.

Through real-world case studies and interactive discussions, participants explored common causes of project failure, including unclear objectives, weak leadership, poor communication, and ineffective stakeholder engagement. The discussion also highlighted the importance of regular monitoring, evaluation, proactive risk management, and strong leadership in improving project outcomes.

We thank our speaker for preparing the meeting, and Penh House Hotel for providing us with the spacious venue.



CanCham Cambodia Welcomes Strategic Support Through Catalyste+ Partnership

CanCham Cambodia is delighted to welcome **Jean-Sébastien Fabry** as Strategic Advisor through a partnership with Catalyste+. His arrival marks an important step forward as we prepare for the 20th Francophonie Summit in Phnom Penh and continue to strengthen commercial ties between Canada and Cambodia.



A FOCUS ON IMPACT



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS
Strengthening collaboration with Canadian, Quebec, Francophone and Cambodian partners to create meaningful business opportunities.



BUSINESS MATCHING
Designing and delivering targeted business-matching activities that connect companies and support market entry and growth.



WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Empowering women-led SMEs through networks, visibility and access to new markets, in line with the Women's Empowerment Principles.



CAPACITY & SUSTAINABILITY
Strengthening CanCham's tools, processes and internal capacity to support future initiatives and long-term impact.

With deep experience in international trade, business development and stakeholder engagement, Jean-Sébastien Fabry will provide strategic guidance and hands-on support to help CanCham deliver impactful programming around the Francophonie Summit and FrancoTech, while laying the foundation for continued collaboration beyond the event.

We look forward to this collaboration and the many connections and opportunities it will create for our members and partners.

Together, we are building partnerships. Creating opportunities.

"I am pleased to contribute to CanCham Cambodia's mission and to support a dynamic community that connects Canadians and Cambodians for shared growth and prosperity."

Jean-Sébastien Fabry
Strategic Advisor
Catalyste+ Assignment



About Catalyste+
Catalyste+ connects skilled Canadian professionals with organizations in emerging markets to catalyze inclusive growth, strengthen institutions and promote sustainable economic development.

catalyste+
Accelerating Women's Empowerment

CanCham Cambodia is pleased to welcome **Jean-Sébastien Fabry** as **Strategic Advisor** through our partnership with **Catalyste+**.

As Cambodia prepares to host the **20th Francophonie Summit**, Jean-Sébastien will bring his experience in international trade, business development, and stakeholder engagement to support CanCham Cambodia across four key areas: **partnership building, business matching, women's entrepreneurship, and capacity and sustainability.**

Through this collaboration, we look forward to creating new business opportunities, strengthening connections across Canadian, Quebec, Francophone, and Cambodian networks, and building stronger Canada-Cambodia commercial ties that extend well beyond the Summit.

Member Spotlight: Seekers Independent Spirits



Seekers Independent Spirits has recently opened the doors to its new home on the banks of the Bassac River, part of the wider Mekong River system, in Phnom Penh.

Part working distillery, part bar and gathering place, the Seekers Spirit House is where we bring Cambodian spirits to life. Visitors can discover our award-winning range, enjoy cocktails overlooking the river, take part in distillery tours and gin-making experiences, or host private and corporate events with full bar and cocktail services.

Since founding Seekers in 2018, our ambition has been to show what world-class spirits from Cambodia can look and taste like using distinctive regional ingredients and putting provenance and place at the heart of what we make.

As a new CanCham member, we're looking forward to getting to know the Canadian business community in Cambodia and welcoming fellow members to the Spirit House.

For more information, click [here](#).



CANCHAM CAFE CONNECT

On August 29, 2026, CanCham Cambodia hosted CanCham Café Connect, bringing members, entrepreneurs, and professionals together for a morning of coffee, conversation, and networking.

Through a guided discussion on "What's one positive thing that happened this month for your business?", participants shared experiences, reflected on recent achievements, and exchanged ideas and perspectives with fellow members.

The session highlighted the value of sharing progress, learning from one another, and building meaningful connections within the business community.

We are looking forward to more meaningful conversations in the future.

CANADA IN CAMBODIA NEWS

UNLOCK BETTER BUSINESS FINANCING WITH ABA

If you're paying more than you need to for your business loan, refinancing with ABA could help you lower financing costs, strengthen cash flow, and provide greater financial flexibility to support your future growth.

Our specialists will provide personalized end-to-end support, ensuring a seamless refinancing journey from application to disbursement.

For a limited time, enjoy **ZERO loan processing fees** on refinancing applications submitted by **30 September 2026**.

Explore a smarter financing solution with ABA today.

Apply now: <https://bit.ly/3LKWquv>



MANULIFE CONNECTS CAMBODIAN CUSTOMER TO AWARD-WINNING MULTI-CANCER SCREENING IN SINGAPORE

Cancer doesn't have to be scary. With the Guardant Health Multi-Cancer Detection (MCD) test*, screen for 10 types of cancer with just a simple blood draw and take charge of your health with confidence.

Giving Cambodians greater confidence to live longer, healthier lives.

*Your clinical eligibility will be determined by the medical provider with whom you will schedule your appointment.

Learn more: <https://bit.ly/4xYkAo1>



OCIC SIGNED MOU WITH UNICEF

CanCham Cambodia kindly congratulates [OCIC and UNICEF](#) on the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding to Invest in the Future of Cambodia's Children and Youth.

This partnership brings together the strengths of both organizations to create a lasting impact for children, families, and communities. The agreement also reflects a commitment to the core values of the Children's Rights and Business Principles, a framework developed by UNICEF that addresses the impact of businesses on the rights and well-being of children, particularly in the private sector. Key areas of collaboration include promoting children's rights and responsible business practices, supporting education and youth empowerment, advancing family-friendly workplaces, and strengthening skills and opportunities for young people.

This MoU was signed by Oknha Dr. Carolyne Pung, Vice Chairperson of OCIC, and Ms. Maha Damaj, UNICEF Representative-Designate to Cambodia, on August 24, 2026.

We are pleased to see meaningful partnerships that support a brighter and more sustainable future for Cambodia's children and youth.

Congratulations to OCIC and UNICEF on this important partnership.



CAMBODIA–QUEBEC DISCUSSIONS ON INVESTMENT AND COLLABORATION

On August 21, 2026, H.E. Keo Chhea, Ambassador of Cambodia to Canada and Honorary Consul General of Cambodia in Montréal, met with representatives from Investissement Québec and the Ministry of International Relations and La Francophonie in Québec to discuss opportunities to strengthen cooperation.

Both sides agreed to support each other in promoting private investment and welcomed the growing cooperation between Cambodia and Québec, reaffirming their commitment to further strengthen the existing relationship.



CIS INTRODUCING 2026–27 THEME

The Canadian International School of Phnom Penh (CIS) has introduced its 2026–27 Annual Theme: “One School, Many Stories.”

The theme celebrates the diverse cultures, experiences, talents, and aspirations that each student, family, and staff member brings to the CIS community.

This reflects the school's commitment to creating an inclusive learning environment where every voice and perspective is valued, and everyone has the opportunity to contribute, thrive, and create new stories in the year ahead.

For more information: <https://www.cisp.edu.kh/>



FRANCOTECH 2026: INNOVATION AND DIGITAL OPPORTUNITIES

FrancoTech 2026 is an innovation exhibition connected to the 20th Francophonie Summit, bringing together innovators, entrepreneurs, and digital technology stakeholders to showcase ideas and explore opportunities for collaboration.



This year, there will be more than 200 exhibitors, along with a busy agenda with round table discussions under 7 themes ranging from AI Governance to Tech for Tourism and Agriculture. Moreover, there is an innovative competition focusing on two categories: Best Digital Innovations and Best Women Entrepreneurs.

Date: 14, 15, 16 November, 2026

Location: Koh Pich Exhibition and Convention Center, Hall A-F

For more information: <https://francotech.gov.kh/>

UPCOMING EVENT

September 4th, 2026: Urban Development Committee Meeting

“Practical Strategies and Tools for Building Distinctive Real Estate Identity in Cambodia” featuring Mr. Pawel Siudecki, CEO of The Room Architecture and Design