

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY PHNOM PENH

MEDIA RELEASE

New Colombo Plan mobility grants to support more Australian students to study in Cambodia

Cambodia will welcome over 250 Australian undergraduate students to live, study and undertake work placements next year. The students will be supported through the Australian Government's New Colombo Plan mobility grants program.

New Colombo Plan mobility students will return to Australia with new insights and understanding about Cambodia and new friendships that will last a lifetime.

These students will study a broad range of subjects, including engineering, agriculture, law, education, social work and conservation, and gain experience of Cambodian workplaces through internships and mentorships.

New Colombo Plan mobility projects in Cambodia include:

- engineering students using their practical skills and knowledge to repair vital medical equipment
- veterinary science students learning to control animal diseases which can cross national boundaries
- social work students undertaking a practicum placement with Handicap International Cambodia.

These are exciting projects that demonstrate the many opportunities for Australian students to deepen their academic and life experiences through study and work placements in Cambodia.

The New Colombo Plan is a signature initiative of the Australian Government to lift knowledge of the Indo-Pacific by supporting Australian undergraduate students to study and undertake internships in the region.

Mobility projects are open to students from any discipline, and range from short-term study tours to semester-based study and internships. The New Colombo Plan also includes a scholarship program, which will support around 100 students in 2016.

The Australian Government has committed \$100 million in new funding over five years to implement the New Colombo Plan.

For more information on the New Colombo Plan, visit <u>www.dfat.gov.au/new-colombo-plan</u> or follow @NewColomboPlan

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