



## **AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY PHNOM PENH**

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### **AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL VISA UPDATE**

On 23 August 2021 the Australian Government announced the creation of a new Australian Agriculture visa. The arrangements for this visa will be negotiated with bilateral partners, starting with a small sub-set of countries and expanding to more countries over time.

There is no bilateral agricultural visa arrangement currently in place between Australia and Cambodia. Cambodians should be suspicious of any company currently claiming to be able to arrange an agricultural visa for Australia.

Details on how to apply, and eligibility requirements, will be determined through the program design process in consultation with the Australian agriculture sector. The visa will be managed by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Department of Home Affairs and Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment will provide operational support to ensure visa integrity and to meet the needs of the agriculture and primary industry sectors.

Minimum standards to protect workers from exploitation will be critical and will be modelled on Australia's successful Pacific labour mobility programs. Once the arrangements for the visa are complete, there will be strict regulations in place to protect workers. The Government is committed to ensuring all workers have the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the Australian economy, without fear of exploitation.

All workers in Australia have the same rights and protections at work, regardless of citizenship or visa status. These rights and protections will continue to apply to workers coming to Australia under the Australian agriculture visa.

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