



AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY PHNOM PENH

MEDIA RELEASE

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ENHANCING PUBLIC SECTOR LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION FOR BETTER PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY

Today, Australian Deputy Ambassador Andreas Zurbrugg along with European Union Delegation's Head of Cooperation Bryan Fornari and World Bank's Country Manager Maryam Salim joined His Excellency Prum Sokha, Minister of Civil Service to launch the *Leadership and Innovation Program* for a second cohort of senior-level civil servants.

The *Leadership and Innovation Program* aims to enhance the capacity of senior government officials and form a strong bond among leaders from major public sector reforms.

"Leadership extends beyond managing and making decisions. It involves establishing a culture, offering the right incentives, encouraging calculated risks, and promoting accountability," Deputy Ambassador Zurbrugg said. "Once empowered, and after empowering others, leaders can innovate and set directions for major public sector reforms."

The program is a key activity under the Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) for Public Financial Management (PFM) and Service Delivery. Australia and EU contribute AUD2 million and EUR2 million respectively to the World Bank-administered MDTF. The MDTF has been working closely with the Royal School of Administration to design and administer training under the program.

More than 150 senior-level officials ranging from Director Generals to Secretaries of States and across the government are participating in the course.

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