



**AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
PHNOM PENH**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Launch of Australia Awards for selection round 2012**

Australian Ambassador to Cambodia, H.E Ms Penny Richards, will host the launch of the 2012 *Australia Awards* scholarships at the InterContinental Hotel on 29 February. The launch will be attended by senior government officials, representatives of the private sector and civil society and prominent Australian alumni. H.E. Mr Ith Sam Heng, Minister of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation, will deliver the key note address.

More than 50 Australia Awards scholarships are on offer for Cambodian students in 2012. This year, for the first time, there will be opportunities for Cambodians wanting to undertake Doctorate degrees under the Australian Development Scholarships (ADS). The Australia Awards also include the Australian Leadership Awards (ALA), where selected students have the option to study either a masters or doctorate degree, as well as participate in leadership forums and networks with ALA awardees from all over the world. Additional scholarships will be available through the Endeavour Awards for short or long term study and research or professional development in Australia in a broad range of disciplines.

Australia is committed to promoting higher education and building human capacity within the Asia Pacific region. Around 480 students from Cambodia have been awarded post-graduate scholarships to study in Australia since 1994, and more than 160 Cambodians have received short term training or capacity building under the Australia Leadership Award (ALA) Fellowships since 2006.

These scholarship opportunities are non-discriminatory and open equally to males and females, city and rural candidates and people with a disability. Scholarships are awarded for post-graduate study in areas of health, agriculture and rural development, infrastructure, law and justice, mining as well as in aid effectiveness, social services, gender equality and governance. Many returning alumni have gone on to take up positions of influence across all these sectors and have made substantial contributions to the development of Cambodia.

Applications for Australian Development Scholarships (ADS) and Australian Leadership Awards (ALA) are now open and will close on 30 April 2012.

The Endeavour awards applications will be open from 1 April- 30 June 2012.

***Function details:***

*Date: Wednesday 29 February 2012, from 1730-2030 hours*

*Venue: InterContinental Hotel, Phnom Penh*

For further information, please visit: [www.australiaawards.gov.au](http://www.australiaawards.gov.au)

**Media Enquiries: Dave Gordge, First Secretary, Australian Embassy Phnom Penh**  
27 February 2012