



**AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
PHNOM PENH**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**AUSTRALIAN ALUMNI NETWORKING RECEPTION IN CAMBODIA**

Prominent Cambodians who have studied in Australia, including business people, senior government officials, academics and civil society leaders will gather together on 13 November 2015 at the Sofitel Phnom Penh Phokeethra hotel for an Australian alumni networking reception. This will be hosted by the Australian Embassy and the Australian Alumni Association of Cambodia (AAA-C).

The networking reception will bring together Australian alumni to share memories, celebrate achievements, renew old friendships, and forge new networks with some of Cambodia's most successful professionals.

The AAA-C will also be presenting the Alumnus of the Year Award to a prominent Australian alumnus who has made significant contribution to Cambodia's development.

H.E. Ms Alison Burrows, Australian Ambassador to Cambodia, said that the reception would be an opportunity to reflect on the contribution Australian alumni have made to Cambodia's development.

"Australian alumni have gone on to become ministers, ambassadors, senior officials, CEOs, vice-chancellors and community leaders" she said.

"I am proud of the contribution that Australia has made to Cambodia's development by training top students from every province in Cambodia."

Since the Australia Awards Scholarships program commenced in Cambodia in 1994, more than 600 talented Cambodian students have received scholarships from the Australian Government to study in Australia. Many more have studied in Australia through private funding as well as through other scholarships.

Studying in Australia is a life-changing experience for many Cambodians, and Australia is an increasingly popular destination for Cambodian students. The number of Cambodian students who have studied at an Australian higher education institution has increased steadily over the years, from over 500 in 2002 to over 2,000 in 2014.

The Australian Embassy is very pleased that this networking reception is sponsored by some of Australia's top universities: Monash University; University of Technology Sydney; Insearch; University of New South Wales; and La Trobe University.

For more information about the event, please visit: [www.cambodia.embassy.gov.au](http://www.cambodia.embassy.gov.au)

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