



Future Forum Internship Program

Who We Are

Future Forum is an evidence-based think tank that focuses on research, analysis and public policy and represents a dynamic response to an identified “policy gap” in Cambodia. We seek to stimulate a new type of thinking to enable Cambodian society to make better decisions and to achieve better outcomes, with young people coming to the fore of such types of contributions.

By adopting a measured, analytical and considered approach, we conduct rigorous, in-depth research that involves all stakeholders in finding concrete, creative and principled solutions to Cambodian policy issues. Future Forum’s objective is thus to encourage intellectual research and thinking, to positively influence the policy narrative in Cambodia at a local, national and international level, employing evidence-based policy debate, analysis and recommendations to inspire Cambodian people –especially grassroots local communities, minorities and the youth – to achieve democratic, political and socio-economic change that will benefit all of Cambodia. Our work falls under four general areas of work: the Research Hub; the Advisory Services; the Cambodia We Want forums; and the Civic Education component.¹

The Internship Program

Future Forum accepts both local (Cambodian) and international interns to assist the staff with the organization’s core projects and areas of work. Interns contribute to all areas of the organization’s work and are expected to be flexible with their job duties and responsibilities. Tasks may include, inter alia, conducting public policy research and analysis, and contributing to the formulation of public policy recommendations; assisting Future Forum staff with political analysis, risks assessments and scenario planning; assisting Future Forum staff in the planning and post-production of public policy forums; contributing to the production of civic education materials; and assisting with editing and/or translation of documents and materials. Interns are based in Future Forum’s office in Phnom Penh (although travel to other parts of the country may be required for research purposes), and we ask that interns commit to a minimum of four months.

Future Forum foresees that at the end of the internship placement, interns will have gained a solid understanding of current policy (including political, human rights and development) issues in Cambodia, have grown in their ability to analyze these issues with an eye to devising concrete policy solutions and recommendations, and have grown in their ability to research and write policy reports and other materials, as well as have developed a broad range of organizational and managerial skills. We expect interns to complete at least one (1) policy report on a topic to be decided upon by both the organization and the intern. Future Forum staff

¹ Please visit our website at <http://www.futureforum.asia> for more information about our programs and areas of work.

guide interns' professional development through close mentoring and coaching, and providing regular feedback and constructive criticism throughout the length of their internship.

More details of the internship program, including basic requirements for candidates and the application procedure, are provided in the attached Job Description.

Supporting the Internship Program

Because we are not currently in a position to pay interns, we are interested in working with donors, scholarship providers and other sponsors to try to provide living stipends for our interns on a case-by-case basis.

Linking Internship Placements to Scholarship Programs

We are particularly interested in taking in Cambodian interns who are interested in studying abroad or who have recently studied abroad. Many scholarship programs exist for highly qualified Cambodian students to study abroad, yet in many cases, these scholarship recipients have limited professional options when they return to Cambodia; and for those who have yet to go, there are limited opportunities to them to build up their research credentials to support scholarship applications.

As such, we are interested in building relationships with scholarship providers and programs who may be interested in having potential scholarship recipients receive substantive research training before heading abroad and/or continuing their support of scholarship recipients once they return to Cambodia, by funding (or partially funding) a candidate's internship with us. Through their internship placement, interns will learn substantive research and critical skills and, if needed, can receive assistance in the development of research and thesis proposals and scholarship applications.

Working with Universities Abroad

Many universities throughout the world provide scholarships or grants for students interested in interning abroad. We are interested in building our relationships with schools provided these types of opportunities and in reaching to students who have access to these grants. We are also happy to provide proof of work for students receiving credits for their internship of us and can help tailor the internship to these particular type of cases.

Contributing to Future Forum's Internship Budget

For potential donors or sponsors who do not provide scholarships, or who are not involved in providing grants to students interested in interning abroad, but who want to support our work, we invite donations that can be specifically allocated to the internship program and which will be used specifically to help fund living stipends for interns who are unable to get a scholarship or grant for a variety of reasons. We are open to different options and discussions around this.

If you are interested in supporting our internship program, please get in touch with us at info@futureforum.asia.