



Young Research Fellows Program

August 2018

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 objectives are 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, to achieve democratic, political and socio-economic change that will benefit all of Cambodia. Our work falls under four general areas, including the Research Hub; the Advisory Services; the Policy Forums; and the Civic Education component.¹

Future Forum’s Research Hub and the Young Research Fellows Program

Future Forum’s Young Research Fellows Program, under the Research Hub, seeks to develop and foster critical thinking and evidence-based analysis by young Cambodians under the age of 30. Young Research Fellows will be passionate about developing creative policy solutions based on high-quality research and analysis to address the myriad of challenges that Cambodia faces. Due to a lack of emphasis on research and critical analysis in most Cambodian university programs, Future Forum is seeking to fill a significant gap by training and mentoring participants in Future Forum’s areas of expertise.

Over the course of one year, Young Researchers will participate in three main components of the program, including: (1) training related to research methods and critical analysis skills; (2) independent research, analysis and writing on their topic(s) of interest; and (3) one-on-one mentoring by Future Forum’s research and policy staff to support their research projects. Selected participants are required to fully participate in all components of the program, including to attend a series of lectures/seminars on research methodologies, and to complete their research project within one year.

At the conclusion of the program, participants will have acquired solid research and critical analysis skills that will enable them to carry out future research in their field of interest. In addition, through ongoing training and independent work, participants are expected to understand and to grow in their ability to

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

develop policy-oriented materials from their research findings, as well as to develop future research proposals for professional and/or academic purposes.

Becoming a Young Research Fellow

In 2018, Future Forum will admit 12 Young Research Fellows to join the second edition of our Young Research Fellows Program. The program is open to recent university graduates and young professionals who are passionate about policy research and analysis, and wish to further develop their research and critical analysis skills through mentoring and training. Additional details about the Young Research Fellows Program, including basic requirements for candidates and the application procedure, are provided in the attached Criteria and Application Procedure.

Support for Young Research Fellows

Future Forum provides a modest monthly stipend of US\$300 to participants during the course of the program. In addition, participants are expected to use Future Forum's office in central Phnom Penh as well as resources and facilities to conduct research, including Internet access, research resources and printing.

Research Fellows Alumni

Graduates from the program will automatically become members of Future Forum's research fellows alumni network. The aim of the alumni is to build an engaged and supportive research community in Cambodia as well as to shape the future of Future Forum through the views of its members. The alumni network will provide the opportunity for Young Research Fellows to stay connected with former colleagues and friends, contribute to a strong research community, and maintain a life-long connection with Future Forum.

Contributing to Future Forum's Young Research Fellows Program

Future Forum welcomes donations that can be specifically allocated to the Young Research Fellows Program, which will be used to help fund living stipends for participants who are unable to fund themselves or obtain an alternative scholarship or grant for a variety of reasons. We are open to exploring various options with potential donors or sponsors who wish to support Future Forum's Young Research Fellows program. If you are interested in supporting the program, please contact us at info@futureforum.asia.