



## 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.<sup>1</sup>

### **2020 Young Researchers Program - Criteria & Application Procedure**

Future Forum is recruiting up to **twenty (20)** Cambodian graduates, who wish to develop and strengthen their skills in research and policy analysis to join our 2020 Young Researchers Program. Next year will be the third intake of the program. Selected candidates will undertake research in the field of public policy<sup>2</sup> and receive training in research methodologies, public policy analysis, and critical thinking skills as well as structured mentoring from Future Forum’s researcher staff throughout the year. Future Forum expects that by the end of the program Young Researchers will have gained a solid understanding of public policy issues (political economy, urban planning, and development studies); qualitative and quantitative research methods; as well as policy and trend analysis and scenario planning (strategic foresighting). They will have grown in their ability to analyze policy issues and to devise concrete policy solutions and recommendations.

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

<sup>2</sup> Our research priority for 2020 revolves around four themes: (1) Soft Power/Greater Mekong/ASEAN, (2) Future Cities, (3) Development, and (4) Education, but other topics may also be considered.

### Program Description:

- Develop an independent research project, including desk research, under the supervision of Future Forum staff;
- Produce opinion articles and policy snapshots on a periodic basis;
- Regularly attend research and policy trainings/seminars conducted by Future Forum;
- Regularly meet with internal and external mentors and skills coach; and
- Regularly participate in field visits to various state institutions, international organisations and foreign embassies.

### Eligibility criteria:

- University graduate in Public Administration, Political Science, Public Policy, Development Studies, Education, International Relations, Law, Economics, or a similar field, and/or young professionals; candidates completing the final semester of their bachelor degree should specify their expected graduation date;
- A strong interest in research and the ability to undertake independent study;
- Proficiency in English (advanced writing, reading, and speaking skills);
- Commitment to complete a one year, full-time program with Future Forum is essential;
- A research background (e.g., university level research course(s) in qualitative and quantitative methods, etc.) is desirable but not required;
- Only candidates aged from 20 – 30 years old will be considered;
- In this year's intake, preferential consideration will be given to candidates applying in the following three areas: future cities; international studies (with focus on the Greater Mekong Subregion); and economy/development.

### Scholarship and Monthly Stipend:

- Selected candidates will be provided either a full scholarship (\$300 monthly stipend) or partial scholarship (\$150 monthly stipend).
- They will also receive financial support to conduct fieldwork if required.
- Young Researchers are expected to be based **full-time** at Future Forum's office as well as use in house resources and facilities to conduct research, including internet access, library, research resources and printing.

### Selection Process:

All candidates are invited to send a CV and a letter of interest to [info@futureforum.asia](mailto:info@futureforum.asia) no later than **30 September 2019**. Letters of interest must clearly include (i) the reasons for the candidate's interest in joining the Young Researchers program; (ii) the candidate's expectations of the program; and (iii) the candidate's field of interest (e.g public administration, law, education, international relations etc.). Applicants are encouraged to apply for a field related to their undergraduate program. The letter of interest should be no longer than two pages in length.

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview and a written test. Candidates will be notified of the decision within two weeks of having taken the written test. Upon acceptance, selected applicants are expected to sign a mutual contract with Future Forum and to commence the program from January 2020.