



## **Terms of Reference for the role of Infrastructure Investment Lead Researcher for Future Forum**

Future Forum, an independent Cambodian public policy think-tank, is recruiting for an **Infrastructure Investment Lead Researcher**.

### **1. Background**

Establishing a New Vision for Cambodia Founded by Ou Virak in late 2015, Future Forum is an independent think tank that focuses on research, analysis, and public policy, representing a dynamic response to an identified “policy gap” in Cambodia.

**Vision:** A just, democratic, dynamic and prosperous Cambodia shaped by the needs of its people rather than its rulers.

**Mission:** “Public. Policy. Forward.” - Nurture a community of young thinkers, develop positive policy solutions, and engender critical debate, moulding the future of Cambodia. Core values: Nurture, Create, Debate.

**Objective:** Facilitating intellectual research and analysis 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 youth – to achieve democratic, political and socio-economic change that will benefit all people of Cambodia.

### **Our Methodology**

While there are various civil society actors in Cambodia engaged with a wide variety of issues, Future Forum takes a broader view and adopts a more measured, analytical and considered approach that identifies underlying trends and employs rigorous research, and creative and principled policy recommendations to help shape Cambodia’s policy discourse.

Rather than simply identifying problems, Future Forum adopts a solution-oriented approach, and uses its research to equip key decision-makers with detailed, specific, constructive policy solutions to Cambodia’s issues. Future Forum remains closely connected to youth and grassroots civil society networks such that it can provide local communities with the benefit of policy, analysis and technical assistance.

### **Our Program and Study Areas**

Future Forum incorporates three programmatic pillars to support the successful proliferation of our mission and vision: Cambodia outlook, young researcher’s training program, and the community of researchers.

### **2. Position Description**

Future Forum is seeking an experienced researcher who is well versed in Chinese-Cambodian affairs to work on a review of large-scale infrastructure projects in Cambodia. The research is a partnership with the US Chamber of Commerce’s Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) and focuses on the regulatory framework around foreign investment in Cambodia and how it interacts with China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The hire would collaborate with the innovative researchers of the local think tank



Future Forum, which works to produce valuable and rigorous evidence-based research and analysis of Cambodian public policy.

The position is a **7-month tenure** at an **annual salary rate of \$30,000**.

### **3. Duties and Responsibilities**

The Infrastructure Investment Lead Researcher will work with an innovative team of Future Forum researchers to review infrastructure projects and collaborate with a regional network under the Center for International Private Enterprise.

Daily responsibilities include:

- Reviewing legal documents
- Researching infrastructure case studies
- Reaching out to relevant institutions for further information
- Writing research reports
- Meeting with relevant stakeholders
- Carrying out CIPE methodology
- Attending regional meetings and trainings
- Preparing research for publication

### **4. Key Requirements**

- A bachelor's degree in a relevant field
- At least 5 years of experience or a master's degree in a relevant field
- A strong knowledge and understanding of foreign investment and China-Cambodia relations
- Proficient computer literacy skills for rigorous research
- Excellent academic writing skills
- Experience conducting research projects and interacting with stakeholders
- English fluency at a professional level
- Ability to work collaboratively on a team
- Exceptional time management and organizational skills

### **5. Application Rule:**

Qualified candidates are invited to send their cover letter and CV (both in English) by **Friday, February 19th, 2021, (midnight)** by e-mail [info@futureforum.asia](mailto:info@futureforum.asia).

Future Forum is an equal opportunities employer.