# **INVEST IN CAMBODIA**

## a country on the verge of a breakthrough

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## **Special Economic Zones**



The Royal Government of Cambodia recognises that Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are an important part of the country's economic development because they bring infrastructure, jobs, skills, enhanced productivity and not least the prospect of poverty reduction in rural areas.

Location of the SEZs is vitally important so that the benefits in terms of increased employment and poverty reduction can be shared throughout Cambodia.

It is the policy of the Royal Government to lay production foundations in regions other than Phnom Penh in order to build economic linkages between urban and rural areas.

Cambodia is not an urbanised society and so the SEZs will provide employment for the country's labour force which is predominantly from the provinces and mainly women.

Fulfilling issues of corporate social responsibility, SEZs will also be able to provide accommodation, education and healthcare services for the workforce, something not generally provided by stand-alone factories.

A sub-decree on the Establishment and Management of Special Economic Zones (to include export processing zones and free trade zones) was adopted in December 2005.

The Royal Government has since approved a total of 21 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) located along the border with

Thailand and Vietnam (Koh Kong, Poipet, Savet, Phnom Den), at Sihanoukville and Phnom Penh. Of the 21, 6 have commenced operations.

Aiming to attract more investors, the SEZs offer a 'One-Stop Service' for imports and exports, with government officials stationed on-site providing administrative services. Applications to establish factories within the SEZs are dealt with on-site as well as all administrative clearances, permits, authorisations, etc.

Businesses within the SEZs also benefit from a number of fiscal incentives, including income tax, customs, and VAT benefits.

Cambodia's SEZs are located adjacent to new road networks and provide state-of-the-art factory buildings, plentiful water supplies, water treatment plants, vocational training, banking services, postal services and telecommunications.

Because of Cambodia's high cost of electricity, SEZs located inland have installed power plants to generate their own electricity, while those at the border buy cheaper electricity from Thailand or Vietnam.

SEZs located at the border not only benefit from the cheaper cost of electricity, but also attract investors from the other side of the border. Investors from Thailand and Vietnam operating within these SEZs are able to manufacture in Cambodia at a lower price and export directly to Thailand and Vietnam, or further afield within Asean and the rest of the world.

When considering Cambodia as a manufacturing base, it is worth remembering that by 2012 Cambodia will be linked to the region by first-class road networks, telecom networks and the power grid. As a member of the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS), Cambodia is poised to benefit from the development of economic corridors.

GMS Infrastructure projects worth around \$10 billion have either been completed or are being implemented. Among these are the upgrading of the Phnom Penh-Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam) highway and the East-West Economic Corridor that will eventually extend from the Andaman Sea (part of the Indian Ocean west of Thailand) to Danang (Vietnam).

So, in 2012, not only will investors have the market of Cambodia's 14 million domestic consumers, but fast overland access to 310 million consumers in the Greater Mekong Sub-region too.

The Royal Government has been working hard to create the right environment for SEZs in Cambodia. The legal framework was put in place in about two months and the Cambodian Special Economic Zone Board (CSEZB) was established within three months.

CSEZB operates under the umbrella of the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) – CDC is basically what would be described in other countries as a Board of Investment (BOI) or Investment Promotion Agency (IPA).

A trouble shooting committee for SEZs has also been established in order to oversee any problems that may occur with land rights, exports, imports and the labour market. The prime minister himself is chairman of both CDC and the trouble shooting committee.

The establishment of the SEZs and the creation of an investor-friendly environment is an area where, in its context as an emerging market, Cambodia is recognised as having provided substantive leadership in South East Asia.

#### **Reasons to Invest**

- In Cambodia, corporate income tax is 20 per cent, which is very low in comparison to other countries in the region.
- Projects that are eligible for incentives get a tax holiday of between 6 and 9 years.
- Foreign investors can own 100 per cent of their business. Cambodia does not require that investors have a local partner.
- There are no price controls on products and services in Cambodia.

- There are no restrictions placed on the repatriation of funds. If you make a profit in Cambodia you will be able to take your money
  out
- Cambodia is among the 50 least-developed countries listed by the United Nations and enjoys tariff-free privileges for its exports to the US, Canada, Europe, Japan, Australia and other major international markets.
- If you manufacture in Cambodia you will have 560 million consumers in Asean virtually on your doorstep.
- A trouble shooting committee for SEZs to oversee any problems that occur with land rights, exports, imports and the labour market.
- Open economy.
- Business friendly government.
- Sound macroeconomic environment.
- Foreigner friendly population.
- A low cost, young and energetic workforce.
- Favourable investment incentives and tax regime.
- Strategic location.
- Abundant natural resources.
- World class tourist sites.
- Vast regional market access

## Cambodia Special Economic Zone Board

#### a one-stop service provider with an open-door policy to foreign investors

The Cambodia Special Economic Zone Board (CSEZB) operates under the umbrella of the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC). CDC has three operational arms:

- Cambodian Rehabilitation and Development Board which takes care of all overseas development aid, bilateral and multilateral assistance, and aid mobilisation.
- Cambodian Investment Board in charge of dealing with all FDI.
- Cambodia Special Economic Zone Board reporting directly to the prime minister.

CDC is a one-stop service for FDI and makes all of the relevant decisions for investment projects valued between \$2 million and \$50 million. Its one-stop meetings are chaired by Senior Minister Cham Prasidh, Minister of Commerce. Projects with a capital investment over \$50 million are referred to the Cabinet for final approval.

#### **Contact**

## Cambodia Special Economic Zone Board (CSEZB)

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## List of SEZs in Cambodia - 2009

#### 1. Neang Kok Koh Kong SEZ

Koh Kong SEZ Co.,Ltd.

Neang Kok Village, Pakkhlong Commune, Mundul Seyma District, Koh Kong Province Land Area: 335 hectares. Capital: NA Zone Developer: Okhna Ly Yong Phat

License from CDC: No.3399, dated 26 November 2002 Sub-Decree: No.159, dated 26 October 2007 Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): Camko Motor Company Ltd. (vehicle assembly/spare parts)

## 2. Suoy Chheng SEZ

Suoy Chheng Investment Co., Ltd. Neang Kok Village, Pakkhlong Commune, Mundul Seyma District, Koh Kong Province

Land Area: 100 hectares Capital: \$14 million

Zone Developer: Mrs. Kao Suoy Chheng

License from CDC: No. 3391, dated 26 November 2002

Sub-Decree: Not yet

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

#### **3. S.N.C SEZ**

SNC Lavalin (Cambodia) Holding Ltd. Sangkat Bet Trang, Khan Prey Nob

Sihanoukville

Land Area: 150 hectares Capital: \$14 million

Zone Developer: Oknha Kong Triv

License from CDC: No. 3388, dated 26 November 2002

Sub-Decree: Not yet

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

#### 4. Stung Hav SEZ

Attwood Investment Group Co., Ltd. Sangkat O Tres, Stung Hav District,

Sihanoukville

Land Area: 192 hectares Capital: \$14 million

Zone Developer: Ms. Lim Chhiv Ho

License from CDC: No. 544, dated 18 February 2005

Sub-Decree: No. 50, dated 25 March 2005 Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

## 5. N.L.C SEZ

N.L.C. Import Export Co., Ltd.

Phum Prey Phdao abd Phum Thlok, Khum Chrok Mtes,

Srok Svay Teab, Sray Rieng Province

Land Area: 105 hectares Capital: \$13 million

Zone Developer: Ms. Leang Vouch Chheng License from CDC: No. 2403, dated 15 July 2005

Sub-Decree: Not yet

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

## 6. Manhattan (Svay Reing) SEZ

Manhattan International Co., Ltd. Bavet Commune, Chantrea District,

Svay Rieng Province Land Area: 157 hectares Capital: \$15 million

Zone Developer: Mr. Clement Yang (Taiwan) License from CDC: No. 2942, dated 28 August 2005

Sub-Decree: No.135, dated 29 November 2006

Project Implementation: Infrastructure is complete on the first 70-hectare phase of the development. Electricity supply is connected to the Vietnam power grid.

Zone Investor(s):

- 1. Best Way Industry Co., Ltd. (bicycle manufacturer)
- 2. S.Y.G. Steel International Co., Ltd. (nuts & bolts)
- 3. Kingmaker Footwear Co., Ltd. (footwear)
- 4. Galaxy Textile Co., Ltd. (garments)
- 5. ARC Cambodia Corp. (hi-tech equipment recycling)
- 6. MSEZ Comfort Hospital Co., Ltd. (hospital)
- 7. Sheico (Cambodia) Co., Ltd. (neoprene wet suit manufacturer)
- 8. Forest Packing (Cambodia) Co., Ltd. (packaging)
- 9. Pique Garment Co., Ltd. (garments)

#### 7. Poipet O'Neang SEZ

Chhay Chhay Investment Ltd

Poipet Commune and Nimit Commune,

O' Chhrov District, Banteay Meanchey Province

Land Area: 467 hectares Capital: \$15 million

Zone Developer: Mrs. Van Ny

License from CDC: No. 3412, dated 07 October 2005

Sub-Decree: No. 57, dated 01 June 2006

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure (fencing, entrance gate,

electric poles)

Zone Investor(s): 1- Campack Co., Ltd. (jewellery packaging)

## 8. Doung Chhiv Phnom Den SEZ

Doung Chhiv Special Economic Zone Ltd.

Kiri Vong District, Takeo Province

Land Area: 79 hectares Capital: \$28 million

Zone Developer: Oknha Doung Chhiv

License from CDC: No.268, dated 20 February 2006 Sub-Decree: No.140, dated 08 December 2006

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure (landfill and fencing)

Zone Investor(s): None

## 9. Phnom Penh SEZ

Phnom Penh SEZ Co., Ltd.

Khan Dangkao, Phnom Penh and Ang Snuol District,

Kandal Province Land Area: 350 hectares Capital: \$68 million

Zone Developer: Ms. Lim Chhiv Ho

License from CDC: No.268, dated 20 February 2006

Sub-Decree: No. 33, dated 19 April 2006 Project Implementation: Infrastructure complete

Zone Investor(s):

1. Navy Water Production Co., Ltd. (drinking water)

- 2. Bok Seng PPSEZ Dry Port Co., Ltd. (dry port)
- 3. Redial Industrial Co., Ltd. (textiles and printing)
- 4. Civil (CP) Construction Product Ltd. (pole manufacturer)
- 5. Tiger Wing Co., Ltd. (footwear)
- 6. Evergreen Industrial Co., Ltd. (garments)
- 7. Yamaha Motor (Cambodia) Company Limited Co., Ltd. (motorcycle assembly plant)
- 8. Cambodia Success Industries Co., Ltd. (steel processing / construction materials)
- 9. Agricom (Cambodia) Co., Ltd. (sugar packaging)

10.Cambox Private Ltd. (plastics)

11. JI-XIANG Co., Ltd. (cartons and paper production)

#### 10. Kampot SEZ

Kampot SEZ Co., Ltd.

Koh Toch commune, Kampot district,

Kampot Province

Land Area: 145 hectares

Capital: \$15 Million

Zone Developer: Oknha Vinh Huor

License from CDC: No. 1947, dated 23 May 2006 Sub-Decree: No. 03, dated 09 January 2007

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure (landfill and construction

of Kampot seaport)
Zone Investor(s): none

#### 11. Sihanoukville SEZ 1

Cambodia International Investment Development Group Co., Ltd.

Stung Hav District, Sihanoukville City

Land Area: 178 hectares Capital: \$100 million

Zone Developer: Oknha Lav Meng Khin

License from CDC: No. 1966, dated 04 September1998

Sub-Decree: No. 113, dated 25 October 2006 Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

## 12. Tai Seng Bavet SEZ

Tai Seng Bavet SEZ Co., Ltd

Bavet District, Svay Rieng Province

Land Area: 99 hectares Capital: \$37 million

Zone Developer: Mr. Ly Hong Shin

License from CDC: No.024, dated 04 January 2007

Sub-Decree: No.29, dated 04 April 2007

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure (fencing, landfill, electricity)

Zone Investor(s):

- 1- Atlantic Cycle Co., Ltd. (bicycle manufacturer)
- 2- La More (Cambodia) Ltd. (footwear)
- 3- Doko Inc. (garments)

## 13. Oknha Mong SEZ

Oknha Mong Port Co., Ltd

Srea Ambel District, Koh Kong Province

Land Area: 100 hectares Capital: \$40 million

Zone Developer: Oknha Mong Rithy

License from CDC: No.026, dated 04 January 2007

Sub-Decree: Not yet

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

## 14. Goldfame Pak Shun SEZ

Goldfame Pak Shun SEZ Co., Ltd Sa Ang District, Kandal Province

Land Area: 80 hectares Capital: \$34 million

Zone Developer: Mr. Chan Ji Kvong

License from CDC: No.025, dated 04 January 2007

Sub-Decree: No. 30, dated 04 April 2007

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s):

1. Gold Dragon Printing & Carton Boxes Factory Co., Ltd (carton printing,

plastic labels)

#### 15. Thary Kampong Cham SEZ

Thary Investment Co., Ltd

Da Commune, Memot District, Kampong Cham Province

Land Area: 142 hectares Capital: \$69 million

Zone Developer: Mr. Chhorn Thary

License from CDC: No. 1931, dated 11 June 2007

Sub-Decree: No. 74, dated 16 July 2007

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

9) Zone Investor(s):

1. Kobe Bussan Co., Ltd. (vegetable processing)

#### 16. Sihanoukville SEZ 2

Cambodia International Investment Development Group

Pou Thoung Village, Betrang Commune and Smach Deang Village,

Ream Commune, Prey Nop District, Sihanoukville

Land Area: 1,688 hectares

Capital: N/A

Zone Developer: Oknha Lav Meng Khin

License from CDC: No. 2162, dated 29 June 2007 Sub-Decree: No.24, dated 17 March 2008 Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s):

- 1. Nanguo Garment co., Ltd. (garments)
- 2. Hongdou International Garment Co., Ltd. (garments)
- 3. Qianlima Vehicle Co., Ltd. (vehicle assembly plant)
- 4. Taihua Plastic Products Co., Ltd. (plastics)

#### 17. D&M Bavet SEZ

D&M Bavet SEZ Co., Ltd

Bavet commune, Chantrea District, Svay Rieng Province

Land Area: 117 hectares Capital: \$52 million

Zone Developer: Ms. Men Pheakdey, Ms. Chhay Noy, Miss. Dy Chendavy

License from CDC: No. 4134, dated 01 November 2007

Sub-Decree: Not yet

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

#### 18. Kiri Sakor Koh Kong SEZ

Koh Kong SEZ Co., Ltd

Khum Prek Kasach, Srock Kirisakor, Koh Kong

Land Area: 1,750 hectares Capital: \$110 million

Zone Developer: Oknha Ly Yong Phat

License from CDC: No.4762, dated 25-December-2008

Sub-Decree: Not yet

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

## 19. Sihanoukville Port SEZ

Sihanoukville Port SEZ

Tomnop Rolok Area, Sangkat Lek1 and Lek3,

Khan Meattapheap, Sihanoukville

Land Area: 70 hectares Capital: \$34 million

Zone Developer: H.E. Mr. Lu Kim Chhun

License from CDC: No. 415, dated 31 January 2008

Sub-Decree: Not yet

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

## 20. Kampong Saom SEZ

Cambodia Catering and Supply Co., Ltd. Village 4, Sangkat Ortres, Khan Stung Hav,

Sihanoukville

Land Area: 255 hectares Capital: \$190 million

Zone Developer: Neak Oknha Kith Meng

License from CDC: No. 21/09, dated 06 January 2009

Sub-Decree: Not yet

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

## 21. Pacific SEZ

Pacific (SEZ) Investment Co., Ltd.

Salatean and Preytob Villages, Chhrokmates Commune,

Svayteab District, Svay Rieng Province.

Land Area: 107 hectares Capital: \$70 million

Zone Developer: Mr. Chea Eavmeng, Mr. Gau Hieckhuor, Mrs. Yin Phanny,

Mrs. Sim Moniroth, Mr. Ly Vireak

License from CDC: No. 20/09, dated 06 January 2009

Sub-Decree: Not yet

Project Implementation: Developing infrastructure

Zone Investor(s): None

#### Source

Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC)/ Cambodian Special Economic Zone Board www.cambodiasez.gov.kh

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