

# 3rd Southeast Asia Economic Research and Development Conference

30-31 October, 2025  
Siem Reap, Cambodia

#SAERD25



Venue: Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia, Siem Reap (PUCSR), Siem Reap, Cambodia

Website: <https://saerdconf.github.io>



**CDRI**  
Cambodia Development Resource Institute



Economics must serve humanity. We envision an economic thinking that transcends intellectual barriers, reflects reality, and advances the well-being of our global society.

### Contact during the conference

Kosal Nith  
Phone: +855 (0)12 340 226  
Email: saerdconf@gmail.com

### Organising committee

Kosal Nith  
*Young Scholars Initiative and CDRI*

Sattwick Dey Biswas  
*Young Scholars Initiative*

Sovannroeun Samreth  
*Saitama University*

Sokhimmarya Chea  
*Royal University of Law and Economics*

Jakkrya Sey  
*Cambodia Development Resource Institute*

Sreymeng Sros  
*Royal University of Law and Economics*

Sinoun Him  
*Ministry of Post and Telecommunications*

Kean Muny Nhim  
*Cambodia Development Resource Institute*



# CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

## THURSDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2025

**10:20 – 12:00**      **Keynote Lecture**

**13:00 – 15:00**      **Parallel Sessions A**

Monetary and Industrial Policy	Social Well-being	Labor and Gender Economics	Food Security and Rural Development	Small Business and Productivity
A1 Siem Reap	A2 Angkor Wat	A3 Angkor Thom	A4 Bayon	A5 Bakong

**15:30 – 17:00**      **Panel Discussion A**

## FRIDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2025

**08:40 – 10:00**      **Panel Discussion B**

**10:15 – 12:15**      **Parallel Sessions B**

Agricultural Economics	Economic Inequality	Human Capital	Green Economics	Trade and Political Economy
B1 Siem Reap	B2 Angkor Wat	B3 Angkor Thom	B4 Bayon	B5 Bakong

**13:00 – 15:00**      **Parallel Sessions C**

Health Economics	Gender Economics	Economic Policy	Environmental Economics
C1 Siem Reap	C2 Angkor Wat	C3 Angkor Thom	C4 Bayon

**15:15 – 15:45**      **Asia Developing Region Book Project**

### Media and Recording Notice

Photos may be taken and film and sound recordings made during the conference for documentation and public relations purposes. These may be published on the Internet, on social media, and in other media for further use. By attending the conference, participants agree to such use of recordings and images without claim to remuneration. If participants do not wish to be photographed or recorded, they are kindly requested to inform the organizer in advance.

THURSDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2025

# 3RD SOUTHEAST ASIA ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Siem Reap Hall

08:30 – 09:00      **Registration**

09:00 – 09:05      **National anthem**

09:05 – 09:15      **Welcome remark**

*Dr. Sattwick Dey Biswas, History of Economic Thought  
Working Group Coordinator, Young Scholar Initiative*

*Mr. Kosal Nith, East Asia Working Group Coordinator,  
Young Scholars Initiative*

09:15 – 09:45      **Keynote remark**

*Prof. Ratha Chiv, Executive Vice Chancellor,  
Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia, Siem Reap  
Campus, Cambodia*

*Mr. Shakeel Ahmad, Deputy Resident Representative,  
UNDP Cambodia*

09:45 – 10:00

**Introduction to the Young Scholars Initiative**

*Mr. Kosal Nith, East Asia Working Group Coordinator,  
Young Scholars Initiative*

10:00 – 10:20      **Coffee break**

10:20 – 12:00      **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

*Chair: Prof. Sovannroeun Samreth, Professor of Economics  
Saitama University, Japan*

**A Global Measure of Inequality: Household Disparities,  
Child Poverty, and Gender Gaps in Consumption**

*Prof. Olivier Bargain, Professor of Economics,  
Bordeaux University, France*

**Global Multilateralism and Protectionism: Implications  
for Human Development and the HDI**

*Mr. Shakeel Ahmad, Deputy Resident Representative,  
UNDP Cambodia*

**12:00 – 13:00      Lunch**

**13:00 – 15:00      PARALLEL SESSIONS A**

**15:00 – 15:30      Coffee break**

**15:30 – 17:00      PANEL DISCUSSION A**

*Chair: Dr. Sattwick Dey Biswas, Young Scholars Initiative*

**Green Economics and Social Development:  
Opportunities and Challenges**

*Prof. Phanith Chou, Associate Professor of Environmental  
Economics, Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia*

*Mr. Theara Khoun, Socio-economic Policy Specialist,  
UNDP Cambodia, Cambodia*

*Dr. Daniel Yonto, Assistant Professor,  
Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China*

**19:00 – 21.00      Networking dinner**

*Hotel Somadevi Angkor Resort & Spa*

# FRIDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2025

## 3RD SOUTHEAST ASIA ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Siem Reap Hall

**08:40 – 10:00**

### **PANEL DISCUSSION B**

*Chair: Asso. Prof. Penghuy Ngov, Royal University of Phnom Penh*

*Economic Development and the Role of Human Capital*

*Prof. Sovannroeun Samreth, Professor of Economics, Saitama University, Japan*

*Prof. Ratha Chiv, Executive Vice Chancellor, Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia, Siem Reap Campus, Cambodia*

*Dr. Rada Khoy, Economist, UNDP Cambodia, Cambodia*

*Dr. Maria C. Lo Bue, Assistant Professor, University of Trieste, Italy*

**10:00 – 10:15**

**Coffee break**

**10:15 – 12:15**

### **PARALLEL SESSIONS B**

**12:15 – 13:00**

**Lunch**

**13:00 – 15:00**

### **PARALLEL SESSIONS C**

**15:00 – 15:15**

**Coffee break**

**15:15 – 15:45**

### **Asia Developing Region Book**

*Dr. Sattwick Dey Biswas, History of Economic Thought Working Group Coordinator, Young Scholar Initiative*

*Prof. Sovannroeun Samreth, Professor of Economics, Saitama University, Japan*

**15:45 – 16:00**

### **Closing remarking**

*The Conference Organizing Committee*

**19:00 – 21:00**

**Dinner**

*Hotel Somadevi Angkor Resort & Spa*



**MONETARY AND INDUSTRIAL POLICY**  
*Chair: Asso. Prof. Penghuy Ngov, RUPP*

**Tokenising People's Monetary Circuit and the Quiet, Infrastructural Redirection of Macroeconomics – Hints from Cambodia's Bakong**  
*Hizkia Yosias Polimpung (Monash University Malaysia)*

**Cambodian Monetary Sovereignty Under Pressure: The Triple Challenge of Dollarization, Yuan Expansion, and Cryptoization**  
*Clement Berthou (Université Grenoble Alpes/Institute for Banking Studies)*

**The Impact of Technological Changes on Income Distribution of Fisher Households in Malabar Region of Kerala, India**  
*Ubaish Mon C.P. (University of Calicut) and Nirmala Velan (GITAM University)*

**From Industrial Policy to Digital Ambitions: Tracing the Evolution of Indonesia's Economic Development Through the Rise of Its Digital Economy**  
*Jun Shen (Nanyang Technological University)*

**LABOR AND GENDER ECONOMICS**  
*Chair: Prof. Olivier Bargain, Bordeaux University*

**Promoting Economic Empowerment of Cambodian Women Workers through Knowledge-Centred Interventions**  
*Deeksha Gulati (Solidar Suisse)*

**Nexus of Gender and Caste: Occupational Segregation in Indian Megacities**  
*Jyoti Thakur (National Council of Applied Economic Research)*

**Recruitment Mechanisms and Employment Practices in the Construction Industry in Assam: Socioeconomic Evidence from a Field Survey**  
*Dhritiraj Sarma (Cotton University)*

**Affirmative Action in India: Impacts on Assortative Matching, Fertility, and Women's Labor Participation**  
*Pragati Pragati (Indian Institute of Technology)*

**SMALL BUSINESS AND PRODUCTIVITY**  
*Chair: Dr. Chanthol Hay, Pannasastra University*

**Factors Affecting Productivity and Barriers to Formality of SMEs in Cambodia: Evidence from the Economic Census 2022 and fDi Market Data**  
*Chanthol Hay (Pannasastra University)*

**Can Cambodia Catch-up with Technological Frontier Economies? Analysis of Innovation and Productivity at the Firm Level**  
*Thach Bunroeun (National University of Battambang)*

**The Role of Local and Foreign Platforms in Shaping SME Development through Digital Trade in Cambodia**  
*Kean Muny Nhim (CDRI)*

**Foreign Patenting and Middle Income Economies: Global and Firm-level Perspectives**  
*Pieter Stek (Asia School of Business)*

**SOCIAL WELL-BEING I**  
*Chair: Dr. Rada Khoy, UNDP Cambodia*

**Expanding Social Protection to the Informal Sector in Thailand: Key Drivers and Limitations**  
*Darlin Nay (Agricultural and Rural Development Bank)*

**Assessing the Effectiveness of Cambodia's National Social Protection Policy Framework in Safeguarding the Informal Sector's Income-Generation Capacity**  
*Vimuoela Hang (King's College London)*

**Navigating the Blue Waters: Relational Power and the Construction of ASEAN Centrality in Regional Maritime Economy Cooperation**  
*Lingyan Zhu (Universiti Malaya)*

**Gender Analysis in the Fishery Sector and the Impact of State Policies on Sustainable Livelihoods: A Case Study of Giao Thuy District, Nam Dinh Province**  
*Thu Ha Thi Pham (Vietnam National University of Agriculture)*

**FOOD SECURITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**  
*Chair: Prof. Phanith Chou, Royal University of Phnom Penh*

**Exploring the Effects of Remittance on Dietary Diversity and Food Security: Evidence from HIES 2022**  
*Mahjabin Rashid Lamisha (University of Dhaka)*

**How Does Crop Insurance Affect Food Security? An Endogenous Switching Regression Analysis from Central India**  
*Ashish Chouhan (Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati)*

**Patterns and Determinants of Dietary Security among Tea Garden Workers: A Case Study of Jalpaiguri District, India**  
*Saddam Hossain Mondal (Heramba Chandra College)*

**Occupational Changes and Human Capital Investment Following Rural Road Rehabilitation: Evidence from Cambodia**  
*Sei Okamoto (Independent Researcher)*

# FRIDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2025

## PARALLEL SESSIONS B 10:15 - 12:15

SiemReap B1	<b>AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS</b> <i>Chair: Prof. Sovannroeun Samreth, Saitama University</i> <b>Assessing the Adoption of Low-Carbon Rice Cultivation in Selected ASEAN Countries: Implications for Cambodia</b> <i>Monineath Horn (Agriculture and Rural Development Bank, ARDB)</i> <b>The Role of Development Finance Institutions in Supporting Agricultural Cooperatives in Cambodia: A Study on the Agricultural and Rural Development Bank</b> <i>Hang Panha Hour (ARDB)</i> <b>MSMEs Development in Cambodia: An Institutional Analysis through the Lens of the Developmental State</b> <i>Darlin Nay (ARDB)</i> <b>The Analysis of Agri-food Processing SMEs in Cambodia</b> <i>Panha Pich Sok (ARDB)</i>	AngkorWat B2	<b>ECONOMIC INEQUALITY</b> <i>Chair: Dr. Sushil Goswami, Gujarat National Law University</i> <b>Asymmetric Influence of Economic Growth on Income Inequality: Evidence from West Africa</b> <i>Bernard-Didier Benissan (University of Abomey-Calavi)</i> <b>Spatial Dynamics of Regional Inequality and Fiscal Policy in India: 1991–2023</b> <i>Vinay Kumar (Indian Institute of Technology Bhilai)</i> <b>Malaysia's Declining Innovation Output - Regional and Triple Helix Perspectives</b> <i>Rasyid Juhari (Asia School of Business)</i> <b>Climate Resilience, Economic Inequality and Inclusive Development in Southeast Asia's Coastal Communities</b> <i>Sushil Goswami (Gujarat National Law University)</i>
	<b>HUMAN CAPITAL</b> <i>Chair: Mr. Theara Khoun, UNDP Cambodia</i> <b>The Impact of Educational Opportunities on the Academic And Non-Academic Achievement of Indian Students in Selangor, Malaysia</b> <i>Sivam Tamilaseluan (Universiti Malaya)</i> <b>Examining Cambodian Upper Secondary School Students' Perceptions of TVET as a Career Choice: A Cross-Sectional Study</b> <i>Vitou Tes (Teacher Development Support Organization)</i> <b>From Budget to Benefits: Effects of Gender Budgeting on School Infrastructure and Girls' Education in India</b> <i>Prakashani Singh (Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur)</i> <b>Human Labour Behind Artificial Intelligence: Is Micro-Tasking Perpetuating Coloniality in the Global South (and Southeast Asia)?</b> <i>Giulio Pavesi (University of Amsterdam)</i>		<b>GREEN ECONOMICS</b> <i>Chair: Prof. Keiji Ujikawa, Yokohama National University</i> <b>Balancing Growth and Environmental Resilience: Asymmetric Effects of FDI and Economic Development on Emissions in Central Asia</b> <i>Sana Saleem (University of Brunei Darussalam)</i> <b>Strengthening Indonesia's Jetp: Optimising Clean Energy Finance And Investment To Achieve Net-Zero Emissions</b> <i>Ahmad Sabirin (Institute for Climate Law and Sustainable Policy)</i> <b>Nuclear Energy Renaissance and Domestic Institutional Support: Examining Japan's Policy Capacity</b> <i>Mohid Iftikhar (Lingnan University)</i>
	<b>TRADE AND POLITICAL ECONOMY</b> <i>Chair: Dr. Pranita Pathak, Savitribai Phule Pune University</i> <b>Trade and Institutional Change: A Historical Analysis of Colonial Expansion in Burma and Siam, 1852-1900</b> <i>Mek Ajay Sribhibhadh (LSE)</i> <b>State Power and Market Harm: Competition Law, Economic Welfare, and the Case for an ASEAN Competitive Neutrality Agreement</b> <i>Jimi Rambo Arranchado (University of Canterbury)</i> <b>Unequal Exchange in the ASEAN Region: Revisiting Arghiri Emmanuel's Theory in the Context of Global Value Chains</b> <i>Pranita Pathak (Savitribai Phule Pune University)</i> <b>Malaysia's EV Landscape: A Critical Look at Current Policies, Progress, and Gaps in The National EV Ecosystem</b> <i>Thirunaukarasu Subramaniam (Universiti Malaya)</i>		
AngkorThom B3		Bayon B4	
Bakong B5			



C1	SieamReap	<b>HEALTH ECONOMICS</b> <i>Chair: Asso. Prof. Thirunaukarasu Subramaniam, Universiti Malaya</i> <b>Navigating Online Health Information in the Digital Age: Evidence on NCD Management from Kerala's Digital Health Landscape</b> <i>Swathi Krishna K U (Centre for Development Studies)</i> <b>Food Security and Agrarian Transformation</b> <i>Trey Silong (Royal University of Phnom Penh)</i> <b>The Role of Health Financing System and Pluralism in Achieving SDG Health Outcomes in India: A Multilevel Analysis</b> <i>Pragyan Monalisa Sahoo (Utkal University)</i> <b>Determinants of Suicide Mortality in Southeast Asia</b> <i>Thirunaukarasu Subramaniam (Universiti Malaya)</i>	C2	AngkorWat	<b>GENDER ECONOMICS</b> <i>Chair: Dr. Maria C. Lo Bue, University of Trieste</i> <b>Corporate Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) in Multiethnic Societies: Identifying Broad-Based and Gender-Focused Paradigms</b> <i>Triny Lum (Asia School of Business)</i> <b>Strengthening Women's Economic Security and Sustainable Agricultural Practices: Insights from the AGROW Project</b> <i>Sokmoly Uon and Pirom Khiev (Cambodia Development Resource Institute)</i> <b>The Role of Women in the 1998 Election: A Case Study of Conflict Between Bisaya and Kolibugan Tribes in Sirawai</b> <i>Fahadz Lulu (Philippine Women's University)</i>
		<b>ECONOMIC POLICY</b> <i>Chair: Mr. Kosal Nith, Cambodia Development Resource Institute and YSI</i> <b>Investment and Growth Nexus in Indonesia: Insights into Regional Macroeconomic Stability in a Resource-Rich Economy</b> <i>Yesi Hendriani Supartoyo (National Research and Innovation Agency)</i> <b>Accelerating Digitalization and Technological Innovation as Keys to Boosting Economic Growth in Asia</b> <i>Ndirangu Ngunjiri (University of Nairobi)</i> <b>Divergence and Convergence: A Comparative Analysis of FDI Deliveries in Southeast Asia</b> <i>Roop Chand Hindu (Universiti Malaya)</i> <b>Economic Growth and Development in Cambodia: Driving Forces and Challenges</b> <i>Kosal Nith (Cambodia Development Resource Institute and YSI)</i>			<b>ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS</b> <i>Chair: Dr. Raksme Ang, Cambodia Development Resource Institute</i> <b>Revisiting the Disaster-Growth Nexus: Panel Data Evidence from Southeast Asian Countries</b> <i>Abina VP (Institute for Social and Economic Change)</i> <b>Myitsone Dam's Environmental Impact on Vulnerable Community Resilience in Myanmar after 2021 Coup</b> <i>Aung Than Oo (Tsinghua University/Rotary Peace Center of Makerere University)</i> <b>Exploring the Determinants of CO2 Emissions in Asian Countries: Assessing the Existence of the Environmental Kuznets Curve</b> <i>Puja Biswas (Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Mahavidyalaya)</i> <b>Strengthening Systems for Inclusive Climate Resilient Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Services in Cambodia</b> <i>Raksme Ang (Cambodia Development Resource Institute)</i>

# DURING THE CONFERENCE

## AWARENESS

We strive to ensure that the SAERD25 is a place of respectful intellectual exchange, free of discrimination and violations of attendees' personal boundaries.

If you feel that the organizers or individual participants have failed to meet these principles, requiring rapid action, please report this to the reception desk. You can ask to speak (if desired anonymously, by telephone) to one of the SAERD25 organizers, Kosal Nith or Sattwick Dey Biswas. In non-urgent cases you can also inform the organisers of issues and make suggestions by writing to [saerdconf@gmail.com](mailto:saerdconf@gmail.com).

Credible complaints against participants can lead to their exclusion from the current or future conferences.