



**VANNARITH CHHEANG**

Dr. Chheang Vannarith has over a decade of experience in the field of public policy analysis, government relations, risk analysis, knowledge governance, and leadership development. His research focuses on Southeast Asian political economy and geopolitics. He was honoured a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in 2013 and Southeast Asian Young Leader by the IISS Shangri-La Dialogue in 2016. He is currently serving as the President of Asian Vision Institute (AVI) where he leads projects on geopolitical risk analysis, governance innovation, inclusive digital economy, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### **Skills Highlight**

- Public policy and geopolitical risk analysis with a focus on Southeast Asia
- Government relations and stakeholder management
- Knowledge communication and leadership development

### **Languages**

- Khmer (native), English (Advanced), Vietnamese (Advanced), French (Basic), Japanese (Basic)

### **Education Background**

#### ***PhD in Asia Pacific Studies***

Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Oita, Japan (June 2006-May 2009)

#### ***Graduate Certificate in Leadership***

East-West Center, Honolulu, USA (August 2008-May 2009)

#### ***MA in International Relations***

International University of Japan, Niigata, Japan (April 2004-April 2016)

#### ***BA in International Relations (Major in International Economics)***

Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, Hanoi, Vietnam (September 1998-October 2002)

## Work Experience

### ***President, Asian Vision Institute (AVI) (January 2019-Present)***

- Oversee the operation of the institute and build national and international partnerships
- Develop and manage projects on geopolitical risk analysis, governance innovation, sustainable development, and inclusive digital economy
- Co-develop and co-lead leadership development programs for young leaders (Young Digital Leaders Program and Young Political Leaders Program)

### ***Adjunct Lecturer, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) (August 2017-Present)***

- Courses offered: International Politics of the Asia Pacific Region; Politics and Governments in Southeast Asia

### ***Southeast Asia Consultant, The Nippon Foundation (March 2016-March 2018)***

- Analyze emerging regional issues and identify regional stakeholders in Southeast Asia
- Develop Asia Program for the Foundation (regional dialogues, fellowship programs)
- Evaluate the Foundation's projects in Southeast Asia

### ***Lecturer, University of Leeds (February 2013-January 2016)***

- Courses offered: Contemporary Southeast Asia; Governance and Development in Southeast Asia; International Politics of the Asia Pacific Region

### ***Executive Director, Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and peace (June 2009-May 2013)***

- Develop and implement projects and programs
- Organize multi-stakeholder dialogues at both the national and international levels
- Draft policy recommendations, particularly on ASEAN

### ***Assistant to Minister, Ministry of National Defense of Cambodia (January 2011- December 2012)***

- Lead a working group meeting of the ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting (ADMM)
- Draft policy briefs and speeches for the Minister of National Defense

### ***Technical Advisor, National Assembly of Cambodia (August-September 2011)***

- Organize trainings for the members of parliament on ASEAN
- Draft joint communiqué of the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)

*Translator and Field Officer, Japan's Assistance Team for Small Arms Management in Cambodia (JSAC) (January 2002 to March 2004)*

- Translate and interpret (English - Khmer)
- Coordinate field visits and organize events

### **Research Fellowship**

*Visiting Fellow, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore (2017- 2018)*

- Research project: Geopolitics of the Mekong region

*Visiting Scholar, China Institute of International Studies (CIIS), China (2016)*

- Research project: China-Cambodia relations and ASEAN

*Visiting Fellow, Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO), Japan (2012-2013)*

- Research project: Tourism and regional integration in Southeast Asia

*Visiting Fellow, East-West Center (EWC), US (2010)*

- Research project: Cambodia-US relations, ASEAN

### **Consultancy**

**ERIA** (Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia) (February-May 2020)

- Parliamentary Diplomacy and Sustainable Development Goals

**UNESCAP** (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) (April-July 2016)

- ARTNeT Project: Facilitating Trade to Narrow Development Gap in ASEAN

**ADB** (Asian Development Bank) (April-August 2011)

- Economic integration, Economic research, Economics, Industry and trade, Regional Cooperation and Integration

### **Awards/Honors**

- Southeast Asian Young Leader, IISS Shangri-La Dialogue (2016)
- Young Global Leaders, World Economic Forum (2013)
- Recipient of MEXT Scholarship from Japan (2004-2009)

## Publications

### ***Books and Monographs***

- (2013) *Tourism and regional integration in Southeast Asia*. Chiba: IDE-JETRO.

### ***Journal Articles***

- (2017) The Political Economy of Chinese Investment in Cambodia. *Trends in Southeast Asia* No. 16. Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.
- (2017) Regionalism in the Mekong. *VNU Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities* Vol. 3, No. 2, pp. 232-240.
- (2015). Cambodia in 2014: The Beginning of Concrete Reforms. *ISEAS: Journal of Southeast Asian Affairs* 2015. pp.89-101.
- (2014) Cambodia-Laos-Vietnam: Economic reforms and sub-regional integration. *Kyoto Sangyo University Economic Review* No. 1, pp. 225-254 (with Yushan Wong).
- (2014) Impediments to Growth of the Garment and Food Industries in Cambodia: Exploring potential benefits of the ASEAN-People's Republic of China Free Trade Agreement. *Journal of GMS Development Studies*, Vol.6, pp.1-20 (with Shintaro Hamanaka).
- (2014) External shocks and tourist arrivals to Cambodia. *Tourism Analysis*, Vol.19, No.3, pp.311-322 (with Sohel Azad and Ahsan Amirul).
- (2011) Angkor Heritage Tourism and Tourist Perceptions. *Tourismos : An International Multidisciplinary Journal of Tourism*, Vol.6, No.2, pp.213-240.
- (2010) Environmental and Economic Cooperation in the Mekong Region. *Asia-Europe Journal*, Vol. 8, Number 3, pp.359-368.
- (2010) Tourism and local community development in Siem Reap. *Ritsumeikan Journal of Asia Pacific Studies*. pp.85-101.
- (2009) State and tourism planning: A case study of Cambodia. *TOURISMOS Journal*, Volume 4, Number 1.
- (2009) ASEAN between China and India. *The Cambodia Journal of International Affairs* Vol.3, Issue 1. pp. 40-49.
- (2009) Security challenges in the Asia-Pacific. *The Cambodia Journal of International Affairs* Vol.3, Issue 1. pp. 61-66.
- (2008) The political economy of tourism in Cambodia. *The Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research*, Vol. 13, No. 3, 282-297.
- (2008) The cultural challenges to the decentralization process in Cambodia. *The Ritsumeikan Journal of Asia Pacific Studies Volume 24*, 1-16 (with Rotha Chan).
- (2007) Cambodian, from a Killing Field to a Court of Justice: Challenges Ahead. *The Ritsumeikan Journal of Asia Pacific Studies Volume 22*, 115-130.

### ***Policy Papers and Working Papers***

- (2019) Contested regional order in the Indo-Pacific and Small States' Diplomacy. *AVI Perspective* No. 7, May 2019. Phnom Penh: Asian Vision Institute.

- (2019) Minilateralism in Southeast Asia: Opportunities and challenges. *AVI Perspective* No. 4, April 2019. Phnom Penh: Asian Vision Institute.
- (2019) Cambodia's approach to regional integration. *AVI Policy Brief* No. 2, March 2019. Phnom Penh: Asian Vision Institute.
- (2018) China's Economic Statecraft in Southeast Asia. *ISEAS Perspective* No. 45, August 2018. Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.
- (2018) The Cambodia-Laos-Vietnam Development Triangle. *ISEAS Perspective* No. 30, June 2018. Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.
- (2017) Cambodian Power Shift in 2018? *ISEAS Perspective* No. 53. Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.
- (2017) Cambodia embraces Belt and Road Initiative. *ISEAS Perspective* No. 48, July 2017. Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.
- (2017) The Mekong Region: From a Divided to a Connected Region. KAS Cambodia, February 2017.
- (2013). Cambodian security and defence policy. Tokyo: National Institute for Defense Study.
- (2013) Geopolitical implications of an ice-free Arctic for the Asia-Pacific. *CSIS Issues & Insights*, Vol. 13, Issue No.15, pp. 1-10 (with Akazawa, Ellise and Ekmektsioglou, Eleni).
- (2010) Cambodia's Maritime Security Challenges and Priorities. *CICP Working Paper No.32*. Phnom Penh: CICP.
- (2008) Cambodia's economic relations with Thailand and Vietnam. *CICP Working Paper 25*. Phnom Penh: CICP.
- (2007) China and the creation of ASEAN-China Free Trade Area: Implications for Cambodia. *CICP Working Paper No. 19*. Phnom Penh: CICP.
- (2006) The Establishment of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal and the Issue of Justice. *RCAPS Working Paper No. 06-02*. October 2006, 1-31.

### **Book Chapters**

- (2020) "Chinese investment in Cambodia: Minding the governance and economic gaps", in *Mitigating Governance Risks from Investment in Southeast Asia*. Washington DC: Center for International Private Enterprise (pp.83-104).
- (2020) "Minilateralism in Southeast Asia: facts, opportunities, and risks", in Bhubhindar Singh and Sarah Teo (eds) *Minilateralism in the Indo-Pacific*. London: Routledge.
- (2020) "Water security in the Mekong Region and policy interventions", in Ron Huisken (ed., pp.68-71) *Regional Security Outlook*. Canberra: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP).
- (2019) "The Political Economy of China's Maritime Silk Road Initiative in Cambodia", In: Blanchard JM. (eds) *China's Maritime Silk Road Initiative and Southeast Asia*. Palgrave Studies in Asia-Pacific Political Economy. Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore (pp.163-190) (with Heng Pheakdey).
- (2019) "Introduction to ASEM' in Cambodian Chairmanship of ASEM 2020: Small Country, Big Tasks. Phnom Penh: KAS and Asian Vision Institute.
- (2019) "Water Resource Security in Mainland Southeast Asia: Challenges and solutions", in Frederick Kliem (ed) *ASEAN Security Connectivity: Regional Solutions to Regional Security Challenges*. Singapore: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) (pp.63-82).

- (2018) "Vietnam's Foreign Policy Towards Its Smaller Neighbours", in Le Hong Hiep and Anton Tsvetov (eds) Vietnam's Foreign Policy Under *Doi Moi*. Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (pp.166-186).
- (2018) "FDI, Services Liberalization and Logistics Development in Cambodia", in Tham Siew Yean and Sanchita Basu Das (eds) Services Liberalization in ASEAN. Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (pp. 269-296).
- (2017) "Greater Mekong Subregional Cooperation and Cambodia's Foreign Policy" in Deth Sok Udom, Sun Suon, Serkan Bulut (eds) Cambodia's Foreign Relations in Regional and Global Contexts. Phnom Penh: Kondrad-Adeneur-Stiftung (pp. 387-412).
- (2017) "The roles of geographical indication in trade promotion and local development: Case study of Cambodia's Kampot pepper", in UNESCAP and AFD (eds) Trade integration within ASEAN: The role of non-tariff measures for Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Vietnam". Bangkok: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for the Asia Pacific (pp.37-66) (with Heng Pheakdey).
- (2016) "The future of ASEAN and the role of the United States", in The Asia Foundation (ed) Asian Views on America's Role in Asia. San Francisco: The Asia Foundation (pp. 68-75).
- (2015) "Social protection in Cambodia", in the Japan Institute of International Affairs (ed.) Towards a more resilient society: Lessons from economic crises. Tokyo: JIIA (pp.69-91).
- (2015) "Regional migration in Southeast Asia: A case study of Cambodian migrants in Thailand", in the Nippon Foundation Fellowships for Asian Public Intellectuals (ed.) Connecting "Infrastructure" and "Superinfrastructure": Developments Towards Far-Reaching Impacts. Tokyo: The Nippon Foundation (pp.240-250).
- (2014) "Joint development in the South China Sea: divergent and convergent forces", in Wu Shicun and Nong Hong (eds), Recent Developments in the South China Sea Dispute, The Prospect of a Joint Development Regime. London and New York: Routledge (pp.172-180).
- (2013) "Towards the WTO's Bali Ministerial Meeting: A View from Phnom Penh", in Fukunaga, Y., J. Riady, and P. Sauve (eds), The Road to Bali:ERIA Perspectives on the WTO Ministerial and Asian Integration. ERIA Research Report 2012-2013, Jakarta: ERIA, UPH and WTI (pp.69-74).
- (2013) "Migrant workers in a people-centered ASEAN Community and ASEAN-Japan Cooperation" in Beyond 2015: ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership for Democracy, Peace, and Prosperity in Southeast Asia. Tokyo: JCIE (pp.281-295).
- (2012) "Cambodia, Between China and Japan" in Lam Peng Er and Victor Teo (eds) Southeast Asia between China and Japan. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publication (pp.161-178).
- (2011) "Investing in agriculture and rural infrastructure for a robust economic growth and accelerated poverty reduction in Cambodia: Challenges, prospects, and issues for regional cooperation", (with Sok S. and Chap S.) in Ponciano S. Intal Jr.; Sothea Oum; & Mercy J.O. Simorangkir (eds). Agricultural Development, Trade and Regional Cooperation in Developing East Asia. Jakarta: Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) (pp. 78-125).
- (2010) "Constraints on SMEs in Cambodia and their Participation in Production Networks" (with Oum S. and Leng T.) in Vo, T. T., D. Narjoko and S. Oum (eds.), Integrating Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) into the More Integrate East Asia. ERIA Research Project Report 2009-8, Jakarta: ERIA (pp.134-164).