



Validation Workshop on Cambodia E-commerce Trustmark Scheme

16-17 October 2024 |Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Welcome Remarks

Jyotsana Varma Cambodia Resident Mission Country Director, ADB



Opening Remarks

LCT Chea Ratha Secretary of State, Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia







Validation Workshop on Cambodia E-commerce Trustmark Scheme

16-17 October 2024 |Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Phnom Penh, Cambodia Introduction to ADB's Technical Assistance (TA) 6618: Enabling a Conducive Environment for the Digital Economy

Gretchen Aquino Co-TA Team Leader / Senior Legal Officer, ADB



ADB Technical Assistance on Enabling a Conducive Environment for the Digital Economy

- Administered by the Office of the General Counsel under the Law and Policy Reform Program
- <u>Participating Developing Member</u> <u>Countries (DMCs)</u>:
 - Kyrgyz Republic,
 - Mongolia,
 - Cambodia
- <u>Implementation Period</u>: January 2021 – June 2025

• Impact:

- Greater penetration of e-commerce in relevant ADB developing member countries

• Outcome:

- Increased knowledge-sharing and information flow concerning legal framework governing electronic transactions in participating DMCs



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ADB Technical Assistance on Enabling a Conducive **Environment for the Digital Economy**

Assessment of legal and regulatory barriers to effective and Output 1: efficient e-commerce and recommendations for improvement

- diagnostic studies, issues papers and policy recommendations
- e-roundtables to discuss findings and consult with relevant government authorities, industry experts and private sector
- Implementation of agreed policy recommendations

- Output 2: *E-learning Modules* assess needs and develop e-learning course
- Develop and publicize training materials, and regional and country-specific knowledge resources

Output 3: Policy Dialogue Networking - Conduct e-for a and e-conferences on law and policy concerns



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KYRGYZ REPUBLIC



(Outputs 1 & 3)

August 2022 - Webinar Presentation on the draft Report on E-commerce Law in the Kyrgyz Republic

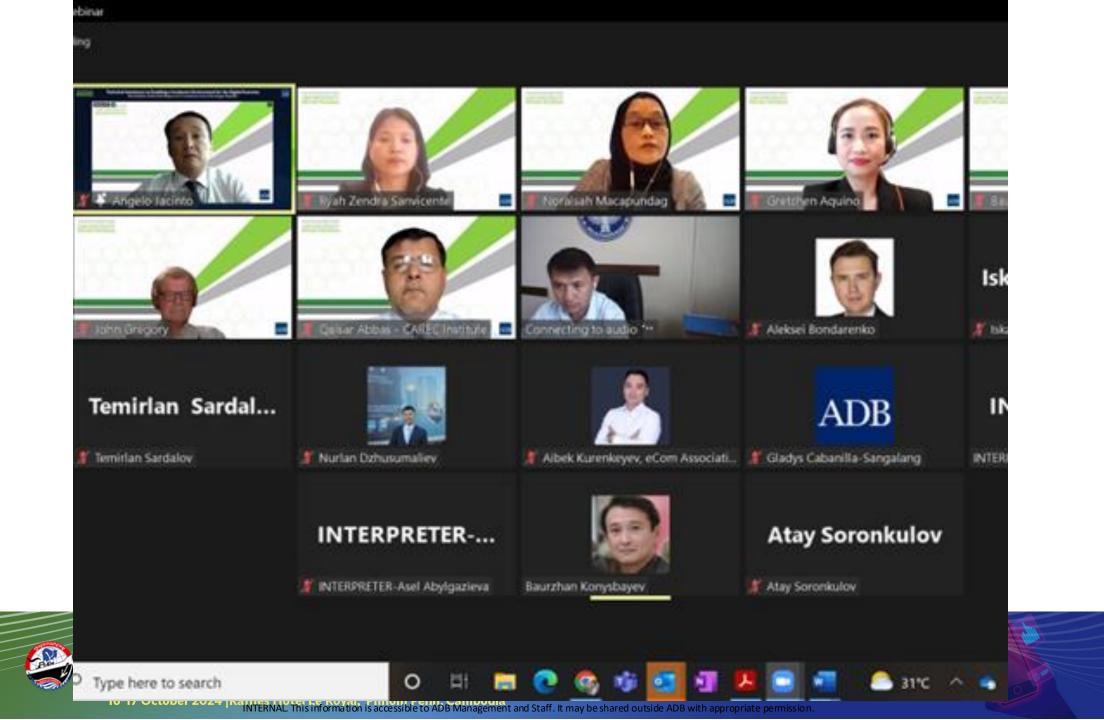
- Attended by representatives from the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Association of E-commerce in Kyrgyz Republic, the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program (CAREC) Institute, the International Trade Center (ITC) and the United Nations Commission on the International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Secretariat



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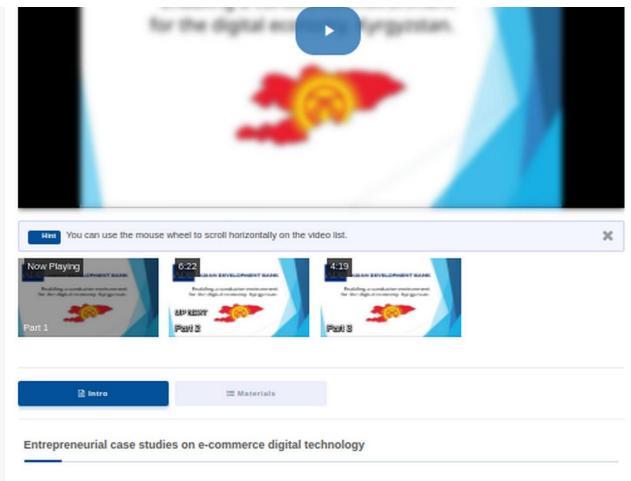


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KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

(Output 2)

- In collaboration with the *Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic* and *Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute*
- 5 modules:
 - Overview of e-commerce digital technology and security,
 - Digital technologies in enhancing business activity,
 - Entrepreneurial case studies,
 - Technologies,
 - Strategies and future challenges
- Available in *English*, *Russian* and *Kyrgyz languages*
- <u>https://eleraning,carecinstitute.org/e-commerce</u>



- Learning from case studies of organisations on technologies for e-commerce and best practices
- Recap functions of an e-commerce enabled organisation



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MONGOLIA

(outputs 1 and 3) June 2022 – ADB joined the Ministry of Digital **Development and** Communications and Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a stakeholder consultation on the Current State and **Challenges of E-commerce in** Mongolia





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MONGOLIA (outputs 1 & 3)

Presentation of the draft Report on E-commerce Law in Mongolia

- December 2022 stakeholder consultation: Mongolian government agencies and business associations including authorities from foreign affairs, customs, tax, etc.

- January 2023 stakeholder consultation: Attended by representatives from UNCITRAL, UNCTAD, EBRD

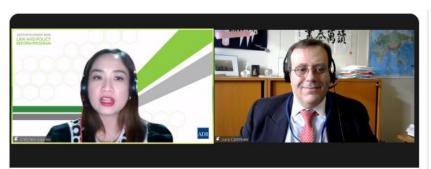


January 23 · 🕥

[English below]

👏 ЦАХИМ ХУДАЛДААНЫ ХУУЛЬ, ЭРХ ЗҮЙН ОРЧНЫ ТАЙЛАНГ ХЭЛЭЛЦЛЭЭ

уЦахим хөгжил, харилцаа холбооны яам, Азийн хөгжлийн банкны "Хууль, бодлогын шинэчлэл... See more



United Nations Commission on International Trade Law - UNCITRAL January 26 · 👁

On 20 January, Legal Officer Luca Castellani spoke at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) webinar themed "Technical Assistance on Enabling a Conducive Environment for the Digital Economy: Presentation of the Draft Report on E-commerce Law in Mongolia".

He encouraged traders to take advantage of the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts (New York, 2005), which is in force in Mongolia, while encouraging the adoption of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records as a means to complete the legal framework for paperless trade and to further enable a conducive environment for the digital economy in Mongolia.

A recording of the event is available at: https://lpr.adb.org/.../presentation-draft-report-e....

United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts (New York, 2005): https://uncitral.un.org/.../con.../electronic_communications

UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records: https://uncitral.un.org/.../electronic_transferable_records #UNCITRAL #ADB #Mongolia #ECC #MLETR #digitaleconomy #ecommerce #paperlesstrade



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(output 3)

September 2022 – Panel discussion at the virtual side event at the UNESCAP's Third Ministerial Conference on Regional Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific



- Forum was on *"Best Practice and Benchmarking Study: Legal and Policy Frameworks for Promotion of Electronic Transactions and the Digital Economy"*



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CAMBODIA (outputs 1 & 3) May 2023 - ADB-Ministry of Commerce stakeholder consultation on the draft prakas on the Code of Conduct on E-Commerce





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Available Now

Click for details and to take courses, anytime.



Cybersecurity



Rights and Obligations in Ecommerce



Introduction to E-commerce



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08:30 – 09:00	REGISTRATION
09:00 – 09:10	<u>Welcome Remarks</u>
(10 mins)	Jyotsana Varma, Cambodia Resident Mission Country Director, ADB
09:10 – 09:20	<u>Opening Remarks</u>
(10 mins)	LCT Chea Ratha, Secretary of State, Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia
09:20 – 09:25	<u>Photo Session</u>
(5 mins)	Speakers and Participants
09:25 – 09:35 (10 mins)	Introduction to ADB's Technical Assistance (TA) (Enabling a Conducive Environment for the Digital Economy) Gretchen Aquino, co-TA Team Leader / Senior Legal Officer, ADB
09:35 – 10:15	Introduction and Context for the Cambodia E-commerce Trustmark Scheme (CETS)
(40 mins)	Danny Burrows, International E-Commerce Law Expert



10:15 – 10:30 (15 mins)	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
10:30 – 12:00 (90 mins)	 3-part Session on Legal, Administrative and Institutional Framework for the CETS Facilitated Discussion / Feedback Danny Burrows, International E-Commerce Law Expert Nearirath Sreng, National E-commerce Law Expert Sven Callebaut, International Trade Expert
12:00 – 13:00 (60 mins)	LUNCH
13:00 – onwards	NETWORKING (optional)



Session I: Introduction and Context of the CETS

Danny Burrows International E-Commerce Law Expert & ADB consultant





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Contents

- Role of MoC in regulating ecommerce
- Overview of Trustmark Schemes
- Context of the Cambodia Ecommerce Trustmark Scheme (CETS)
- Objectives of the CETS
- Validation & Feedback

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E-commerce Regulation in Cambodia

Key Question: How do we reduce the burden of compliance for e-commerce businesses?

- Law on E-commerce
 - Legal & Regulatory Framework
- E-commerce Business Registration (Sub Decree 134 & Prakas 290)
 - Administrative framework for e-commerce businesses
- Next step: Code of Conduct (Art 7 of the Law on E-commerce)
 - Standards on online consumer protection, personal data protection, dispute resolution, etc.
- Next step: Cambodia E-commerce Trustmark Scheme (CETS)
 - Creating value for e-commerce businesses & increasing consumer confidence



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Definition of a Trustmark

- Visible marker, often a logo or badge
- a for the second for
- Displayed by businesses to indicate adherence to standards



veriSign



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Purpose of an Ecommerce Trustmark

 Build consumer trust and confidence in online transactions

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• Assures customers of site security measures, adherence to ethical practices, and commitment to protecting consumer rights Definition of a Trustmark

Validation Worksho

16-17 October 2024 |Raffles Hote



Displayed by businesses to

Context of the CETS

Benefits of a Trustmark scheme to Government and overall industry

- 1. Increased consumer trust from the scheme can lead to higher e-commerce adoption rates, driving overall **growth** in the e-commerce sector.
- 2. Drives **awareness** of and **supports existing e-commerce laws** (e.g., e-commerce law licensing requirement, law on consumer protection and prakas on standard information for consumers)
- 3. Potential **revenue** generated from fees and provision of related services
- 4. Trustmark schemes facilitate **greater engagement** between Government and industry on ecommerce standards, challenges and opportunities.



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Context of the CETS

Rationale and Benefits for Businesses – (1/2)

- 1. Trustmarks **reduce risks** for consumers in online shopping
- 2. Certification ensures authenticity and strengthens shopper confidence
- 3. Signals **quality** and **safety standards** to potential customers
- 4. Helps in gaining **customer loyalty** and expanding **market reach**





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Context of the CETS

Rationale and Benefits for Businesses – (2/2)

- 5. Provide an avenue for **dispute resolutions**, making online shopping safer
- 6. Enhances **credibility** and **competitiveness**, especially for SMEs
- 7. Can enhance **e-commerce business reputation** with banks, insurance companies, regulators





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Lessons learnt from other Trustmark schemes

- 1. Compared to a mandatory scheme, voluntary Trustmark schemes provide incentives for **e-commerce business participation**
- 2. The level of **legitimacy** of Trustmark schemes (e.g. credibility of the accreditation bodies, legal recognition) can affect the perceived **trustworthiness** and **value** of the Trustmark to the consumer
- 3. Trustmarks succeed when they have lower barriers to entry (reduced compliance checks and lower price) especially for MSMEs
- 4. Trustmark issuing bodies can **increase consumer confidence through promotion and awareness** (e.g., providing a public list of 'trusted' traders or shops, promoting the scheme through public campaigns)
- 5. Trustmark issuing bodies can provide **value-added services** to increase uptake (e.g., giving accredited shops additional marketing opportunities)



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Cambodia E-commerce Trustmark Scheme: CETS

What are Key Objectives of CETS?

How would the CETS be implemented?

Feedback





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Objectives of the CETS

The CETS would be a <u>VOLUNTARY</u> scheme for eligible e-commerce businesses to display a logo that demonstrates compliance with certain standards

Stimulate Growth in E-commerce Sector	Reassure new and existing customers about safety and reliability Crucial for a growth phase e-commerce market
Promote Cambodian E-commerce Competitiveness	Align local standards with global best practices Boost international consumer confidence
Establish Clear Benchmarks	Security Consumer & Data Protection Transaction integrity
Raise Awareness and Adherence	E-commerce law and other regulations Promote e-commerce licensing and Code of Conduct



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How would the CETS be implemented?



Administrative

What processes and procedures does MOC need to establish for the CETS?

Institutional

What are resources and personnel needed for the CETS?



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Validation: feedback from you!

The CETS is still in design

Is the CETS valuable for industry and the RGC?

How can the value for industry and RGC be maximized?

Is the CETS realistic for businesses to pursue?

What is the best way to 'phase' the CETS?

Any feedback on legal, administrative or institutional approach



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3-Part Session: Legal, Administrative and Institutional Framework for the CETS

Danny Burrows, International E-Commerce Law Expert Nearirath Sreng, National E-commerce Law Expert Sven Callebaut, International Trade Expert



Administrative Framework for the CETS

Danny Burrows International E-Commerce Law Expert & ADB consultant



How would the CETS be implemented?



What regulations are needed to set up CETS?

Administrative

What processes and procedures does MOC need to establish for the CETS?

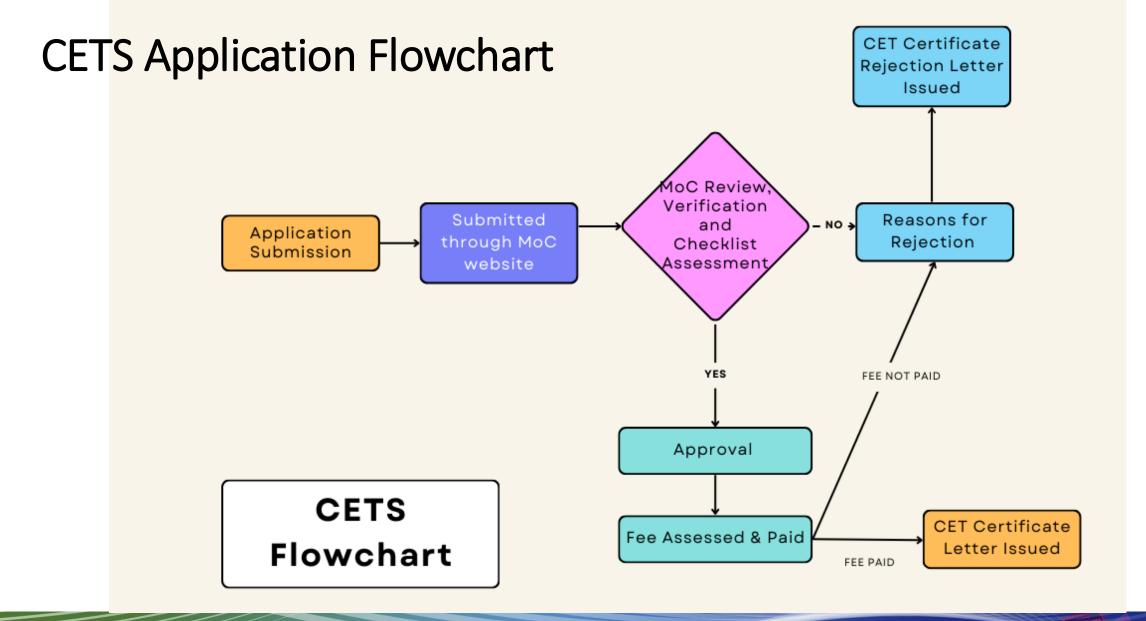
Institutiona

What are resources and personnel needed for the CETS?



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Cambodia E-commerce Trustmark Validity and Renewal

- The CET Certificate lasts for **two years** from application approval
- Businesses can renew the CET application form through MoC's online portal.
- Renewal process should be streamlined: company can provide information in short form to highlight any changes since the last application.





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Verification Process



- The MoC may conduct on-site visits or virtual/ online inspections to verify the business's operations and compliance with CETS standards
- The verification process may involve:
 - Reviewing evidence submitted by the business to demonstrate compliance with CETS Criteria.
 - Assessing the business's website and online platforms for security, usability, and transparency
 - Assessing the business's overall reputation and track record, such as feedback/review, any verified complaints received by MoC



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Checklist for CET Certificate Assessment - (1/4)

\checkmark	Criteria	Rationale/description	Evidence
	(i) Displays sufficient	Increase consumer confidence as	Screenshots, URL/websites links or
	information on the business	consumers will be assured that the	similar
	identity and contact	e-shop is properly registered/	
	information.	incorporated and can be contacted.	
	(ii) Clear description of	Accuracy in statements to	(i) Screenshots, URL/websites
	products or services key	consumers and keeping proper	links or similar
	characteristics; Keeps proper	records build trust and	(ii) A screenshot or written
	records of consumers'	accountability	description of the record-
	purchases.		keeping



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Checklist for CET Certificate Assessment - (2/4)

\checkmark	Criteria	Rationale/description	Evidence
	(iii) States the terms and	Business is responsible for offering	Screenshots, URL/websites links or
	conditions of any warranties	warranties for the products and	written policies which describe the
	(if applicable) or service	services it sells (if applicable).	product warranties or service
	guarantees		guarantees.
	(iv) Offers secure payment	Business is responsible for offering	Screenshots, URL/websites links or
	methods	secure payment method and may	written policies. This could be related
		partner with relevant licensed	to third party service providers, or
		banks and financial institutions in	other security measures
		Cambodia.	implemented (e.g., SSL certificates,
			firewalls, data encryption)

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Checklist for CET Certificate Assessment - (3/4)

\checkmark	Criteria	Rationale/description	Evidence
	(v) Complies with data	Business bears responsibility of handling personal data of consumers. The principle requires consent	Screenshots, URL/websites links or written policies.
	protection principle	for collection & use of personal data, and for taking steps to protect the personal data.	This could be related to third party service providers, or other security
	principic		measures implemented (e.g., SSL certificates, firewalls, data encryption)
	(vi) Makes	Publicly-available consumer reviews are often	Screenshots, URL/websites links or
	feedback	viewed as the strongest 'accountability'	written policies
	channels	mechanism	
	available and		
	easily		
	accessible		



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Checklist for CET Certificate Assessment - (4/4)

\checkmark	Criteria	Rationale/description	Evidence
	(vii) Provides	Complaints-handling mechanisms that provide	Screenshots, URL/websites
	information on, or	consumers with expeditious, fair, transparent,	links or written policies
	commit to a dispute	inexpensive, accessible, speedy and effective dispute	
	resolution process	resolution without unnecessary cost or burden.	
	(viii) Provides a	Permitting refunds for non-delivery and returns for	Screenshots, URL/websites
	clearly written	defective products promotes fairness and transparency	links or written policies
	returns and refund		which describe the
	policy		businesses' policy on returns
			and refunds.
	(ix) Signs a statement	Business to adopt the Code of Conduct and display its	The business has signed the
	of compliance with	commitment to customers (through its online channel)	Code of Conduct and makes
	Code of Conduct.		it available



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3. CETS Database & Public Information

MoC to maintain a public CETS website, including

- a) CETS criteria and standards
- b) Application process and requirements
- c) Online application for CETS
- d) Searchable database of CETS approved companies
- e) A dedicated email address and/or CETS online complaint form/channel
- f) News and updates related to the CETS





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	1
FEES	

4. Fee Assessment for CETS

- The MoC will determine the appropriate fee based on:
 - o size of the business
 o cost of administering the CETS
- For full CETS, the fee will likely be similar to the fee for e-commerce business registration.
- An initial **waiver period of 6-12 months** can be considered to encourage wider participation and support the growth of the e-commerce sector.



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Possible Phases for the CETS

Danny Burrows



CETS Phases – for feedback

Phase 1:	Phase 2:	Phase 3:
BASIC CETS	INTERMEDIATE CETS	Full CETS
Automatically available for	Automatically available for e-	Available for e-commerce
Registered E-commerce	commerce companies that adopt	companies after MoC review (plus
Companies	Code of Conduct	registration + Code of Conduct)
No (additional fee)	Small fee	Fee similar to e-commerce registration
Easy setup; Low administration for MoC Value for industry & consumers?	Wait until Code of Conduct is finalized; low administration for MoC Value for industry?	Longer time to establish; new administration for MoC Too much burden for industry?



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CETS Phases – for feedback

QUESTIONS
Phase 1 would be quick to setup, and easy to administer. Possibly use verify.gov.kh for public to verify companies
Would this raise the incentive for e-commerce companies to register?
Would a logo that represents a company being registered have any value for consumers? Would companies already registered get immediate access to the



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CETS Phases – for feedback

Phase 2: INTERMEDIATE CETS	QUESTIONS
Automatically available for e- commerce companies that adopt Code of Conduct	Phase 2 would be quick to setup, and easy to administer – after Code of Conduct is finalized.
Small fee	Possibly use verify.gov.kh for public to verify companies Would this raise the incentive for e-commerce to adopt the Code of Conduct?
Wait until Code of Conduct is finalized; low administration for MoC Value for industry?	Would a logo that shows a company has adopted the Code of Conduct have value for businesses?



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Thank You



Legal Framework for the CETS

Nearirath Sreng National e-Commerce Law Expert & ADB consultant



ODFDL



LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CAMBODIA E-COMMERCE TRUST MARK SCHEME

PRESENTER



NEARIRATH SRENG

Co-Head of Cambodia Banking, Finance, and Technology Practice

mbodia / ADB National Consultant



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16-17 October 2024 Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Phnom Penh, Cambodia INTERNAL. This information is accessible to ADB Manageme Nearirath is the Co-Head of Cambodia Banking, Finance, and Technology Practice at DFDL Cambodia. She has 15 years of experience in legal practice. She graduated with bachelor's degrees in both law and psychology under a scholarship. After that, she pursued her master's degree in law at the University of Hong Kong under a scholarship, specializing in International Law, Corporate Law and Human Rights Law.

Prior to joining DFDL, she worked at several international law firms and a few leading financial institutions as an in-house legal counsel. Throughout her career, she has mainly advised both international and national banks & financial institutions, capital markets intermediaries, insurance companies, financial technology companies, e-commerce companies and telecommunication companies on compliance and regulatory matters in the areas of financial services and technology, including payment gateway,

e-wallets, digitalization and tokenization, cloud and satellite services, and frequently worked closely with her clients in developing innovative solutions for complex issues related to these matters.

Nearirath has also been involved in the drafting of regulations on e-commerce, consumer protection and secured transactions. She speaks Khmer and English.



- **01** INTRODUCTION: E-COMMERCE TRUST MARK CERTIFICATE
- **02** EXISTING LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF E-COMMERCE TRUSTMARK CERTIFICATE
- **03** AVAILABLE STANDARD CERTIFICATIONS IN CAMBODIA
- 04 KEY ASPECTS OF THE CAMBODIA E-COMMERCE TRUST MARK CERTIFICATE: PURPOSES, ELIGIBILITY, STANDARD, BENEFITS AND PENALTIES

05 CONCLUSION

INTRODUCTION: E-COMMERCE TRUST MARK CERTIFICATE

I. INTRODUCTION

Carton I



A Trustmark scheme involves a visible marker. often in the form of a logo or badge, displayed by businesses to indicate adherence to certain standards and best practices. Specifically, an ecommerce Trustmark scheme refers to such markers used by online businesses. The primary purpose of an e-commerce Trustmark is to build consumer trust and confidence in online transactions by assuring customers of the site's security measures, adherence to ethical practices, and commitment to protecting consumer rights



EXISTING LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF E-COMMERCE TRUSTMARK CERTIFICATE

Below are the examples of Trustmark framework that happened regionally and countries.

EUROPE	WORLD TRUSTMARK AND TRADE ALLIANCES	SINGAPORE, HONG KONG, JAPAN
<pre>trust ECOMMERCE EUROPE * * * *</pre>	World Trustmark Alliance Global Trust Innovation	<image/> <image/> <image/>
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AVAILABLE STANDARD CERTIFICATIONS IN CAMBODIA

Prakas on Procedure for Issuing Hygiene Certificates for Restaurants (dated 25 October 2012). Prakas on Procedure for Issuing Good Hygiene Practice (dated 26 November 2012)



Sub-Decree on Management and Promotion of Electrical Appliance Energy Efficiency (dated 11 August 2023)



PROPOSED ENERGY EFFICIENCY LABEL FOR CAMBODIA



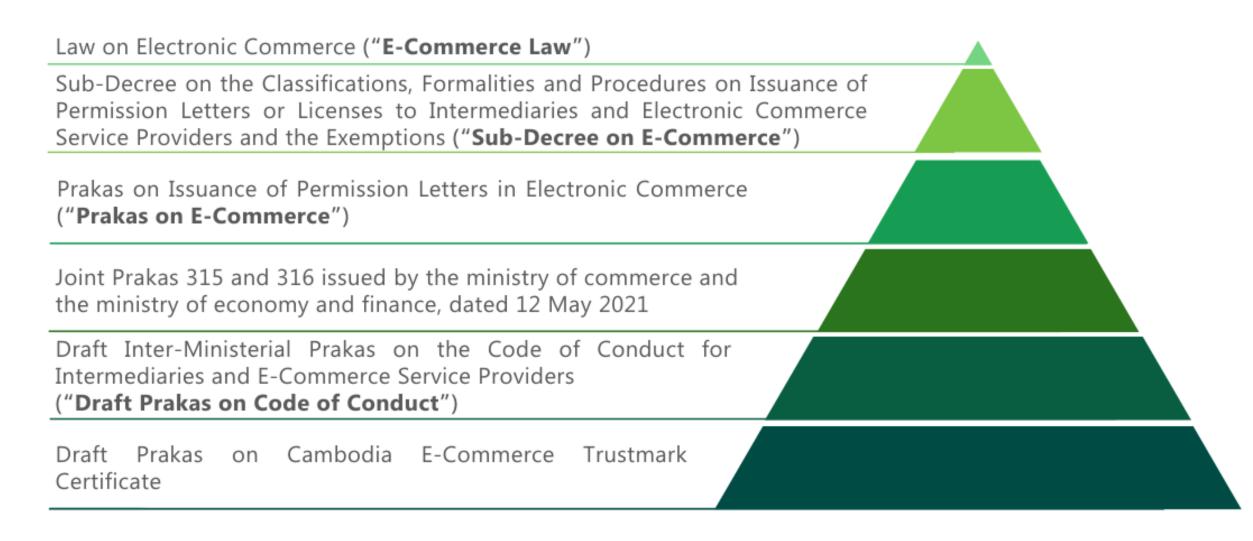
This helps consumers to identify more energy-efficient products at the time of purchase. Buying more efficient equipment, consumers can save money on their energy bills while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Source: MME (2019)



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KEY ASPECTS OF THE CAMBODIA E-COMMERCE TRUST MARK CERTIFICATE: PURPOSES, ELIGIBILITY, STANDARD, BENEFITS AND PENALTIES



The objective of the regulation is to:

- a. stimulate growth in the e-commerce sector by reassuring new and existing customers about the safety and reliability of online shopping, crucial for a market where e-commerce is still burgeoning.
- b. promote Cambodian e-commerce competitiveness, by aligning local e-commerce standards with global best practices, and boosting international consumer confidence in Cambodian online markets.
- c. establish clear benchmarks for security, customer service, and transaction integrity.
- d. raise awareness of and adherence to the e-commerce law, the forthcoming Prakas on E-commerce Code of Conduct and related laws

Who is eligible for the scheme? The scheme shall apply to any natural persons, sole proprietorships, legal persons and branches of foreign companies that conduct business as the intermediaries and electronic commerce service providers through electronic systems from the Kingdom of Cambodia to outside the Kingdom of Cambodia or vice versa.

- 1. "Electronic commerce service provider" means a person who uses electronic means to supply goods and/or services except for insurance establishments, for example, e-shop, online seller
- 2. "**Intermediary**" refers to a person who providing services, sending, receiving, transmitting or storing services, either on a temporary or permanent basis, of the electronic communication or provides other services relating to the electronic communication, including the following



INTERMEDIARY



IV. KEY ASPECT: CAMODIA E-COMMERCE TRUSTMARK CERTIFICATE

- Cambodia E-Commerce Trustmark Certificate 3.
 is a certification to online businesses that meet specific standards of trustworthiness, security, and consumer protection.
- 2. To be granted the certificate, online business shall meet the criteria for specific standards as set forth by the Ministry of Commerce. The criteria is to be updated from time to time depending on the current needs of Cambodia E-commerce Market. The validity of certificate

can be renewed

Carton A

. The approval criteria are mainly based on the

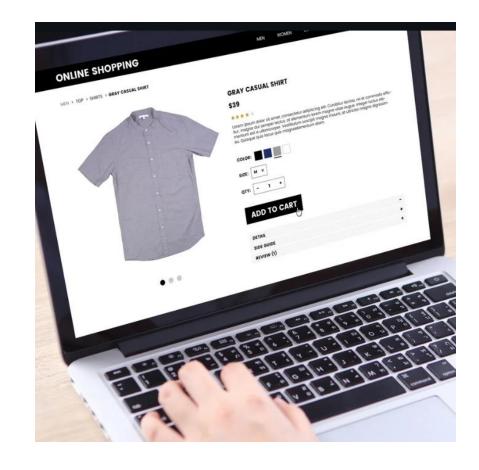
- E-commerce Law;
- Consumer Protection Law
- Draft Prakas on Code of Conduct for Intermediaries and E-Commerce Service Providers
- Regionally such as E-commerce Europe,
 World Trustmark and Trade Alliances and
 Specific countries: Singapore, Hong Kong.
- ASEAN Online Business Code of Conduct.



The standard that the online business has to comply with the following:

- The business has displayed a sufficient information on the business identity and its contact information.
 - For example, name or legal name of the person, the registered business address and an electronic means for contact or a telephone number.
 - This is to ensure the business is in existent.

- The business accurately describes the key characteristics of the products or services and keeps proper records of consumers' purchases.
 - The description of products or services should include: information related to the kind, grade, safety, quantity, origin, function of use, maintenance, composition, design, assembly, usage, price, packaging, advertising or supplying, manufacturing date and expiry date, information about production or information



to the supply of goods or services.

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IV. KEY ASPECT: CAMODIA E-COMMERCE TRUSTMARK CERTIFICATE STANDARD (2)

- 3. The business clearly states the terms and conditions of any warranties (if applicable) or service guarantees to protect customers against product defects and non-performance.
 - Business is required to make a clear policy on its terms and conditions of any warranties or guarantees.
 - For example, this can be stated on the business website.



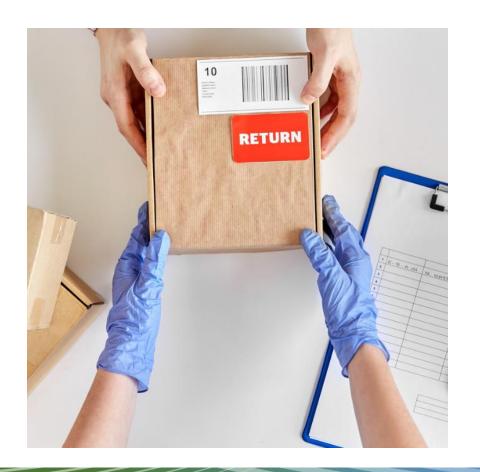
IV. KEY ASPECT: CAMODIA E-COMMERCE TRUSTMARK CERTIFICATE STANDARD (2)



- 4. The business clearly states the secure payment methods, e.g., using licensed banks and financial institutions as a payment gateway.
- 5. The business complies with the data protection principles (principle of Confidentiality and Personal Data Protection under Draft Prakas on Code of Conduct).
- Business shall take the responsibility of handling personal data of the consumers, which requires e-shops to keep protect privacy of consumers and request for permission when handling such

- 6. The business makes feedback channels available and easily accessible.
 - Consumer review is often viewed as perhaps the best police to whether an e-shop is operating in a fair and reasonable manner without misrepresentation.
- 7. The business must provide information on, or commitment to a dispute resolution process.
 - Businesses should make available complaints-handling mechanisms that provide consumers with expeditious, fair, transparent, inexpensive, accessible, speedy and effective dispute resolution without unnecessary cost or burden.





- 8. The business must provide a fair returns and refund policy, and requirement to provide clear information on the same.
 - Business must implement a fair return and refund policy for non-delivery or defective goods, while also clearly outlining the criteria and process for handling returns and refunds.
- 9. The business must display and sign the statement to be compliance with Draft Prakas on Code of Conduct.

DR

Increase Consumer Confidence	Competitive advantages	Compliance with Code of Conduct
A visible Cambodia E-Commerce Trustmark Certificate signals to consumers that the business is properly registered with the Ministry of Commerce.	Businesses with Cambodia E-Commerce Trustmark Certificate can differentiate themselves from competitors by demonstrating their commitment to high standards.	Obtaining a Cambodia E-Commerce Trustmark Certificate indicates that the business adheres to Draft Prakas on Code of Conduct .

IV. KEY ASPECT: PENALTIES

- Since the trust mark serves as a distinguishing symbol for the applicant and is issued by the Ministry of Commerce, it is the property of the ministry and will be registered under Cambodian trademark law.
- No persons are allowed to display the Cambodia E-commerce Trustmark unless approved by the MOC. The Ministry has the authority to grant, revoke and suspend the usage of its mark.

- Penalties include:
 - 1. Warning
 - Suspension of right to use Trustmark for specified duration
 - Revocation of the Cambodia
 E-commerce Trustmark
 - 4. Imposition of financial penalties
 - Inclusion of e-shop on public blacklist (for misuse of Trustmark)

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V. CONCLUSION

- E-commerce Trustmark Certificate is developed based on the international best practice and national regulation standard promoting both compliance and consumer trust in the digital marketplace.
- Though the scheme is entirely voluntary, E-commerce Trustmark Certificate can be viewed as a milestone for a business to boost the confident of consumer that the business is properly registered with the authority.
- The certificate provides a range of benefits to businesses, including increased credibility, improved customer trust, and potential growth opportunities. With clear eligibility criteria and a structured approval process, this certification aims to create a more trustworthy and reliable e-commerce environment in Cambodia.
- Having said that, we encourage the business to apply for the E-commerce Trustmark Certificate

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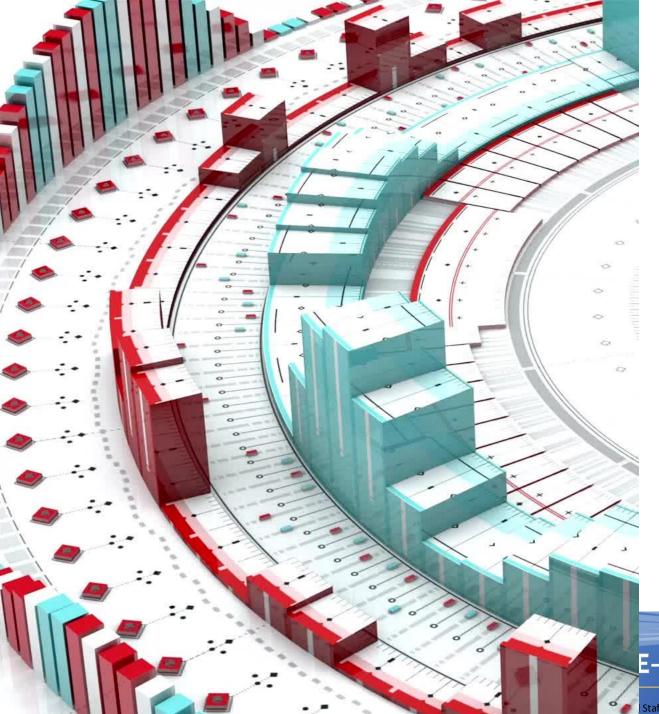
*DFDL collaborating firms



Institutional Framework for the CETS

Sven Callebaut International Trade Expert & ADB Resource Person





The Cambodia E-Commerce Trustmark Scheme (CETS) aims to enhance consumer trust and foster a robust ecommerce ecosystem in Cambodia.

This presentation focuses on the institutional framework necessary for the successful establishment and operation

of the CETS. E-commerce Trustmark Scheme

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We are proposing that MoC will have overarching responsibility for the development and implementation of the CETS.



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Core Functions (Overview)



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Roles and Responsibilities:

Manage all CETS-related activities, including application processing, certification, compliance monitoring, and dispute resolution.



Personnel: Initial core team with specialists in IT, compliance, marketing, and legal support. Incremental hiring of more specialized roles as the workload expands.



Systems and Resources: Develop and maintain a dedicated CETS website and monitoring tools and use MoC office resources to manage operations efficiently.



Collaboration and Reporting:

Coordinate with other MoC departments and report progress to senior officials for continuous improvement.



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Successful implementation of CETS requires effective internal cooperation within (MoC):



Consumer Protection Directorate-General: Integrate consumer protection mechanisms into CETS, handle consumer complaints, and develop joint compliance policies.



Legal Affairs Department: Provide expertise on regulatory frameworks, assist in drafting regulations, and ensure alignment with current laws and requirements.



Other Departments: Collaborate for cross-functional support, including data management, dispute resolution, and capacity building.



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National Bank of Cambodia (NBC): Ensuring secure payment systems



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Ministry of Post and Telecommunications (MPTC): Addressing cybersecurity and data protection

Collaboration with External

Proposed Coordination

Mechanisms: Formal agreements

(MoUs) and/or inter-ministerial Vangen Werken on Cambodia E-commerce Trustmark Scheme

Increment	Collaborate	Own	Promote
Fee Structure for Certification: Introduce a tiered fee system based on business size and scope, with renewal fees set at 75% of the initial application fee.	Public-Private Partnerships: Collaborate with industry associations and private sector stakeholders for joint accreditation programs and shared resources.	Gradual Transition to Self-Funding: Use initial donor funding to build systems and capacity, then move to self-sustaining income from certification fees and cost-sharing arrangements.	Marketing Campaigns and Incentives: Raise awareness and incentivize businesses to participate, enhancing program adoption and financial viability.



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Questions

To the private sector:

- How can the private sector contribute to the monitoring and improvement of the CETS to ensure the Trustmark remains relevant and credible?
- What type of feedback mechanisms would businesses prefer to provide insights to the Ministry on the challenges or opportunities related to the CETS application process?
- In what ways can the CETS framework better integrate with existing private sector initiatives (e.g., e-commerce platforms or trade associations) to enhance adoption and compliance?



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Session III: Administrative Framework for the CETS

Danny Burrows International E-Commerce Law Expert & ADB consultant



How would the CETS be implemented?



What regulations are needed to set up CETS?

Administrative

What processes and procedures does MOC need to establish for the CETS?

Institutiona

What are resources and personnel needed for the CETS?



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4 Key Administrative Issues

- **1.** Clear and Efficient Application and Verification process
 - Include requirements for documentation and verification procedures
 - Define decision-making criteria (MoC staff)

2. Guidelines for Businesses

- Include requirements for maintaining standards
- Address customer complaints effectively

3. Public Information

- A dedicated website for CETS
- Publish information about criteria, application process, and a list of approved businesses

4. Fair and Transparent Fee Structure

 Consider factors such as the size of the business and the scope of its e-commerce activities



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Application
 Submission &
 Verification

- Businesses will need to submit a completed online Application Form along with required documentation/evidence to the designated MoC online portal, e.g., <u>http://moc.gov.kh/CETS</u>.
- The Application Form should include key information about the business, its operations, a self-declaration of compliance with the Code of Conduct, and evidence of compliance with relevant laws and regulations and CETS Criteria, including:
 - Business name, address, and contact information
 - Registration number and date
 - Type of e-commerce activities (e.g., online retail, online marketplace, digital services)
 - Website URL and online platform details
 - Submission of Evidence for compliance with CETS Criteria. (CETS Criteria)



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Cambodia E-commerce Trustmark Validity and Renewal

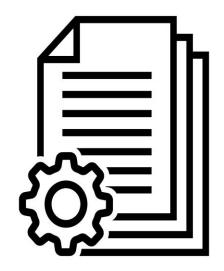
- The CET Certificate lasts for **two years** from application approval
- Businesses can renew the CET application form through MoC's online portal.
- Renewal process should be streamlined: company can provide information in short form to highlight any changes since the last application.







Documentation Review



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MoC staff will review the submitted documentation to verify the business's eligibility and compliance with **CETS criteria**.

Required documentation may include:

- a) CETS Application Form
- b) Business registration certificate (inc. e-commerce registration)
- c) Website address and online platform details (e.g., shop name, logo, screenshots of e-commerce storefront)
- d) Security measures and privacy policies
- e) Customer service policies
- f) Compliance with e-commerce laws and regulations
- g) Evidence submitted that demonstrates compliance with **CETS Criteria (Annex 4)**.

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9 CETS Criteria (1/2)

CETS Criteria

1. Displays sufficient information on the business identity and its contact information.

2. Accurately describes the (i) key characteristics of the products or services and (ii) keeps proper records of consumers' purchases.

 Clearly states the terms and conditions of any warranties (if applicable) or service guarantees

4. Offers secure payment methods



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9 CETS criteria (2/2)

CETS Criteria 5. Complies with data protection principle – consent and data protection measures 6. Makes feedback channels available and easily accessible. 7. Provides information on, or commitment to, a **dispute resolution** process 8. Provide a clearly written **returns and refund policy** 9. Sign a statement of compliance with Code of Conduct.



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Verification Process



- The MoC may conduct on-site visits or virtual/ online inspections to verify the business's operations and compliance with CETS standards
- The verification process may involve:
 - Reviewing evidence submitted by the business to demonstrate compliance with CETS Criteria.
 - Assessing the business's website and online platforms for security, usability, and transparency
 - Assessing the business's overall reputation and track record, such as feedback/review, any verified complaints received by MoC



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Checklist for CET Certificate Assessment - (1/4)

\checkmark	Criteria	Rationale/description	Evidence
	(i) Displays sufficient	Increase consumer confidence as	Screenshots, URL/websites links or
	information on the business	consumers will be assured that the	similar
	identity and contact	e-shop is properly registered/	
	information.	incorporated and can be contacted.	
	(ii) Accurate description of	Accuracy in statements to	(i) Screenshots, URL/websites
	products or services key	consumers and keeping proper	links or similar
	characteristics; Keeps proper	records build trust and	(ii) A screenshot or written
	records of consumers'	accountability	description of the record-
	purchases.		keeping



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Checklist for CET Certificate Assessment - (2/4)

\checkmark	Criteria	Rationale/description	Evidence
	(iii) States the terms and	Business is responsible for offering	Screenshots, URL/websites links or
	conditions of any warranties	warranties for the products and	written policies which describe the
	(if applicable) or service	services it sells (if applicable).	product warranties or service
	guarantees		guarantees.
	(iv) Offers secure payment	Business is responsible for offering	Screenshots, URL/websites links or
	methods	secure payment method and may	written policies. This could be related
		partner with relevant licensed	to third party service providers, or
		banks and financial institutions in	other security measures
		Cambodia.	implemented (e.g., SSL certificates,
			firewalls, data encryption)

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Checklist for CET Certificate Assessment - (3/4)

\checkmark	Criteria	Rationale/description	Evidence
	(v) Complies with data	Business bears responsibility of handling personal data of consumers. The principle requires consent	Screenshots, URL/websites links or written policies.
	protection principle	for collection & use of personal data, and for taking steps to protect the personal data.	This could be related to third party service providers, or other security
	principic		measures implemented (e.g., SSL certificates, firewalls, data encryption)
	(vi) Makes	Publicly-available consumer reviews are often	Screenshots, URL/websites links or
	feedback	viewed as the strongest 'accountability'	written policies
	channels	mechanism	
	available and		
	easily		
	accessible		



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Checklist for CET Certificate Assessment - (4/4)

\checkmark	Criteria	Rationale/description	Evidence
	(vii) Provides	Complaints-handling mechanisms that provide	Screenshots, URL/websites
	information on, or	consumers with expeditious, fair, transparent,	links or written policies
	commit to a dispute	inexpensive, accessible, speedy and effective dispute	
	resolution process	resolution without unnecessary cost or burden.	
	(viii) Provides a	Permitting refunds for non-delivery and returns for	Screenshots, URL/websites
	clearly written fair	defective products promotes fairness and transparency	links or written policies
	returns and refund		which describe the
	policy		businesses' policy on returns
			and refunds.
	(ix) Signs a statement	Business to adopt the Code of Conduct and display its	The business has signed the
	of compliance with	commitment to customers (through its online channel)	Code of Conduct and makes
	Code of Conduct.		it available



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Summary of Application and Verification Process

1. Application Submission

- Submit completed online Application Form with required documentation
- Include key business information and evidence of compliance
- Renewals require resubmission of the CET application form

2. Fee Assessment

- MoC assesses fee based on business size and e-commerce scope
- Consider initial waiver period to encourage participation

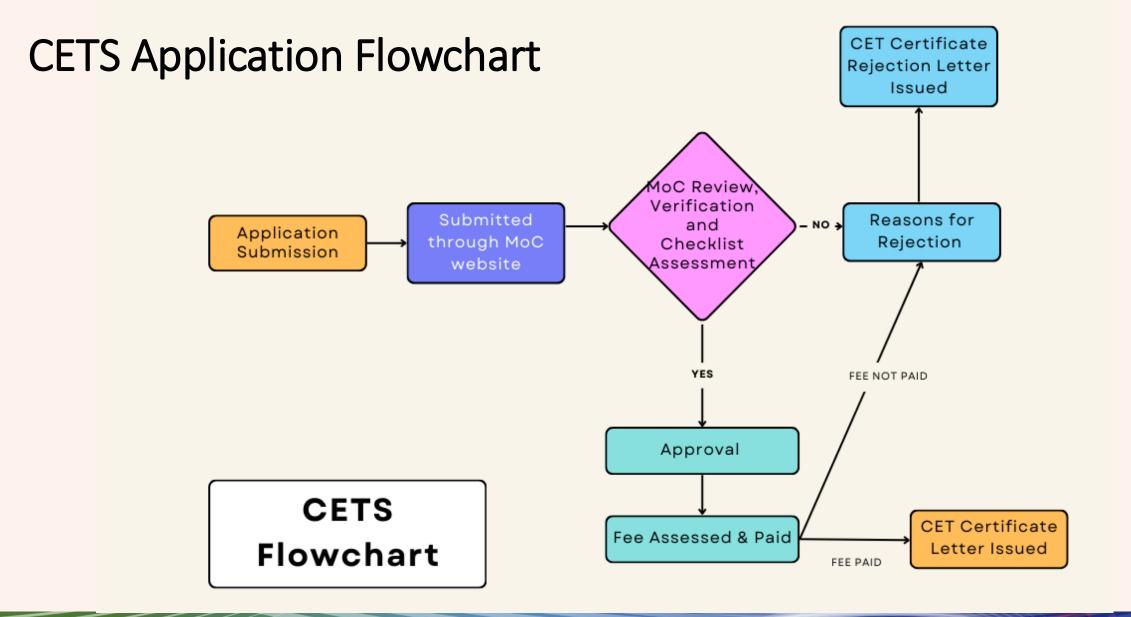
3. Documentation Review

- DDT reviews submitted documentation for eligibility and compliance
- Required documents include registration certificates, security measures, and customer service policies
- 4. Verification Process
- 5. Approval or Rejection



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2. Guidelines for Use of the Trustmark (1/2)

• Display of Trustmark Certificate

- Businesses can display it on websites, online platforms, and marketing materials
- No warranty by MoC
- Adherence to Standards
 - Businesses must adhere to CETS criteria and standards



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2. Guidelines for Use of the Trustmark (2/2)

Provide Regular Updates

 Notify MoC of changes to information or operations e.g., changes to website URL, contact details, business practices

Trustmark Validity

• Two-year licence, renewable at **75%** of application cost (discounted)

Guidelines for Use

 Conditions on when and how the Trustmark can be used to prevent misuse, e.g., not displaying on merchandise or packaging



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3. CETS Database & Public Information

MoC to maintain a public CETS website, including

- a) CETS criteria and standards
- b) Application process and requirements
- c) Online application for CETS
- d) Searchable database of CETS approved companies
- e) A dedicated email address and/or CETS online complaint form/channel
- f) News and updates related to the CETS





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FEES		

4. Fee Assessment for CETS

- The MoC will determine the appropriate fee based on:
 - o size of the business
 o cost of administering the CETS
- For full CETS, the fee will likely be similar to the fee for e-commerce business registration.
- An initial **waiver period of 6-12 months** can be considered to encourage wider participation and support the growth of the e-commerce sector.



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Possible Fee Structure Table

For full CETS, fee structure could be similar to E-commerce Registration

Business category	Fee
Individual	\$50 per individual – two years
Sole Proprietorships	\$100 per sole proprietorship – two years
Legal Persons	\$200 per legal person – two years
Branch office of foreign	\$250 per Branch of Foreign Company – two
company	years



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Workplan for the CETS

Danny Burrows



Today, we have been discussing implementation of a <u>full</u>CETS....

But we can also consider a 'phased' approach...



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CETS Phases – for feedback

Phase 1:	Phase 2:	Phase 3:
BASIC CETS	INTERMEDIATE CETS	Full CETS
Automatically available for	Automatically available for e-	Available for e-commerce
Registered E-commerce	commerce companies that adopt	companies after MoC review (plus
Companies	Code of Conduct	registration + Code of Conduct)
No (additional fee)	Small fee	Fee similar to e-commerce registration
Easy setup; Low administration for MoC Value for industry & consumers?	Wait until Code of Conduct is finalized; low administration for MoC Value for industry?	Longer time to establish; new administration for MoC Too much burden for industry?



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Full CETS Implementation Work Plan Overview (12-month period)

3-stage approach to:

- Establish core team and initial systems
- Build capacity and enhance system
- Full operationalization and outreach



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Stage 1: Establishment of Core Team and Initial Systems

Time Frame	Personnel	Ste	eps
	 Project Manager: Oversees CETS implementation and coordinates 	1.	Develop foundational framework, including SOPs.
	 with units and agencies. Compliance Officer: Develops 	2.	Design and register the CETS Certificate/Logo
Months 1-3	criteria and procedures for reviewing applications.	3.	Finalise certification criteria and Application forms
	• IT Specialist: Sets up the basic		Establish the application database
	 website and database systems. Marketing Coordinator: Plans initial 		Finalise Prakas between MoC and MEF for public service fee for CETS
	marketing strategies and public awareness campaigns.	6.	Launch the initial version of the CETS website.



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Stage 2: Capacity Building and System Enhancement

Time Frame	Personnel	Steps
Months 4-6	 IT Personnel: Enhance website functionality and 	 Upgrade the CETS website and database for higher capacity and automated processing. Conduct training programs in e-commerce regulations, compliance monitoring, and customer service.



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Stage 3: Full Operationalization and Outreach

Time Frame	Personnel	Steps
Months 7-12	Full CETS Bureau in place to manage all operations.	 Launch procedure for filing complaints by consumers against registered companies. Focus on marketing campaigns targeting businesses. Engage industry associations and chambers. Launch public awareness campaigns to educate consumers about certified businesses. Continue seeking donor support for sustaining and expanding the program.



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CETS Budget

- MoC Costs: personnel, equipment, office space
- Technical Costs: website, software (database)
- Marketing Costs: promotional videos, website, advertising campaign for business and consumers

MOC could seek support from Donor Partners

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CETS Phases – for feedback

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CETS Phases – for feedback

QUESTIONS
Phase 1 would be quick to setup, and easy to administer. Possibly use verify.gov.kh for public to verify companies
Would this raise the incentive for e-commerce companies to register?
Would a logo that represents a company being registered have any value for consumers? Would companies already registered get immediate access to the



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CETS Phases – for feedback

Phase 2: INTERMEDIATE CETS	QUESTIONS
Automatically available for e- commerce companies that adopt Code of Conduct	Phase 2 would be quick to setup, and easy to administer – after Code of Conduct is finalized.
Small fee	Possibly use verify.gov.kh for public to verify companies Would this raise the incentive for e-commerce to adopt the Code of Conduct?
Wait until Code of Conduct is finalized; low administration for MoC Value for industry?	Would a logo that shows a company has adopted the Code of Conduct have value for businesses?



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Thank you!



Institutional Framework for the CETS

Sven Callebaut International Trade Expert & ADB Resource Person



Institutional Framework for the Cambodia E-Commerce Trustmark Scheme (CETS)

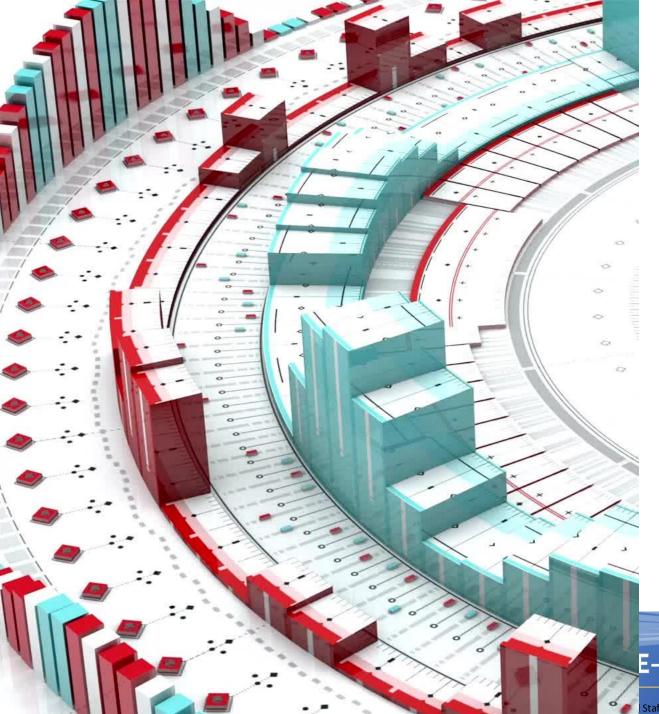
Overview, Implementation Work Plan, and Budget Plan



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Section 1: Roles and Responsibilities of MoC





We are proposing that MoC will have overarching responsibility for the development and implementation of the CETS.



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Administering Applications (Overview)





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1. Reviewing Criteria for CETS Certification

Purpose:

 \checkmark Ensure applications meet the standards and criteria outlined in the Prakas.

Process:

✓ Verify compliance with laws (e.g., e-commerce laws, licenses).

✓ Evaluate security, customer service, and transaction integrity.

✓ Confirm submission of all required documentation.

✓ Investigate applicant history (complaints, violations).

Tools & Techniques:

- ✓ Virtual/physical inspections as needed.
- ✓ Use of compliance checklists and supporting documents.



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2. CETS Website Management

Rol	e c	of
Web	osit	te:

Central hub for applications, information, and verification. User interface for both businesses and consumers.

Management & Updates:

Ensure intuitive design and user-friendly navigation. IT specialists maintain website security and data privacy. Publish news, resources, and a list of certified businesses.

3. Monitoring and Compliance

Continuous monitoring for fraud and compliance



Tools: Automated monitoring, regular audits, consumer feedback channels



Role of MoC and collaboration with other agencies



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4. Dispute Resolution Framework



Mechanisms for resolving disputes between businesses and consumers



Dual-level approach: addressing business and consumer-related disputes

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Importance of transparency and procedural fairness



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5. Plan for Public Awareness of CETS

E-commerce businesses: Highlight benefits of the Trustmark.

Consumers: Build confidence in safe online shopping.

Stakeholders: Foster support for the Trustmark program.

Approach:

Marketing campaigns, workshops, and seminars, public events and media coverage.



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6. Other Functions Supporting CETS Implementation

Capacity Building:

• Provide staff training on compliance, regulation, and customer service.

Collaboration:

- Engage with international organizations to share best practices.
- Coordinate with local industry bodies and associations.

Policy Development:

- Continuously update standards and procedures.
- Integrate feedback from businesses and consumers.

Feedback Mechanism:

• Establish channels for stakeholders to offer insights for improvement.

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Section 2: Institutional Setup



Short Term Institutional Setup: Integrating CETS with Business Registration (Phases 1 & 2)

Manpower Requirements:

- Leverage existing staff in the Business Registration Department for initial CETS operations.
- Incremental hiring of compliance officers and customer service representatives as volume increases.

Capacity Building:

- Training programs on Trustmark compliance and dispute resolution.
- Cross-functional training with Consumer Protection Directorate-General for fraud monitoring.

Resource Optimization:

- Utilize existing IT systems for combined registration and Trustmark issuance.
- Establish collaboration channels with CCF, MPTC

Scalability Plan:

- Expand team as program scales (from Phase 1 to Phase 2).
- Regular performance assessments to address workload challenges.



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Medium Term: Creation of a Dedicated Unit/Office within MoC Digital Trade Department



Roles and Responsibilities:

Manage all CETS-related activities, including application processing, certification, compliance monitoring, and dispute resolution.



Personnel: Initial core team with specialists in IT, compliance, marketing, and legal support. Incremental hiring of more specialized roles as the workload expands.



Systems and Resources: Develop and maintain a dedicated CETS website and monitoring tools and use MoC office resources to manage operations efficiently.



Collaboration and Reporting:

Coordinate with other MoC departments and report progress to senior officials for continuous improvement.



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MoC Institutional Requirements: short to medium term

Incremental approach for building capacity from Phase 1 to Phase 3

Initial core team: expertise in ecommerce regulation, legal affairs, IT

Expansion plan: hiring/training specialized personnel (compliance officers, IT specialists)

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Successful implementation of CETS requires effective internal cooperation within (MoC):



Consumer Protection Directorate-General: Integrate consumer protection mechanisms into CETS, handle consumer complaints, and develop joint compliance policies.



Legal Affairs Department: Provide expertise on regulatory frameworks, assist in drafting regulations, and ensure alignment with current laws and requirements.



Other Departments: Collaborate for cross-functional support, including data management, dispute resolution, and capacity building.



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National Bank of Cambodia (NBC): Ensuring secure payment systems





Ministry of Post and Telecommunications (MPTC): Addressing cybersecurity and data protection

Collaboration with External Agencies

Proposed Coordination Mechanisms: Formal agreements (MoUs) and/or inter-ministerial committees



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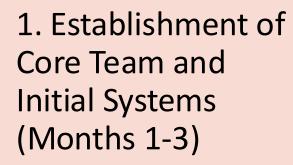
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Section 3: Work Plan



Phase 3 Work Plan Overview (12-Month Implementation)



 Capacity Building and System
 Enhancement
 (Months 4-6)

2	

3. FullOperationalizationand Outreach(Months 7-12)



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Detailed Work Plan by Phase (once approved)

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Breakdown of activities in each phase (team establishment, training, system upgrades, etc)



Personnel involved in each phase



Key deliverables and timelines



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MoC contributions: salaries, office support, legal oversight

External funding: development partner support for technical assistance and marketing



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How MoC Can Make CETS Sustainable?

Increment	Collaborate	Own	Promote
Fee Structure for Certification: Introduce a tiered fee system based on business size and scope, with renewal fees set at 75% of the initial application fee.	Public-Private Partnerships: Collaborate with industry associations and private sector stakeholders for joint accreditation programs and shared resources.	Gradual Transition to Self-Funding: Use initial donor funding to build systems and capacity, then move to self-sustaining income from certification fees and cost-sharing arrangements.	Marketing Campaigns and Incentives: Raise awareness and incentivize businesses to participate, enhancing program adoption and financial viability.



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Summary and Next Steps

Summary:

- Institutional framework established to manage CETS
- Detailed work plan divided into subsequent phases for effective implementation

Next Steps:

• Assess feasibility, develop proposals





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Questions

To the public sector:

- 1. Are there any similar online "Trustmark" systems in Government agencies or plans to have a similar mechanism ? If yes, is it donor or RGC funded ? Is there a risk of overlap ?
- 2. How could the Ministry of Commerce ensure that the core team for CETS is adequately trained and resourced to manage certification, monitoring, and dispute resolution efficiently?
- 3. Shall the e-commerce business registration + CETS be part of the verify.gov.kh galaxy (i.e. verifiable online) ?



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Questions

To the private sector:

- How can the private sector contribute to the monitoring and improvement of the CETS to ensure the Trustmark remains relevant and credible?
- What type of feedback mechanisms would businesses prefer to provide insights to the Ministry on the challenges or opportunities related to the CETS application process?
- In what ways can the CETS framework better integrate with existing private sector initiatives (e.g., e-commerce platforms or trade associations) to enhance adoption and compliance?



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