
Conclusions from FECEP 2012

Thank you to all who participated in the first Phnom Penh Children's Eco-citizen's Forum. Here we present the summarised key findings, compiled from the 12 schools that participated. Together we can work for a sustainable future for us all.

1. Waste and pollution

- Educate the public on how we can produce less waste, and not to dump waste in the street.
- Introduce city-wide waste sorting and recycling programmes at the household level: every citizen sorts waste at home for collection.
- Introduce a "polluter-pays" system for factories that produce waste, and heavy fines for serious pollution incidents.
- Introduce a programme of reducing waste in businesses, such as reducing plastic bottles and plastic bags.
- Eliminate disposable plastic bags from the city, replace with biodegradable paper or long lasting bags.
- Reduce the number of heavily polluting cars/vans/trucks from the roads.
- Create a campaign to reduce wastage of food.

2. Public Space in Phnom Penh

- Phnom Penh needs more planting, especially trees along roads and in parks. These create shade and are the "lungs" of the city.
- Increase the number and distribution of parks in the city.
- Create more play areas for younger children.

3. Eating healthily in Phnom Penh

- Raise awareness to Cambodian farmers on the negative effects of the over-use of chemical fertilizers and encourage the use of more natural fertilizers.
- Reduce the importing of chemicals for vegetables and fruits.
- Encourage support for locally grown produce.
- Provide support to those who produce organic and reduced-chemically fertilized vegetables.

4. Road Safety

- Introduce a city-wide awareness campaign to reduce the number of traffic accidents in explaining to people:
 - not to drink alcohol and then drive
 - not to talk on the phone while driving
 - respect the speed limit
 - respect the pedestrian
 - respect the highway code
 - park their vehicles in the proper places

- Enforce the rules of the road to avoid traffic jams, pollution and respiratory problems.
- The city of Phnom Penh could have a web page where people could suggest carpooling.
- Adapt roads to have cycle-only lanes

5. New Technologies

- Raise Awareness of the need to switch off electronic devices when not in use, especially computers and TVs, leaving them on standby is not enough.
- Raise Awareness of issues related to internet addiction: Have public education on the dangers on over use of the internet.

6. Sport in the City

- Create more space for sport and encourage more city-wide sporting events (such as gymnasia, sports fields, parks, etc.). Have a city-wide slogan campaign, to explain the benefits to young people of participating in sport.
- Create more opportunities for young people to participate in international sporting events.
- Give free access to sports for the disabled.

7. Solidarity and ecology

- Ensure that all children, no matter their wealth or social position, receive a good quality education.
- Develop public transport, especially school buses.
- Encourage the NGOs to improve their “green” profiles and disseminate their knowledge to the public.
- Create and regulate programmes to assist with street children to provide a roof and a good education.
- Increase the number of free public toilets and encourage their use.
- Help facilitate dialogue and relationships between public, international and private schools.
- Facilitate the setting up of a Phnom Penh Children’s Council.