



# ITTP-COVID19

International Teleconference on Technology and Policy for Supporting Implementation of COVID-19 Recovery Plan in Southeast Asia

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## Need

- ✓ Only 3.5% of SMEs have registered with MoC and the IDP (2015-2025) aims that 80% to 95% of MSMEs would register by 2025 ([UNDESA, 2020](#)).
- ✓ Develop S&T infrastructure and regulations within a coordinated policy framework and establish a mechanism to expedite patent applications at different intellectual property registration offices ([CDRI, 2018](#)).
- ✓ Increase the access to finance because 66% of enterprises are challenging to obtain capital ( [National Bank of Cambodia, 2018](#)).
- ✓ Promotion of private sector development and employment: 1). Job market development; 2). Promotion of SME and entrepreneurship; 3). Public-private partnership; and 4). Enhanced competitiveness ([RoC, 2018](#)).



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## Issues

- ✓ The level of Industry 4.0 adoption in Cambodia is still slow and the digital technology in 90% of tech firm is still at a basic level ([Khmer Time, 2020](#)).
- ✓ There are inadequate supply of electricity, infrastructure, logistics, human resources and skills ([Council of Ministers, 2015](#)).
- ✓ SMEs are scant access to market information, few channels for trade, and little incentive to improve their products ([USAID, 2008](#)).
- ✓ Very few Cambodian manufacturing SMEs are involved in exporting. Rather than being processed in Cambodia, most of the country's primary goods, such as cashew nuts and rice paddy, are sent unprocessed to neighboring countries, where production is more efficient ([Baily, 2008](#)).



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## Recommendations

- ✓ Strictly enforce the Law on the Patents, Utility Model Certificates and Industrial Designs.
- ✓ Speed up official business registration and tax collection to produce national revenue.
- ✓ Invest in Research and Development (R&D) for S&T advancement for new products.
- ✓ Implement national funds for new initiatives for promoting the access to local capital for investment.