The Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) has worked with the Child Rights Foundation (CRF) to put Research Findings into Policy Implications and Actions

The question ‘Why are universities engaging in the conduct of research?’ has been widely asked by practitioners. This question is attached with doubts and the university’s key role in putting the research findings into policy, planning, and action processes. Most people have only learned that universities conduct academic research, use results for knowledge advancement, and create concepts and theories. Some people even seriously say that the publication of university research work is only displayed on library shelves. As Cambodia's oldest public university and leading higher education institution, the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) promotes high-quality teaching and research practices to serve the community. The Policy on Research Development and Innovation (2020-2024)
The RUPP has made significant efforts to demonstrate best-practice research and social engagement in Cambodia's higher education sector. This has led to national and international organizations' recognition as a national leader in this endeavor. The research findings provided by the RUPP have comprehensively contributed to knowledge advancement, policy, and planning implications. In recent years, the RUPP has prioritized promoting the research findings in planning, policy implications, and action. For example, in cooperation with the Child Rights Foundation Organization (CRF), the RUPP has conducted fieldwork in four districts of Stung Treng province. This has led to the revision of guideline for School Safety Framework. His Excellency Academician Dr. HANG Chuon Naron, Minister of MoEYS, endorsed the new version of the Guideline for School Safety Framework on 21st September 2023 to promote child rights and resilience in the education sector. On 24th October 2023, the National Launching Workshop on The Document of “Child-Friendly School Program” Guideline for School Safety Framework was organized at Sokha Hotel, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. His Excellency Academician Dr. Nat Bunroeun, Secretary of State of the MoEYS, presided over the workshop, which had 110 participants.

The RUPP is widely considered the nation's leading higher education institution in research output. In addition, the RUPP Strategic Plan (2019-2023) places special attention on both academic and applied research across the Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), social science, and humanities disciplines. The university works closely with government agencies, NGOs, and research institutions to conduct academic and applied research. RUPP scholars' research findings in Cambodia have been widely used for policy, planning, and actions. For example, the Child-Friendly School Program” Guideline for School Safety Framework” product developed by MoEYS and CRF with financial support from Plan International Cambodia and Prudence Foundation was based on scientific evidence of research conducted by the RUPP. In recent years, NGOs have shifted to more work with academic scholars because the universities are enriched with experts and scientists in diversified fields. This guideline, developed by MoEYS and CRF, is a footprint for government agencies, NGOs, and schools to carry out program interventions to reduce...
exposure to hazards and reduce pupils’ vulnerability to hazards where exposure cannot be eliminated. The guideline has well recognized the importance of the revised Guideline for School Safety Framework (GSSF), which consists of Pillar 1: Safe Learning Environment, Pillar 2: Disaster Management and Education Continuity, and Pillar 3: Risk Reduction and Resilience Education and Foundation: Enabling Environment and Policy.

*Fig. 3:* National Launching workshop on The Document of “Child-Friendly School Program” Guideline for School Safety Framework” presided by and held on 24th October 2023 at Sokha Hotel, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. by His Excellency Academician Dr. Nat Bunroeun, Secretary of State of the MoEYS.