



EUROPEAN UNION

DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION TO THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

Press Release

Seven Cambodian graduates receive EU Erasmus Mundus scholarships

Phnom Penh – 6 July 2006: Seven Cambodian students have won post-graduate scholarships to study in the European Union (EU) through the EU's Erasmus Mundus programme.

The seven students will study master's degree programmes in European universities during the academic year 2006-2007.

"Erasmus Mundus is the European Union's flagship scholarship programme that provides opportunities for students and academics worldwide, to study or undertake research in Europe. I am delighted that the number of Cambodian students winning Erasmus Mundus scholarships is increasing and I congratulate them on their achievement. The programme will help prepare these outstanding students to play a valuable role in their chosen fields when they return to Cambodia," said Mr Winston Mc Colgan, Chargé d' Affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Commission to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

For the 2005-2006 academic year, three Cambodian students won Erasmus Mundus scholarships.

Erasmus Mundus students study for a European masters' degree for one or two years. The programme is unique, as it sees the students study in at least two universities located in two different European countries. This gives them not only a top class education but also the chance to experience a variety of cultures and languages. Students are admitted to these courses after a competitive process, ensuring that the Erasmus Mundus programme draws highly talented students.

The seven Cambodian students are Sa Kennvidy and Chay Kong Kruey, who won scholarships to study an International Master of Science in Rural Development; Song Sophy and Voeun Vuthy, for the International Master in Quaternary and Prehistory; Hel Rithy for the European Master in Global Studies; Ly Proyuth for AGRIS MUNDUS – Sustainable Development in Agriculture; and Seng Bopha for CoMundus-European Master of Arts in Media, Communications and Cultural Studies.

Since its launch in 2004, the Erasmus Mundus programme has proven extremely popular. The level of demand from third-country graduates and academics to participate has increased rapidly. For the 2006-2007 academic year, the European Commission has selected 1,377 foreign students and 231 scholars to receive Erasmus Mundus scholarships.

Further information can be found on the Erasmus Mundus web site:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/index_en.html or on the Delegation web site:

<http://www.delkhm.ec.europa.eu/>

About the European Commission: The European Commission is the executive arm of the European Union. Since the signing of the Paris Peace Accords in October 1991, the Commission has granted more than 478 million Euro in aid to Cambodia. This aid is additional to that granted bilaterally by individual EU Member States, and covers a broad range of sectors, such as humanitarian assistance, health, education, rural development, human resource development, the environment, mine clearance, democratisation and human rights.

The fundamental objective of EU development co-operation policy is to foster sustainable development designed to eradicate poverty in developing countries and to integrate them into the world economy. This can only be achieved by pursuing policies that promote the consolidation of democracy, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights.

No. 1, Street 21 - Tonlé Bassac - Chamcarmon - Phnom Penh - CAMBODIA - PO Box 2301

Tel: --855-23-216 996 / 211 102 / 220 611 / 220 611 - Fax: --855-23-216 997 - E-Mail: Delegation-Cambodia@delkhm.ec.eu.int

Website: www.delkhm.ec.eu.int or www.delkhm.ec.europa.eu