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Cambodia Laos Young Leaders Programme 2024 Prospectus

UnionAID, with support from the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, invites applications for the Cambodia Laos Young Leaders Programme 2024. Young community leaders from all provinces in Cambodia and Laos are invited to apply for this immersive programme, commencing online in August 2024 and continuing in Aotearoa New Zealand in March 2025.

What is the Cambodia Laos Young Leaders Programme?

The Cambodia Laos Young Leaders Programme (CLYLP) is a capacity building programme for emerging young civil society leaders, managed by UnionAID in collaboration with Khmer Farmer Products (KFP) in Cambodia, the Participatory Development Knowledge Agency (PAKA) in the Lao PDR and Auckland University of Technology (AUT). The programme enables participants from Cambodia and Laos to further develop their knowledge, skills and confidence so they can enhance their contribution to the sustainable development of their community, country and the wider Southeast Asia region.

CLYLP offers young leaders the opportunity to explore new ideas and approaches to sustainable development both in their own country and Aotearoa New Zealand, inspiring them to think creatively about the challenges in their own communities. Participants follow a group programme and work together on an inclusive, cross-ethnic basis. Each young leader will explore a specific development challenge affecting their community, develop and refine a research question on this topic, and prepare a proposal for a participatory



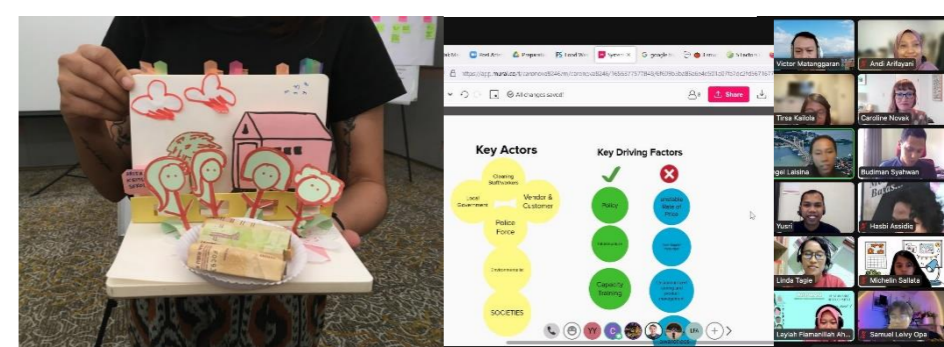
Programme Content

The study component of the CLYLP involves approximately 200 hours of online learning and 14 weeks in person. It includes two courses: Sustainable Development and English for Development. Both courses combine theory and practice, with an emphasis on applied learning.

Sustainable Development Course

The Sustainable Development Course (SDC) will be delivered in two parts. SDC Part 1 is a part-time online course of approximately 150 hours delivered while participants are in their home country, commencing in August 2024.

Online learning is complemented by a two-week in-person residential workshop to be held in Cambodia and Laos during SDC Part 1 for participants to meet their peers and teaching team, and to learn intensively. SDC Part 2 is a full-time, in-person course of 12 weeks which takes place in Aotearoa New Zealand, commencing in March 2025.



The Sustainable Development Course will enable participants to:

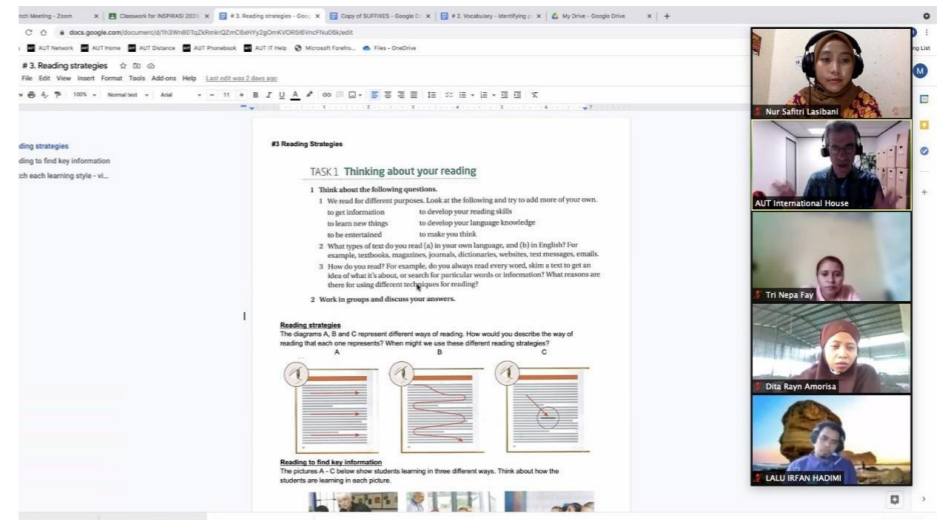
-  explore the principles and practice of sustainable development in their home country and Aotearoa New Zealand;
-  apply systems thinking to understand complex development challenges;
-  develop skills in research and design thinking, and apply these to gain a deeper understanding of a specific development challenge
-  apply learning on cross-cutting issues including human rights, gender and social inclusion, and environmental impact;
-  build the skills required to develop and manage a project, including proposal writing, project management and MERLA (monitoring, evaluation, research, learning and adaptation);
-  improve their proficiency in English for professional and academic purposes.

SDC Part 2 in Aotearoa New Zealand will include:

-  exposure to a range of Aotearoa New Zealand institutions, policies and practices that are relevant to sustainable development, such as human rights, democratic processes, and community development, through classroom learning and field trips;
-  visits to government and non-government organisations, such as community development, youth and environmental organisations and Parliament;
-  introduction to Māori indigenous knowledge, the Treaty of Waitangi, Māori approaches to development, and the opportunity to stay on a marae (traditional Māori meeting ground);
-  leadership skills workshops, such as organisational management and advocacy skills;
-  a schedule of visits with organisations addressing similar issues to participants' development challenges, either individually or in small groups;



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English for Development Course

CYLP participants develop their English language proficiency for professional and academic purposes through the English for Development course (EDC). The EDC runs alongside the Sustainable Development Course, commencing online and continuing in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The course supports participation in the SDC by teaching:

- language specific to sustainable development
- formal English suitable for a professional context
- oral and written communications skills
- writing for research reports and funding proposals
- study skills for more effective language learning



The online component of the English for Development Course requires approximately 40 hours: 20 hours of online workshops and 20 hours self-study.

Additional in-country English language support may be available for participants whose level of English is lower than the selection criteria or who require extra support with English prior to departure for Aotearoa New Zealand.

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Action project implementation — Cambodia /Laos

Participants manage a small action project in their communities, which is funded subject to meeting certain criteria. The action project provides participants the chance to apply learning from the programme to address a specific development challenge in their community.

The action project is in two phases: phase 1 (community consultation and scoping), and phase 2 (implementation). Both these phases take place after SDC Part 2 once participants return to their home country. Participants will receive coaching and ongoing support from UnionAID and KFP / PAKA throughout this process.



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Alumni Network

An alumni conference is held annually in Cambodia or Laos. The conference brings alumni together to share learning from the programme and build long-term connections.

Alumni also become part of the wider UnionAID young leaders network and can engage with their peers from the Myanmar, Indonesia and Mindanao (Philippines) Programmes.



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What will you gain from CLYLP?

Participation in the CLYLP programme will build your knowledge, confidence and skills in sustainable development, leadership, research and communications. The learning and experiences gained on the programme will help you to make a greater impact on the sustainable development of Cambodia, Laos and beyond. Alumni from our existing young leaders programmes have demonstrated leadership qualities through job promotions, taking up greater responsibilities in their communities and being more active on local and national level issues. Many alumni have also secured further funding to build on or expand their action projects.

Participants develop strong relationships with their peers, as well as host families, mentors, teachers and organisations in Aotearoa New Zealand. Alumni continue to draw on and contribute to these networks well beyond the end of their direct participation in the programme.

Living in Aotearoa New Zealand

Aotearoa New Zealand is in the South Pacific and has a population of 5 million people. Aotearoa New Zealand is a multicultural country. Māori are the indigenous peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand. Aotearoa New Zealand has a developed economy and is regularly ranked as one of the most democratic and least corrupt countries in the world.

Auckland - Tāmaki Makaurau is New Zealand's largest city with 1.5 million people and a strong Asia-Pacific culture. The AUT campus, where most of the SDC Part 2 will be based, is in the central city and is accessible by public transport. Participants will also visit the capital city of Wellington – Te Whanganui a Tara.

Participants will be hosted by families in Auckland in a friendly and supportive home environment. Most meals will be provided by the host family.

CLYLP is fully funded. Participants receive an allowance to support their participation in online study in Cambodia / Laos. The costs of participation in a residential workshop in-country are also covered.

Tuition fees, travel to and from Aotearoa New Zealand and visas are arranged and paid for by UnionAID. A weekly allowance for lunches, transport and other costs will be provided to each participant during their stay in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Who can apply for the programme?

CLYLP is committed to building a network of young leaders that reflects the diverse communities of Cambodia and Laos. We recognise and value the unique perspectives, life experiences, knowledge, self-expression, skills and talent that each young leader brings to the programme. In selecting participants, we welcome the unique contributions that each individual can offer in terms of their opinions, culture, ancestry, ethnicity, race, native language, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, education, religion, marital status (including de facto partnerships), parental status, disability, and beliefs.

To be eligible for selection, applicants must:

- ✓ be aged 20-35 years;
- ✓ be living and working in Cambodia or Laos (all provinces are eligible);
- ✓ be working for a civil society or community-based organization, labour union or social enterprise;
- ✓ intend to continue working for their organisation for a minimum of two years after completing the programme;
- ✓ have intermediate level English language proficiency equivalent to CEFR B1 / ≥4.5 IELTS / > TOEFL 32-34 (test certificate not required)*
- ✓ be available to participate in a full-time residential of 2 weeks in November/ December 2024
- ✓ have support to participate in the programme from the organisation they represent or work for, including flexibility to attend online study sessions during office hours and to take leave from work for 12 weeks to participate in the programme in New Zealand;
- ✓ not be enrolled in any other full-time courses of study or a similar scholarship/ fellowship during the Sustainable Development Course (SDC);
- ✓ talk to UnionAID before enrolling in any other part-time courses during the SDC;
- ✓ hold, or be able to obtain, a passport valid for until 1 January 2026



How to apply

To apply for the programme, visit UnionAID's website and complete the online application form. Applications are open until 23 June 2024. Once all applications have been received, candidates will be shortlisted by UnionAID for interviews in early August 2024. The final selection of 10 participants will be made following the interviews.

For more information, go to www.unionaid.org.nz/young-leaders-programmes/clylp or email KFP in Cambodia info@kfpcam.com, or PAKA in Laos Paka2020.official@gmail.com. Click [here](#) for the application form

Selection Criteria

In making the selection, candidates will be assessed using the following criteria:

- demonstrated leadership and future leadership potential;
- a commitment to development and community work;
- a commitment to working with other ethnic and religious groups;
- open-mindedness and maturity;
- support from their employing organisation including a mutual commitment to continue the employment for two years post-programme;
- identification of a clear and relevant development challenge or area of interest that you wish to explore through the programme that can provide the foundation of an action project;
- that the group reflects an ethnic and gender mix where possible, and that immigration requirements for a student visa can be met.



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