

1. Innovation Bootcamp and Co-Design Challenge



From
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UNDP Cambodia Building Capacities for Civic Engagement, Peacebuilding, and Inclusive Dialogue: Towards Inclusive and Participatory Governance

What is innovation bootcamp and co-design challenge?

The innovation bootcamp and co-design challenge is an approach to bring diverse actors together to specify development challenges and design human-centered and testable solutions. UNDP together with the National School of Local Administration (NASLA) and Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) joined up and organized the six-week bootcamp and co-design process described in Figure 1:

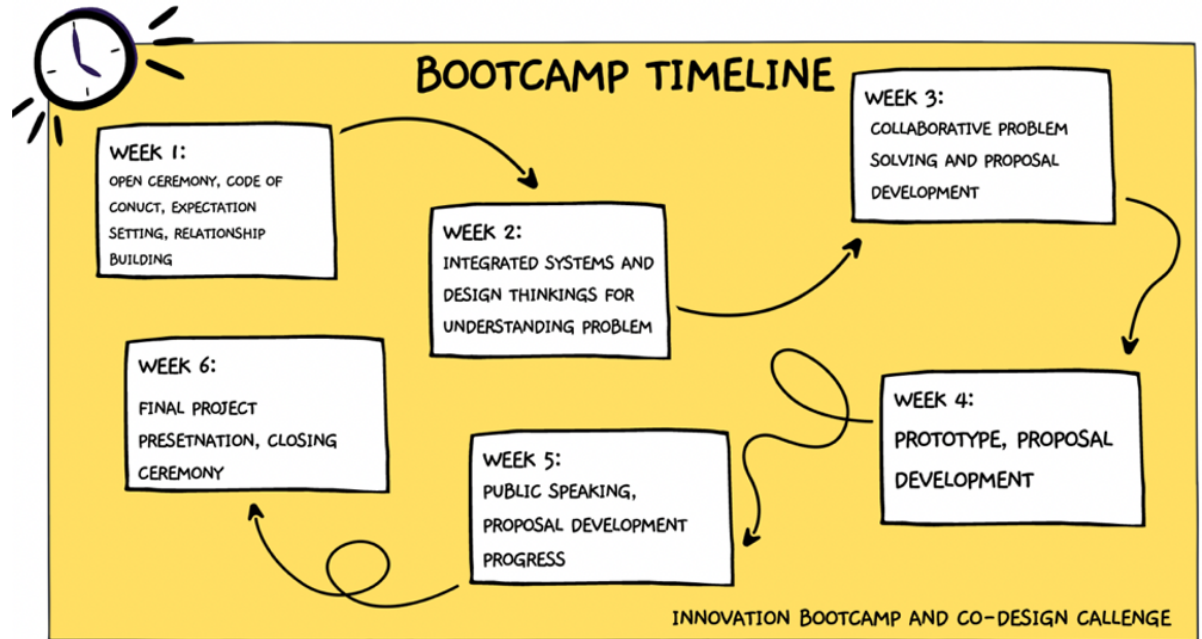


Figure 1: Bootcamp agenda (Source: Emerging Leaders 4.0)

Five teams joined in the bootcamp: joint teams of local governments and NGO Networks from Kampong Cham, Kampot, Ratanakiri, Siem Reap and NASLA.

“It is not new for us to work with CSO as collaborators, but to sit down and discuss together and design a common project is quite new”
(Female participant from provincial government)

“I was given the chance to talk without interruption from other participants and I felt motivated to share my idea even in the small group, big group or during the co-design discussion”
(Female participant from civil society)

Human Centered design

The innovation bootcamp and co-design challenge reached its climax with the five teams' designing solutions with the needs of users, in this case, people serving in the respective province. Each solution incorporated human-centered design to address social development issues and improve the Provincial Partnership Dialogue mechanisms. Prior to the final presentations, the five teams went through six-weeks of training sessions.



Figure 2: Government and CSO participants from Siem Reap discuss their proposal during the co-design stage of the initiative

The 'Most Innovative Award' was given to the team from Kampong Cham, for their proposal on improving waste management structures and processes by identifying testable solutions through stakeholder engagement. The 'Best Overall Proposal' went to the team from NASLA who developed a prototype and testing methodology of a partnership training module to incorporate into their curriculum. Ratanakiri's team proposed how to make a new district development plan more inclusive by ideating and collaborating with CSO and citizens to better understand challenges and opportunities in the implementation of the development plan. The team from Kampot adopted participatory methods to identify opportunities to strengthen the delivery of the Provincial Partnership Dialogue. Whilst Siem Reap developed a prototype of a social development project to improve the knowledge of nutrition at the household level in Svay Leu district by engaging people in the district.

2. Reflection of Co-Organizers

Overall, the innovation bootcamp and co-design challenge introduced a new way of different stakeholders working together. Ms. Sin Putheary, Executive Director of CCC who also served on the panel of judges consisting of leading development experts, said "Innovation bootcamps are one of the most important platforms to strengthen the connection between sub-national governments and the civil society through their innovative solutions." By placing participants at the centre of the co-creation process, each team were able to put their ideas into action and directly apply the knowledge obtained. As Mr. So Munyraksa, Principal of NASLA observed "This promotes real and practical experiences in partnership development among the real implementers of local administration and local NGOs, with the purpose of developing a positive environment of partnership dialogue due to local officials working together with local NGOs and preparing a solution to promote partnership dialogue together."



Figure 3: Project participants and stakeholders attended the closing ceremony online where each team presented their proposals to a panel of judges