



**Mr. Preap Kol** is currently working for a Development Agency based in Phnom Penh-Cambodia where he coordinates and manages social accountability program, a new innovative program which was designed to enhance the capacity of civil society organizations to help promote social accountability and good governance practices and to help the government be more accountable and effective.

Prior to joining the Development Agency, **Kol** served as **Senior Program Manager** with the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) based in Cambodia office. He joined NDI in 2002 and over period of more than 5 years he had led and managed various programs including the conduct of ground-breaking multiparty candidate debates and voter guides prior to national elections in 2003; initiated, designed and managed a successful program called "Constituency Dialogue," which helps enhance transparency and accountability in government by providing citizens with greater access to the political process and linking voters and their elected parliamentarians. In these capacities, he has successfully managed to gain the confidence of a broad range of the country's political actors, government leaders and parliamentarians.

Before joining NDI in 2002, **Kol** worked for the European Union Election Mission to Cambodia where he assisted the EU's long-term observation teams during the 2002 local elections. From 1997 to early 2002, **Kol** worked for the U.S.-based Church World Services (CWS), implementing integrated community development projects such as: capacity building, promotion of local leadership, citizen empowerment and advocacy. He earned a degree in Economic Development and Management and a Master Degree in Public Administration from Universities in Cambodia and Diploma in English from Australian Center for Education. **Kol** had attended many professional development training courses including International Leadership Skills from OHIO University's Center for Leadership Development, and participated in several international program visits including to U.S.A, Philippines, Japan, Indonesia, East Timor, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Laos.

**Kol** was born in a poor family at a remote village in Svay Rieng province and although he was struggling through poverty while he was young he has grown up with his **believe** that *"everybody in all generations has the obligation to make the life of the future generations better"*. Carrying his conviction of Buddhist principles, perhaps as an influence from his "incidental" same birth date to Buddha and or from his childhood when he was a student of the Buddhist monks, **Kol** has accomplished his professional careers from his high ethical performance, integrity and social sacrifices and has the passion of making difference in his and others' lives since he was 12 years old.

Throughout his careers, **Kol** has maintained his strong relationship and networking with people from different spectrums in the Cambodian society. He has volunteered and used his personal time and private capacity to assist others in developing various projects such as the formation of Cambodian Federation of Farmers' Organizations (CFFO) – coalition of more than 20 Cambodian NGOs to work on the pro-poor micro credit and agricultural projects –; a Youth Committee for Unity and Development (YCUD) – an alliance of 7 prominent youth organizations to work on youth empowerment and to advocate for appropriate national youth policy – ; and currently helping mentor and guide a youth group to achieve their career objectives; to promote youth interest and participation in social affairs and to ultimately prepare them to be leaders of the future generations who will have adequate qualification, skills, experience and ethical values through which he helped the youth establish the Outstanding Youth Group of Cambodia (OYG-CAM).



**Kol** was granted an audience with **His Majesty Norodom Sihamoni** King of the Kingdom of Cambodia