

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

This report is concerned with economic activity and employment. The economically active population who actually participates or attempts to participate in the labour market supports the economic activity of a country. The quantity and the quality of the economically active population influence the economic and social development of a country. The main objective of this analysis is to find out the characteristics of the economically active population.

This report consists of five chapters. Chapter 1 describes the overview of the usual economic activity of the population in Cambodia and Chapter 2 describes the job characteristics of the employed population. Chapter 3 provides the result of the economic activity as secondary activity of the population that has been surveyed for the first time in Cambodia. Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 focus on the economic activity of children youths, and women. A part of the main results clarified in this report is as follows.

Chapter 1

During the decade between 1998 and 2008, the population who aged 15 and over in Cambodia have increased from 6.5 million to 8.9 million. Most of the increased population participated in the economic activity, and economically active population has increased from 5 million in 1998 to approximately 7 million in 2008.

The economically active rate of the population who aged 15 and over has slightly increased from 77.0 percent to 78.3 percent during the decade. But the unemployment rate has decreased from 5.3 percent to 1.6 percent during this period.

There are great differences between urban and rural in about the characteristics of the labour force. Rural areas have much more economically active population than urban areas do (5.7 million and 1.3 million in 2008, respectively). And, the economically active rate is much higher in rural areas than that in urban areas (81.8 percent and 65.8 percent, respectively). This phenomenon is clearer in females than in males.

The economically inactive population has increased 0.4 million during the decade. The greatest proportion of functional category in economically inactive population is occupied by students both in 1998 and 2008 (0.5 million and 1 million, respectively). The proportion of students is larger in 2008 than 1998 (36.3 percent and 52.8 percent, respectively).

The literacy rate and the educational level of employed people who aged 15 and over made a great progress from 1998 to 2008. People who are not educated or not completed primary school accounted for approximately 60 percent of the employed in 1998, but in 2008 the proportion decreased to less than 50 percent. The proportion of the people who completed lower

secondary school increased from 10.8 percent of 1998 to 18.0 percent of 2008. Educational level of males has gone up more than that of females.

Chapter 2

The main employment status of the employed population who aged 15 and over are 'Own account workers' and 'Unpaid family workers' both in 1998 and 2008 (46.1 percent and 41.1 percent in 1998, and 39.6 percent and 42.9 percent in 2008). The number of 'Unpaid family workers' have increased approximately 1 million (from 1.95 million in 1998 to 2.94 million in 2008), that is, around a half of increased work force during the decade. Most of 'Own account workers' and 'Unpaid family workers' are engaged in the industry of 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing'. The proportion of 'Employers' in 2008 was only 0.1 percent at the national level.

Most of the employed population are working in 'Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing' (72.1 percent). The second popular industry is 'Wholesale, Retail Trade etc.' (7.8 percent), followed by 'Manufacturing' (6.2 percent) in 2008. Employed females are more likely to be engaged in 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing', 'Wholesale, Retail Trade etc.', 'Manufacturing', and 'Accommodation and Food Service Activities' than the employed males.

During the decade of 1998 - 2008, the total number of employed population engaged in the leading industries has increased 1.7 million (from 4.16 million to 5.9 million). This number is approximately equal to 80 percent of increased employed population of 2.1 million.

The majority of employed persons in 'Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing' are engaged in 'Crop and Animal production, Hunting and related service' in 1998 and 2008.

In 2008, about 70 percent of the employed population in 'Manufacturing' industry is engaged in the 'Wearing Apparel' of ISIC division. That of 1998 was 35 percent. Most of employed population who engaged in 'Wearing Apparel' are 'Paid employees', especially young females. 'Paid employees' are much more common in urban areas than in rural areas (51.8 percent and 9.7 percent, respectively).

In rural areas, the employed persons who aged 15 and over concentrate on 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' (84.8 percent), while in urban areas, the largest proportion of the employed population is recorded by 'Wholesale, Retail Trade etc' (24.3 percent), followed by 'Manufacturing' (18.7 percent). 'Agriculture, forestry and Fishing' (14.0 percent). So, in rural areas, the proportion of the employed who aged 5 and over in 'Skilled agricultural workers' is 83.2 percent. But in urban areas, only 13.0 percent of employed persons are working as 'Skilled agricultural workers'. The highest proportion of employed persons' occupation in urban areas is 'Services and sales workers' (28.9 percent) followed by 'Craft and related workers' (22.0 percent).

There are significant gender differences in the association between industry and employment

status. Males engaged in 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' tend to be 'Own account workers' (53.9 percent), but those female counterparts tend to be 'Unpaid family workers' (60.9 percent). Female 'Paid employees' engaged in 'Manufacturing' are more common than male counterparts.

More than half of 'Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers' are working as 'Unpaid family workers' in Cambodia. Especially 56.9 percent of the employed females are working as 'Unpaid family workers' and also 'Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers'.

As for the relation between educational level and occupation, the proportion of employed population working as 'Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers' decreased as their educational level goes up. The proportion for 'Above Lower Secondary' is only 6.6 percent.

The proportion of 'Professionals' in those who qualified for 'Above Lower Secondary' was 30.4 percent. The proportion of 'Clerical support workers' was 20.3 percent, and that of 'Technicians and associate professionals' was 14.9 percent. But each proportion of these three occupations for the employed persons who 'Completed lower secondary' is below 6 percent.

Approximately 10 percent of employed population in urban areas is qualified for 'Above Lower Secondary' education, while the corresponding proportion in rural areas is only one percent. And in rural areas, 17.9 percent of those who qualified for 'Above Lower Secondary' are engaged in an occupation of 'Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers'.

Chapter 3

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'Secondary economic activity' is the economic activity done as secondary activity. This activity is surveyed for all persons regardless of his/her main activity.

Forty four point one percent of the population who aged 15 and over in Cambodia has a 'Secondary economic activity'. As for main activity status, more than a half (52.4 percent) of employed population, 38.8 percent of unemployed persons who have an experience of employment and 14.7 percent of economically inactive persons have 'Secondary economic activity'.

Among the economically inactive categories, the highest proportion of the persons engaging in 'secondary economic activity' is recorded by 'Students' (19.0 percent). And, the youngest age group has the highest proportion of having 'secondary economic activity' of all age groups in every economically inactive category.

There is a distinct urban-rural difference in the likelihood of having 'secondary economic activity'. On the whole, the proportion in urban area is 10.0 percent and it is 53.5 percent in rural areas.