

Thesis Title	Assessment of Manhattan Special Economic Zone Development in Cambodia	
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ABSTRACT

The study focuses especially the aspects associated with the development of SEZ in Cambodia especially performance of Manhattan SEZ and starts with a highlight on the theories and experiences from other countries. This thesis analyzes Special Economic Zone from a worldwide perspective and draws lessons from the accumulated experience in several countries. It argues that developing countries can take advantage of the opportunities provided by SEZs for the acquisition of superior technology, upgrading of labor and managerial skills, and greater access to foreign markets. The paper then examines the development and economic significance of SEZs and similar export-oriented regimes in Cambodia. This analysis shows that after the Royal Government of Cambodia has adopted the degree of SEZ, there are many SEZ project were approved to implement the project. The main factors which most affect the zone perform are government policy, infrastructure while labor performance and raw material is at medium importance level to zone performance. This study finds that the most problem faced by foreign firms are demonstration of labor performance problems, electricity cost of infrastructure problems, and only import and export clearance is still the high problems faced by the foreign firms in special economic zone in Cambodia, while the time of investment application, company

registration, take long time for document process and high informal expense for import/export document appear to be the medium problem level. More problems that we received from interviewees by their own opinion stated that Cambodia's legal system is not favor enough for their business because of Cambodia not set up the commercial court. Electricity cost is also still very high compared with neighbor countries. Most of raw material are imported it will lead the cost of product is high cannot compete with other countries. Moreover, skilled labor still very lack which need the time to train them after they are qualified to work in the factory. .

The paper ends with a series of considerations and policy recommendations for SEZ development in the Cambodia. Among other policies, this paper focuses on the promotion of industry diversification of export-oriented activities, on the development of stronger backward linkages, infrastructure reform and on the upgrading of the export-oriented legislation in Cambodia.

The findings of this study lead to recommend that the Royal Government of Cambodia should focus and seek to improve in human resource development (HRD) and motivate the local investor to invest in raw material to support export industries. Government to attract the foreign investors by reducing some administration procedures; encourage education through the training; provide more incentive and open market through negotiating and requesting for GSP granted or import duty free from developed countries to secure the market access and should start to take steps and develop a plan of action aimed at made some improvements, particularly industrial and infrastructural development and infrastructure linkages to countries in the region, to attract FDIs. Promote technology transfer and industry diversification.

Keywords: Special Economic Zone, Zone performance