

FILM LAUNCH INVITATION



Singapore 23rd International Film Festival

15 - 24 April 2010

International Film Premiere

Factory Shorts: Looking at Cambodia's Garment Sector

Friday, 23rd April 2010
7.00 pm - 9.00 pm

Sinema Old School
11B Mount Sophia, #B1-12

PROGRAMME

- Screening of four short films
- Q&A session with the producers and filmmakers
- Light reception

GUESTS

- Director: Mr. Nico Mesterharm (Meta House, Cambodia)
- Filmmaker: Ms. Sao Sopheak (M.E.T.A. Film School, Cambodia)
- Ms. Minna Maaskola (ILO, Cambodia)
- Ms. Pham Huong Giang (FES, Singapore)

ABOUT THE SHORT FILMS

Cambodia is among the poorest countries in the world. Yet, approximately one in every ten T-shirt worldwide carries the label "Made in Cambodia". The garment industry is Cambodia's major economic motor and an important source of paid employment for women. Most of the 300,000 female garment factory workers are the main breadwinners for their families in the countryside. The recent global economic crisis has hit Cambodia's textile industry hard. In 2009, about 60,000 workers lost their jobs. Others continued working for much less money and under tougher working conditions. Many female workers moved to the notorious sex and entertainment industry. The crisis is a further challenge to Cambodia, where decades of civil war have still left their marks on the society.

Four short documentaries (7x4 minutes) look at the current economic downturn through the prism of workers and their families, unionists, small vendors surrounding the factories and a female Cambodian manager. The documentaries illustrate an impressive and unfiltered picture within and surrounding the garment industry in Cambodia.

The Singapore-based office of the German Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) has jointly produced these short documentary films with the „Better Factories Cambodia“-Program of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Phnom Penh-based cultural center Meta House and M.E.T.A. Film School.

Tickets are available from all SISTIC outlets.

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) will hand out **free tickets** to the first 20 respondents who reply to this email address enquiries@fes-asia.org. Please indicate your name, organization and contact details in the email.

This event is supported by

