



Phnom Penh, December 19, 2025

Joint Press Release

Official Launch Ceremony of Cross-Border QR Code Payments between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Phase 2: Lao Scans KHQR Codes)

On Friday, December 19, 2025, **Her Excellency Dr. Chea Serey**, Governor of the National Bank of Cambodia, and **Her Excellency Bounkham Vorachit**, Governor of the Bank of the Lao PDR, presided over the official launch ceremony of cross-border QR code payments between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Phase 2: Lao Scans KHQR Codes) in Phnom Penh.

Cross-border QR code payments between Cambodia and the Lao PDR have been developed in two phases. Phase 1, which was successfully launched on August 18, 2023, enabled Cambodian users with Khmer Riel accounts to make payments for goods and services to merchants in the Lao PDR by scanning the Lao QR code (LAOQR) via the Bakong app or mobile banking apps. Phase 2 now allows Lao citizens traveling to Cambodia to make payments for goods and services to merchants throughout Cambodia by scanning the KHQR Codes via mobile banking applications provided by banking and financial institutions in the Lao PDR, without the need to carry cash or exchange currencies.

Her Excellency Dr. Chea Serey, stated, "Beyond its technical accomplishments, this initiative serves as a bridge connecting the cultures, economies, and peoples of Cambodia and Laos. It: 1) supports economic ties by facilitating secure digital transactions; 2) enhances tourism by simplifying payment processes; and 3) promotes deeper regional integration within ASEAN."



Her Excellency Bounkham Vorachit, stated, “The development of the retail cross-border QR payment linkage between the Lao PDR and Cambodia is considered a significant achievement between the Bank of the Lao PDR and the National Bank of Cambodia. This collaboration is focused on developing a payment system that utilizes local currencies of both countries, aligning with the direction of ASEAN integration. By harnessing the power of digital innovation, we aim to overcome traditional barriers and facilitate seamless financial flows between our nations.”✍



CONTACT:

Communication Unit of National Bank of Cambodia

Phone Number: (855) 23 990 184

Email: [nbccommunication@nbc.gov.kh](mailto:nbcccommunication@nbc.gov.kh)

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