Ministry of Public Works
and Transport

The rail strategies and policies in Cambodia







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1. Opportunities in Railway Investment







Strategic Location in ASEAN

Regional Connectivity

• Cambodia's location within ASEAN can enhance trade and economic integration

Framework for Development

• Initiatives like the Southern Economic Corridor support cross-border rail development.

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)



Mobilizing Investment

• PPPs can address funding gaps and improve project efficiency .



Revenue Streams

• Concessions for services can create sustainable revenue.

Job Creation and Skill Development

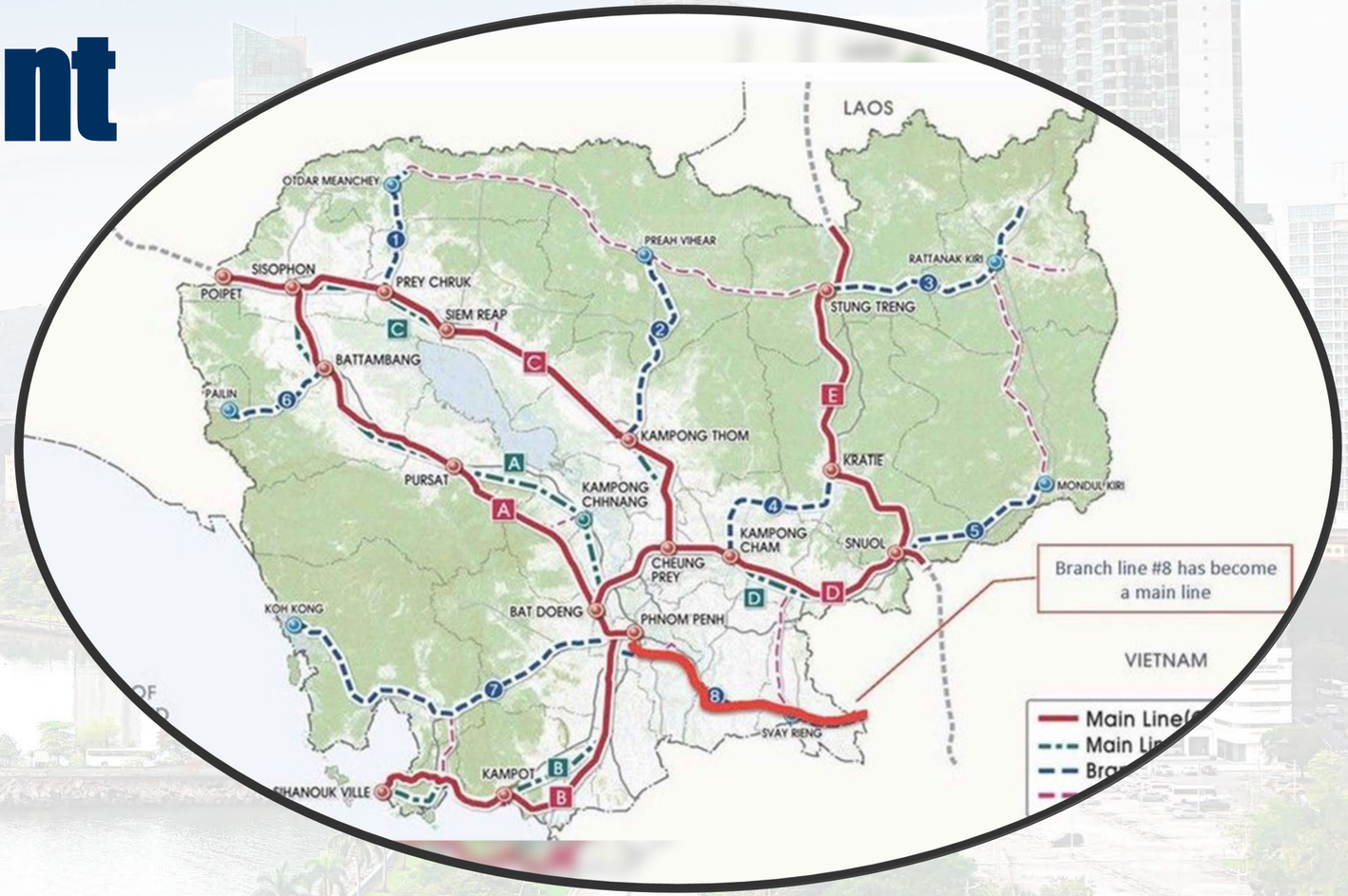
Employment Opportunities

• Railway projects generate jobs during construction and operation .

Skill Development

• Opportunities for skill development in engineering and logistics

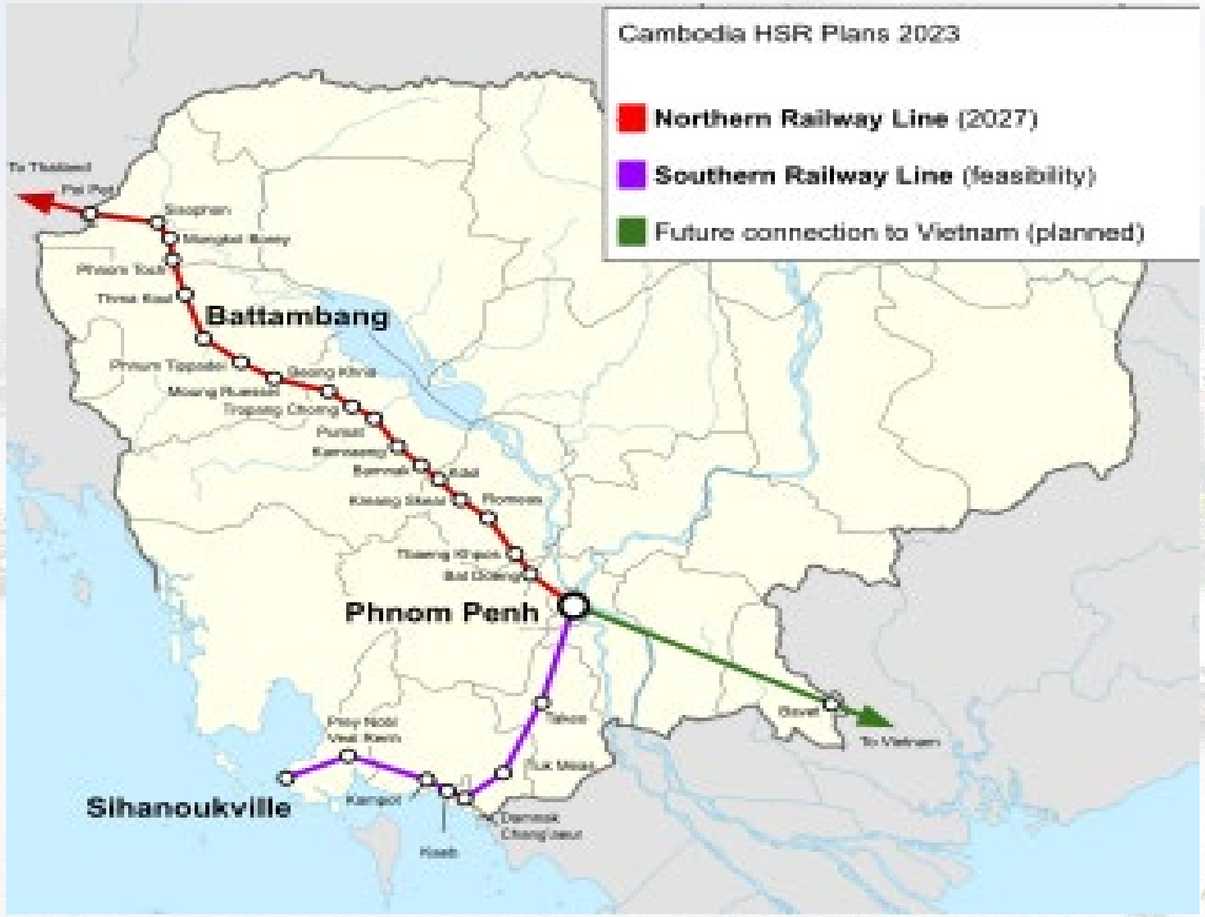
2. Key Focus Areas for Railway Investment



Modernization of Existing Lines

Upgrading Key Routes

• Focus on upgrading the Phnom Penh-Sihanoukville and Phnom Penh-Poipet lines.





Cross-Border Connectivity

Enhancing Rail Links

• Improve connections with Thailand and Vietnam for trade and tourism.

Urban Rail Development

Mass Transit Systems

• Develop systems in Phnom Penh to address urban congestion.

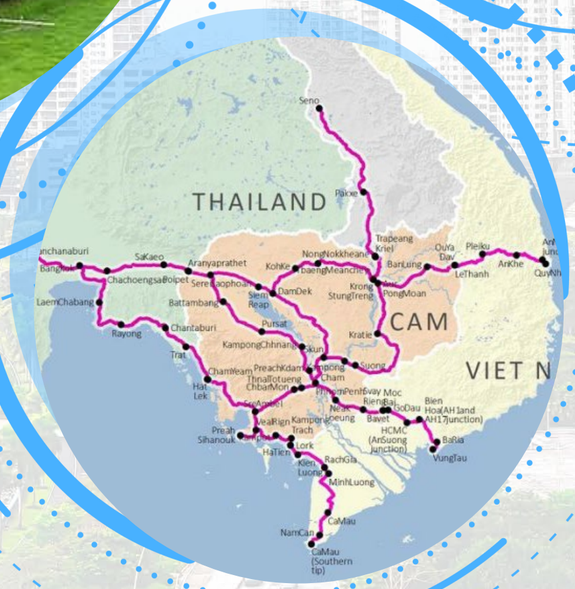




Sustainable Practices

Green Technologies

• Incorporate sustainable practices in railway construction and operation.



Freight Corridors

Dedicated Freight Corridors

• Establish corridors connecting industrial zones, ports, and agricultural regions.

3. The rail strategies and policies in Cambodia



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

Nation Religion King

Royal Government

Comprehensive Master Plan on Cambodia Intermodal Transport and Logistics System 2023-2033

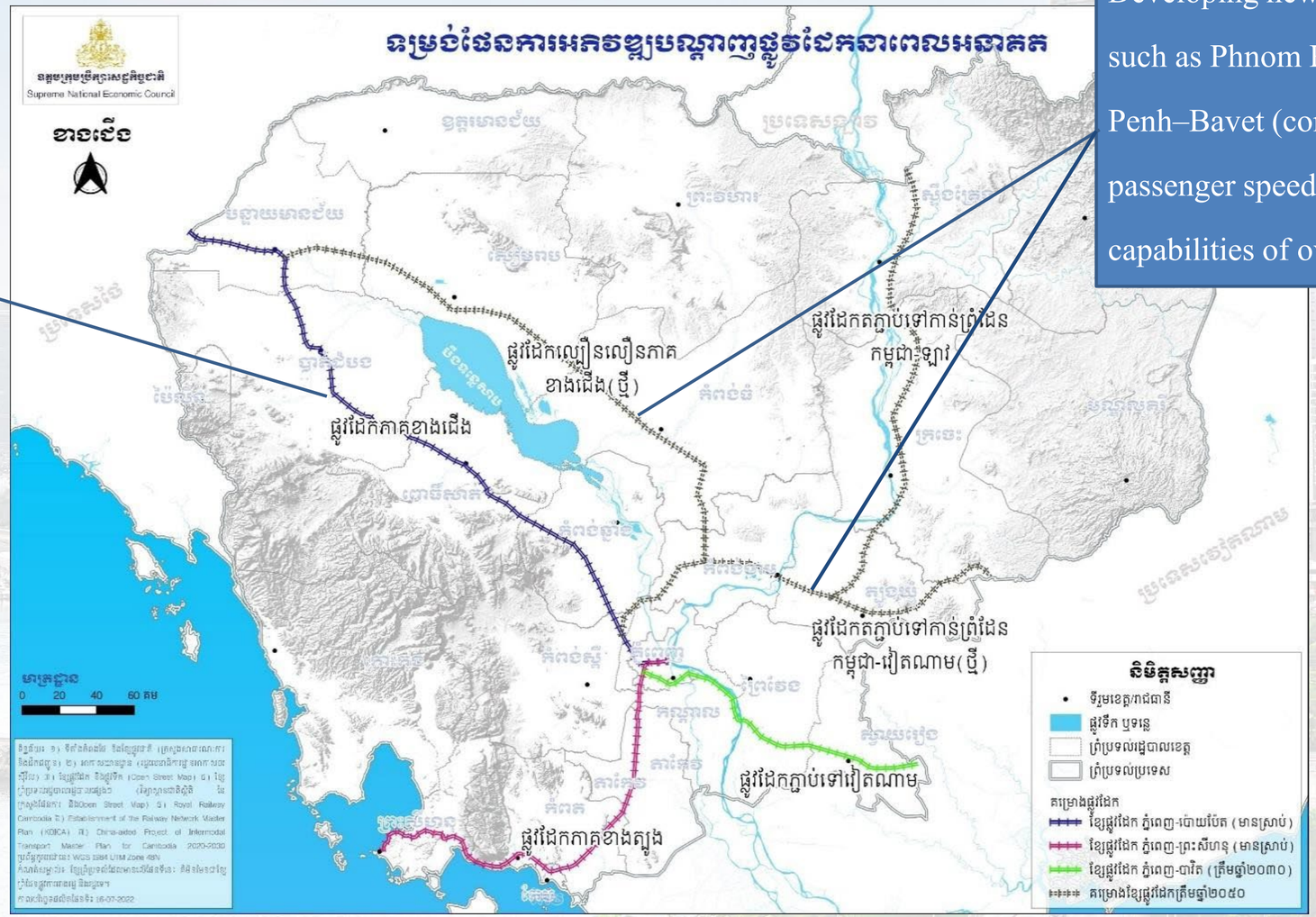
(Unofficial & Transitional Translation)

August 2023

The rail strategies and policies outlined in the comprehensive master plan emphasize the rehabilitation and development of Cambodia's railway network to enhance connectivity and support socio-economic growth.

Key components include:

Upgrading and rehabilitating existing rail lines, particularly the northern railway connecting Phnom Penh to Poi Pet, which is vital for trade with Thailand.



Developing new high-speed railway corridors, such as Phnom Penh–Siem Reap and Phnom Penh–Bavet (connecting to Vietnam), with passenger speeds of up to 160 km/h and freight capabilities of over 20 tons per axle.

Key components include(Con’t)

- Implementing high-speed rail systems in major corridors to facilitate efficient passenger and cargo movement, with the goal of covering about 48% of the population across nine provinces by 2033.
- Strengthening the operational mechanisms for railway management, including signal systems, safety standards, and station improvements.
- Fostering regional integration by linking Cambodia with neighboring countries through upgraded and new rail routes to boost cross-border trade and mobility.

Overall, the master plan aims for a modern, efficient, and safe railway network that supports sustainable development and regional connectivity.

Strategic Goals

Safe, Reliable Rail Service by 2030

- Upgrade infrastructure and rolling stock.
- Enforce safety standards and train personnel.
- Ensure regular, on-time passenger and cargo service across key corridors.



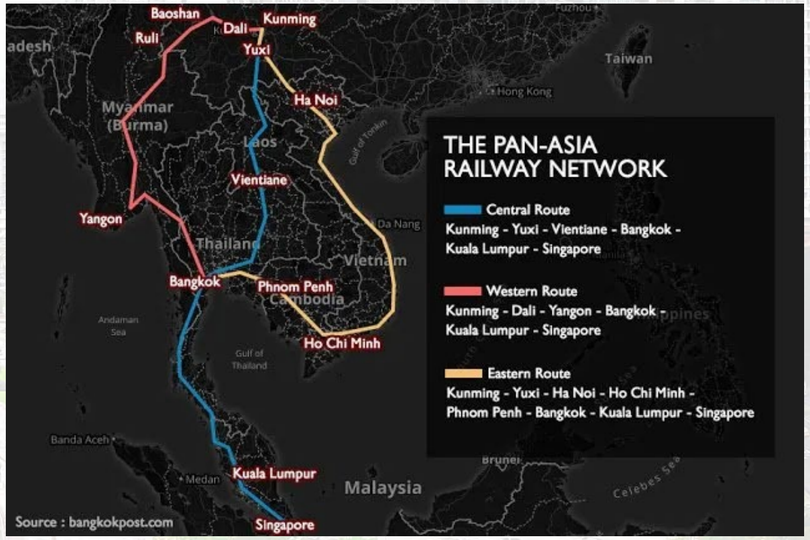
Double Freight Capacity by 2035

- Expand cargo terminals and logistics hubs.
- Invest in freight-dedicated tracks and modern wagons.
- Improve intermodal connections with roads, ports, and dry ports.



Full ASEAN Integration by 2040

- Complete regional rail links to Thailand and Vietnam.
- Adopt standard gauge for cross-border compatibility.
- Align with the Kunming–Singapore Rail Link and the Trans-Asian Railway Network.



4. Conclusion







Conclusion

- Railway investment in Cambodia presents significant opportunities for economic growth and regional connectivity.

- Addressing challenges related to funding, governance, and infrastructure deficits is critical for realizing these benefits.

- Strategic planning, international collaboration, and innovative financing models are essential for unlocking the potential of Cambodia's railway sector.







Thank You

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