The WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice's Cambodia Programs conducted a ‘Community of Practice’ Meeting on 29 July 2017. This is the fourth such session in the new series focusing on teaching human rights.

This session featured two guest speakers: Ms. Noy Sophary, Senior Legal Consultant at the ECCC and co-author of the article “Fundamental Rights in Cambodian Criminal Law” and Ms. Daniella Montemarano, a Washington DC-based mediator specializing in transitional justice, gender equality, and the rule of law who is currently interning with the Handa Center.

Approximately 16 participants gathered from Paññaśāstra University of Cambodia, the Cambodian University for Specialties, the Royal University of Phnom Penh, the Cambodian Center for Human Rights, the Center for the Study of International Law and the ECCC to attend the session on Saturday morning.

Mr. Tay Lina, Acting Director of the Handa Center's Cambodia Programs, introduced the session, after which Daniella led a group activity identifying fair trial rights protections guaranteed in the ICCPR and Cambodian Law. Once the groups had identified the sources of fair trial rights protections, Ms. Noy Sophary then went through each right one by one, asking participants to draw on their own personal experience to give examples of how the right is protected in theory and practice. International attendees were able to give examples from their own countries and compare these to the situation in Cambodia.

Sophary drew on her experience working at the ECCC to provide examples about fair trial rights protections at that hybrid court. She explained that the domestic court system can benefit from the fair trial rights standards used at the ECCC.

The Handa Center's monthly ‘Community of Practice’ meetings provide academics, lecturers and legal practitioners with a friendly, open environment to share their experiences and support each other in research and teaching methodologies. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Saturday 26 August 2017 at 9:00am.

For more information or to register for the next session, contact Mr. TAY Lina by email: lina.tay@handacentercambodia.org or by phone: 096 8181145