



# PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM FOREIGN CHILD SEX OFFENDERS -Child Protection in Cambodia's Tourism-

**H.E. HOR Sarun**

Under Secretary of State  
Ministry of Tourism, Cambodia  
Chairman of Child Safe Tourism Committee



# Kingdom of Cambodia



**LOCATION:** South East Asia  
Bordering Thailand, Lao PDR, Viet Nam  
Coastline at the Gulf of Thailand



**AREA:** 181,035 km<sup>2</sup>



**POPULATION:** 16 million



**CAPITAL:** Phnom Penh



**CLIMATE:** Tropical monsoon

- Dry season (November to April)
- Green season (May to October)



# Tourism in Cambodia

- ❖ Tourism is **a cross-cutting industry**, commerce and service, involving both direct and indirect participation.
- ❖ Backbone of Cambodia's Tourism Development Policy: **Cultural and Natural Tourism**
  - Cultural and Religious Temples
  - Beautiful Coastal Area
  - Natural Eco-tourism Sites





# Tourism Statistics in 2018



## Total International Tourists in 2018

6.2 million

↑ 12%



## Direct Job Creation

62,000 jobs



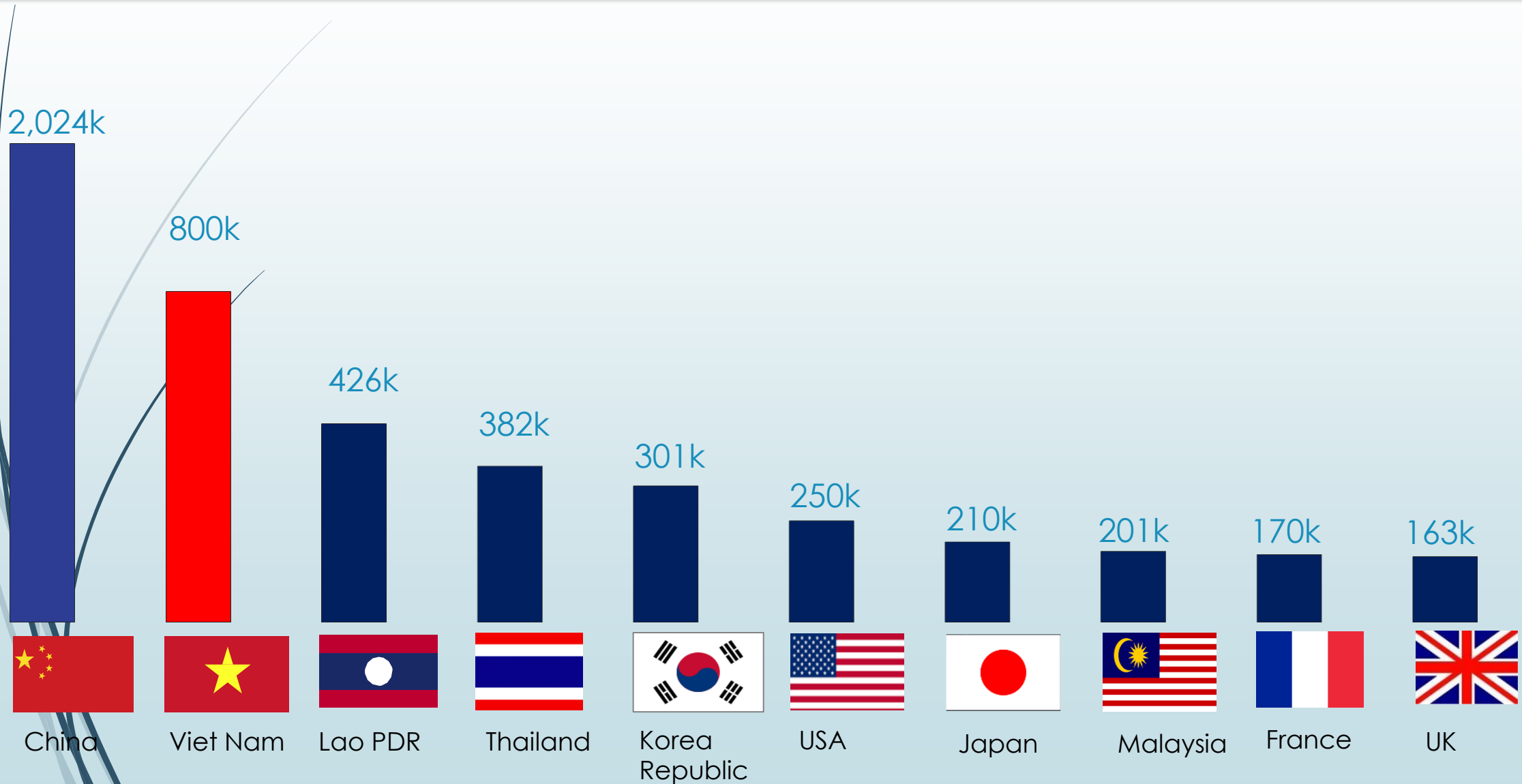
## International Tourism Receipts

\$4.37 billion

↑ 20%



# Top Ten Market Arrival in 2018





# Tourism Statistics Jan-Apr 2019

## Total International Tourists (Jan-Apr)

Jan-Apr 2018

Jan-Apr 2019

Change (%)

2.17 million

2.41 million

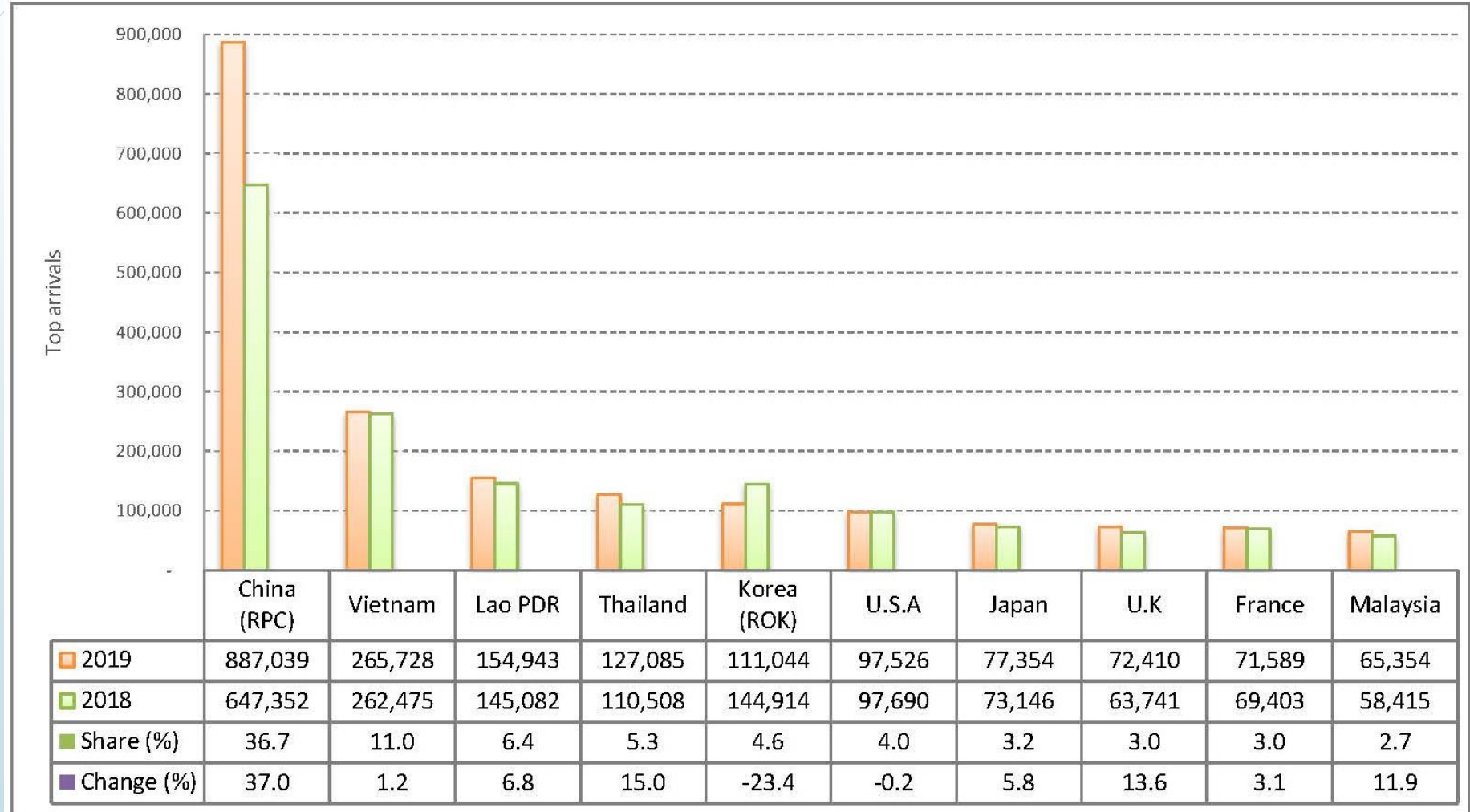
↑ 11.07%





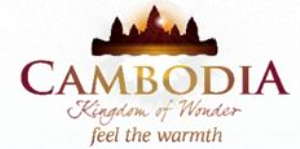


# Top Ten Market Arrival (Jan-Apr 19)





# MACHANISM FOR PROTECTING CHILDREN



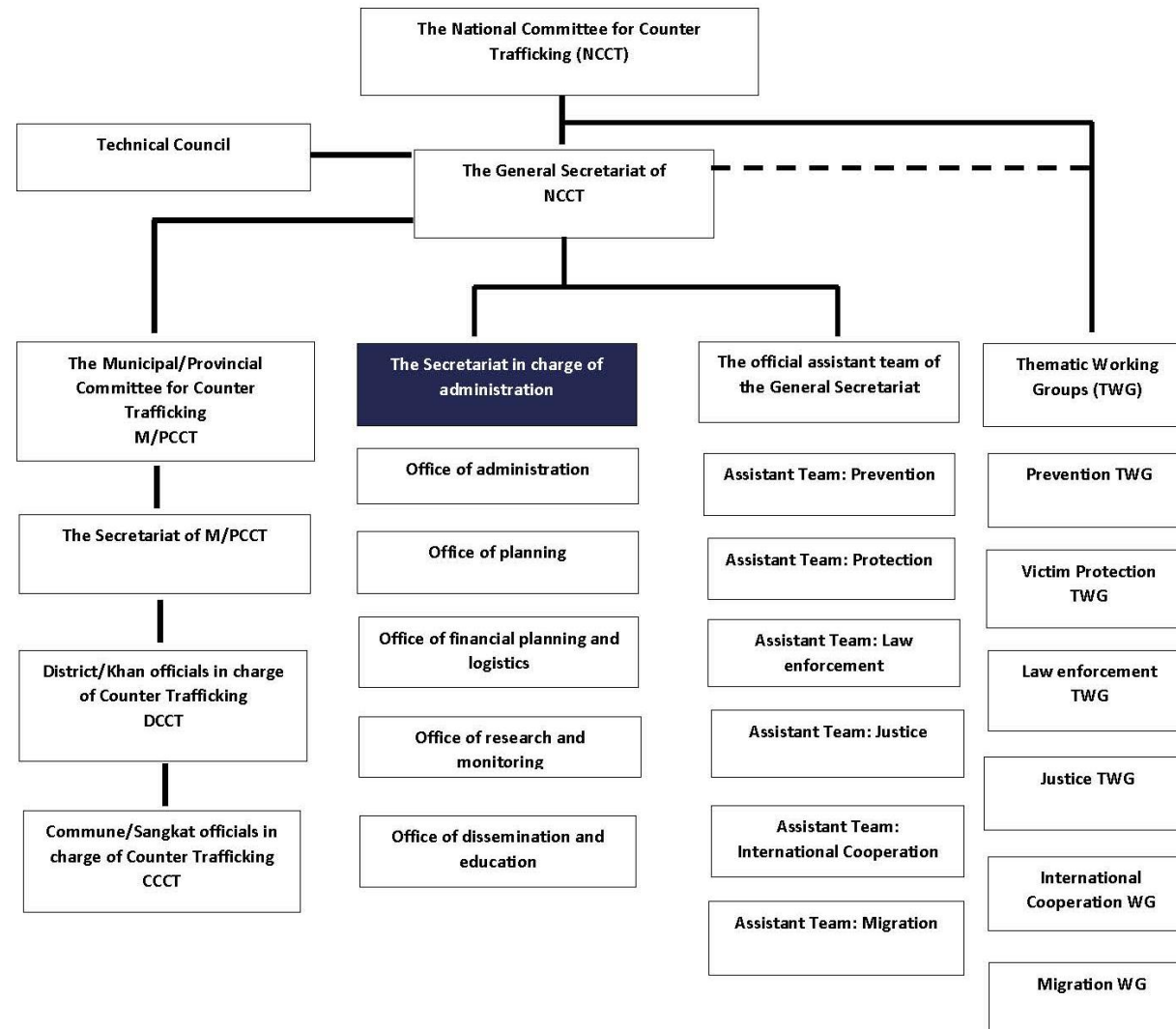
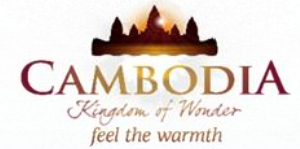
## National Committee for Counter Trafficking in Persons - NCCT

- ▶ The **NCCT** is a national mechanism for coordinating and gathering information about the efforts of ministries, institutions, national and international non-government organizations (NGOs), development partners, private sector, and other stakeholders to collaborate together in order to combat human trafficking in a transparent, accountable and highly effective manner, responding to the commitment of the Government to suppress trafficking in persons.
- ▶ The composition of the **NCCT** by the **Royal Decree** includes **27 members from line ministries**.





# National Committee for Counter Trafficking in Persons - NCCT





# Tourism and Child Safety

- ❖ Cambodia firmly discourages sex tourism and has **zero tolerance for child sex tourism**.
- ❖ The prosperity of tourism sector in Cambodia accurately reflects the significance of security, safety and political stability factors, all of which determine and ensure sustainable growth in tourism sector.



# Child Safe Tourism Committee

- ❖ Concurring with the development of tourism sector, a number of negative activities have arisen such as: crime, prostitution, human trafficking, child sexual abuse, and drug trafficking.
- ❖ **Child Safe Tourism Committee of the Ministry of Tourism** has been closely working in conjunction with relevant ministries and institutions, private sector and civil society organization to tackle child sex tourism issue and prevent negative impacts of tourism, especially **sexual exploitation on children in tourism**.



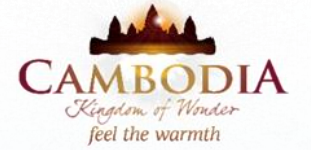
# Child Safe Tourism Committee



- ❖ A lot of perpetrators have been convicted including foreign ones who committed child prostitution.
- ❖ Child sex offences have been committed by citizens from different countries and various occupations.
- ❖ Business people, teachers, volunteers and professional people have been amongst the offenders.



# Child Safe Tourism Committee



Two main measures are taken by Child Safe Tourism Committee:

**Education Measure**

**Administrative Measure**





# Child Safe Tourism Committee

## Education Measure

Educate the public as well as all relevant stakeholders about the safety of children in tourism sector and raise awareness of negative impacts of tourism.

- **Regular Training Seminar**
- **Promotional Materials (stickers, billboards, tent cards etc.)**



# Child Safe Tourism Committee

## Administrative Measure

Hoteliers and their staffs are educated about child prostitution/ child sex tourism and they are also trained to cooperate in preventing such thing from happening on their premises.

- In the case that child prostitution takes place on their premises, their license will be suspended, revoked or terminated and they will be prosecuted according to law.



# Conclusion



- Cambodia has set up a strong mechanism to combat human trafficking at national and sub-national levels.
- Law enforcement in Cambodia and strong mechanism protect children from foreign child sex offenders.
- We send a strong message that anyone who abuses children will be prosecuted according to law.
- The effort to eliminate child sex tourism achieves a remarkable result.



# Conclusion



- ▶ **Children's safety and rights reinforcement contributes to Khmer culture upholding and promote the morality of Khmer society, and image purifying of cultural and natural tourism.**
- ▶ **Taking this opportunity, I would like to urge all travelers to uphold morality in travelling by not doing anything that is against the law of the country they are visiting.**



Thank  
you