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### USAID Co-Sponsors the National AIDS Conference

Phnom Penh, Cambodia  
September 10, 2008



*Jonathan Ross, USAID Deputy Director of the Office of Public Health and Education, briefs Deputy Prime Minister Sok An (center) on USAID's Social Marketing Program for Condoms during a tour of exhibition booths at the National AIDS Conference.*

The National AIDS Conference this month drew over 700 key players from the government, donors and civil society to discuss the status of HIV/AIDS in Cambodia. The focus of the three-day conference, which was supported in part by USAID with PEPFAR funds, was to increase coordination among agencies that work on the front lines of the AIDS epidemic.

In the event's keynote speech, Deputy Prime Minister Sok An praised the U.S., which has provided Cambodia with \$120 million over the past 15 years to fight AIDS. The Deputy Prime Minister noted that although Cambodia has halved its HIV prevalence, much work still needs to be done to prevent transmission among high-risk populations. In his closing remarks, the Deputy Prime Minister appealed to participants for help in developing strategies that ensure HIV prevention programs are maintained while anti-trafficking efforts are scaled up.