



### On the Cover:

*Climate change could be a double-edged sword for Cambodia, presenting both a threat to livelihoods and an opportunity for profit. (page 8)*

## Editorial

*Cambodia faces unknown dangers from the world's changing climate, but a new awareness of the importance of climate change mitigation could present a new opportunity for green growth.*

*While the recent Copenhagen Summit has been widely derided as a failure because of the ambiguous, unambitious targets, optimists see a silver lining in the fact that so many world leaders were willing to attend such a gathering.*

*Cambodia's political leaders, however, were elsewhere, a move that some see as symbolic of the scant attention paid to clean development, often at the cost of high-carbon or environmentally developments like coal power stations or hydropower dams.*

*Cambodia's geographical situation makes it an ideal candidate for renewables such as solar power and biofuels, though solar panels and other installations popular elsewhere are rarely seen in the kingdom.*

*While a few innovators are blazing trials into these green frontiers, large-scale investments are few and far between. A lack of confidence in the earning potential of green technologies and the inertia of vested interests of big business could hamper an industry that has the potential to make a real and lasting difference to Cambodia.*

*As ever, ETM welcomes readers' suggestions and comments.  
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## Soil to Oil

### How Energy Grows on Jatropha Trees

*Cambodia remains heavily reliant on fossil fuels for electricity generation and transport, and with domestic sources of oil and gas not likely to be viable in the short term, biofuels are increasingly appealing.*

*Cambodia possesses domestic resources for the production of electricity from clean sources but making use of oil and gas reserves to fuel the growing demand from transport will take time, said the Asian Development Bank (ADB) report "Status and Potential for the Development of Biofuel and Rural Renewable Energy Cambodia." (page 15)*



## Kamworks

### Solar Power for Cambodia

*The majority of Cambodians live without access to electricity, retarding social and economic development.*

*According to a UN Development Program estimate, only 20 percent of Cambodians nationwide have access to electricity, leaving the other 80 percent literally in the dark. Most use biomass such as firewood and charcoal: environmental group GERES estimates that 80 percent of Cambodia's energy consumption comes from biomass, mostly timber. (page 14)*



## Reconciliation and Remembrance

*The five regimes Cambodia has seen since the 1960s have all left their mark on Cambodia, though none more so than the murderous Khmer Rouge, whose reign of violence and terror still casts a long shadow on today's Cambodia.*

*Estimates of how many died during the KR's catastrophic reign range from 1.7 million to 2 million people, and those who managed to avoid death were deeply affected. Many social problems in Cambodian, including murders and domestic violence, are said by some to have their roots in this chaotic time. (page 28)*



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