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# The "Photographic Flora of Cambodia" project, a successful example of international collaborative work.

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## Résumé

The book "Flore Photographique du Cambodge" (Leti et al., 2013) is the first major illustrated book that allows the discovery of this rich and beautiful flora. This project took place within the framework of the activities of the joint phytochemistry laboratory between University of Health Sciences of Cambodia and Pierre Fabre Research Institute. When this joint laboratory was set up in 2006 with the help of the Pierre Fabre Foundation and of IRPF, a herbarium was constituted with the vouchers collected in the field. A set of these specimens were also sent to Paris Herbarium, at the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle, to be studied by the specialist of the Asian Flora, Dr. Sovanmoly Hul. In 2008, it was decided to publish a book to share locally and abroad the information gathered by the joint multidisciplinary team (identification of species, photographs, ethnobotanical data...).

This work was made possible by the strong personal commitment of Dr Sovanmoly HUL. The authors are grateful to numerous colleagues who provided help to check identification of specific taxa and to Dr Mark NEWMAN (RBGE) who wrote the foreword. It was decided to present the most commonly encountered plants in Cambodia in an accessible way with an emphasis on the informative power of photographs. Finally 524 species were classified by APG III families alphabetically. Two new species are described and more than ten taxa are newly listed for the country.

The talk will present the genesis, realisation and content of the book. This project was possible only thanks to a collaborative and fruitful network of motivated colleagues and to the financial support of Pierre Fabre Laboratories and Foundation. The authors hope that this work will allow Cambodians (students, teachers, professionals...) and all lovers of biodiversity to discover and preserve this rich and fragile botanical heritage.

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