



Unofficial
Translated

ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA

National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development

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**Policy on
Environmental and Social Safeguards for
Sub-National Democratic Development**

2019

FOREWORD

The law on the administrative management of Commune Sangkat and the law on the administrative management of Capital, Provinces, Municipalities, Districts and Khans are legal frameworks for the sub-national democratic development of the Kingdom of Cambodia. The Royal Government of Cambodia has developed a National Programme for Sub-national Democratic Development, aiming to improve the local economy through promoting good governance, the effectiveness of public services, accountability, transparency, inclusiveness, social equity, and sustainable development to reduce the poverty in Cambodia.

The policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development is part of the sub-national development programme, aiming at promoting the participation, responsibility, transparency and effectiveness of sub-national administrations in respect of environmental and social protections that are in line with national and international standards for the implementation of funding projects at the Communes/Sangkat, Municipalities/Districts/Khans, and Capital/Provinces. This policy requires the sub-national administrations to be cautious and careful about the impacts and risks brought about to the environment and society which may take place out of the project implementation by focusing greatly on gender equity, vulnerable groups, indigenous peoples and cultural heritage protection.

To archive the policy's goals NCDD acknowledged eight strategies; such as Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts, Labor and Working Conditions, Resource efficiency and pollution management, Health Safety and Welfare of the Community, Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement, Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainability Management of Living Natural Resources, Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage for Ministries, Sub-national Administration, Development Partner, Civil Society Organization, Private Sector, and other relevant partner on Sub-national Democratic Development implementation.

NCDD strongly believe that ministries, sub-national administrations, relevant institutions, development partners, civil society organizations and private companies will actively involve in promoting, supporting and implementing the policy on environmental and social safety for sub-national democratic development successfully, effectively and highly efficiently.

Phnom Penh, _____

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Interior and Head of NCDD

Samdech Kralahom SAR KHENG

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I. INTRODUCTION

The environmental and social protection is a topic essential for the sub-national democratic development process to ensure that the public investment will not do harm or threaten the sustainability of the environment, ecology system, society, culture, tradition, and indigenous peoples as well as avoiding risks to health, economy, gender and other violations which may be brought about by development as such.

To prevent the impact as mentioned, National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development (NCDD) issued the policy on “Environmental and Social Safeguards for the Sub-National Democratic Development” in which there are eight strategies: (1) Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts, (2) Labor and Working Conditions, (3) Resource efficiency and pollution management, (4) Health Safety and Welfare of the Community, (5) Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement, (6) Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainability Management of Living Natural Resources, (7) Indigenous Peoples and (8) Cultural Heritage.

II. RATIONALE AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

In 2009, NCDD with technical support from development partner and other stakeholder established a mechanism for the “Environmental, Land Acquisition and Indigenous Peoples Safeguard” under the Rural Investment and Local Governance Project (RILGP). The safeguard mechanism has been update to implement the Commune/Sangkat Fund based on the sub-national administration reform.

The Environmental, Land Acquisition and Indigenous Peoples Safeguard mechanism is applied in the context of Commune/Sangkat Fund. Currently, it extend its scope to District/Municipality/Khan Fund and Capital/Provincial Fund based on the Project Implementation Manual (PIM).

Even though Land Acquisition and Indigenous Peoples Safeguard mechanism has been adopted and applied at sub-national government but it is not complied with the current Decentralization and Deconcentration reform. In this regard NCDD establish the “Environmental and Social Safeguards Policy” that address on the safety strategic to strengthen management, inspection, monitoring, and evaluation system for the policy implementation at sub-national administration with regularity, responsibility, transparency, accountability and gender equality. The policy is compiled to the national and international safeguard standard and implementable at sub-national government.

The preparation and implementation of this policy are an important mechanism for the sub-national administrations, ministries, the relevant institutions and civil society organizations which are actively involved and responsible for effective and efficient practices.

The Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-National Democratic Development is aligned with and reinforces the implementation of relevant national laws of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Cambodia is also committed to environmental and social safeguards because it is a signatory to relevant international treaties and conventions. Some of the most important of these treaties and conventions are listed in Annex 1.

In cases where external development assistance financing is transferred to Sub-National Administrations, there may be specific requirements for environmental and social safeguards from the development partner. In this respect, it is noted that the Eight Strategies of the Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards are closely aligned with the Eight Performance Standards of

International Finance Corporation (IFC) which are applied by international agencies including World Bank and Green Climate Fund. Therefore, in many cases, compliance with the Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-National Democratic Development will also comply with international development partners' requirements.

III. VISION

The Royal Government of Cambodia's vision is to promote the improved welfare of its people through the sub-national democratic development without causing any harm or risks for the environment, natural resources, societies, traditions, customs, people's rights, dignity and people's wishes in an effective, transparent and accountable manner.

IV. GOAL TARGET AND SCOPE

1. Goal

The policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-National Democratic Development is developed to ensure the sustainability of the eco-system, natural resources, cultures, traditions, customs, indigenous peoples, gender equality, safety and social welfare at the sub-national level.

2. Target

The policy target is to avoid any harmful impacts on the society and environment which may arise out of projects for development at the sub-national level.

3. Scope

The scope for the policy on the social and environmental safety for the sub-national democratic development covers such sub-national administrations as the Capital, Provinces, Municipalities, Districts, Khans, Commune, and Sangkat as well as any other projects under the democratic reform at the sub-national level.

VI. STRATEGY

To realise its goal and target, NCDD puts into practice the policy on the social and environmental safeguard in which the following eight strategies are implemented:

- Strategy 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
- Strategy 2: Labor and Working Conditions
- Strategy 3: Resource efficiency and pollution management
- Strategy 4: Health Safety and Welfare of the Community
- Strategy 5: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement
- Strategy 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainability Management of Living Natural Resources
- Strategy 7: Indigenous Peoples
- Strategy 8: Cultural Heritage

Strategy 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

This strategy is a principle guidance among the relevant institutions and sub-national

administrations in aspect of the analysis and management of environmental impacts and social risks which may be brought about either directly or indirectly at the initial stage of project preparation. Such impact and risks on the societies and the environment may cause destruction and pollution for the environment, natural resources, biodiversity, land, property, cultures, traditions, sacred places for the indigenous peoples and people's lives in general. To avoid such risks and negative impact, the project implementation manual for the Capital, Provinces, Municipalities, Districts, Khans, Commune, and Sangkat shall be used to instruct on the following priorities which must be considered ahead of the actual project preparation:

- Analysing and evaluating the harmful effects on society and the environment
- Studying the efficiency of the resources and preventing and managing pollution
- Studying labour and working conditions
- Analysing and evaluating harmful effects on the health and safety of the community
- Analysing and evaluating harmful effects of land acquisition, land use and involuntary resettlement
- Analysing and evaluating impact on the conservation of biodiversity and the management of living natural resources
- Analysing and evaluating impact on indigenous peoples
- Analysing and evaluating impact on cultural heritage
- Collecting data about the degree of the effects and risks on the environment and society in order to prepare a plan for the prevention and avoidance of such issues
- Studying possibilities to prevent, avoid or mitigate negative impact on the society and environment
- Evaluating mitigating and recovering the core negative impact that have been identified
- Preparing an inclusive discussion and counselling with the relevant stakeholder and ensuring the participation of females, males, disability, elderly people, indigenous people and vulnerable groups
- Monitoring, Complain Handling and Reporting.

Strategy 2: Labor and Working Conditions

To create more jobs opportunities, increase local incomes, and poverty reduction, the sub-national administration must manage and be responsible for labor and working conditions between the employer and employee based on the labor law. The project implementation manual of Capital, Province, District, Municipal, Khan, Commune, and Sangkat shall a focus on labor and working conditions between employer and employee for the project implementation at the sub-national level to ensure job safety and worker's welfare. The guide covers the following focuses:

- Keeping the worker and employee informed of their rights relating their work, payments, remuneration, and other benefits they are entitled to
- Ensuring safety and welfare of the workers and employees in a way of working conditions and employment accidents while they are on duty
- Acting on the basis of gender equality and equity, but not any discrimination, in terms of with remuneration, job opportunities, management and expulsion
- Not constraining the rights and freedom of the workers if they join a reunion
- Preparing a mechanism for receiving and responding to the complaints of the workers
- Preventing the exploitation of child labor based on the labor law and child protection. Avoided child labor during project implementation that might affecting their studies

and their health and their social development in any ways

- Avoiding the coerced labor or human trafficking
- Ensuring that the rights (working conditions) of the workers or employee who are contracted with the sub-contract employer
- Monitoring regularly the implementation of labor by prioritising safety to reduce labor risks.

Strategy 3: Resource efficiency and pollution management

Resource efficiency and pollution management are effectively and efficiently determined by development. It includes water use and raw materials for construction such as water, gravel, stone and sand and so on which may maintain the sustainability of the resources and may not harm to the communities. Sub-national administration must ensure the environmental pollution caused by both long-term and short-term development activities which may contribute to harmful effects to people's life such as air pollution, construction risks, dangerous chemicals and hazardous waste as well as managing the use of chemicals in the agriculture sector. To ensure the effective use of the resource by the communities and project implementation with no harmful effects on the environment, the sub-national administrations must:

- Use of water, air, land, and other contraction material for the local development on the basis of sustainability and within a highly effective and efficient scope
- Use water for the purpose of project implementation in an appropriate amount and with no harmful effects on water quality and the sustainability of water source used by the communities
- Use the raw material for the construction in an appropriate amount and with no harmful effects on the environment and ensure the sustainable use by the communities
- Not pollute the environment due to the project implementation by avoiding any activities that pollute the air, water and soil. However, if the pollution is inevitable, make sure that it is at a low or minimal level or the lowest possible
- Avoid giving back either harmful or nonharmful waste to the environment. However, if that is unavoidable, waste must be ensured to be at a minimal level
- Ensure that any tools and equipment that may cause accidents to take place or otherwise are not safe for the workers or the project implementers shall be replaced with substitutes which are accident-free and safe as well as avoiding producing, exchanging or using any chemical materials prohibited by laws
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and crop care must ensure the management of poisonous chemical substances as well as harmlessness for biodiversity in the communities
- Take responsibility of a balance of greenhouse gases emitted into the environment
- Ensure the reduction of greenhouse gases brought about by the projects that can be emitted into the atmosphere

Strategy 4: Health Safety and Welfare of the Community

Any activities out of project implementations must acknowledge the involvement in risk prevention as well as other adverse effects on the community due to the tools/equipment, construction material, chemical use for technical construction and infrastructure out of projects. To put the harmful effects on health, safety and welfare of the communities at a minimal level, the sub-national administrations and the relevant bodies shall consider in full before implementing any projects, and it is necessary that they identify and evaluate the adverse effects or risks that may be brought about in the course of construction and completing the projects. The implementing agents must:

- Analyse and avoid any effects on health and safety of people during or after the project implementation
- Avoid or minimise any contributing factors that lead the communities to be faced with any diseases that do harm to people's health or that are caused by dangerous construction practices or that can be caught by water and people's breathing system
- Prepare and manage the safety over the harmful chemicals that may become a challenge for the communities or a threat to the health and life of people and workers as well as putting the effects at a minimal level
- Prepare for emergency during the project implementation in case any problems or accidents are caused by negligence or nature, fire, explosion or chemical leaks
- Analyse and minimise risks that may contribute to harmful effects on the community health especially of the vulnerable groups including women, children, elderly, and disabilities people during and after the project implementation which may be caused by tool/equipment and construction materials or any technical construction plan
- Protect the community rights by working with the competent authorities to prevent illegal activities from taking place, identifying the crimes and taking action according to the laws
- Analyse and avoid the harmful effects on the ecological systems such as a loss of protection layers, mangrove forests, trees, flooded jungle and water sources that the community benefit from by putting the effects at a minimal risk level

Strategy 5: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement

The infrastructure project implementation acknowledges that there is a connection to the land acquisition, property ownership issues, community land, residential land and farmland of the people in the community and there may be some negative effects on their incomes and the job they work at for a living. Certain effects brought about on residential land may be responsible for a loss of land belonging to the residents in the community. Land security shall be ensured at the start of the project planning which, with great responsibility, transparency and accountability, requires studies and consideration put into the land acquisition and involuntary resettlement. The project implementation shall ensure that such issues are not brought about and against the people and will be unwelcomed/approved by the community. To put the effects at a minimal risk level, the sub-national administrations and relevant institutions shall:

- At all cost avoid causing forced eviction, threats and residential resettlement of the community
- Avoid causing the community to resettle involuntarily
- Study and make a consideration about the project by making sure with the people when it comes to the land acquisition which can be a land donation and voluntary property gifting and compensations
- Provide compensations to the people who, because of the project implementation, have to resettle or who are the legal property owners in a fair manner, and the compensations shall be worth the loss of land, property and income as well as restoring the living environment and welfare they have lost
- Improve the lives of the affected people who have to resettle because of the project
- Ensure legal property ownership for the people who have to resettle by helping them with the legal ownership certificate or by providing in-cash compensations which can be used for the application for the legal ownership certificate
- Ensure that the people, who have to resettle, are provided with residence and property they have lost even though some may not possess a legal ownership certificate.

Strategy 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainability Management of Living Natural Resources

Conserving biodiversity and managing the sustainability of the living natural resources is a special focus which requires the sub-national administrations and the relevant institutions to greatly care about the benefits brought by the projects in comparison with the economic value of the biodiversity and the living natural resources. All project implementations at sub-national level must be studied, and action will be taken to put the adverse effects on the biodiversity, ecological system, rare species and the living things at a minimal risk level. So, the sub-national administrations and the relevant institutions must follow the major principles below:

- Evaluating or minimising the undesirable effects by analysing and avoiding such effects on the biodiversity and ecological system. If the effects are evitable, make sure any action has been taken at all cost in accordance with the law to put the effects at a minimal level and to improve the biodiversity and the living natural resources that habitat in the area
- Raising any action to conserve the biodiversity area although human settlement or invasion takes place in the conserved or protected area
- Analysing services on an ecological system which are affected by the project and avoiding or reducing or minimising the negative effects on rare species of plants and animals in the protected area
- Not transforming or changing the existing natural habitat in the community area unless no other appropriate choices can be made; discussing with the relevant persons and having most specific mechanisms for minimising the undesirable effects which lead to the loss of biodiversity
- Avoiding implementing the projects in the main habitat. If no other appropriate choices can be made, ensure that the project implementation will not trigger negative impacts on the habitat of the biodiversity and the ecological system as well as on the vulnerable animals and plants as well as ensuring the effective monitoring of the project implementation
- The project cannot be implemented in the protected area unless the law permits that, and ensures the relevant persons will act completely in accordance with the law and seek to be highly committed to protecting and improving the conserved area.
- Ensuring that any activities that involve with living natural resources (trees, agricultural yields, animals and trees) will be in line with both national and international standards on sustainability management
- In the production chain relating to the biodiversity and living natural resources, make sure that regular monitoring will be carried out by the project implementers to ensure that the natural resources and the conserved areas will not be harmed and destroyed.

Strategy 7: Indigenous Peoples

Indigenous peoples also are known as ‘Khmer Leu’ have cultures and customs and make a living in a significantly different way from ‘Khmer Kroam’ who live in scattered small groups. And they are also considered as one of vulnerable groups and also receive a special attention and care, ensuring that any project implementation at sub-national administration will not bring negative impacts to their lives, traditions and customs. The project implementation at sub-national level shall be in close cooperation with the representative of the indigenous peoples as well as the discussion with the local indigenous people with regard to the projects in the local communities, and the following practices must be performed:

- Identifying the identity of the indigenous peoples, natural resources and the area in

which they suffer from the negative impacts of the project implementation and ensuring that the project will benefit them

- Avoiding all negative effects on the cultures of the indigenous peoples. If such effects are unavoidable, make sure that the effects will be put at a minimal level and then restored; or compensation will be made for such effects on their cultures
- Avoiding the project that affects the sacred place or the land of the indigenous people unless the project effects are thoroughly studied. The indigenous people shall be made aware of their rights, ensuring that they will be entitled to the enjoyment, compensations and appropriate benefits from the project
- Avoiding making the indigenous peoples resettle or change their enjoyment of the natural resources unless they agree with that voluntarily
- The implementation of the project must not give back serious effects to the cultural heritage of the indigenous peoples unless they agree with that voluntarily.
- Avoid exploiting the cultures and traditions of the indigenous peoples for business purposes unless they agree with that and there are appropriate benefits to improve their living standards.
- Any project implementation must be joined and discussed with the indigenous peoples especially with their representatives or village chiefs.

Strategy 8: Cultural Heritage

Cambodia is rich in both tangible and intangible cultural heritage which plays an important role in the society and in promoting relationships between people and society, including beliefs, customs and cultures which promote the nation's economy and build harmony in people. To realize these important roles, it is necessary to provide appropriate opportunities to encourage the supports for the production, consumption, services, cultures and cooperation from different organizations and institutions. Therefore, the sub-national administration, units, institutions and the relevant authorities must follow below practices:

- Identifying and avoiding negative impacts on the tangible cultural heritages (ancient temple compounds and historical sites) and also the intangible cultural heritages (sacred and worship places) and so on
- Acting in accordance with the law on heritage to ensure the protection, and neither direct nor indirect harm may be brought about during the project implementation
- Consulting the relevant authorities i.e. APSARA Authority, National Authority for Preah Vihear, and Ministry of Culture to analyze the benefits from the cultural heritages in comparison with the benefits from the project under Cultural Heritage Law
- Creating a cultural heritage protection system for any items/material came across during the project implementation
- Ensuring that community can take part in protecting the cultural heritage which is located within the area under the project
- Strictly prohibiting any acts of damaging or leading to the loss of the cultural heritage unless the law permits such action.
- Any use of the intangible cultural heritage for any promotions shall be involved with the relevant communities

VII. ACTION PLAN

To realise the visions, goals, targets and the strategies relating to the policy on

Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development, action plans will be taken.

- Secretariat of NCDD disseminate the policy to ministries, sub-national authorities and relevant authorities on the policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development
- Review and revise Project Implementation Manual (PIM) of Communes, Sangkat, Municipalities, Districts, Khans, Provincial, and Capital to align with the policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development
- Study and update the instructions on the establishment of any mechanisms for the implementation of the policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development
- Improve capability of the sub-national officials to implement the policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development
- Strengthening the mechanism on complain handling and reporting on the policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development
- Sub-national administrations must act in accordance with the policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development.
- NCDD Secretariat will develop, adopt and implement a guideline for management of environmental and social risks for projects in the framework of the National Programme for Sub-National Democratic Development (NP-SNDD). The guideline will apply to any new project that will transfer investment funds to many different sub-national administrations, or to any single investment by a sub-national administration with a value more than 1 billion Khmer riel. The guideline will not apply in any case where environmental and social screening has been carried out following the procedures of an external development partner or following the legal procedures of another Ministry of the Royal Government of Cambodia. The guideline is attached as Annex 2 and may be updated and approved by decision of the Head of NCDD Secretariat.
- Projects in the framework of the NP-SNDD will be classified as High Risk (Category A); Medium Risk (Category B); or Low Risk (Category C). High Risk (Category A) projects will require specialist studies (for example, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment). For Medium Risk (Category B) projects, an Environment and Social Management Plan (ESMP) must be prepared.
- Sub-National Administrations will inform NCDD Secretariat when they undertake investment activities that result in environmental and social risks. NCDD Secretariat will monitor the management of environmental and social risks by Sub-National Administrations to verify compliance with the Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards.
- NCDD Secretariat will appoint Environmental and Social Safeguards Officers to oversee implementation of the Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards. These officials will be within the NCDD-S structure and will not be under direct management of any project implementation team. The Environmental and Social Safeguards Officers will (1) carry out screening of projects and types of grant for environmental and social risks; (2) assist project implementation teams and Sub-National Administrations to prepare Environmental and Social Management Plans (for projects over 1 billion Khmer riel); (3) monitor implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Plans; and (4) disseminate information, raise awareness and build capacity of sub-national administrations to implement the Policy on Environment and Social Safeguards. Terms of Reference for the NCDD-S Safeguards Officers are attached as Annex 2 and may be updated and approved by decision of the Head of NCDD Secretariat.

VIII. DISCLOSURE AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISMS

People who may be negatively affected by environmental and social risks have the right to be fully informed about the risks and about risk management measures. People have the right to be consulted and to give their free and informed consent. People who have been negatively affected by environment and social risks in a project, or who believe that the Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards has not been correctly implemented, have the right to complain.

For any project under the management of NCDD Secretariat, the results of Environmental and Social Safeguards screening and the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment / Environmental and Social Management Plan must be disclosed on the NCDD website.

Project Implementation Manuals for sub-national administrations will include guidelines for Sub-National Administrations on disclosure of environmental and social risks.

All people affected by a project of a Sub-National Administration have the right to submit a complaint to the Sub-National Administration directly or through the Ombudsman Office.

All people also have the right to submit a complaint directly to NCDD Secretariat, either through the NCDD website, in writing, by telephone or in person. NCDD Secretariat will record and investigate all complaints received in accordance with the grievance mechanism in the NCDD Secretariat Operational Policies and Procedures Manual.

IX. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

To implement the policy on the social and environmental safety for the sub-national democratic development process as expected in an effective and transparent fashion, NCDD must prepare a systematic monitoring and evaluation as mentioned below:

1. Mechanism

NCDD is responsible for monitoring, evaluating, facilitating and counselling with the relevant ministries sub-national administrations and relevant institution with regards to the practices of the policy on the policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development process. Secretariat of NCDD, in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior, to assist NCDD in preparing and implementing M&E, overseeing the regular practices, and writing reports for NCDD on this policy practices. To determine the effectiveness of the practices of the policy on the social and environmental safety for the sub-national democratic development process in the long-run, NCDD may use an external, independent M&E team, depending on the resources and budgets available.

2. Coordination and facilitation

Secretariat of NCDD leads and provides facilitation to the working team and the relevant ministries and institutions with regards to legal standards, strategic plans, instructions and specifics as a support for the sub-national administrations in implementing the policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development process.

3. Financial support

NCDD uses the national budget and mobilize funds from development partner to support the practices of the policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development process.

X. CONCLUSION

The policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development process will be a major contribution to the strengthening of mechanism for the social and environmental safety for the project implementation at sub-national administration in terms of autonomy and practice term, which is in line with decentralization and deconcentration reform of the Royal Government of Cambodia. This policy will be widely practised together with the project development practices at sub-national administrations in particular Communes, Sangkat, Municipalities, Districts, Khans, Provinces and Capital in an effective and efficient fashion.

The policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards for Sub-national Democratic Development process sees the commitment of the Royal Government of Cambodia in promoting the development of people's welfare and local development by avoiding adverse effects and risks on the environment and natural resources at a maximum level, ensuring land ownership security, the protection of indigenous peoples, promotion of gender equality, inclusiveness, social equity, sustainability of tradition and cultures and harmony in Cambodia.

GLOSSARY

- **NCDD** National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development
- **Sub-national administration** generally refers to the administration of Capital, Provinces, Municipalities, Districts, Khans, Commune and Sangkat
- **Decentralization** means the government assigns the power, authority, and resources to the councils to function in order to meet local needs.
- **Deconcentration** is a technical administrative term used to describe the process whereby a central organization transfers some of its power to local-level units in their own decision-making, meaning that it is a technique to facilitate the centralized system and give some of the power previously possessed by the central administration.
- **International standards** are letters set by rules and regulations which require all nations to follow.
- **Society** is a group of people or animals involved in interactions such as laws, traditions, customs and religions.
- **Evaluation** is the making of a judgement about quality, benefits and value of something; an assessment to determine merit, effectiveness, effects, sustainability and other relevances relating to a project according to different goals as determined.
- **Impact** refers to the positive and direct, negative and long-term effects caused by interventions of a direct, indirect, intentional or unintentional development
- **Safety** is a state of being safe and free from any risks that take place
- **Transparency** is timely and reliable updates of information which can be used by all relevant.
- **Indigenous peoples** refer to native peoples who originate in a place and most of them live in highland regions of Cambodia
- **Mechanism** is a working system used to monitor the process of another working system.
- **Policy** refers to important target points that guide people to realize intended goals
- **Risk** is a natural disaster that affects the nature and human life.
- **Child labor** is a job performed by a child or any young person who is under the age or the age opposite to the legal standard or level as expected by the relevant international labor organizations; or any job that is hazardous or interferes any child's education or that of the young people or any job that can cause harm to health and physical, mental, moral, and social development of a child or young people
- **Harmony** is the state of living together without any issues or the enjoyment of at-ease life with others.
- **Welfare** refers to a person's well-being without a challenge.
- **Biodiversity** refers to living organisms of the same or different types and organisms at all levels and of all categories as well as the ecological systems including the land-based ecology, sea, fresh water source and ecological relationships.
- **Sustainability** enables the stabilised or continued developmental process of something without any risks.
- **Natural resources** are resources that already exist in nature, including forests, waterways, plants and wildlife.
- **Cultural heritage** is a national cultural or ancestral heritage for the nation's inheritance.

- **Local infrastructure** is an infrastructure used to describe the structures that allow a country to run, including roads, railways, harbours, airports, transportation systems, electricity and local water distribution networks.
- **Effectiveness** is the ability to successfully achieve a job as intended.
- **Efficiency** results from a job that is successfully achieved as intended.
- **Greenhouse gases** are the gases in the atmosphere that absorb and bring back the infrared radiation to the earth, which leads to a rise in heat in the earth atmosphere. Greenhouse gases are a mixture of hydrogen dioxide (H₂O), carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrous oxide (N₂O), methane (CH₄) and ozone (O₃).
- **Natural habitat** is a land or water area where groups of the biological environment such as animals and plants native to a region are together and it is where human activities cannot fundamentally change the major ecological functions of the area.
- **Sustainable development** refers to developments that bring economic improvements to the society in a continual environment by depending on a balance of the four pillars: economy, society, environment and cultures.
- **Hazardous waste** refers to radioactive substances, explosives, toxic and flammable material causing cancers or infections that cause burns, rust, oxidation or other chemical substances harmful to people and animal life or destroy plants, public property and the environment.
- **Cultural heritage** refers to both physical and intangible cultural properties.
- **Transparency** refers to the reflection of the proper process of work.
- **Social accountability** is a process by which a good relationship between people and the sub-national administrations is built, and it is a way to make the decision-making relating to the governance of policy become in line with the public practices of sub-national administration.
- In agriculture sector, **IPM** stands for Integrated Pest Management.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: List of International Treaties and Conventions

- National Constitution of Cambodia
- Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management
- Law on National Cultural Heritage Protection
- Law on Land
- Law on Labor
- Law on Forestry
- Law on Fisheries
- Law on Disaster Risk Management
- Law on Child Labor Protection
- Law on the adoption of approval to the convention on the conservation of intangible cultural heritage.
- Law on the adoption of approval for kingdom of Cambodia to join the convention on biological diversity
- Law on the adoption of approval for kingdom of Cambodia to join the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Law on the adoption of approval for Kingdom of Cambodia to join the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Law on the adoption of approval for Kingdom of Cambodia to join the Vienna convention on the protection of Ozone
- National Policy on Green Growth
- National Policy on Indigenous People Development
- Sub-degree on Environmental Impact Assessment
- Sub-degree on Air and Sound Pollution.

Annex 2: Guideline for Management of Environmental and Social Safeguards Risks for Projects in the Framework of the NP-SNDD

Annex 3: Terms of Reference for NCDD-S Safeguards Adviser and Safeguards Officers

