

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Project Board Meeting

**BUILDING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN CAMBODIA (BESD)**

**20 September 2019**

**RAFFLES HOTEL LE ROYAL**

# About the project

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The overall objective is to assist Cambodia in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to:

- Natural Resources Management (NRM)
- Circular economy (mainly on waste management)
- Solar energy

The project designs and tests *innovative* environmentally sustainable models in the targeted areas. Based on evaluating results, it further identifies venues for scaling-up workable models

## Updated Joint Governance Mechanisms

**Senior Beneficiary**  
NCDDS, MoE, MME

**Executive**  
Chair of NCSD

**Senior Suppliers**  
Sweden  
UNDP

**Project Management Unit (PMU)**  
Project Director – H.E. Dr. Tin Ponlok (NCSD)  
Project Manager - Mr. Ma Chansethea

**Project Contracted Staff**  
National Project Coordinator – Mr. Long Sovannarith  
Finance assistant: Ms. Ly Rattanakseray  
Admin: Ms. Meas Sreythol

**Project Assurance**  
Dr. Moeko Saito-Jensen, Environmental Policy Specialist  
Ms. Nimnuon IvEk, Head of Policy and Innovation Unit

**Technical Assistance**  
International technical specialists  
(P4 – Dr. Moeko Saito Jensen (30%) & P5 – Mr. Ivo Besselink 40%)  
National technical specialists  
(SB5 – Mr. Sony Oum (80%); SB4 – Mr. Veng Visal (80%)  
SB3- Sreykhuoch Kim – Project Assistant (100%)

**Component 1: Sustainable NRM**  
Responsible party: MoE

**CBNRM:** GDLC & ADF  
**Sustainable financing for PAs:** GSSD,  
MoE, **MEF (new)**

**Component 2: Circular Economy**  
Responsible party: NCDDS & **DGE/GSSD**

**Municipality:** NCDDS, GDEP/MoE, DGE/NCDD

**Industry:** H&M

**Academia:** RUPP

**Regulations:** GDEP, DGE

**Component 3: Solar PV**  
Responsible party: MME

**Technical:** MME, **DGE/GSSD**, MoE,  
MEF, SEAC  
**Innovation:** EnergyLab

# Overall Project Status

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## First Project Board Meeting: March 11, 2019

### Main project updates

- Project staff formally assigned by respective governments in August
- LoAs and Annual Work Plans being signed with DGE/MME and NCDD-S in August
- Bank accounts opened in August
- Grant agreements with ADF, EnergyLab, and SEAC signed in May/June
- Staff movement: SB4 Energy officer remains vacant (July-September)
- Additional international environmental expert (Leif Holmberg) on board in August
- Ready for full implementation from September/October



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# Output 1: Natural Resource Management (NRM)

## Output 1.1

Sustainable NRM & Community Livelihoods

**Mr. KUNG Seakly**

Department Director

Department of Community Livelihood,  
General Directorate of Local Community,  
Ministry of Environment (MOE)

## Output 1.2

Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)

**Mr. MENG Monyrak**

Department Director

Department of Biodiversity, General  
Secretariat of Sustainable Development  
(GSSD), National Council of Sustainable  
Development (NCSD)

# Status: Sustainable NRM & Community Livelihoods

## 1. Creation and strengthening of CPA networks

- Support the community to national CPA forum held at MOE

## 2. CBNRM pilot support for Kulen Mountain

- Prior gender assessments of CBNRM completed
- Grant agreement: ADF and UNDP (Kulen) completed
- Three stakeholder meetings conducted (113 villagers, of which 54 were women) – **Livelihoods, CPA and APA management**
- Four key watershed areas identified for building a water distribution system for Popel village.

# Status: Payments for Ecosystem Service (PES)

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- Feasibility studies on Kulen & Kbal Chay completed
- The inter-ministerial PES meeting was held on 7 June 2019, to with a decision to use voluntary PES initially and Environmental and Social Fund
- National Dialogue on PES: 17-18 Sep 2019, Phnom Penh Hotel
  - To consolidate lessons learned from other countries (e.g. Costa Rica, China, Vietnam) and from Cambodia's PES initiatives)
  - To discuss and design a roadmap for designing a national PES programme and operationalize PES in Kulen and Kbal Chay

# Output 2: Circular Economy

## Output 2.1:

**Municipal pilot for circular economy (Kep)**

**Mr. CHHUN Bunnara**, Head of Programme  
Management and Support Division,  
National Committee for Sub-National  
Democratic Development Secretariat (NCDD-S)

## Output 2.3-2.4:

**Development of enabling policies and  
measures for circular economy**

**Mr. TAING Meng Eang**, Department  
Director, Department of Green Economy,  
General Secretariat of the National Council  
for Sustainable Development (NCSD)



# Status: Circular Economy

## 1. Circular Economy Pilot – Municipality

- The third World Circular Economy Forum June 4-6 in Finland
- Kick-off meeting on municipal waste management held in Kep on September 4

## 2. Circular economy pilot: Industrial level

- Emission assessment of a new waste-to-energy solution for waste within the garment sector
  - An air quality assessment firm being contracted- to conduct assessments **from Oct to Dec 2019**
- Organize a challenge fund to test and promote new business for plastic recycling/organic waste
  - Draft background research papers on plastic recycling & organic composting to be ready **in Sep**
  - Challenge fund will be organized for **2020** due to immediate priorities for plastic interventions

## 3. Strategic communication for plastic actions **ongoing** (see the next slide)

## 4. Development of enabling policies and measures

- Develop additional regulations on plastic/recycling (see the next slide)
- Formulate a draft circular economy policy **in 2020**

# Project's support for plastic interventions

## 1. Research on Plastics, the Challenges and Solutions

- Completed reviews of regulations on plastic straws and food packaging and a review of the plastic bag fee implementation in Cambodia, **in August**
- Ongoing research on plastic recycling and organic composting for Cambodia to be completed **in September**

## 2. Develop Policy Measures on Single-Use Plastics and Promote Alternatives

- Proposed initial policy recommendations for plastic straws, food packaging and plastic bags **in August**
- Support development of new regulations on single use plastic along with recommendations for alternatives **in 2019/2020**

## 3. Raise Awareness on Plastic Pollution

- Developed draft outreach materials including poster for the government, schools and supermarkets **in August**
- Government-led plastic interventions (e.g. internal policy on plastic use).
- Use innovative communication platforms and tools (e.g. Facebook, video and concerts) to change consumer behaviours.
  - ASEAN Environment ministerial meeting **in October**
  - Creative cartoons, music videos to be produced **in November**
  - Plastic conscious concert during the water festival, **11-13 November**
  - Plastic conscious food festival in **25-27 November**

## 4. Facilitate Joint Action Through Stakeholder Engagement

- Organize a national forum on plastic in **late October/early November**

## 5. Support Plastic Recycling and Alternative Business Development

- Implement a pilot activity for grass straws as an alternative for plastic straw **from Sep to December**
- Organize a business challenge **in 2020** (proposed to shift it to 2020, due to many immediate priorities as presented above)

# Proposed changes

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## Output 2: Circular Economy

- **Business challenges**
  - This year supports piloting of grass straws as an alternative to plastic straws
  - Business challenges for organic composting and recycling will be facilitated in 2020



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# Output 3: Solar Energy

**H.E. VICTOR Jona**

**Director General, General Department of Energy (GDE)**

**Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)**

# Status: Solar

## 1. Solar energy for improving energy access/energy supply and increasing resilience of rural communities (MME, UNDP, EnergyLab)

- Identification and procurement of most contextually suitable off-grid solar technologies, improving energy access for approx. 200 people in rural communities. **On track for Q2 2020.**
- Clean Energy and Agriculture Incubation Program. **Launched with EnergyLab on 26 August 2019. Hackathon, Pre-Incubation and Incubation program, from now to December 2020.**

## 2. Building technical capacity for installation of solar, and maintenance (MME)

- Training of 20 engineers/technicians on design, installation and after-sales maintenance for off-grid solar energy. **Facilitated by MME – In progress for conducting in 2019 and 2020.**

## 3. Strategic communication and awareness raising (MME, UNDP)

- Raise awareness and prepare communication materials, with particular focus on women and other vulnerable groups within communities. **(Easy-to-read infographic Solar energy in Cambodia booklet published in both English and Khmer in August 2019 - further awareness raising planned in 2019 and 2020).**

## 4. Development of scaling-up strategies including programming and new partnership (UNDP)

- (consultants to) prepare project concept notes and proposals for scaling up (e.g. on solar water pumping) **Ongoing. Solar Water Pumping proposal submitted in Q2 2019. Most activities planned for 2020.**

# Output 3.4. Support for the development of enabling policies and measures for solar energy

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## A) An Economic Appraisal of the Potentials of Photovoltaic Solar Energy in Cambodia

- As follow up on 'Derisking Renewable Energy Investment-study' with planned launch date in October: comprehensive study to model the impacts of investing in solar energy in Cambodia. Includes appraisals of externalities and assessment of economic impacts. As requested by MME, study will be aligned as much as possible with Renewable Energy Plan. **Started Q1 2019, expected to be launched Q1 2020.**
- Establishment of a Technical Working Group (TWG) for study – (MME, MoE, NCSD, MEF/SNEC, EDC, EAC) **Launched April 2019 – 3 meetings so far**

## B) Study on the policies and measures to address power shortages during dry season

- Policy paper with recommendations on addressing power shortages in the short-term. **Provided to the TWG in July 2019**

## C) Providing Technical Assistance to TWG members on solar energy regulations

- Financial modeling of scenarios with policy recommendations. **April –September 2019**

## D) Developing 'Solar guideline' for off-grid solar technologies

- Develop national guideline on off-grid solar technologies (conducted by international and national consultants). Workshops, consultations, and dissemination of information on solar guideline. **Will start in Q3/Q4 2019. To be completed Q2 2020.**

# Proposed changes

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## Output 3: Solar Energy

- **Output 3.1:** It is proposed to reduce the number of households to be reached with solar system(s) under output 3.1 from **200 to 100** (and female headed households from **50 to 25**). Target is not realistic given the high costs of realizing such system(s) in remote locations in Cambodia (also based on lessons-learned under CCCA project).
- **Output 3.4.** On request of MME it is proposed to include: “Preparation of a guideline on solar home systems” in output 3.4. Part of budget from output 3.5 is allocated to this activity.
- **Output 3.4:** Unexpected power shortages during dry season 2019, increased interest in ways to mitigate shortages. More interest in “Economic Appraisal of the Potentials of Photovoltaic Solar Energy in Cambodia”- study and related policy work.

=> It is proposed to add an indicator to the logframe of the project: indicator 3.7 “Studies and papers prepared to support RGC in evidence-based policy making towards a balanced, low-carbon intensive energy mix with a secure supply of power”. (*Target: “Economic appraisal of the potentials of Photovoltaic Solar Energy in Cambodia”-study finalised by Q1 2020*). (Budget for contractor/consultants is coming from UNDP. Salary costs partly from BESD).

# Update on Risks

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- Programme inputs (funds, human resources, etc.) are not mobilized in a timely fashion
- It took a long time for responsible partners to open a bank account resulting in delays in fund transfer and implementation
- Budget allocated for some outputs seem unrealistic, for example 200 households benefit from solar energy



# Key strategies to ensure timely implementation

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- **Project Manager (Sony) and Assistant (Sreykhuoch)** will spend at least two days a week at the Ministry of Environment/NCDD-S to provide timely support for the implementation
- **Long Term Appointments (LTAs):** national communication, international waste management experts, energy experts are now available
- **NCSD now set up a project team-** comprised by 1) director, 2) coordinator, 3) admin and finance assistants and Government funded PMU (2 staff)
- **Grant Implementation Guidelines** Training (Sep. 6<sup>th</sup>) -> **clearer roles/responsibilities and fund disbursement**
- Letter of Agreements (LoAs) with responsible departments will be fully implemented from September/October
- **Additional support from the following staff** for specific areas (part-time)
  - Intl Climate Change and Environmental specialist (funded separately by Sweden) for Output 1 & 2 (~10%)
  - Intl junior Environment and Circular Economy consultant for Output 1 & 2 (100%)
  - Intl junior Energy and Clean Tech consultant (funded by UNDP) for Output 2 & 3 (~10%)

# Thank you for your attention

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