

3rd Project Board Meeting

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

13 March 2020

RAFFLES HOTEL LE ROYAL

About the project

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

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

The project designs and tests *innovative* environmentally sustainable models in targeted areas.

Based on project results, workable models are identified for scaling up.

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. Keo Bunly
Finance assistant: Ms. Ly Rattanakserey
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 – Vacant 40%)
National technical specialists
(SB5 – Mr. Sony Oum (80%); SB4 – Mr. Visal Veng (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/GSSD
Industry: H&M
Academia: RUPP
Regulations: GDEP, DGE

Component 3: Solar PV
Responsible party: MME

Technical : GDE/MME, DGE/GSSD,
MoE, MEF, SEAC (Terminated)
Innovation: EnergyLab

Decisions of the 2nd board meeting

No	Items	Status
1	The Project Board and implementing partners agreed to approve the budget revisions as well as proposed changes to the Project Document as presented during the meeting, with draft minutes and detailed budget revision to be made available via email	The budget revisions including detailed budget revisions were approved by the board.
2	If the budget is revised less than 10% among each component, the team can make these changes as it is within the limits of the project document, but the board should be informed in writing to track a record of those changes.	<p>This decision regarding less than 10 % has been implemented.</p> <p>Detailed information to track a record of changes shared to the board.</p>
3	Reducing targets and the new budget lines will not impact the overall project goal, therefore they should be acceptable.	The board accepted these changes
4	No further Project Board Meetings to be proposed for the year	This was implemented. No more board meeting in 2019.

Overall Project Status

Third Project Board Meeting: Main update (13.Mar.20)

- Completed all administrative procedures required to set up the project and ready for full implementation from September/October onward
- International environmental expert (Mr. Leif Holmberg) acted as an interim Energy Advisor (December 2019 - March 2020), and a new Advisor will be on board in April
- New National Project Coordinator based in NCSD joined in March 2020

Watch the BESD Video for 2019 summary result





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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)



Key update Sustainable NRM & Community Livelihoods

1. Creation and strengthening of CPA networks

- Strengthened the capacity of a total of 183 Community Protected Areas (CPA) members (37 female) through networking and training events

2. CBNRM pilot support for Kulen Mountain

- Installed 101 demarcation poles in Prasat Krahorm watershed and Archeological Protected Area (APA)

Lessons learned and Priorities 2020

Lessons learned

- Networking and capacity building events created a crucial opportunity for CPAs to share issues and concerns
- Important to closely align project priorities with government priorities to increase ownership and support in NRM activities

Priorities for 2020

- Review/redevelop 5 CPA by-laws, official registration and declaration (MoE Prakas)
- Develop CPA Management Plans
- Organize CPA network meeting, forum and workshop
- Provide targeted capacity building for CPAs in coordination with PDoE to develop technical skills on joint patrolling, minute and report writing, NRM and REDD+/PES Concept



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Output 1: Natural Resource Management (NRM)

Output 1.2: Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)

H.E. MENG Monyrak

Deputy Director General,

General Secretariat of Sustainable Development (GSSD),

National Council of Sustainable Development (NCSD)



Key update

Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)

1. **Research completed** on Kulen and Kbal Chay regarding PES options, water assessment, and willingness to pay/donate in Kulen
2. **National Dialogue on PES conducted** in September 2019
3. **Policy development**
 - Identified funding and benefit sharing mechanisms
 - Studied procedures in collecting PES fees and fund management
 - Policy options for fund management

Lessons learned and Priorities 2020

Lessons learned

- Water demand has dramatically increased due to urbanization and department, especially in Sihanoukville, and Siem Reap
- Water supply shortage is caused by fragile ecosystem function and watershed change
- Need for a immediate action and policy support to operationalize PES mechanism
- Feasible PES implementation should follow REDD+ modality
- PES is nature-based solutions to support sustainable development and livelihood improvement
- PES is one of the best options for biodiversity financing and socioeconomic development
- PES shall be operationalised through 1) participation and agreement from buyers and sellers, 2) PES policy support

Priorities for 2020

- Develop joint *Prakas* for fee collection in compliance with the Council of Minister's Solution on PES Pilot sites in Kbal Chhay and Phnom Kulen
- Water consuming fees from commercial users
- Conduct consultations with relevant national and subnational governments and ecosystem buyers and sellers
- Pilot PES mechanism in Kbal Chhay and Phnom Kulen

Watch the NRM Video



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)

Key update

Circular Economy: Municipal and Industrial pilot



1. Circular Economy Pilot in Kep - Municipality level

- Participated in an exchange trip on SWM in Kampong Cham on 10 October 2019
- Incorporated circular economy model (3Rs) in the Kep 3-year rolling plan for 2020

2. Circular Economy Pilot - Industrial level

- Conducted air quality assessment of a new waste-to-energy solution (on-site incinerator) within the garment sector and reviewed operation procedures and fuel inputs

Lessons learned and Priorities 2020

Lessons learned

- **Municipal pilot:** Need to work closely with GGGI and Asia Foundation to create a workable CE model for a small city like Kep for replication --> need to rework a work
- **Industrial pilot** of on-site waste to energy: Identified the critical need to institute measures to control safety and operation guidelines for on-site incinerator installation and maintenances

Priorities 2020

- **Municipal pilot:** Develop a workable circular economy model for a small city like Kep for replication (NCDDS)
- **Industrial pilot:** Develop a monitoring mechanism/guidelines for on-site incinerators (SWMD)

Output 2: Circular Economy

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)



Key update

Plastic & CE Interventions

Key interventions led by the Taskforce on plastic

- Awareness raising
- Research & policy development
- Stakeholder engagement

5 WAYS TO REDUCE PLASTIC



1 REFUSE

One-single use plastic bottles, plastic cups, plastic straws, expanded polystyrene (EPS) food containers or plates



2 REDUCE

Install a water dispenser and use eco bags



3 REUSE/REPLACE

Reusable bottles, cups, bags, food containers, and straws (bamboo or stainless)



4 RECYCLE

Dispose plastic waste in the recycle bins



5 REMIND

tell others to follow 4Rs above



Strategic communication for awareness raising



Research and Policy Development

▪ Research

- 2 rapid assessments on regulation for plastic straws and Styrofoam
- 3 draft research reports on recycling and waste to energy
- 2 research reports on the food and beverage sector as well as wet markets

▪ Policy

- Draft recommendations for regulations on single-use plastic
- Draft national policy on waste management
- Draft joint *Prakas* on the expanded scope of Sub-decree 168
- Draft Guidelines on small scale (village-based) incinerator installation and usage
- Initial draft recommendations for CE priorities

Stakeholder Engagement



- **Kep and Kampong Cham Campaign**
- **RUPP student-led plastic campaigns**, mobilized more than 300 students
- **National forum on plastic** mobilized over 130 participants and built a strategic coalition of to promote the shared goal of combatting plastic waste

Lessons learned

■ Waste management & CE policies

- A comprehensive approach, which covers the entire waste value chain, is required to tackle waste management problems—this can be applied for creating a CE business model
- Awareness raising is a prerequisite before implementing regulations
- Strategic communication is key to outreach a wider segment of a society
- Provision of alternatives to plastic is crucial for Cambodia to shift towards a more plastic free society



Priorities 2020

■ CE policy

- Develop a national Circular Economy Roadmap to identify priorities to take a comprehensive approach to tackle waste challenges (DGE)
- Develop a sub-decree on single-use plastic straws and Styrofoam (foam packaging) (DGE & SWMD)
- Amend the expansion of Sub-decree 168 for mini-marts (DGE/SWMD)

■ Awareness raising

- Organize circular economy/plastic campaign and market research on plastic bags (DGE)
- Develop educational materials on Solid Waste Management (SWMD)

Watch the Circular Economy (SWM) Video





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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)



Key update Solar Energy

1. **Provision of solar energy for 100 off-grid households:** Final report on site and technology selection ready for providing off-grid solar technologies, and improving energy access investment
2. **Support for business innovation:** Clean Energy and Agriculture Incubation Program launched with EnergyLab in October 2020
3. **Building technical capacity for solar:** Training of 20 engineers/technicians on design, installation and maintenance for off-grid solar energy in February 2020
4. **Awareness raising:** Solar energy in Cambodia booklet containing infographics drafted in 2019 and awareness raising workshop conducted in January 2020

Key update on policy

4. Research and policy development for mainstreaming solar:

- Economic Appraisal of the Potentials of Photovoltaic Solar Energy in Cambodia with establishment of a Technical Working Group for the study – (MME, MoE, NCSD, MEF/SNEC, EDC, EAC) completed in April 2019
- A brief analysis was produced in December 2019
- Consultative Workshop on Solar Home System (SHS) Guideline for Cambodia conducted in November 2019
- Draft national guideline on off-grid solar technologies completed in February 2020.

Lessons learned and Priorities 2020

Lessons learned

- Existing energy related regulations hinder opportunities for mainstreaming solar into national energy mix
- Need for convincing economic case to highlight the importance of solar
- Budget allocated for providing energy for off-grid 100 households is too small

Priorities for 2020

- Make convincing economic cases for solar through the completion of the economic appraisal study
- Study visit to Sweden for key decision makers to learn about benefits of renewable energy
- Improve energy access for 100 households in rural communities suitable off-grid solar technologies
- Complete business support for 4 selected teams
- Raise awareness about solar
- Finalize solar home system (SHS) guidelines, and off-grid solar technologies

Watch the Solar Energy Video



Update on Risks

- Delays in project inception phase and fund transfer led to delays in implementing activities
- Budget allocated for some outputs were unrealistic
- Institutional capacity arrangements do not match with the required deliverables timeframe
- P5 “Technical Advisor on Energy” – vacant from December 2019 to March 2020.

Key strategies

- **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 Agreements (LTAs):** national communication, international waste management experts, (back-up) energy experts are now available
- **NCSD set up a PMU:** 1) coordinator, 2) admin and finance assistants (2 staff) and 3) Government funded Project Manager, reporting to Project Director.
- **Grant Implementation Guidelines Training (Sep. 6th) & Regular technical meetings**
- **Letter of Agreements (LoAs)** with responsible departments were co-signed and being implemented with hybrid and formal models

Key strategies

- **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 (~10-30%) – back-up for the vacant Energy Expert
 - Intl junior Environment and Circular Economy consultant for Output 1 & 2 (90%)
 - Intl junior Energy and Clean Tech consultant (funded by UNDP) for Output 2 & 3 (~10%) until late October 2019
 - Accelerator Labs team (funded by UNDP), partially supported to test some activities in Output 2
 - Strategic communication officer(s) (funded by Sweden and UNDP), supporting the project (< 50%)
 - SB4 – NRM and Environment Officer (funded by UNDP) for Output 1 (< 30%)

Lessons Learned

- The BESD project activities have been instrumental in testing new approaches and innovation in the areas of NRM, waste management and energy
- Building institutional capacity of relevant governments is conducive to sustaining activities beyond the project duration
- Selecting a service provider with adequate staffing and work time dedicated for a project is critical. Selection of a service provider without these resulted in little implementation
- Strategic communication is key to outreach a wider segment of a society
- Aligning BESD project plans with the priorities of implementing partners will increase their ownership and buy-in
- Open communication and prior notification among board members and donor is key to enhance understanding of project issues and challenges and improve the project's ability to address project roadblocks in a timely manner
- An annual learning event is key to engage implementing partners, share common goals, express challenges and integrate identified priorities into planning within the landscape

Thank you for your attention

