



CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION

EDUCATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE SUPPORTS LONG TERM CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

The government of Cambodia has taken concrete measures to respond to climate change through the development of policies, strategic plans and intervention programmes aimed at strengthening institutional, human and technical capacity. Investment in human capacity and education on climate change is amongst the top priorities set forth in the Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP).

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEY), with support from

Department of Climate Change (DCC) and Cambodia Climate Change Alliance (CCCA), has been implementing its 2014-2018 Climate Change Action Plan for Education to improve integration of climate change subjects into the national education curriculum. The project known as “Mainstreaming Climate Change in Education” aims at improving the knowledge of education officers, teachers, and secondary school students on climate change. The project also supports basic

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Training of Trainer tests students on the climate change textbook for secondary school in February 7, 2018 at Kampong Chhnang Province’s Hun Sen Toek Phos High School

INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE DIALOGUES

BONN AT THE CENTER OF GLOBAL DISCUSSIONS

A global conversation about efforts to combat climate change where both parties and non-party stakeholders are involved will take place at the Bonn Climate Change Conference, from 30 April to 10 May 2018, in Germany.

Delegates will be working hard to finalize the necessary details to make the Paris Agreement operational and to convene another session of the Talanoa Dialogues,

a mechanism mentioned in the last issue of this newsletter.

For those who are regular participants at UNFCCC Bonn meetings, they would know that Conference will be hosting the 48th sessions of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies for Implementation (SBI 48) and for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 48), as well as the fifth part of the first session of the Ad

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EDITOR’S NOTE

Dear Readers,

We would like to welcome you to this issue of the Climate Change Newsletter. We intend to bring this newsletter to you every quarter to reflect on the new climate policy developments in Cambodia and to keep you updated on the work being conducted by Department of Climate Change at the General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development. Every other quarter, we will be sharing interesting examples of the work being done by many partners and communities to respond to climate change. We are counting on you, dear reader, to join us as a regular or occasional contributor – your Voices from the Ground are essential to the newsletter’s success and to our work as climate change practitioners.

EDITORIAL BOARD

This newsletter is prepared, edited and produced by Department of Climate Change of the General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development with technical assistance from Cambodia Climate Change Alliance.

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EDUCATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE SUPPORTS LONG ...

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climate change mitigation and adaptation practices in the education sector to help consolidate knowledge acquired and to contribute to attitudinal changes in targeted schools and respective communities. Key activities supporting climate change mainstreaming work into formal education include:

- ▶ Development of a Climate Change Textbook for secondary schools, grades 10 to 12. The textbook is composed of 7 lessons and covers the following subjects: climate system and earth's energy balance; anthropogenic effects to climate system, climate change evidence and climate change impacts; and climate change vulnerability and climate change response. The textbook has already been tested in 10 secondary schools, and it will be reviewed in the upcoming national consultation workshop in April 2018, where comprehensive inputs from sectoral ministries/agencies will be collected, before its launching later this year.
- ▶ Integration of climate change concepts into the "Earth Science and Environment" subject as a long-term strategy for awareness raising on climate change. While the MoEYS is updating nationwide curriculum outlines, parts of the CC textbook will feed into the national curriculum outline for Earth Sciences and Environment, so that these concepts

will be taught without delay in schools throughout Cambodia.

- ▶ Demonstration of basic climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives in selected eco-schools, including vegetable gardening demonstrating wise use of resources, water storage tanks, hand washing facilities built as part of the Child Friendly School of MoEYS activities. To further engage students, the project supports the establishment of student eco-clubs in each school, promoting their involvement in climate change mitigation and adaptation activities.

Even though the project will end soon (September 2018), MoEYS will continue to build on the work started to increasingly strengthen individual and institutional capacities to address climate change.



Group discussion on providing feedbacks to the climate change textbook in February 7, 2018 at Kampong Chhnang Province's Hun Sen Toek Phos High School

PRIORITIZED ADAPTATION PROJECTS ENHANCE FUNDING MOBILIZATION

DCC, together with the cross-sectoral adaptation working group of the Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR), and the support from ADB SPCR's Mainstreaming Climate Resilience into Development Planning Technical Assistance (MCRDP-TA Package A), has facilitated during the last two years the development of feasibility studies for six adaptation projects covering agriculture, water resources, urban development and transport sector. This work involved series of consultations with relevant ministries, the concerned provincial authorities and local communities, and also included analyses and preliminary measures to address social safeguards, environment, gender and social inclusion.

At a consultation workshop held on 28 March, national and sub-national representatives from key ministries have reviewed feasibility studies of the six adaptation projects and scored them against international climate change fund criteria, with their final ranking resulting in the selection of three projects which will receive funding for their implementation:

- ▶ Battambang Western Greenbelt Adaptation Project, Battambang Province. This project is expected to reduce economic and social losses from flood and drought, increase and stabilize agriculture incomes, and improve the health status and amenity access of Battambang's



Deputy Secretary General, H.E. E Vuthy, gives remarks during the consultation workshop in Mar 21, 2018 in Phnom Penh

residents in the face of climate change (focusing on eight urban and peri-urban communes).

- ▶ Climate-Smart Infrastructure and Agriculture Project, Tboung Khmum Province. This project will lead to reduced vulnerability to climate change of critical systems (natural and societal) and of people, in particular the most vulnerable groups residing in flood- and drought-affected districts such as Dambae, Tboung Khmum and Krouch Chhmar.
- ▶ Livelihood Resilience Improvement Project, Kampong Chhnang Province. This project will enhance resilience of vulnerable populations and critical systems (natural and

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INVESTING IN RURAL LIVELIHOODS RESILIENCE: SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO SUB-NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIONS

Sub-national administrations (SNAs) face a severe shortage of development resources, which is exacerbated by the open-ended nature of their development plans. SNAs have very limited capacity either to raise revenues locally (they have no tax-raising powers nor other own revenue sources) or to mobilize external support.

Various types of earmarked support can be used to finance activities within the local development plans but this is dependent on allocations from projects or NGO programmes that are outside the influence of the SNAs themselves. Therefore, the only development resource that SNAs consistently receive and can apply to development planning priorities (including those related to climate change) are the general fiscal transfers for development through the Commune/Sangkat Fund (CSF) and the District/Municipality Fund (DMF). However, CSF and DMF are formula-based discretionary transfers that do not include any performance element.

The NCDD-S pilot of earmarked climate change adaptation (CCA) financing through Performance Based Climate Resilience Grants (PBCRG), set up in 2012 with the technical assistance from UNCDF, has provided District-level funding through an approach that creates incentives for CCA performance. So far, PBCRG has benefited a total of 42 districts (8 Districts through LGCC, 24 under ASPIRE and 10 under SRL project).

Though progress has been made, and funds regularly disbursed to Districts, more work needs to be done on making this system fully effective. Needed improvements include better



District officials identifies beneficiaries and vulnerability in March 2018 at Kampong Thom Province's Ngorn commune

performance measurement to align incentives with effective CCA action and capacity developed. The pilots measured District performance against a standardized set of indicators (rather than individually set targets) and used the resulting scores as a basis for basic allocation as well as incentive for the participating districts.

To access to the PBCR grant, districts and its constituent commune have been assessed whether or not they are eligible to take part in the application process. The eligible communes then submit their priority CCA projects to districts. With support from provincial team, each district administration organizes district meeting to prioritize and select the top 4-5 projects for the PBCR grant using the set agreed criteria. The selected projects are consolidated and submitted to NCDDS for further review and endorsement before making commitment and fund transferred.

INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE DIALOGUES

BONN AT THE CENTER OF GLOBAL DISCUSSIONS

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Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA 1-5).

Each of the groups will be working through their heavy agendas, discussing issues regarding the implementation of National Determined Contributions (NDCs); guidance on adaptation communication; modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support; compliance issues; the Global Stocktake; or issues related to research, development and transfer of technologies. Matters relating to vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, to the Paris Agreement Article 6 on cooperative approaches, or the modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions in accordance with Paris Agreement Article 9 (support to developing countries) will also be discussed.

The Bonn Climate Change Conference is also an opportunity for delegations to learn. A number of meetings and workshops will be held, including the meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity Building, workshop on gender and climate change, and the



Delegates gather for the APA Stocktake at the past Fiji Bonn Climate Change Conference 2017

workshop on ways of enhancing the implementation of education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information to enhance actions of the Paris Agreement.

Each of these discussions and workshops will hopefully bring more clarity on the resources and mechanisms available and in the making for scaling up climate change response at home.

For those readers of this newsletter who do not directly participate in these meetings, the next issue will contain highlights of the most relevant developments for Cambodia's climate change work.

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PRIORITIZED ADAPTATION PROJECTS ENHANCE ...

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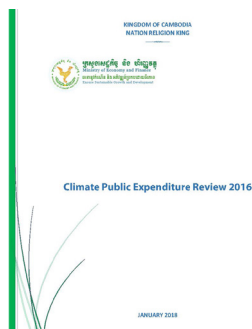
societal) in Kampong Leng district by increasing resilience of the agricultural value chain, including production, transport, market access and services in the district.

Three other projects were also considered – 1) Damnak Chheukrom Irrigation Adaptation Project in Battambang and Pursat Provinces; 2) Adaptive Water Management for Agriculture in Prey Veng Province; and 3) Adaptation through Commercialized

Agriculture Pilot Project in Kampong Thom Province – but these will be awaiting additional funding opportunities.

Though the projects in Battambang, Tboung Khmum and Kampong Chhnang received top ranking, SPCR Technical Assistance team will need to work with relevant ministries and potential implementation agencies, as well as organizations accredited with target climate change funds to review these projects against two additional criteria – commitment of executing agency to support proposal development and interest from an accredited climate financing agency – before a final decision on financing is made.

NEW PUBLICATIONS



Climate Public Expenditure Review 2016

<http://www.camclimate.org.kh/en/documents-and-media/library/category/39-financing.html?download=894:894>



Video on a Second Study on Understanding Public Perception of Climate Change in Cambodia – Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP2 Video)

<http://www.camclimate.org.kh/en/ccd/dcc-news/443-443.html>

UP-COMING PUBLICATIONS

Report on Modelling of Climate Change Impacts on Economic Growth

Ministry of Economy and Finance and the National Council for Sustainable Development have developed a tailored model to estimate the impacts of climate change on economic growth in Cambodia, and to the options for reducing that impact and maintaining growth targets. Findings from the study confirm that climate change has significant impact on the economy, with results showing a steady increase in impact leading to a 10% reduction in absolute GDP by 2050, under the headline scenario where global rise in temperatures is kept below 2°C by 2100 and Cambodia maintains current levels of investment in climate change adaptation. The study also shows that up to two thirds of this damage could be avoided with a set of improved policies and better prioritized spending on adaptation. The report is expected to be officially published in April 2018.

UP-COMING EVENTS

Apr: Training workshop on climate change vulnerability, impact and adaptation assessment
 Apr: National consultation workshop on climate change textbook for secondary school
 Apr: Dissemination workshop on modeling climate change impact on economic growth in Cambodia
 May: Training workshop on climate change mainstreaming to

commune investment program
 Jun: Knowledge sharing event for CCAP implementing by CCCA grantees
 Jun: Climate change training of PP City Hall staff
 Jun: CCTWG meeting with climate change development partners
 Jun: Climate Change Public Event sponsored by Sweden on the integration of NDC in national development plans.

For most updated climate change response related events or publications, keep following us at www.camclimate.org.kh

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