

Climate Change Bulletin

JAN-APRIL 2020



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Cambodia to join the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) 1
- A new solar farm hooks into national grid 1
- The NDCs of Cambodia will be updated in 2020 2
- A Sub-Decree on Rules and Procedures for Participation in GHG Emissions Reduction Mechanisms 4
- Cambodia to submit the First Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC 4
- 1st Programme Executive Board Meeting of the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance-Phase 3 5
- Third Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices Survey on Climate Change in Cambodia (KAP3) 5
- Vehicle tax policy to promote low carbon transportation 6
- Enhancing Climate Science Basis of Green Climate Fund (GCF) Funded Activities in Cambodia 6

UP-COMING EVENTS

- June 6

TOP NEWS

Cambodia to join the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has established a capacity building initiative to support developing countries to meet enhanced transparency requirements in their response to the Paris Agreement. In order to enhance capacity in the carbon management in the agriculture and land use sectors, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), in collaboration with the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD), the Ministry of Environment, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) launched a new project called “Strengthening capacity in the agriculture and land use sectors for enhanced transparency in implementation and monitoring of Cambodia’s Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)” which runs until 2022. The project aims to strengthen agriculture and land use sector components, including inventories of emissions sources and sinks and information necessary to track progress against priority actions identified in Cambodia’s NDC for these sectors. Read more: <http://www.fao.org/cambodia/news/rss/detail-events/en/c/1273723/>

A new solar farm hooks into national grid

The newest solar farm in Kampong Chhnang province has increased Cambodia’s solar power capacity to 150MW out of a total 410MW in solar power investment projects approved by the government. Read more: <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/business/>

The NDCs of Cambodia will be updated in 2020

The 2015 Paris Climate Agreement establishes five-year cycles to increase ambition in carbon emissions reduction through NDCs. Countries with an NDCs time frame up to 2025 will communicate new NDCs, and countries with a time frame up to 2030 will update their NDCs in 2020. The Royal Government of Cambodia is committed to revising her first NDCs with a time frame up to 2030. The government recognizes that ambitious actions are urgently needed to address the global climate crisis. Therefore, the updated NDCs will put forward efforts that go beyond current national climate plans and bring the activities closer to the Paris Agreement's goals of decarbonizing economies and improving resilience.

The process of updating the NDCs includes four main steps:

- **Step 1:** Review of the country progress in responding to climate change in accordance to the first NDC submitted in 2015;
- **Step 2:** Set of specific sectoral targets for mitigation and adaptation actions, and financial needs for the implementation in the short- and long-term;
- **Step 3:** Development of a transparency framework which includes gender dimension, youth involvement and private sector engagement to track implementation of the updated NDCs; and
- **Step 4:** Compilation of NDCs for submission

to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) with a clear country goal, specific methodologies for mitigation and adaption actions, estimated financial needs and specific time frame for the implementation.

Since the NDCs update launching meeting in March 2020, the work has so far reached the Step 2 and most of the sectors have submitted their initial actions and estimated financial costs. In the third quarter of 2020, the Climate Change Technical Working Group meeting will be organized to validate the sectoral actions for the final updated NDCs report. Based on the progress made, Cambodia will be able to submit the revised NDCs to the UNFCCC in October 2020.

In order to coordinate the overall NDCs process and ensure alignment between the ministerial processes for contributing climate change action plans to the NDCs, the DCC of the General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development (GSSD) and the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance- Phase 3 (CCCA3) have worked together with the specified NDC support providers such as the World Bank, GGGI, AFD, UNDP, UN Women, FAO, and UNICEF during the update process. Subsequent consultations to ensure strong engagement of the key sectors have been organized during the second quarter of 2020.

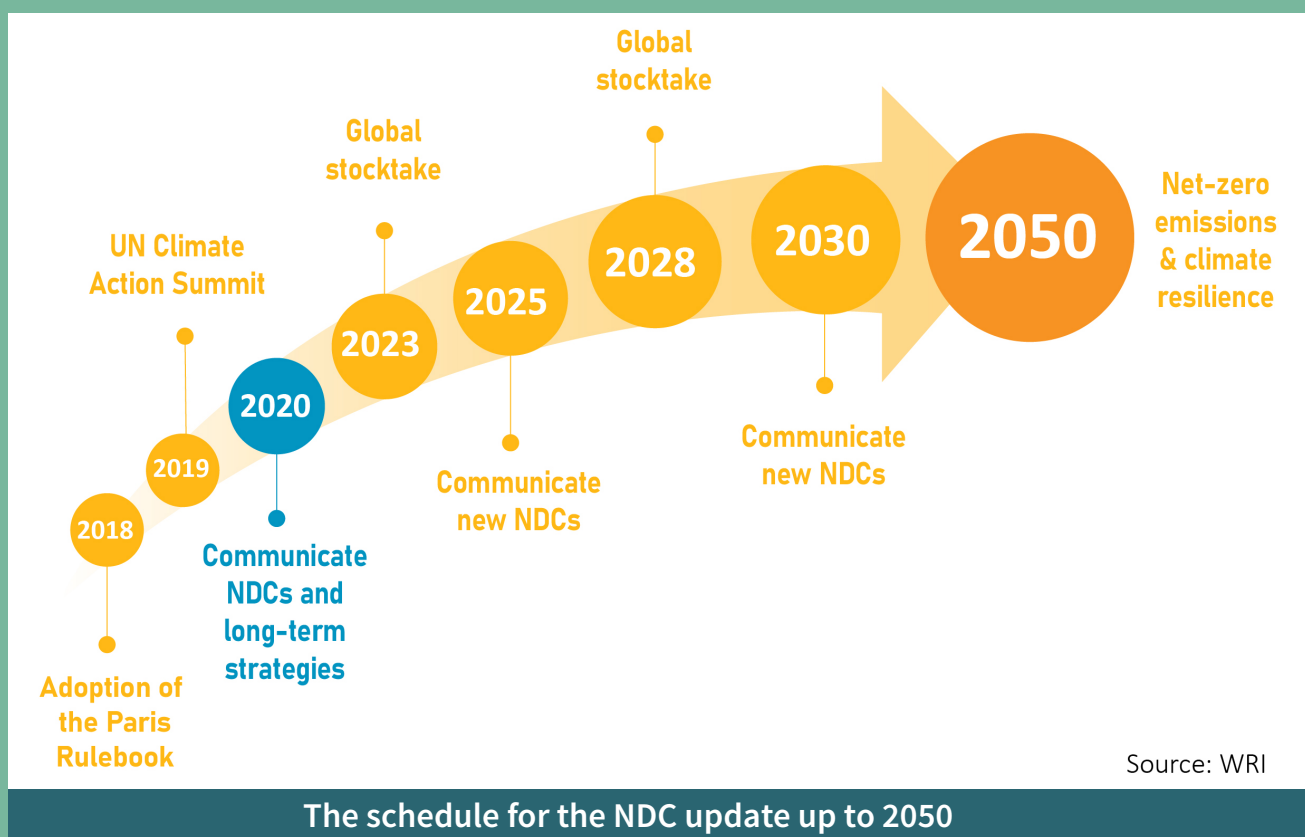


The NDCs update process was initiated in March with participation of 72 representatives from members of the Climate Change Technical Working Group (CCTWG), development partners, academia, NGOs, and observers.

NDCs FACT SHEET

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) process under the Paris Agreement

- ▶ The Paris agreement (2015) aims to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels;
- ▶ NDCs identify the post-2020 national climate targets, including mitigation and adaptation. The NDCs process is the central element for implementing the Paris Agreement;
- ▶ Cambodia's first NDCs document was submitted in September 2015, which includes both GHG mitigation and adaptation targets;
- ▶ Cambodia ratified the Paris Agreement in April 2017;
- ▶ According to the first NDCs submitted, Cambodia aims to reduce her GHG emissions of 27% by 2030 compared to the business as usual (BAU) scenario;
- ▶ All countries are encouraged to submit news updated NDCs by 2020 and every five years thereafter; and
- ▶ In 2020 Cambodia will revisit her first NDCs submitted in 2015 and submit a revised NDCs document by October.



Source: WRI

References: - UNFCCC, 2020

A Sub-Decree on Rules and Procedures for Participation in GHG Emissions Reduction Mechanisms

Cambodia has adopted a few greenhouse gases emissions (GHG) reduction mechanisms such as the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) to benefit from emissions reduction efforts. Currently, there are several programmes and initiatives accessing carbon credit benefits through these mechanisms.

However, the joint legal framework to manage all programmes and initiatives properly could ensure that the measures cover the ownership and taxes regarding the quantity of carbon credits and the quantity of GHG emissions. Therefore, the NCSd is proposing the Royal Government of Cambodia to develop a Sub-Decree in order to manage various emissions reduction mechanisms and initiatives.

On 24th February 2020, the GSSD organized a consultation meeting on the draft Sub-Decree on Rules and Procedures for Participation in GHG Emissions Reduction Mechanisms at the Ministry of Environment. The meeting was chaired by **H.E. Tin Ponlok**, Secretary General of the GSSD with participation of representatives from line-ministries

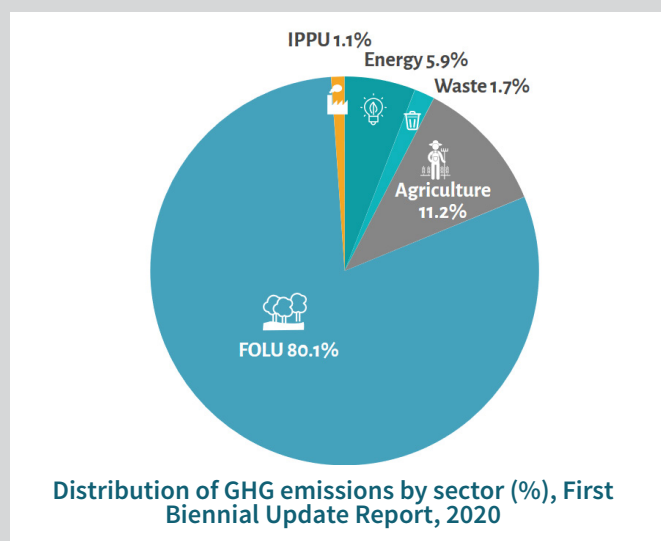


The Consultation Meeting on Draft Sub-Decree on Rules and Procedures for Participation in GHG Emission Reduction Mechanisms, 24th February 2020, Ministry of Environment

and agencies, private sector, NGOs, and development partners. At the meeting, useful comments were received from stakeholders working on carbon credit schemes of the GHG emissions reduction.

Currently, the technical review team from the DCC/GSSD is revising the draft Sub-Decree based on the comments received. Once a consensus on the draft Sub-Decree has been reached, the Decree will be approved by the Prime Minister, **Samdach Techo Hun Sen**.

Cambodia to submit the First Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC



Non-Annex I Parties, including Cambodia, shall update the UNFCCC on the country's status regarding emissions every two years in the Biennial Update Report (BUR). The BUR contains updates of national GHG inventories, including a national inventory report and information on mitigation actions, needs and support received. The inventory covers the following sectors: energy; industrial processes and product use (IPPU); agriculture,

forestry and other land use (AFOLU); and waste. The BUR follows the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and the inventory year of the First BUR of Cambodia is 2016.

In Cambodia, the process of the First BUR development started in 2017 and it included several consultations, workshops, meetings, and discussions with all key sectors and stakeholders. In January 2020, the GSSD with the support from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) organized a final consultation workshop to collect final inputs and reach a consensus on the draft report. The workshop was chaired by **H.E. Tin Ponlok**, Secretary General of the GSSD with a participation of a total of 53 representatives from key line ministries. Based on the final draft report, Cambodia has potential to reduce the GHG emissions especially from the sectors of energy, transport, industry, and forestry. Now, the report has been endorsed by **H.E. Say Samal**, the Minister of Ministry of Environment and Chair of the NCSd, and it is expected to be submitted to the UNFCCC by the end of June.

1st Programme Executive Board Meeting of the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance-Phase 3



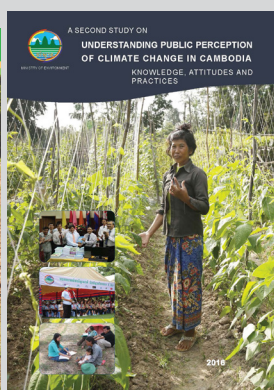
H.E. Say Samal, Minister of Environment and Chairman of the CCCA3, chaired the 1st Programme Executive Board Meeting of the CCCA3, 11th February 2020, Ministry of Environment

The CCCA Phase 3's Executive Board is chaired by **H.E. SAY Samal**, Minister of Environment, and it includes members from the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, the Ministry of Mines and Energy, the Ministry of Rural Development, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, and all three financing partners including the Delegation of the European Union to Cambodia (EU), Embassy of Sweden, and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). On 11th February 2020, **H.E. SAY Samal**, led the 1st Programme Executive Board meeting with participation from all board members and national and international observers from the line ministries and development partners, a total of 31 representatives. At the meeting, the achievements of the CCCA3 implementation in 2019 were presented, and the work plan for 2020 was approved. The main processes for 2020 will include updating the NDC, providing grants for innovative climate solutions, strengthening the M&E framework for climate action, conducting a KAP survey, and building university partnerships to strengthen climate research in Cambodia.

Third Knowledge, Attitude and Practices Study on Climate Change in Cambodia (KAP3)



KAP1



KAP2

In order to understand effectiveness of the nationwide efforts to enhance knowledge, attitude and practices on climate change, a KAP survey has been subsequently conducted in every 5 years. On 9th January 2020, the Department of Climate Change (DCC) of the GSSD organized an inception meeting to kick start the work on the KAP3 study with the BBC Media Action team contracted to conduct the study.

The meeting was chaired by **Dr. Heng Chan Thoeun**, Deputy Director of the DCC, with participation of representatives from the Ministry of Women Affairs, the CCCA3, and the DCC. The meeting introduced research methodologies and approaches that will be used for the study and sought inputs from all participants. The specific objective of the KAP3 is to gather evidence and evaluate changes in knowledge, attitude and practices of Cambodians in relation to climate change. The KAP3 will inform the design of future awareness raising efforts and interventions to engage with different groups of Cambodia's society to be effective agents of change in response to climate challenges. After the inception meeting, the research methodology has been defined and the study team will start conducting interviews at the national and subnational levels in the second quarter of 2020.

Vehicle tax policy to promote low carbon transportation

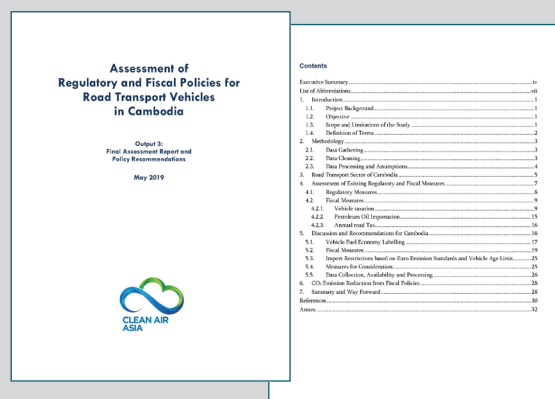
Based on the BUR 2020, trend of emissions from the transport sector increased from 1,892.02 Gg of CO₂eq in 1994 to 5,094.21 Gg of CO₂eq in 2016.

As part of the response to these challenges, the Royal Government of Cambodia has tasked the NCSD to clarify a request for modification of customs tariffs on vehicle taxation for Cambodia. On 17 January 2019, the NCSD established an inter-ministerial working group for coordinating and supporting the development of a vehicle tax policy. The working group includes representatives from the GSSD/NCSD, the Ministry of Mines and Energy, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, and the Ministry of Commerce.

The policy aims to set vehicle taxes for imported vehicles and to promote cleaner vehicles in order to protect the environment and to improve public health. The policy would differentiate tax rates between low carbon/clean vehicles and normal

combustion vehicles. The background study on regulatory and fiscal policies for road transport vehicles conducted reviewed the current vehicle tax and regulatory policies, assessed alternative options, and formulated evidence-based recommendations for policy reforms.

The working group discussed the findings of the study and based on the recommendations, it will develop a report on the suggested adjustments for vehicle imports into the country.



Enhancing the Climate Science Basis of Green Climate Fund (GCF) Funded Activities in Cambodia

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) supports a number of countries including Cambodia to enhance the climate science basis for projects and activities seeking financing from the Green Climate Fund (GCF). In February 2020, the DCC of the GSSD in collaboration with the WMO organized a “National Workshop for the Climate Science Basic of GCF Funded Activities in Cambodia”. The workshop presented relevant tools and methodologies to assess past, present, and potential future climate conditions, which are applicable in the context of Cambodia. The workshop also discussed what institutions and stakeholders need to be involved in the development of the climate science basis and

what support is available. The workshop aimed to develop the climate science basis for a project context in support of priority adaptation and mitigation options, and to expand understanding and knowledge of climate scientific information within the national and regional contexts.



UP-COMING EVENTS

- June 5 : World and National Environment Day
- June 8 : World Ocean Day
- June 17 : World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
- June 29-30 : Annual Staff Retreat of CCCA3

Supported by



General Inquiries:

Department of Climate Change (DCC), the General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development (GSSD), c/o Ministry of Environment (MoE), Morodok Techo Building, Lot 503, Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Khan Chamkarmon, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

☎ (+855) 99 719 161

✉ admin@camclimate.org.kh

🌐 <https://ncsd.moe.gov.kh>

