



SPCR NEWS-Cambodia



General Secretariat of National Council for Sustainable Development
Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR)

Department of Climate Change
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Lessons Learnt from Rural Roads Improvement Project II

Before improve 5 Mekong River Island Roads:

- Local people suffer a lot from the dust
- Cannot use the roads during flooding
- Waiting from 2 weeks to 1 month after flooding in order to use the roads
- Difficult to transport and take time



Current condition of 5 Mekong River Island Roads:

- RC pavement had been selected
- More economic when considering environmental/ life cycle costing
- Resistance to water (submerged roads)
- Road be able to use when the water level less than 2cm above road surface
- Facilitate to roads users
- The problem related dust control had been solved



Village Development Funds and Saving Group Created to Improve Living Conditions

Most people of the Preaek Chik village in Koh Kong province are farmers and fishermen. With poverty, food insecurity and lack of employment options due to climate change, most of them are in debt and unemployed. For farming livelihoods during the rainy season, the villagers plant cucumber, long bean, ridge gourd, eggplant, etc. However, crop and livestock production are hampered by the lack of start-up capital for agriculture investment. Farmers have to borrow money from microfinance institutions with high interest rates and service charges plus onerous collateral requirements.



To promote climate resilient agriculture in Koh Kong and Monduliri provinces, a Village Development Funds and Savings Group was created to help people manage their budgets. This group was formed with the aid of:

- The International Institute of Rural Reconstruction and Cambodian Center for Study and Development

in Agriculture with financial support by the Climate Investment Funds of the Asian Development Bank;

- The Department of Climate Change of the General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development and;
- The Institute of Forestry.

Group members are trained in how to manage team members, business planning, and loan management. By June 2018, the savings group members had increased from 28 to 55 (36 of whom are women), with a total of only 83 households living in this village. “I borrowed 2 million Riel from the Village Development Funds to buy piglets and it was easy to get a loan with low interest rates and simple document requirements,” said Khorn Khay, one of the group’s committee members. Mr. Hang Ren, president of the Village Development Funds and Savings Group, said loans will be used for micro and small enterprises, including agricultural production and marketing. For example, some members have received loans to buy fishing gear, piglets, seeds and groceries. The profit from interest is shared as follows:

- 13% is allocated to committee members;
- 5% is saved for collecting funds;
- 8% is contributed to community forestry to patrol, fight forest fires and plant trees;
- 7% covers administration costs and;
- 67% is paid to members who own the shares.

Eighth SPCR Coordination Team Meeting Held

The Department of Climate Change and the ministries involved in implementing the SPCR investment projects gathered on June 29, 2018 in Phnom Penh to hold their eighth coordination meeting. The participants:

- (1) discussed the progress and issues of SPCR TA Packages A and C as the Package B was totally completed;
- (2) shared the recent achievements and issues being faced by SPCR investment projects;
- (3) considered the findings of recent sectorial round table meetings to assess progress in mainstreaming adaptation and to identify required mainstreaming guides, design standards, tools and processes to be developed for each sector;



H.E. Prof. Dr. SABO Ojano (2nd Right), Secretary of State, MoE and SPCR Program Coordinator, H.E. Ms. Sivann Botum (3rd Right), Secretary of State of MOWA, H.E. E Vuthy (Left), Deputy Secretary General of General Secretariat of NCSD, Dr. Peter-John Meynell (Right), Team Leader of MCRDP Package A

(4) discussed these potential entry points for mainstreaming climate resilience into sector planning and implementation under the TA; and

(5) identified further opportunities for collaboration, support and learning among the SPCR investment projects.

This meeting was chaired by H.E. Prof. Dr. Sabo Ojano, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Environment and a Chairman of the SPCR Coordination Team; H.E. El Vuthy, Deputy Secretariat General of the General Secretariat of National Council for Sustainable Development; and Dr. Peter John Meynell, Team Leader of MCRDP Technical Assistance Package A.



The participants were from the Ministry of Rural Development, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Ministry of Planning, the National Committee for Sub-national Democratic Development, and the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology.



Mr. Sum Thy (2nd Right), Director of the Department of Climate Change, Mr. Ou Chanthearith (Right), Deputy Director of Department of Science and Technology and Program Manager, Dr. Lay Chanthay (3rd Right), NAPA Project Development Expert, Ms. You Porny (Left), Knowledge Management & Communications Specialist

The meeting participants exchanged their 6 month progress reports and presented summaries of key points from the mid-term review mission of Package A as well as the scope and content of the different mainstreaming guidelines, particularly the possible routes to continue SPCR coordination team meetings after the TA is phased out.



Dr. Seak Sophat, Deputy Team Leader and Water Resources Specialist, presents the key points from the mid-term reviews of the project

Workshop Highlights Key Achievements of the Civil Society Support Mechanism

The National Council for Sustainable Development has collaborated with Plan International Cambodia to share the achievements and learning from the 36-month intervention for mainstreaming climate resilience into civil society support mechanism at a dissemination workshop held on May 30, 2018. More than 100 participants attended learned about the diverse achievements of the program in strengthening the capacity of 19 civil society organizations to support integration of climate resilience into local development initiatives from June 2016 to February 2018. Up to 57,000 Cambodians benefit from these interventions (about 52% are female and 34% children) across 17 provinces.



The numerous knowledge products produced by Plan International and the National Council for

Sustainable Development as well as the various civil society partners were presented and disseminated to stakeholders attending the event.

H.E. Prof. Dr. Sabo Ojano, Environment Secretary of State and Strategic Program for Climate Resilience Coordinator opened the event by highlighting that the government will continue to work with NGOs, CSOs, private sector and development partners to protect the environment, conserve natural resources and address climate change challenges.

Dr. Ancha Srinivasan, Principal Climate Change Specialist Southeast Asia Department of the Asian Development Bank, noted that Cambodia was selected for the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience by the Climate Investment Funds due to its status as one country most vulnerable to climate change impacts. "Although this package is only \$2 million, it is an initiative to help the Cambodian government and NGOs strengthen the capacity of communities

to be resilient during climate change," stated Mr. Srinivasan.

Mr. Jan Jaap Kleinrensink, Country Director of Plan International Cambodia underlined the value of the strong partnerships with the civil society organizations in making the program a success. According to Jeanne Everett, team leader of a climate change project with Plan International "Despite these many achievements, the capacity of the community to implement the policies and strategic plans, including budgeting, still needs further strengthening. We would like to request the government to work on these issues more."

The event was carried out under the Strategic Program for Climate Resilience that is financed by the Climate Investment Funds through the Asian Development Bank. The knowledge products shared at the event are available at <http://spcrcambodia.org/en/package-b-plan-international-cambodia/>

Expert Consultation on Climate Change Booklet and Posters



On Tuesday, April 10, 2018, the Department of Environmental Education of the Ministry of Environment in partnership with the Department of Curriculum Development of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport organized a consultation workshop on drafting a self-learning booklet and a set of posters on climate change for secondary school students.

Her Excellency Ngin Lina, Director General of the General Department of Environmental Knowledge and Information opened the event by highlighting the importance of collecting key inputs from diverse civil society, academic and government stakeholders to improve the content of the lessons and pictures.

The booklet and posters will be pre-tested in schools in Phnom Penh and Koh Kong Province to collect additional feedback from teachers and students. Once the materials are finalized, teacher trainings will be held in Phnom Penh, Koh Kong, Mondulkiri and Kampong Thom provinces to ensure that teachers become familiar with using the materials. In the future, these lessons will form an integral part of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports' secondary school science curriculum.



For more information:

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