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New Guidelines on technical specification for crop diversification for climate smart agriculture are under development



As one of its final activities, the MCRDP TA (Package A) is preparing guidelines on mainstreaming climate resilience into key areas of concern for sector ministries. During consultation, MAFF identified developing *Guidelines on technical specification for crop diversification for climate smart agriculture (MAFF)* as a priority area. The TA has undertaken a series of focused technical meetings, round table meetings and workshops in order to been to gather inputs, analyse existing guidelines and finalize the materials through interactive exchanges with the officials who will apply them in new policies, programs and extension activities on climate smart agriculture.

The process to develop the guidelines included the following steps:

- Preliminary meetings with MAFF and gathering of relevant reference documents (eg. existing documents, programs and plans, etc.);
- Focused technical meetings with MAFF sector specialists and other experts to define and scope the guideline and its content;
- Present the draft guideline concept and detailed content at a formal roundtable meeting with the MAFF;
- Develop a full draft of the guideline and present at a stakeholder workshop that includes participation from provincial agriculture officials, researchers and extension specialists, other development partners to ensure the guidelines are developed to address critical issues at the practical field/ community level;
- Finalise guideline based on comments received from Government.

The climate smart agriculture guideline development included workshops in Kampong Thom to review the draft guideline. This workshop included a site visit to (i) highlight actual climate change adaptation mainstreaming that have been implemented on

the ground; (ii) highlight the key concepts and tools contained in the guideline; and (iii) provide an opportunity to discuss with the local community about local issues and the implementation of the climate resilience measures. Forty-five participants including TA specialists, technical working group on climate change of MAFF, SPCR Coordination team members, provincial staff and one interpreter.

The outcome of this process will be a comprehensive guideline on climate smart crop diversification. The guidelines will cover: addressing the impact of climate change on cropping systems, matching crops to changing agro-ecological zones, managing water requirements in the context of less predictable rainfall patterns, leveraging changing markets dynamics and developing value chains for more climate resilient products. The inclusive process of developing the guidelines has contributed to building capacity of MAFF officials as well as their subnational counterparts on climate smart agriculture. The guidelines will be disseminated to national, and provincial officials in June 2019.

Sector Ministry Officials Trained on MCRDP Adaptation Guides



The Technical Assistance (TA) Mainstreaming Climate Resilience into Development Planning (MCRDP) completed a series of workshops with sector ministries as part of its mandate to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of the government to mainstream climate resilience into development planning. Last year, the TA produced four Adaptation Guides that provide concrete examples of practices that government planners and development practitioners can integrate into

agriculture, water resources management, transport and urban development projects to enhance their resilience to climate change.

The four guides are:

Adaptation Guides Title	Sector	Ministry
Adaptation Technologies Guide – Agriculture	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Water Resources Adaptation Guide	Water Resources	Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology
Green Infrastructure Guide	Rural and urban transport	Ministry of Public Works and Transport
Green Rural Infrastructure Guide	Rural infrastructure	Ministry of Rural Development



The TA organized a series of workshops to disseminate the guides. The objective of the series of workshops were to increase the capacity of to

participants apply the adaptation tools in their workplaces. The events included:

- a two-day training workshop on the application of Adaptation Technologies Guide – Agriculture for sub-national level under MAFF on 20-21 September 2018, Kampong Thom Province;
- a two-day training workshop on the application of Water Resources Adaptation Guide for sub-national level under MOWRAM on 27-28 September 2018, Pursat Province;
- a two-day training workshop on the application of Green Rural Infrastructure Guide for subnational level under MRD on 04-05 October 2018, Tboung Khmum Province; and
- a two-day training workshop on the application of Green Infrastructure Guide for sub-national level under MPWT on 18-19 October 2018, Kampong Chhnang Province.

About 50 policy makers, development planners, agriculture, water resource, rural development and infrastructure experts participated in each workshops. The experience allowed them to develop a better understanding of climate adaptation and resilience for as well as other stakeholders who are working in the agricultural, water resource, rural development and infrastructure sectors. The review of the guides provided a deeper knowledge of how to use adaptation tool to mainstream climate resilience into sectorial policies and design standards while remaining aligned with their existing planning frameworks. The workshops included lectures and discussions to exchange knowledge. Each event also incorporated a field visit to a project site to review adaptation issues and identify practices from the guide that would address these issues. The participants considered the workshops to be practical and hands on and felt at the end that they would be better able to apply the knowledge from the guide in their day to day work.

Government Representatives Learn to Design Projects for Climate Financing

On January 22 and 23, the MCRDP TA Package A undertook a training on "Incorporating Climate Change in the Economic Analysis of Projects" to build understanding among government planners of how to assess climate change costs and benefits in project design. Representatives from MOWRAM, MPWT, MAFF, MRD, MOE, MEF and MOWA attended the training. The training objectives were to:

- Train government staff in strengthening the economic analysis of investment projects in the face of expected future climate change;
- Train government staff in identifying adaptation costs and incorporating them into budgets of projects in agriculture, water resources, rural infrastructure, and urban development;
- Improve the capacity of Cambodia to access sources of global climate finance (the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, etc.).



The training was delivered by an economist and national and international adaptation specialists with extensive project design experience. The trainers presented background information and international examples on climate change economic analysis. The training also applied a learning-by-doing approach. The trainers used examples from six project feasibility studies prepared by MCRDP for climate financing to lead the participants in exercises to prepare a project cost benefit analysis.

The participants learned how to calculate the costs of climate change impacts such as agriculture losses, water resources shortages and more frequent damage to infrastructure. Adaptation options such as climate-proofing infrastructure or climate smart agriculture techniques were presented. Through exercises, the participants practiced how to calculate the benefits of climate resilient measures.

The cost and benefit information was then compiled to demonstrate an economic analysis that could be used for submitting a project to climate financing mechanisms. Participants were also provided with examples of projects that had successfully accessed funding from the Green Climate Fund and other sources by ADB and other agencies. The participants appreciated the workshop content and format. A set of materials on project analysis for climate investment projects were provided to the participants so that they could apply the techniques to project design in their

Ecosystem-based Solutions for Resilient Water Management



As part of its efforts to strengthen institutional and technical capacity of the government to mainstream climate resilience into development planning, the MCRDP TA Package A has designed a Guideline for Ecosystem-based solutions for Resilient Water Management. The guide presents information on how to apply ecosystem-based solutions to enhance resilience of rural development investments as well as for urban planning. A workshop was held in Siem Reap on 9 – 11 January 2019 to familiarize officials from MOWRAM, MPWT, MAFF, MRD, MOE, MEF and MOWA on how to use the information from the guideline in their work. Representatives from the provinces of Siem Reap and Pursat also attended the training. The workshop objectives were to:

- To provide the knowledge and skill on Ecosystem Based Adaptation to relevant key stakeholders so that they could incorporate these into planning and implementation of climate related projects;
- To raise awareness about the principles and process for developing Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the key sectors; and
- To collect the inputs and comments from relevant

stakeholders to improve the Climate resilient design guidelines for structural flood and drought control measures, including Ecosystem-based Adaptation.

The workshop sessions included presentations of background information and international examples of ecosystem-based solutions, practical exercises as well as field visits. Siem Reap was chosen for the workshop location due to the rich examples of historical water resources management systems in the area that relied on ecosystem solutions. Participants learned from archaeologists on the functioning of ancient irrigation and drinking water systems. Discussions were held on the relevance of these techniques to modern day systems. In addition, the participants learned new tools to apply to analyse how to integrate ecosystem-based solutions when designing projects. A demonstration was made of the ALIVE tool developed by the International Institute for Sustainable Development. Training participants learned how the ALIVE tool helps planners to:

- Understand and analyse linkages among ecosystems, livelihoods and climate change.
- Identify and prioritise EbA options for community and ecosystem resilience.
- Design project activities that facilitate implementation of priority EbA options.
- Identify key elements and indicators for a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework.

The workshop ended with participants providing feedback on the guidelines to ensure their relevance to their work. Participants also discussed how they would apply some examples from the guideline in their upcoming project planning.





















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