

# Climate Change Bulletin

MAY-JUNE 2020



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### OVERALL CLIMATE CHANGE RELATED NEWS

#### World Environmental Day 2020 “Time for Nature”

The General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development (GSSD), in collaboration with the General Directorate of Environmental Knowledge and Information (GDEKI) of The Ministry of Environment, organized the World Environmental Day 2020 themed *Time for Nature* to encourage Cambodians to protect the environment. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was conducted through online platforms and other communication channels such as the TV programmes, and Facebook pages. The main topics raised during the event were:

- 1) Collaboration with relevant stakeholders and national policy and law making related to biodiversity;
- 2) Financing of innovations for biodiversity conservation; and
- 3) Education and environmental information dissemination, community participation, and the importance of eco-tourism in biodiversity conservation. Links below for further information:

1/. <https://youtu.be/aMAM2IBilq4>

2/. [https://youtu.be/U5EcGLKds\\_E](https://youtu.be/U5EcGLKds_E)

3/. <https://youtu.be/6eDUDvplxaM>

#### Meeting to review the climate change vulnerability and biodiversity threats assessment of Prey Lang Extended Landscape (PLEP)

The Department of Climate Change (DCC) of the GSSD conducted a meeting along with a technical team to review the document, Prey Lang Extended Landscape (PLEP) Assessment: Climate Change Vulnerability and Biodiversity Threats Assessment on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020. The following topics were discussed at the meeting: adaptation to climate change, reducing GHG emissions through a carbon reservoir, strategic adaptation, and adaptation options in Prey Lang. Visit the link below for further information:

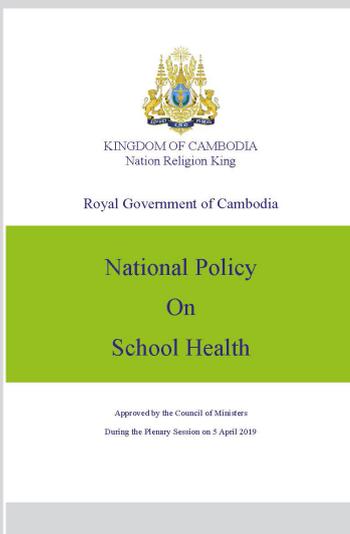
<https://ncsd.moe.gov.kh/dcc/news/meeting-reviewing-document-prey-lang-extended-landscape-plep>

## Forty thousand trees have been planted in 40 hectares, in Tonle Sap



Forty thousand trees have been planted to rehabilitate a forest in the northern Tonle Sap. The restoration of the flooded forest is supported by the REDD+ project, implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Forestry and Fisheries, and Fisheries administration and funded by the Forest Carbon Partnership project. The activity was conducted with monks, local authorities, and people living in fishing communities of Tonle Sap and it took place on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020, in the Sar Sor Sdom's commune, Puok district, Siem Reap. **H.E. Chea Sam Ang**, Under Secretary of State of the Ministry of Environment and Director of REDD + expressed his sincere thanks to all participants who attended the event to restore the forest that was lost because of the fire and drought during the dry season three years ago. The restoration of the forest will benefit the environment through carbon dioxide reduction and provide benefits to the surrounding fishing communities. Please visit the MoE's Facebook page for further information: <https://www.facebook.com/314699302002531/posts/1758823544256759/>

## Lessons on climate change have been developed and integrated into the national secondary curriculums



The Department of School Health and Department of Curriculum Development of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS), in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Education of the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and the development partners cooperated to develop climate change lessons to be integrated into the health curriculum for secondary schools. The drafted climate change lessons were clustered in the health and environment module and four other modules: primary, mental, reproductive and sexual, and socioeconomic health. The Department of School Health leads the drafting of the curriculum following the approved national policy on school health that promotes quality of education and good health and well-being for students and teachers. Visit the link below for further information:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CxfaA2weUmLNKcbBm2U0Qlvv0TVEB7IS/view>

## Promoting model and eco-schools in Preah Sihanouk Province



Students swot up on the environment and tackle resilience projects like tree planting and climate-smart agriculture. Image: Reuters/Samrang Pring

The MoEYS in collaboration with the MoE is planning to build public schools in the Preah Sihanouk province that will become model and eco-schools to improve quality of education and promote understanding among teachers and students on environmental issues such as environmental protection, climate change resilience, and sustainable education. On 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020, the representatives from the MoE led by **H.E. Sok Keang**, Undersecretary of State of MoE and the representatives from the MoEYS led by **H.E. Kun Rachana** with the participation of the provincial governor, authorities and school principals had a meeting regarding the subject. At the meeting, the main criteria and indicators for the eco-school guidelines were presented and shared with all invited school principals. The establishment of the model and eco-schools in Preah Sihanouk Province will allow youth to engage more in the environmental-related issues and social development as Preah Sihanouk Province is moving forward to be a leading economic area in Cambodia. Visit the link below for further information:

<https://www.facebook.com/314699302002531/posts/1749363531869427/>

## China supports the construction of wells and community ponds in 10 provinces through the Ministry of Rural Development



On 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2020, H.E. Dr. Ouk Rabun, Minister of the Ministry of Rural Development, accompanied by Mr. Liu Zhijie, Consul General of China in Siem Reap, visited a well construction site in Pouk district, and other wells under construction in Prasat Bakong district, Siem Reap. The construction is part of the Rural Water Supply Project, Phase 2 which is financed by China. One hundred wells and four community ponds have been constructed so far. The project plans to construct a total

of 964 wells and 54 community ponds in 10 provinces including Siem Reap, Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, Pursat, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Speu, Kampot, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, and Kampong Cham. The budget of the project is 90,020,000 RMB. Please visit the link below for further information:

<https://www.mrd.gov.kh/2020/06/23/3208/>

### MAIN TOPICS RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE

#### A workshop on “Cambodian Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) for the Energy Sector (2020-2023)”



H.E. Dr. Ty Norin, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Mines and Energy and board member of the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance-Phase III (CCCA-III) chaired the Opening Ceremony of a Workshop on Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) for the Energy Sector (2020-2023) on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020, at Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh. The primary purposes of the workshop were to (1). review the roadmap and action plan to implement the climate change program under the ministry, (2). review the first draft of the action plan

for climate change in the energy sector for 2020-2030 and (3). review the draft roadmap for the development of standard regulation for energy efficiency for refrigerators and ACs. Please visit the link below for further information: <https://ncsd.moe.gov.kh/dcc/news/workshop-%E2%80%9CCambodian-climate-change-action-plan-ccap-energy-sector-2020>

#### The third Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) study on climate change is expected to be published in November 2020



The survey team met with local authorities, Preah Sihanouk province

In order to understand the in-depth knowledge, attitude and practices of Cambodians on climate change, a KAP survey has been subsequently conducted in every five years. The study will inform the design of future awareness-raising efforts and interventions to engage with different groups of Cambodia’s society to be active agents of change in response to climate change. The

inception meeting was organized in early January 2020 and the research design was developed after that. However, due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the team was only able to initiate the field interviews in June in Phnom Penh. The interview team encountered some challenges related to the subject of the survey and the interview questions were found difficult by some of the interviewers and interviewees.

Based on the research design and methodology developed, 1532 samples will be collected representing 25 provinces of Cambodia. The selected respondents are aged between 15 and 55 years old and the field report will be finished by end of August 2020. In addition, for the qualitative data collection, the team has interviewed 12 ministries, two media agencies, and two private sector entities. Next, the data collected will be analyzed, a communication plan regarding the findings of the study developed and the KAP 3 report published by November 2020.

## Staff retreat and tree planting event in Siem Reap



H.E. Tin Ponlok, Secretary General of the NCS, chaired the staff retreat of the CCCA, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020, Siem Reap

The CCCA/DCC staff retreat was organized between June 29-30, 2020, in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The purpose of the retreat was to assess the implementation of the DCC's action plan and agree on the overall coordination in terms of the DCC's programs and projects. In addition, the retreat shared information regarding the DCC's programme and project activities, planned results of 2020 and the adjustments made due to COVID-19. The retreat was chaired by **H.E. Tin Ponlok** who highlighted that he appreciates the team's efforts put in implementation of the Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP). He also mentioned that Cambodia has mobilized about 70-80 million USD annually in responding to the challenges of climate change and he recommended the team to further strengthen the technical capacity on scientific research, planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. The participants agreed upon the work plan for 2020 and some experiences and best practices related to previous projects on climate change and sustainable development were shared at the workshop.

On June 30, 2020, the participants of the retreat planted 50 trees in Sok An Phnom Kulen Center for Orchid Research and Conservation. The planting event was led by **H.E. Chea Chanthou**, Deputy Secretary General of the GSSD and **Dr. Hak Mao**, Director of the DCC.



Planting the luxury-grade trees, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020, Sok An Phnom Kulen Center for Orchid Research and Conservation, Siem Reap

## Call for proposals for the Climate Change Innovation Grant Facility



Launching Workshop on Call for Proposals for Climate Change Innovation Grant Facility, 27<sup>th</sup> December 2019, Phnom Penh

The GSSD and DCC are managing with the support of the CCCA-III the grant facilities to provide resources for climate change capacity development and project implementation at the national and local levels. The innovation grant was launched in December 2019 and there were 44 concept notes submitted to the DCC of the GSSD by the deadline of proposals, 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 2020. Two of the

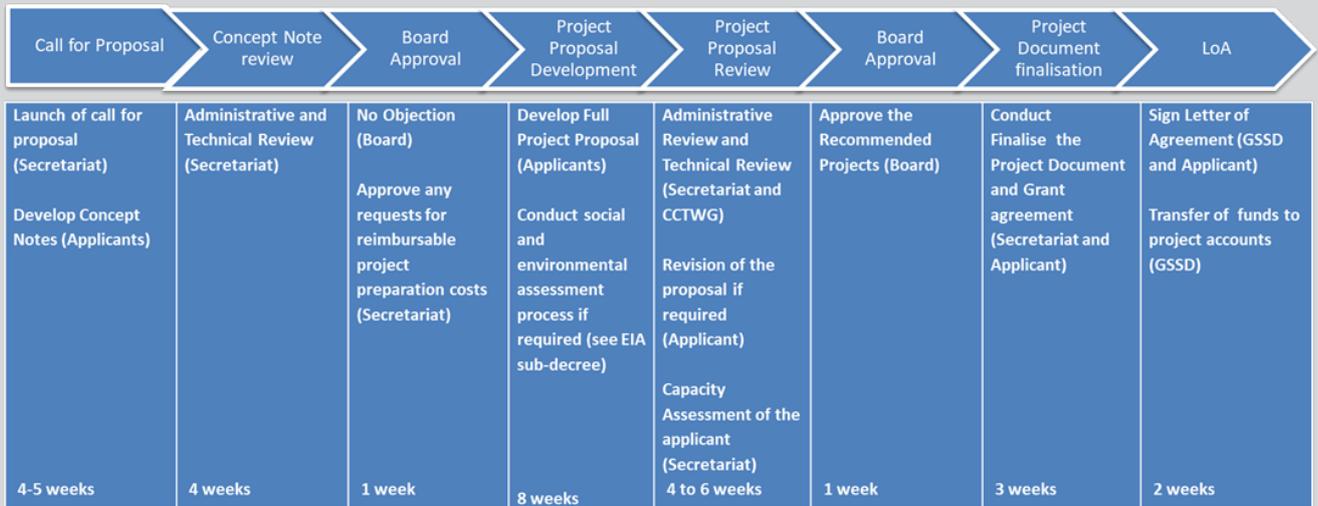
concept notes were found to be non-compliant with the CCCA grant application guidelines and they were rejected. 42 concept notes went through a technical review, following the administrative screening. After no-objection was received from the Programme Executive Board, six applicants were advised to submit their full project proposals by 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

After that, the administrative screening was conducted for six full project proposals for funding and technical appraisal was conducted in June by the panel members of the DCC/CCCA team for each proposal. The proposals were simultaneously made available to the Climate Change Technical Working Group (CCTWG) members for their review.

Following the review of the proposals, the applicants received recommendations on how to address the remaining issues with their proposals.

In addition, a capacity assessment was conducted to the applicants as part of full project proposal development. Approved proposals are expected to be operational in September 2020.

### Summary of Project Review and Approve Process



### UP-COMING EVENTS

- September 10 : Master Plan on Gender Mainstreaming into Climate Change Adaptation, MOWA
- September 10-11 : Launching Workshop on Cambodia's First BUR under the UNFCCC
- September 28 : The Meeting of the Climate Change Technical Working Group with the Development Partners "Validation of Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Update"

Supported by



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