

Climate Change Bulletin

JULY-DECEMBER 2020



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UP COMING EVENTS

- January: Official Launching of the Water Kiosk
- February: Launching of “Cambodia’s Updated Nationally Determined Contribution” and launching of “GCF Operational Manual”
- March: Executive Board Meeting of the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance-Phase 3

OVERALL CLIMATE CHANGE RELATED NEWS

Press conference on “Climate Change and its Impact on Cambodia”



H.E. Neth Pheaktra, Secretary of State and Spokesperson of the Ministry of Environment (MoE), led a delegation to attend press

conference on “Climate Change and its Impact on Cambodia”. The conference was organized by the Government Spokesperson’s Unit to raise public understanding of climate change and its impacts on Cambodia’s socio-economic development on 12th August 2020. The conference highlighted that it is important to address climate change related impacts through policies and action plans and **H.E. Neth Pheaktra** pointed out that climate change is caused by two factors, the natural and anthropogenic climate change. He also stressed that Cambodia is severely affected by challenges caused by climate change, resulting in floods and droughts that make the country particularly vulnerable. Finally, he mentioned that, unless adaptation actions are implemented, country’s GDP will be almost 10% lower than planned by 2050.

Workshop on Mainstreaming Gender

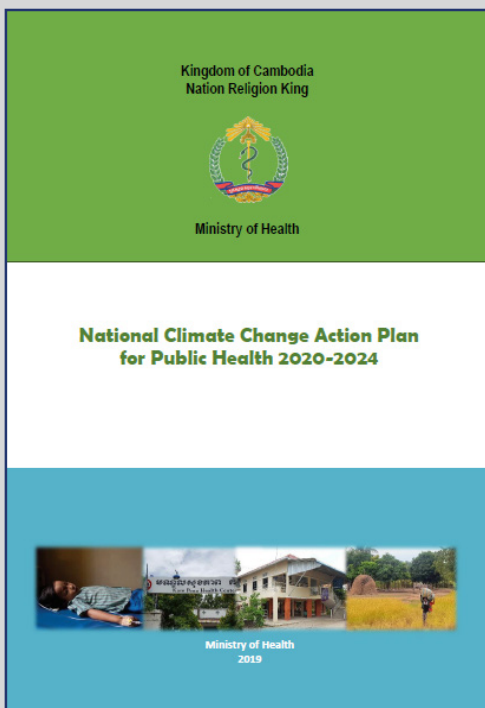
The workshop on Mainstreaming Gender into the Master Plan on Climate Change Adaptation was led by **H.E. Ing Kanthaphavi**, the minister of Women’s Affairs, on 10th September 2020 at Hotel Phnom Penh. The workshop officially launched the Master Plan on Gender and Climate Change 2018-2030 and disseminated the



results and knowledge products produced by the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA). **H.E. Ing Kanthaphavi** thanked the Ministry of Environment (MoE) for supporting and facilitating the work with the MoWA. She also expressed appreciation for the work done, including the financial and technical support provided by the Nordic Development Fund and Asian Development Bank (ADB) in order to implement the plan over the past three years. Visit the link below for further information:

<https://www.mowa.gov.kh/detail/5346>

National Climate Change Action Plan for Public Health (2020-2024) launched



The Ministry of Health (MoH) has taken necessary measures to address the risks of climate variability and change on public health, which is a highly vulnerable sector to the challenges caused by climate change. The impacts of the extreme events, such as severe floods, droughts and windstorms effect public health and some climate-related diseases, particularly malaria and dengue remain a significant health risk in Cambodia. Climate Change also exacerbates existing health problems such as vector-borne diseases, malnutrition and diarrheal disease, along with other conditions such as rodent-borne diseases, respiratory tract infections, non-communicable diseases, heat-related illnesses, and mental health problems. Responding to these challenges, the National Climate Change Action Plan for Public Health (NCCAPPH) 2020-2024 was developed and continuous efforts for implementing projects and programmes that address climate change in the public health sector are made. The NCCAPPH has been aligned with the Health Strategy Plan, the Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan 2014-2023, and the other relevant national development plans.

The inside view of climate change

“Climate change is now a major threat to Cambodia’s economy and society. Water resources are under stress, which impacts both agriculture and health in rural areas, with women and children among the most vulnerable groups,” says **H.E. Say Samal**, Minister of Environment in The ASEAN Magazine in September 2020. Visit the link below for further information:

<https://asean.org/storage/2020/10/The-ASEAN-Magazine-Issue-5-September-2020.pdf>



Climate Vulnerable Forum Leaders' Event



Following the invitation from **H.E. Sheikh Hasina**, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the President of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia participated in the Climate Vulnerable Forum Leaders' Event, which was convened via video conferencing on the margin the 75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 7th October 2020. **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen** highlighted that Cambodia's contribution

in order to address the challenges caused by climate change includes the integration of the mitigation measures into the national development policies, enhancement of the legal, institutional and technical frameworks for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus (REDD+) program and timely submission of the updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Visit the link below for further information and full video: <http://en.freshnewsasia.com/index.php/en/localnews/19657-2020-10-07-14-53-56.html>

Climate Ambition Summit



Samdech Techo Hun Sen delivered remarks in the Climate Action Summit via video conference on 12th of December 2020

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and other 70 heads of State, along with regional and city leaders, and heads of major businesses, delivered their speeches and commitments to contributing to the global efforts to addressing the impacts of climate change at the virtual Climate Ambition Summit on 12th December 2020. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen stated that even though Cambodia is a low emitter of greenhouse gas emissions at the global level, the country is strongly committed to combating climate change based on her capacity and available resources. He added that climate change is a cross-cutting issue that needs to be addressed through policy interventions covering social, economic and environmental aspects. At the same time, he encouraged all countries to finalize and submit their NDC.

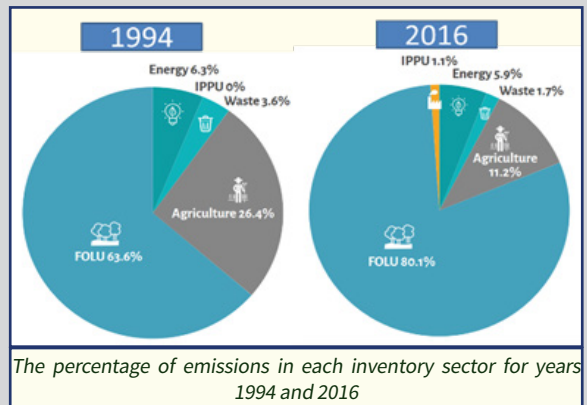
MAIN TOPICS RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Cambodia's 1st Biennial Update Report (BUR) under the UNFCCC launched



The Launching Workshop on Cambodia's 1st BUR under the UNFCCC, was organized by the Department of Climate Change (DCC) of the General Secretariat of the National for Sustainable Development (GSSD) and Dr. Tin Ponlok, Secretary of State of the MoE and the Second Chair of the NCSD presided over and provided opening remarks at the workshop on 10th-11th September 2020 in Mondulkiri Province. The participants of the workshop included representatives from key ministries, provincial authorities, representatives of the NCSD,

and development partners. The workshop officially launched Cambodia's 1st BUR and disseminated results of the document to the key stakeholders. Dr. Tin Ponlok expressed his appreciation for the team leaders and staff of the MoE, national and international experts, line ministries, and stakeholders who had been involved and given their efforts to prepare this important report. Based on the report, the major contributor to the national GHG emissions is the FOLU sector driven by the change in carbon stocks, primarily due to deforestation. The agricultural sector is the second biggest in terms of emissions.



Validation of the Updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)

The meeting of the CCTWG with the Development Partners on “Validation of Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Update” was organized on 28th September 2020 at Hotel Cambodiana, Phnom Penh. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Tin Ponlok, Secretary of State of the MoE and the Second Chair of the NCSD with participation of representatives from the key ministries/institutions and stakeholders, development partners, NGO/CSOs, academia and the private sector, a total of 79 (22 females) participants. At the meeting the proposed NDC update of Cambodia was presented and clarifications on the results of the update exercise conducted were discussed. Finally, the draft NDC update was validated for further approval and submission to the UNFCCC. Compared to the first NDC, the updated NDC includes the agricultural and waste sectors,



and more detailed actions in key sub-sectors, such as energy efficiency. It includes a stronger set of adaptation actions and an ambitious target in the Forestry and Land Use sector (FOLU). The updated NDC pays particular attention to gender and vulnerable groups and a significant effort has been made to develop a draft framework for measurement, reporting and verification (MRV). The linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have also been identified in the document.

The GSSD's achievements 2020 and workplan for year 2021



The annual conference of the GSSD presided over by H.E. Say Samal, Minister of Environment, on 29th of September 2020

The annual conference on the GSSD's 2020 achievements and workplan for year 2021 was chaired by H.E. Say Samal, Minister of MoE and Economy Strategic Plan to name a few climate action

the MoE's staff, representatives from line-ministries, and development partners a total of 261 participants (89 women). During the opening speech, H.E. Say Samal said that he highly appreciates the tireless efforts of the GSSD's Secretary-General and his staff who fulfills the tasks and obligations to achieve results such as establishment of legal and regulatory frameworks and development of comprehensive policies and strategies in order to enhance sustainable development in Cambodia. The key achievements were highlighted including the economic assessment of the solar energy in Cambodia, development of the National Policy on Green Growth, the draft NDC and Master Plan of Sok An Phnom Kulen Orchid Research and Conservation Center. Next year, the GSSD will finalize a Sub-Degree on Rules and Procedures for Participation in GHG Emissions Reduction Mechanisms, and Circular Economy Strategic Plan to name a few climate action

Engaging the private sector for reaching the targets of the NDC of Cambodia

The workshop on “engaging the private sector for reaching the targets of the Updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of Cambodia was organized on 27th October 2020 at Himawari Hotel, Phnom Penh. The workshop was opened by H.E. Chea Chanthou, Deputy-Secretary General of the GSSD and it was participated by representatives from line ministries/institutions and the private sector, a total of 60 (19 females) participants. The wrokshop informed the private sector actors the NDC process and possible entry points for the engagement of the sector in the NDC implementation. The workshop also initiated foundation for possible public-private partnerships for a low-carbon, climate resilient



H.E. Chea Chanthou provided the opening speech for the workshop on 27th October 2020 at Himawari Hotel

development through the NDC implementation. The outcomes of the workshop will be incorporated into a private sector engagement plan to be developed.

Climate Change Innovation Grant Facility Round 2

The Launching Workshop on Call for Proposals for Climate Change Innovation Grant Facility Round 2 was hosted by the DCC of the GSSD on 27th October 2020 at Himawari Hotel, Phnom Penh. The workshop was facilitated by **Dr. Hak Mao**, director of the DCC, and the participants included representatives from the key ministries, national and international organizations, academia and the private sector, a total of 50 (16 female) participants. **Dr. Hak Mao** indicated that climate change is a threat to the world, including Cambodia and tackling the impacts requires an effective and innovative response mechanism. The participants received an orientation and guidelines for a concept note and full proposal development, and the selection process was presented. The innovation grant facility will provide support to develop innovative and catalytic climate change projects through a competitive process. All interested applicants were invited to develop and submit their concept notes. The maximum amount per grant is USD 100,000 (minimum USD 50,000).



Grant Implementation Guidelines (GIG)



Dr. Hak Mao gave the opening remarks for the training workshop on 28th October 2020

The training workshop on the CCCA's Grant Implementation Guidelines was organized on 28th October 2020 at Himawari Hotel, Phnom Penh. The workshop was led by **Dr. Hak Mao**, director of the

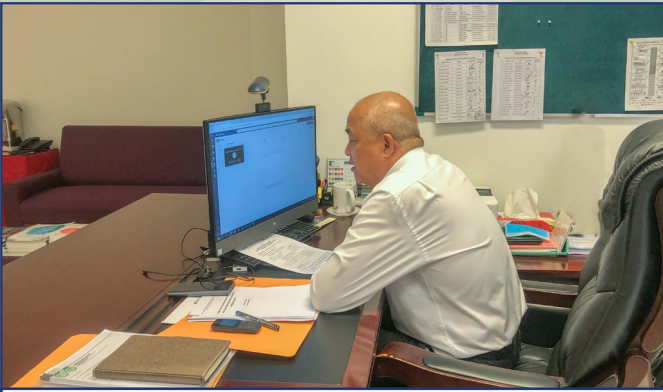
DCC, and the participants included representatives from the key ministries, partner universities, and the grantees from the innovation grant facility round 1, a total of 38 (16 female) participants. At the workshop, the participants received information on the grant implementation guidelines, reporting requirements, financial management, visibility procedures, and monitoring and evaluation. **Dr. Hak Mao** highlighted that the workshop was the first step towards project implementation and also the first opportunity for all successful grantees to meet each other and learn about good practices. He encouraged all participants to pay attention to the implementation guidelines and to ask for further guidance when needed.

ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change

H.E. Vann Monyneath, Secretary General of the GSSD and the chairman of ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change (AWGCC), led the delegation of the GSSD at the virtual meeting of the 11th ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change-AWGCC on 5th November 2020. The meeting was organized by the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) with participants from nine ASEAN member States (AMSS-Lao was absent), and representatives from 16 development partners. The meeting aimed to enhance regional cooperation and action to address the adverse impacts of climate change among the AMSS. As a result, climate change programs and action plans to be implemented by the AWGCC were agreed at the meeting, and the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change, led by Brunei, will be submitted to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to be held in the United Kingdom in 2021. At the meeting, Vietnam was selected to host the 12th AWGEE Meeting in 2021.



Key Findings of the third Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP3) Study



Dr. Tin Ponlok addressed the opening speech for the consultation meeting on 18th November 2020



The director of DCC and staff of the department attended the online consultation meeting on 18th November 2020

The consultation workshop on KAP3 findings was organized virtually due to the community outbreak of the COVID19 by the DCC and BBC Media Actions on 18th November 2020. The meeting was led by **Dr. Tin Ponlok**, Secretary of State of the MoE with the participation of the representatives from the National Assembly, senate, line ministries, academia, private sector, NGOs, and other key representatives, a total of 36 participants. The preliminary findings, comments, and recommendations in order to improve the research report were

shared at the meeting. It was also discussed how the findings can be translated into a communication strategy to be developed. **Dr. Tin Ponlok** stated that climate change is an inter-sectoral issue that creates challenges to the socio-economic development and livelihoods now and in the future. Cambodia is severely affected by those challenges and this study provides important science-based information on ways and approaches to address the challenges and develop policies and strategies in order to respond to the changing climate.

A staff retreat and a mangrove planting event in Kampot Province



Dr. Tin Ponlok chaired the staff retreat of the DCC/CCCA on 21st December 2020, Kampot province



The DCC, CCCA, and UNDP staff planted mangrove in Trp peng Sangke Community on 22nd December 2020

The Department of Climate Change (DCC)/ Cambodia Climate Change Alliance (CCCA) staff retreat was organized on 21-22, December 2020, in Kampot province. The implementation of the DCC's action plan was assessed and the overall coordination in terms of the DCC's programs and projects was discussed at the retreat. In addition, the main activities for 2021 were agreed. **Dr. Tin Ponlok** highlighted that he appreciates the efforts of the

DCC in developing important policy and strategy documents such as the Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP), BUR and NDC update. He also sees that mainstreaming the action plans into the sub-national level is important. He encouraged the participants to strengthen their capacity to mobilize resources to the implementation of the CCCSP. After the retreat, the participants planted mangrove trees in the community of Tropeng Sangke.

Supported by



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