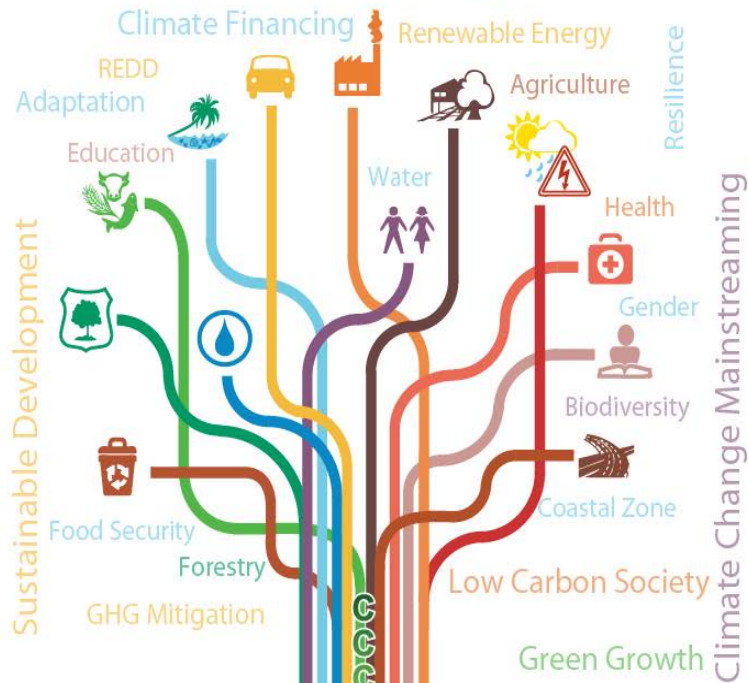


3rd National Forum on Climate Change

5 – 7 November 2013, Cambodia

“Taking Action for Sustainable Development in the Changing Climate”

Climate Change



Ministry of Rural Development Planning of Climate Change

Mr. Srun Pithou

5 November 2013

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Background of MRD

- After the 1993 First Cambodian General Election and the establishment of The Kingdom of Cambodia, the Royal Government has created the **MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MRD)**. The creation of MRD demonstrates the Governments dedication to improve living standard and alleviate the poverty of rural people eradicating poverty is the single most important long-term objective of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) .

Climate Risk

- Cambodia's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions is only 0.29 tones of carbon dioxide per head of population each year, but one of the most climate vulnerable countries in the world.
- Cambodia is expected to experience higher and more intense rainfall. The effects are likely to include more severe water scarcity and more frequent floods, drought and also impact to infrastructure, especially in the rural area. (Source: UNDP)

Climate Risk (Cont.)

- Early on September, 2009, Typhoon Ketsana was hit which killed **747 people** in Pacific countries.
- In Cambodia, There were **43 people** died and also more than 66,000 families were affected and rural infrastructures damaged by flood waters.

Impacts on Sector

- Impacts of climate change on small-scale irrigation water supply schemes: Annually, the Department of Rural Water Supply has constructed at least 2,000 to 3,000 wells (combined wells, deep wells and open wells)
- The damage of the rural infrastructure, especially rural road by flood almost every year, cost millions dollars (E.g. Flood in 2013 causing by heavy rainfall)

Current Planning Responses to Climate Change

- Most current rural infrastructure facilities have not been designed or constructed to be resilient to climate change impacts (particularly concerning floods and droughts),
- In response to the RGC's national strategy on poverty reduction, MRD contributes efforts
- and urges all governmental and non-governmental institutions to eradicate rural poverty, and to
- achieve economic and social well-being for all Cambodians. This is expected to be achieved through a pro-poor, climate-resilient and low-carbon development strategy

Strategic Objectives

- To build the adaptive capacity of rural vulnerable communities (**knowledge, primary health care, infrastructure and socioeconomics**) and to increase the resilience of rural and
- social infrastructure to climate change, and optimize mitigation opportunities for sustainable development.

Priority Strategies

Strategy Priority # 1:

Creating policies and study profiles makes rural infrastructure development (roads, irrigation schemes, wells, ponds, bridges and culverts) resilient to climate change. (*Policy design for quality-based rural infrastructures against climate extreme events.*)

Strategy Priority # 2:

Support for adaptation to climate change through creating local business opportunities that focus on micro-credit provision for socioeconomic development. The increase of families' income from local businesses will create preparedness to compensate for the loss of income during flood and drought periods. (*Policy design and project implementation.*)

Priority Strategies (Cont.)

Strategic Priority #3:

Support for adaptation to climate change through increasing rural awareness about the concepts of climate change and response options. To provide capacity development to village development committee members on climate change adaptation and mitigation options, and to use other scientific knowledge which can be adapted for use by local people. (*Primary healthcare, water sanitation, research results dissemination and community development.*)

. The four prioritized strategies mentioned above are creating:

“Climate risk-resilient rural areas of Cambodia with healthy, safe, prosperous and self-reliant rural communities, and a thriving and productive rural development situation”.

Climate Change Action Plan & List of Proposed Actions

Action Plan in Response to Climate Change in the Areas of Infrastructure Development

1. Identification and Mapping rural infrastructure vulnerable group in province of high risk of climate change impact
2. development of adaptation guideline and options to improve climate change resilience of rural infrastructure
3. Capacity building and awareness to integrate at national and sub national level for mainstreaming climate change in to rural development planning process

4. Up scaling existing micro-finance to support GHG mitigation and reduce climate change impact in the vulnerable areas.
5. Climate change Risk Management and improvement of Rural Water Supply in the Tonle Sap Basin.
6. Capacity building on climate change -proof infrastructure design for civil engineering of National and sub-national (215 engineers)
7. To promote awareness rising of CC for VDC.
8. Piloting community base CC adaptation for VDC in Cambodia Mekong delta (Takeo, Svay Rieng and Prey Veng Provinces)

9. Mekong river island climate proof connectivity (rural road and ferry), Kampong Cham (Strong economic, high population, fertile land)
10. Rural income generation through clean and renewable energies
11. Mainstreaming awareness of climate change issues and its impact to MRD and PDRD officials

*Nothing would happen,
if not try to do by ourselves!*

Thank You !

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