



## Promoting Climate-Resilient Water Management and Agricultural Practices in Rural Cambodia (NAPA Follow-up 2)

Since last year, the project builds on the NAPA Follow-up project Phase I's experience to achieve tangible results in climate resilient water management and agriculture. The project still continues the broader goal of enhancing adaptive capacity and building resilience to climate change. The formulation of strategies aiming to strengthen and expand good practices within the target provinces and to ensure the sustainability of the project achievements is planned in 2015.

### Key results in 2014

#### **Improve capacity within local institutions to manage agricultural water resources in a changing climate and strengthen community-based climate information:**

To improve the understanding of the different impacts of climate change on women and men, a Vulnerability Reduction Assessment (VRA) and a Rapid Gender Assessment (RGA) were conducted in 16 new communes with a total of 1,489 participants including district officials, commune councils, local communities, partners and other stakeholders, of which 59% were women. The results were integrated into the Commune Investment Programme.

The project works with the Department of Agriculture Land Management of the General Directorate of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) to undertake soil assessment and soil/crop analysis. The result is a recommendation of appropriate resilient options based on soil types, crop suitability and the forecasted climatic information. This work is under progress.

In 2014, about 18,019 households in 80 villages received and use weather information. A follow up assessment on the use and impacts of an early warning system

mechanism will be done in the first quarter of 2015.

#### **Construct community-level water supply infrastructure, expand resilient livelihood methods and strengthen women's engagement:**

To improve access to water for cropping and other domestic purposes, the project built 2 community ponds, 35 solar pump systems (20 in Kratie and 15 in Preah Vihear) and 15 pump wells (in Preah Vihear) over 37 villages. It benefited 1,481 households and 52 Water User Groups were established to manage these new infrastructures.

The project reached 3,394 households in 65 villages cross both provinces to implement Integrated Farming Systems (IFS), with technical support from the Department of Agriculture. Based on a recent field visit, about 50% of the beneficiaries started practicing home-gardening and earned an average of US\$10 per day during the peak season from selling their vegetable to local markets.

Water User Groups (WUG) were formed to manage those water supply systems. Users fee collection mechanisms were also put in place. WUG of solar pump system collected about US\$75 per month. The money will be used for the operation and maintenance of the water

### Project Summary

Country: Cambodia  
Project Grant: US\$2,646,318.22 from UNDP and Government of Canada  
Project Period: September 2013 to December 2015  
Implementing Partner: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)  
Target Areas: Choam Ksan and Kulen district (Preah Vihear), Chetr Borey and Sambo district (Kratie)  
Number of Project Beneficiaries: 5,500 households



infrastructures but also as group capital, e.g. a loan to members to invest in further production.

The project built three new irrigation schemes, two in Kratie and one in Preah Vihear in 2014—they are able to irrigate 541 hectares of paddy fields and benefit at least 248 households.

63% of a total of 3,200 targeted women benefited from the project activities. This included tailored climate information, technical and leadership trainings on effective use of water, exchange visits and farmer field days.

### **Increase public awareness and environmental education programmes on climate risk reduction:**

The project established a knowledge platform between NAPA FU and IFAD supported projects (RULIP, PADEE) with focus on agricultural extension support and climate change adaptation in agriculture and water sectors.

In collaboration with Cambodia Community Based Adaptation Programme (Small Grant Programme of UNDP), Local Governance on Climate Change Phase II and Scaling up climate change into sub-national planning and budgeting process (SNC Scale Up projects), a joint reflection workshop on climate change mainstreaming into sub-national planning process was organized in November 2014. There were 88 participants with representatives from governments, development partners, non-government organizations, local authorities and communities.

### **Improve knowledge among government planners about on-going adaptation investments and gaps in the area of climate-resilient farming:**

With financial support from the project, the Royal University of Agriculture has carried out a survey to collect agriculture data to support the regional capacity building program on the Economics of Climate Change Adaption.

As part of knowledge sharing, the project hosts four study visits for IRAS Project (NAFRI), Local Government and Climate Change (NCDDS) and PADEE (MAFF) teams from Takeo and Battambang provinces and NCDDS Core Group on Climate Change Mainstreaming to learn about mainstreaming climate change in local planning processes and hand-on experiences on climate change adaptation in Preah Vihear province.

### **Conduct an impact assessment study capturing benefits of adaptation investment promoted under the project:**



#### **Caption 1:**

“Excluding all expenses, my net income in 2014 was 8 million Riels (US\$2,000),” said 59 year-old Ms. Kuy Samoeun, a successful model farmer in integrated farming systems.

She expects the net income will increase in 2015. She grows about 20 types of vegetables including morning glory, yard long bean, eggplant, chili, and various types of cabbages. She also raises fish and 20 cows. Photo from right: H.E. Mam Annot, Project Director, project team and Kuy Samoeun on the far left.

**Caption 2:** Group discussion as part of the VRA and RGA in Preah Vihear province, on the important role of women in disseminating information on agriculture techniques that are resilient to climate change.

To produce an evidence-based case study from the project, A consulting firm, SBK, has been recruited to undertake and administer an impact assessment of the project. The data collection for the Baseline Survey and the baseline assessment report were developed and submitted to MAFF/PSU and UNDP. This will be followed up periodically throughout the project to show progress and impact of project activities.

**All photos by:** UNDP Cambodia

#### **Mr. Hok Kimthourn**

National Project Manager, Project Support Unit  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
Building no.200, Norodom Boulevard, Tonle Basac,  
Chamkarmon, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

**Tel:** (+855) 23993342; **Email:** kimthourn@gmail.com



CANADA-UNDP  
Climate Change Adaptation Facility

Canada

Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.