



Ministry of Environment

PRESS RELEASE

Climate Change Action Planning Aims to Provide Realistic Options for Adaptation and Mitigation Efforts

Phnom Penh, 6 November 2013 – Planning and budgeting processes at national and sub-national level are key to supporting Cambodia’s adaptation to climate change as well as climate proofing of investments, speakers on the second day of the 3rd National Forum on Climate Change urged. Cambodia has enjoyed stable macro-economic performance for the last several years indicated by GDP growth, rising income of households, and reduced poverty rate. “However, the gains made so far can easily be overturned by climate change and future efforts could be constrained unless climate change is integrated into national and sub-national processes,” said H.E. Pan Bunthoeun, Secretary of State of Ministry of Planning in his opening remarks for the day.

Programs geared toward helping rural communities to adapt to risks from climate change will be a major priority and the Royal Government of Cambodia will integrate climate change as one of the cross cutting issues in the new National Strategic Development Plan. “Taking climate change into account is a requirement to ensure the achievement of requisite scale, speed and strategic focus of national responses,” H.E. Pan Bunthoeun added.

H.E. Jean-François Cautain, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to Cambodia, noted that relevant domestic climate policies and regulatory frameworks will stimulate support from international climate change action and financing. “We have also been innovative in integrating climate finance into the overall European Union budget – by committing to allocate at least 20% of the entire European Union budget from 2014-2020 to climate-related actions,” said H.E. Jean Francois. He further announced that the European Union, and its partners, will continue supporting Cambodia in its efforts to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change and urged other development partners to join efforts.

The second day of the Forum focused on sectoral level planning initiatives by key line Ministries. To date, 10 key line Ministries have developed their sector specific climate change strategic plans facilitated by the Ministry of Environment Climate Change Department. Further work is also under way to develop climate change action plans by these same line ministries in order to demonstrate particular efforts being made to integrate climate change into regular planning processes and avoiding having climate change as a separate silo. This work was noted as important in order to promote an approach that is vigorous and is based on realistic financing scenarios as well as present solid, coherent and realistic actions to address climate change.

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Note to Editor:

The 1st National Forum on Climate Change, held in 2009, put climate change as one of Cambodia’s development agenda. Since then, extensive efforts have been made to progress Cambodia’s climate change policy initiatives and through a constructive policy dialogue platform, Cambodia began a vigorous national policy and strategic planning process.



The 3rd National Forum will feature presentations by experts, including update on latest findings on climate change impacts in Cambodia and Southeast Asia region, and progress Cambodia has made at national and sub-national levels in responding to the changing climate. More than 700 participants from the government institutions, development partners, NGOs, academia, youth, and private sector are expected to attend the event, which runs through 7th November.

The Ministry of Environment (MoE) is a Focal Point of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and the Designated National Authority (DNA) for the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

The National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) is the main organizing body of the Forum. It has been established as the climate change policy making body comprising of 20 key Ministries, with Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, serving as its Honorary Chair.

The Climate Change Department (CCD) of the Ministry of Environment is the main facilitator of the National Forum on Climate Change. CCD is the secretariat of the NCCC. It plays a key role in climate change action in Cambodia.

Forum Partners: The 3rd National Climate Change Forum is made possible by contribution of Ministry of Environment and the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance (CCCA). CCCA is an initiative led by the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and supported by the European Union (EU), the Governments of Denmark, Sweden and the United Nations Development Program. Further financial support was also obtained from UNEP, DanChurchAid, NGO Forum on Cambodia and Cambodian Climate Change Network.

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