



## **Cambodia National Environment Strategy and Action Plan (NESAP) 2016-2023 National Workshop**

### **Concept Note and Program**

**10 August 2016  
Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

Environmental sustainability is considered by the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) as one of the pre-conditions or “centrality” for achieving national socioeconomic policy goals of its Rectangular Strategy Phase III. Cambodia’s commitment to mainstream environment, biodiversity, climate change, green economy, disaster risk reduction, and social inclusion into a national development framework is further demonstrated through the establishment of the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCS) in May 2015. However, in today’s context environmental degradation caused by pollution, natural resources and ecosystems destruction, limited environmental knowledge and information of the public, and unsustainable development is prevalent and is already impacting negatively on agricultural productivity, investment profitability and public health. If such trend continues, food, water and energy security will be threatened.

National Environment Strategy and Action Plan (NESAP), is a political agenda and roadmap for ensuring effective environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources through an inclusive and participatory process. The NESAP will guide government ministries at both national and sub-national administration, private sector, civil society, and development organizations to mainstream environmental considerations into development policies, plans, and investments. NESAP’s main objectives include:

- (i) Assess potential socioeconomic benefits of improved environmental sustainability.
- (ii) Review current status of environment and natural resources in the country.
- (iii) Analyse key drivers of environment and natural resources change.
- (iv) Review implementation performance of existing development strategies on environment, green growth, and sustainable development and identifying key lessons.
- (v) Identify and prioritize policy mechanisms, tools, and financing options for incentivizing investments in natural capital and environmental sustainability and in promoting environmental mainstreaming in key economic and social sectors.
- (vi) Identify stakeholder roles to operationalize the NESAP.

Preparation of NESAP is required under Cambodia’s Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management 1996 (i.e., Article 2, 3 and 4), and it is aligned with national Constitution (Article 59), strategies (i.e., Para 4 and Para 7.7 on page 4, and page 10 of the Rectangular Strategy, Phase III) and policies (i.e., Page 4 of the National Strategic Development Plan 2014-2018).

The Asian Development Bank's Greater Mekong Sub-region Environment Operations Center (ADB GMS EOC) has pledged both financial and technical support throughout the formulation process of NESAP<sup>1</sup>. The RGC<sup>2</sup> has permitted in principle that (i) Ministry of Environment leads the process for formulation of NESAP; (ii) the NCSD to review and endorse draft NESAP and then submit to the RGC for approval; and (iii) set-up Inter-Ministerial Task Force and cooperate with consultants and experts from all organizations and agencies.

The process of formulating the NESAP began in September 2015 and it is anticipated that the final NESAP will be endorsed by the NCSD and finally approved by the RGC before the end of 2016. The formulation of NESAP is in three stages: (i) inception phase; (ii) data collection and analysis; and (iii) draft and validation process.

Stage 1 has completed, and main achievements include:

- (i) Conducted initial consultation with a full range of stakeholders at national and sub-national levels through the Inception Workshop conducted on 02 Nov 2015 in Phnom Penh and additional bilateral interviews;
- (ii) Conducted background research and literature review;
- (iii) Identified list of data needs for NESAP drafting;
- (iv) Established NESAP Inter-ministerial Task Force (a Decision No. 35 dated 15 December 2015);
- (v) Drafted and finalized NESAP Scoping and Inception Report;
- (vi) Conducted first/inaugural meeting of NESAP Inter-ministerial Task Force on 15 December 2015 in Phnom Penh.

Stage 2 almost completed, and main activities completed include:

- (i) Conducted meetings and interviews with key stakeholders (NCSD, MoP/NIS, NCDD, MoWRAM, MLMUPC, MoT, MRD, MPWT, MAFF, MME, MIH, MoE, Vishnu Law Group, USAID, GGGI, SPCR, EU, ADB Cambodia Residence Mission, UNDP);
- (ii) Collected data and information on industrial pollution prediction system (IPPS) and planned to organize IPPS workshop in July/August 2016;
- (iii) Organized Workshop on Payments for Ecosystem Services on 09 March 2016 in Phnom Penh;
- (iv) Organized 2<sup>nd</sup> NESAP Inter-ministerial Task Force Meeting on 10 March 2016 in Phnom Penh;
- (v) Organized 3<sup>rd</sup> NESAP Inter-ministerial Task Force Meeting on 09 May 2016 in Sihanouk Ville;
- (vi) Organized 1<sup>st</sup> NESAP Regional Workshop on 10 May 2016 in Sihanouk Ville;
- (vii) Organized site visit for NESAP Inter-ministerial Task Force members on 11 May in Prey Nup;
- (viii) Organized 2<sup>nd</sup> NESAP Regional Workshop on 16 May 2016 in Siem Reap province;
- (ix) Organized 4<sup>th</sup> NESAP Inter-ministerial Task Force Meeting on 04 July 2016 in Kratie;
- (x) Conducted NESAP Community Consultation Workshop in July 2016 in four agro-ecological zones (tentatively in Kep, Prey Veng, Kratie and Kampong Thom provinces)

Stage 3 is in progress, and main activities carried out and to be completed include:

- (i) Conducted 4<sup>th</sup> NESAP Inter-ministerial Task Force Meeting on 04 July 2016 in Kratie to review the 1<sup>st</sup> complete NESAP Draft;
- (ii) To organize this national workshop to review the 1<sup>st</sup> complete NESAP Draft, attended by MOE, Line Ministries, CSOs, Private Sector and DPs;

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<sup>1</sup>ADB's GMS EOC's Letter dated 17 August 2015

<sup>2</sup>Letter No. 1069 SChNor.KS, dated September 17, 2015

- (iii) To organize 5<sup>th</sup>/final NESAP Inter-ministerial Task Force Meeting to finalize the 2<sup>nd</sup> complete NESAP Draft in Sept 2016;
- (iv) Edit final complete NESAP Draft in Sept/Oct 2016;
- (v) Translate final complete NESAP Draft from English language into the national language, Khmer in Oct 2016;
- (vi) Present and submit final complete NESAP Draft in ENG and KHM to NCSO for endorsement in Nov 2016; and
- (vii) Present and submit final complete NESAP Draft in ENG and KHM to RGC for approval in Dec.

### **Objectives and Design of the National Workshop**

This national workshop is organized by the MoE with support from the GMS Environment Operations Center.<sup>3</sup> Its aim is to inform, and generate collaboration, participation and consensus among stakeholders in the formulation process and implementation of the NESAP.

### **Agenda and Participation**

The workshop will bring together approximately 150 representatives from government ministries and institutions at both, the national and sub-national administration, development partners, academic institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector. Background documents and presentations will be provided to set the stage for each working session. A detailed summary will be provided after the national workshop, capturing key discussion points and agreed follow up actions. Below is the agenda of the Workshop.

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<sup>3</sup> The EOC is the secretariat to the GMS Working Group on Environment and provides technical and coordination support for the implementation of the Core Environment Program. Find out more [www.gms-eoc.org](http://www.gms-eoc.org)

## National Workshop Agenda

Time	Topic	Presenters	Chair of the Session
7:30-8:30	Participant Registration		
<b>Session I: Opening ceremony</b>			
8:30-8:35	National Anthem	<b>MC</b>	
8:35-8:45	Welcome and Introductory Remarks	<b>H.E. Mr. Sao Sopheap</b> , Advisor and Head of Working Group on Cooperation, Planning and Budgeting (WG-CPB), Ministry of Environment	
8:45-9:00	Welcome Remarks	<b>Mr. Samiuela T. Takuafu</b> , <b>Asian Development Bank Country Director</b> , Phnom Penh, Cambodia	
9:00-9:30	Opening Remarks	<b>H.E Mr. SAY Samal</b> , Minister of Environment, and Chair of National Council for Sustainable Development	
9:30-9:50	Group Photo & Coffee Break		
<b>Session II: NESAP objectives, formulation process, methodology, strategy and action plan</b>			
9:50-10:20	<b>Presentation 1:</b> Key findings from situation analysis, current responses, key priority, and risk assessment and management from NESAP	<b>H.E. Tin Ponlok</b> , Secretary General of NCS D	<b>H.E. Sao Sopheap</b> , Advisor and Head of WG-CPB, MoE
10:20-10:50	<b>Presentation 2:</b> Vision, mission, strategic goals and objectives and M & E	<b>H.E. Theng Pagnathun</b> , Delegate of the RGC in charge of Directorate General of Planning, MoP	
10:50-12:00	<b>Plenary Q and A Sessions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction</li> <li>• Opening</li> <li>• Presentation 1</li> <li>• Presentation 2</li> </ul>	H.E. Sao Sopheap H.E. Tin Ponlok H.E. Theng Pagnathun Mr. Sumit Pokhrel	
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break		
<b>Session III: Group discussion</b>			
13:30-15:00	Small group discussion on Presentations 1 and 2	Small groups	<b>H.E Khieu Borin</b> , Assistant to MoE and Head of NSU
15:00-15:30	Coffee Break		
15:30-16:30	Group presentations and plenary discussion on what and how to improve NESAP and its implementation	Group representatives	<b>H.E. Sao Sopheap</b> <b>H.E. Tin Ponlok</b> <b>H.E. Theng Panhathun</b> <b>H.E Khieu Borin</b>
16:30-16:45	Summary and next steps	<b>Dr. Pech Sokhem</b> , Team Leader	
16:45-17:00	Closing remarks	<b>H.E. Sao Sopheap</b>	

