

Compilation of the CSO/NGO Perspectives on the National Strategic Development Plan 2014-2018

For the submission to the Line Ministries and Agencies of the Royal Government of Cambodia and Development Partners

Coordinated and compiled by
Development Policy Project, Development Issues Program
The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGO Forum)

CSO/NGO Input Papers by:



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The list of the contributors states the organizations who took a leading role in coordinating, collating and drafting their respective papers. The NGO Forum on Cambodia would like to acknowledge their contribution to the development of this compilation and express our appreciation for all these invaluable inputs.

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Introduction

The National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) is the overarching policy instrument of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC). First developed in 2006-2010, it has brought together all key government policies, including economic development, education, health, agriculture, land planning, and environment policies and many others. It is the RGC's planning blueprint for poverty reduction in Cambodia for the future.

The civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-government organizations (NGOs) in Cambodia see that country ownership of such a major policy framework goes beyond government ownership. The common ground of these organizations is the shared objective of advancing the position of the poor and vulnerable groups in Cambodian society. Through combined knowledge of what is occurring at the grassroots level, CSO/NGOs are well placed to assist the RGC and development partners in their policy making and implementation by sharing and providing valuable feedback and suggestions regarding the country's development policy and implementation.

In the last decade, the CSO/NGO community has been actively involved in the government-development aid coordination mechanisms at all levels: Technical Working Group (TWG), Government-Development Partner Cooperation Committee (GDCC) and the Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum (CDCF). The engagement has been carried out by CSO/NGOs directly at TWG level and/or under the coordination of the NGO Forum on Cambodia, Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) and MEDiCAM at the GDCC and CDCF levels. As a result, the NGO statements and NGO position papers have been produced for the monitoring result of the implementation of the NSDP Update (2009-2013) and the CDCF's Joint Monitoring Indicators (JMIs).

Starting early in 2013, the RGC is in the process of preparing the NSDP 2014-2018 which is to ensure consistency between different national development policy frameworks and to take into consideration the changing internal and external development contexts. A guideline was issued by the Ministry of Planning (MoP) in mid-April to all concerned line ministries and agencies to prepare their inputs for the draft NSDP which is expected to be ready in October and adopted by the National Assembly and Senate by late December 2013 or early January 2014.

In a meaningful participatory process, it is believed that civil society stakeholders have an important role to play in priority setting, policy making, resource allocations and program implementation, through effective consultations which could improve the content of the national plan. Therefore, CSO/NGOs can actively contribute to the formulation of the NSDP 2014-2018 by sharing insights from CSO/NGOs' work at grassroots to inform policy development; contributing to improving the inputs prepared by relevant LM/LAs; helping the RGC to design systems that are responsive to the needs of the Cambodian citizens; and assisting the RGC in disseminating the NSDP 2014-2018.

Under the coordination and compilation of the NGO Forum on Cambodia, relevant sector CSO/NGOs produced this CSO/NGO Perspectives on Key Aspects of the NSDP 2014-2018 highlighting the CSO/NGO appreciation for the implementation of the NSDP Update (2009-2013), key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018 and key areas for CSO/NGOs' role and participation. In addition to the existing communication mechanisms accessed by the CSO/NGOs, the compiled Papers will be submitted to attention of the MoP and development partners during a national consultative workshop prior to the release of the first draft of the NSDP 2014-2018.

Legal, Judicial Reform, Democracy and Good Governance

1. Legal and Judicial Reform

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>According to the mid-term review report of the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) Update 2009-2013, on the legal and judicial reform sector, the Royal Government of Cambodia had completed its tasks on the legal and judicial reform sector, including the promulgating on the Penal Code and the Anti-Corruption Law. In contrary, paragraph 329 of NSDP 2009-2013 (the legal and judicial sector) mentioned as following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to promote the adoption of the major fundamental laws, namely Penal Code, Anti-Corruption Law, Law on the Organization and Functioning of the Court and Prosecutor, and Law on the Amendment of the Law on the Organization and Functioning of the Supreme Council of Magistracy. <p>Therefore, it remained 2 fundamental laws – (1) the Law on the Organization and Functioning of the Court and Prosecutor, and (2) the Law on the Amendment of the Law on the Organization and Functioning of the Supreme Council of Magistracy – have not yet been enacted and promulgated, and these draft laws remained in the General Secretariat of the Council for Legal and Judicial Reform of the Council of Ministers.</p> <p>The Cambodian Constitution was adopted in 1993. Article 135 of the Cambodian Constitution also mentioned about the 2 fundamental laws which the Royal Government of Cambodia had an obligation to enact – namely the Law on the Statute of the Judges and Prosecutors, and the Law on the Organization and Functioning of the Court and Prosecutor but these laws had not yet been enacted and promulgated to date.</p> <p>Most critically, the review on the Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 (MoP)¹ did not incorporate legal and judicial reform sector. It is our view that the legal and judicial reform sector is an essential part of Cambodia's national development. This</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest the Royal Government of Cambodia to integrate the legal and judicial reform sector including the Extraordinary Chambers in the Court of Cambodia (ECCC) into the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2014-2018. • The Royal Government of Cambodia should adopt the major fundamental draft laws namely the Law on the Organization and functioning of the Court and Prosecutor, the Law on the Statute of Judges and Prosecutors, the Law on the Amendment of the Law on the Organization and Functioning of the Supreme Council of Magistracy, and the Law on Access to information, Administrative Code, Law on the Procedure of the Law Establishment (need to mention about the counseling was made in public).The adaptation of these laws and a code should be gender responsive. • Suggest the Royal Government of Cambodia to prepare clearly the particular national budget (gender responsive budget) for this sector, in order to be able to process it without the financial obstacle. • The Royal Government of Cambodia should implement a specific plan on the training of judges, prosecutors, lawyers and the court clerks, in order to ensure justice are provided to the people. It should be made mandatory for all judicial officials and legal officers to undertake continuous and constant training to update and upgrade their knowledge and skills, such as: (i) in regard to adopting a gender perspective in analyzing legal issues and factoring gender considerations into the decisions they make; and (ii) in newer areas of law such as in regard to the law on Secured Transactions. • The Royal Government of Cambodia shall continue implementing new laws with gender responsive manner, as well as disseminating, further reviewing and discussing on some necessary draft laws, in order to reach in the adoption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The civil society organizations including organizations working promote gender and the development partners shall receive the opportunity on participating in the review and discussion process comprehensively and fully. Moreover, the ideas and comments from the civil society organization and the development partners should be given value, encouraged, considered and accepted to improve the content of those laws. • The Royal Government's relevant institutions should open the opportunity to the civil society organizations, including organizations working promote gender to make connection and to meet for discussion on the work of legal and judicial reform. • The development partners and the donor countries should continue providing both the financial and technical supports for the legal and judicial reform sector.

¹ The Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 of the Ministry of Planning

<p>was confirmed in the NSDP 2009-2013, as it had determined a clear set of action plans on the legal and judicial reform sector. Contrary to the Mid-Term report, it is our view that the work is still ongoing and it should be incorporated into the 5th mandate of the Royal Government (2014-2018).</p>	<p>from the legislative body on the draft law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A stronger representation of women in the law and justice sector should be ensured. A minimum quota for the number of judicial officials and legal officers appointed should be instituted. 	
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Note:

* For the specific sector/sub-sector, please refer to the Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 of the Ministry of Planning (p.11-13). However, this may also include the issues not specified in the Guideline.

2. Election Reform and Democracy

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Progress NGOs appreciate the RGC's commitment toward efficient, transparent and accountable of democratic governance and governing laws and regulations (Paragraph 318 in the NSDP update 2009-2013: The RGC is strongly committed to achieving its prioritized goals in the 4th legislature of the National Assembly by ensuring sustainability, peace, political stability, security and social order to promote rule of law and protect human rights and dignity and multi-party democracy).</p> <p>Challenges Challenges as observed by Comfrel are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of cooperation and engagement from NEC and government in election-related affairs proposed by NGOs working on election issues. - Lack of openness from NEC in regard to some affairs, mechanism and procedure in election issues. 	<p>The RGC should continue committing to transparency, accountability and efficiency in building and promoting the rule of law and cultivate of human rights respecting through setting out clear and measurable milestones in the NSDP 2014-2018. These may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The engagement of the public and CSOs in the development of EI policies, legal and regulatory framework and in monitoring their implementation. 2. NGOs have observed that publicly available law on information is still far from adoption. 3. Reform the Law on Election for all levels especially on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the Voter List and Voter Registration • Restructuring the National Election Committee (NEC) • Creating an inclusive Election System • Improving Voter Education Especially in Remote and Indigenous Areas • Creating fair and open media for political process and strengthening politically equal access to media during election calendar • Adopting the law on Finance of Political Parties • Enlarging Democratic Space through Freedom of Expression and Assembly 4. National Assembly's internal regulation must be reformed in order to follow the standard of democratic and professional parliament. 5. The RGC should improve the field of press freedom by adhering to legal instruments or other good practices. 	<p>Comfrel, other NGOs working on election and other stakeholders will engage and address the issues through possible advocacy, campaign, consultation and forum exercise, eg through Comfrel's election monitoring reports/assessment and the conduction of a systematic observation on political parties' compliance to existing law.</p>

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* For the specific sector/sub-sector, please refer to the Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 of the Ministry of Planning (p.11-13). However, this may also include the issues not specified in the Guideline.

3. Access to Information

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>The Cambodian Government views good governance as a core and essential component of rectangular strategy to achieve the development goal. Access to information (A2I) is a crucial ingredient in achieving the key goal of good governance. It allows people to acquire Government held information and for the Government to operate with more transparency, accountability and fighting corruption. To promote transparency and accountability, an Access to Information Law is necessary for Cambodia. Such a law would help to encourage trust and confidence between the Government, private sector and civil society, especially Cambodian people. It would empower and encourage more people to engage with the political and development processes that contribute to sustainable development².</p> <p>The Ministry of Planning and UNDP report 2007 states "... important is the need for much greater transparency, equal access to relevant information and genuine participation by rural people and communities inland related decisions that affect their livelihood, security and well-being³".</p> <p>Currently, there is no legislation providing a comprehensive right to information, and the constitutional protection for this right is not expressed.</p> <p>Some government officials and members of the parliament have shown support but political will act remains low. There is an increasing willingness and action of some members of the parliament to demand for access to information. MONASRI drafted the A2I policy framework but has not yet been approved. A Law on Access to Information proposed by Members of Parliament (MP) from the Sam Rainsy Party was submitted to the National Assembly in March 2012 and has not yet been passed as well. Meanwhile, a model law on Access to Information was also drafted by a civil society group (Freedom of Information</p>	<p>The RGC should pass the A2I policy framework as well as an Access to Information Law with clear rules and time frames.</p> <p>The RGC should develop a culture of openness through promptly responding to requests for information especially sensitive cases by appointed information commissioner including at least one third are women and actively increases publishing and makes publicly accessible the accurate information about Cambodia's policies, financial information, and other information that gives an indication of their importance/relevance to the Cambodian people.</p> <p>Both the RGC and development partners should allocate resources to promote people's awareness of their right to access to public information and the need for a law in Cambodia to endorse this in order to broaden transparency and accountability.</p> <p>Increase demand for access to information through promoting awareness of the value of access to public information to all citizens and public bodies.</p> <p>The RGC with inclusion of the NGO working group is convened to formulate strategies, procedures and mechanisms to enable effective implementation of the Access to Information Law once it is enacted.</p>	<p>Development partners engage the government in dialogue regarding policy and legislation, as well as provide strong support to civil society initiatives. All partners to focus and integrate access to public information concepts/principles into their projects/programs as a cross-cutting issue.</p> <p>CSOs conduct a campaign for A2I legislation, educate and empower citizens, CBOs including the most marginalized, and engage at the sub-national level and private sector leaders by discussion of the benefits of access to information, and knowledge about public and government issues.</p> <p>CSOs needs to continue on fostering active citizen demand for public information, enhancing public bodies to release public information especially sensitive information of any events that direct and indirect affect to citizens.</p>

² NGO Position Papers on Cambodia's Development in 2010-2012 (page 6)

³ Expanding Choices for Rural People: Cambodia Human Development Report 2007', The Ministry of Planning and UNDP Cambodia, 2007. p. 6

<p>Working Group).</p> <p>Government disclosure practices are weak due to the insufficient capacity of government officials regarding the concept of access to information, not much budgeting for information disclosure by ministries, poor structure of responding information especially the information issue they deem politically sensitive.</p> <p>Cambodian people are not well informed about Access to Information and make few demands for disclosure. An Access to Information Survey was conducted by the Advocacy and Policy Institute (API) with 737 respondents in 35 villages in four provinces in November 2011. It was found that 46% of community members had asked for information from their village or commune level, with the majority receiving everything they asked for although over 30% were not completely satisfied. It was noted that poorer members of the community found it harder to access information.⁴ Without the Access to Information law, it is difficult for citizens to participate in development process with sustainability.</p>		
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⁴Access to Information Baseline Survey, Advocacy and Policy Institute, November 2011, page 7

4. Decentralization and Deconcentration

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Appreciated implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decentralization has contributed to increasing the accountability of commune councilors and citizens' engagement in local decision making through a form of participatory development. It is widely seen that local residents have better access to markets, hospitals and other services, and that transportation of goods and service delivery are more convenient. There are some good examples available on contributions to rural infrastructure and on work on administration services, for example civil registration. - The CS fund has increased from 2 percent in 2003 to 2.8 percent in 2010 of state revenue - The Organic Law of 2008 was significant step in providing the legal framework for implementing the vision laid out in the Strategic Framework. <p>Challenges to be improved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various legal frameworks related to D&D developed by various ministries and sectors need to be harmonized within the principle of D&D. - The absence of a clear vision and an overall policy and strategy to guide D&D has led to various ministries and sectors moving in different directions, with little or no horizontal coordination. - A legal framework for the law on 'commune own sources revenue' has not been formulated. - Actions of the municipalities remain constrained by insufficient funding considering their new scope of responsibility. - Lack of funding has often induced communes to resort to all sorts of expedients undermining a weak culture of rule of law and accountability. - There are significant inconsistencies between the 2008 Organic Law and the Law on Public Finance System. - Almost all significant government expenditures at the sub-national level occur through the de-concentrated expenditures of the central line-ministries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harmonize various legal frameworks related to D&D within the principle of D&D. - Set a clear vision and an overall policy and strategy to guide D&D in order to enable the harmonization and coordination of various sectors consistent with the principles of D&D. - Formulate a legal framework for the law on 'commune own sources revenue. - Speed up the decentralization of public service delivery by redeploying staff and resources to sub national level administrations. - Increase capacity building in term of planning and budget to communes and sangkats to enable them to effectively manage their plans. - Review and amend the System of intergovernmental transfers to harmonize with that of the provinces, districts and the municipalities and to ensure its transparency. - CSOs participate in policy formulation and consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring the implementation of policy at all levels - Policy consultation and dialogue at the national level - Engage in the implementation of one year extension of IP3 - Support enhancing the capacity development of sub national councils (administration) - Providing feedback to the policy level in order to improve its strategic implementation plan.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transfer of responsibilities towards communes and sangkats remains delayed due to the lack of capacity. - System of intergovernmental transfers remain very limited, leading to vertical imbalance between provinces and districts on one hand and on the other hand, creating horizontal imbalance between provinces as well as between municipalities within the same province. 		
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Note: consultative inputs from WGPD members

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* For the specific sector/sub-sector, please refer to the Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 of the Ministry of Planning (p.11-13). However, this may also include the issues not specified in the Guideline.

5. Public Financial Management Reform Program (PFMRP)

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>The NGOs/CSOs congratulate the RGC for having made considerable progress in implementing the PFMRP, especially on the progressive steps in increasing transparency in the budget process during the period up to 2013, some of which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of public procurement law 2011 and other relevant provisions. • The publication of the Sub-decree on Public Debt Management, which was approved by the RGC in June 2011 and the executive summary of public debt management strategy. • The immediate publication of the 2013 Budget Law, along with its relevant documents on the MEF's website to ease public access. • The adoption and publication of the new charts of accounts and the new economic budget classification for national and sub-national administrations in early 2013 on the Tax Department's website. • The publication of the public services fees for at least 18 ministries (as of April 2013 in the Official Gazette). • Increased engagement in dialogue with NGOs/CSOs on budget transparency through training workshops and launch workshop of the Open Budget Survey 2012, and other meetings during 2012 and early 2013. • And other information in the website of MEF and general departments of tax, treasury, and customs and duties. <p>However, further efforts are needed to expedite the PFMRP objectives, and provide for civil society participation in the implementation process, particularly legislation process.</p> <p>These include the need to speed up the development of certain documents and regulations such as the Debt Sustainability Analysis and regulations on the implementation of the Public Procurement Law, which remain in the process of development, and provide an opportunity for civil society to provide their inputs on these regulations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparency in public finance management should be clearly highlighted as an end goal along with budget-policy linkages and accountability for performance and public service delivery in the NSDP 2014-2018. It should also be seen as a means to help achieve the targeted revenue increase of 0.5% of GDP per year and improve efficiency in the budget process. - Transparency is observed to be well legislated in relevant legal provisions for sub-national administration. Sub-objective 25.4 on improving transparency stated only number of documents to be published, mostly at national level. Transparency at the ministerial level needs to be improved as well. To improve transparency practice at national and ministerial level, Article 84 on disclosing financial and accounting reports in the Law on Public Finance System should be operationalized in provision of relevant legislation, circular and guidelines on budget formulation and implementation. -The NSDP 2014-2018 should highlight clearly the need for the PFMRP to ensure that its implementation is fully and comprehensively reported for public understanding by giving more details on the progress and shortfalls under each specific objective, along with renewed commitments in terms of timeframe to achieve these objectives, in its existing reports or through updating the existing plan. - To achieve objective 25 of PFMRP on improving transparency and ways of communication with the public, the Ministry of Economy and Finance shall publish draft budget laws, and more regular and detailed budget reports (i.e. TOFE).The report content should be consistent to the budget law to reflect transparency in practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CSOs/ NGOs would like to be engaged in trainings related to moving forward the PFMRP agenda to get better understanding of the progress and challenges of its implementation.

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Note:

* For the specific sector/sub-sector, please refer to the Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 of the Ministry of Planning (p.11-13). However, this may also include the issues not specified in the Guideline.

6. Management of Revenues from Extractive Industry (Oil/Gas and Mining)

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>- NGOs appreciate the RGC's commitment toward efficient, transparent and accountable management of revenues from extractive industry (EI - mineral and oil/gas) exploitation by developing key governing laws and regulations.⁵</p> <p>- Although these revenues are being recognized as valuable resources for long-term economic development and improvement of livelihood of the Cambodian people, the NSDP update did not elaborate on the management framework, systems and measures that will be put in place to ensure proper implementation and management of EI throughout its value chain.⁶</p> <p>- NGOs particularly applaud the government's efforts in making progress of developing (drafting) key laws and regulations, and, the draft petroleum policy was shared and consulted with concerned stakeholders. However, the draft Law on Petroleum and the draft Law on Taxation on Natural Resource Operation have not been publicly consulted despite repeated requests.</p> <p>- Despite the fact that the first drop of oil is expected in 2016,⁷ key draft laws mentioned above are still under review by the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the Council of Ministers.⁸</p> <p>- Furthermore, NGOs have observed that publicly available information on EI revenue management is very limited, except only an aggregate revenue line recorded in the TOFE.⁹</p> <p>- The RGC has already expressed its intention in improving transparency in EI revenue management through the adoption and implementation of the EITI principles.¹⁰ However, this commitment has not been realized nor reported with any progress.</p>	<p>- The RGC should continue committing to transparency, accountability and efficiency in the management of revenues from mineral and oil/gas through setting out clear and measurable milestones in the NSDP 2014-2018. These may include, but not limit to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The engagement of the public and CSOs in the development of EI policies, legal and regulatory frameworks and in monitoring their implementation; • The adoption of the relevant legal frameworks by 2016 or before oil production starts; • The disclosure of relevant information along the EI value chain in the public domain in a timely, regular and comprehensive manner; • The explicit, official commitment to apply for EITI membership at the most opportune time; and • The RGC's consideration on studying the establishment of a Petroleum Fund in anticipation of the generation of oil revenues from 2016 onwards. 	<p>CSO/NGOs are ready to constructively engage with relevant RGC institutions in policies consultations (petroleum and mineral policies) and laws (EIA law and guidelines), partnership and other cooperation relating to EI development, which will help the RGC to bring in international good practices and other resources, to ensure that these oil/gas and mining resources are managed in a transparent, accountable and efficient manner to benefit the nation and its people for current and future generations.</p> <p>The global transparency movement illustrated by the adoption of the Dodd Frank Bill in the US, and of the Transparency and Accounting Directive Act in the European Union will provide a venue for CSOs to obtain information regarding extractive companies' payments to host governments from their home countries' respective stock exchanges as advocacy tool to encourage the RGC to release information.</p>

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⁵ Paragraphs 371 and 466 of the NSDP Update (2009-2013).

⁶ This is except for the action points of the Cambodian National Petroleum Authority (CNPA) as seen in paragraph 472.

⁷ The Chevron representative informed during the consultative workshop on Chevron EIA Development Report at Ministry of Environment June 29, 2012 and Opening remarks of H.E. Dr. Cheam Yeap, Youth Forum on Good Governance in Extractive Industry, 4 May 2013, Phnom Penh.

⁸ Public Financial Management Reform Program (PFMRP) progress report of the 3rd quarter of 2012 (www.pfm.gov.kh).

⁹ TOFE does not break down the EI revenue line, nor has the line been reported with any figure since June 2011. The latest TOFE is the one for November 2012 which was released on the MEF's website January 2013. In addition, the website of the General Department of Mineral Resources of the Ministry of Industry, Mining and Energy has not been accessible or functional in the past 2 years. For CNPA, its website has been upgraded with useful information on the development of oil and gas sector, including block maps, seismic profiles and companies awarded with production sharing contracts, which NGOs show high appreciation.

¹⁰ This commitment was highlighted as one of the activities in the Public Financial Management Reform Program (PFMRP).

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Note:

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Social and Human Development

7. Improving Quality of Education

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Time period of 2008/09 – 2011/12:</p> <p>Progress: The net enrolment rate in primary education has improved from 94.4% to 96.4% in school year 2011-2012.</p> <p>The dropout rate for primary school was 8.3% in 08/09 and remained at that in 2010/11. The Government has reported that it fell to 3.7% in 2011/12 (but NEP is waiting for verification).</p> <p>The dropout for upper secondary has fallen from 11.3% to 10.1%.</p> <p>There are 1215 school buildings and 4317 teachers more in rural.</p> <p>The number of teachers had only primary or lower secondary education has fallen from 54% to 38%.</p> <p>The primary pupil-teacher ratio has fallen from 49.7:1 to 48.5:1.</p> <p>Failure: The dropout for lower secondary was 18.8% and has increased to 20%.</p>	<p>Improving learning outcomes of children in primary school which will require many more primary teachers with greater qualifications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim for a national primary pupil-teacher ratio of 40:1 on the current 2012/13 figures. Cambodia would need an extra 9500 primary teachers. To attract and retain qualified, motivated primary teachers, government should increase the basic wage of primary teachers to equal lower secondary teachers and creating enabling environment for female teachers to teach in rural areas. Higher basic wages must be accompanied by a large reduction in lost teaching hours. • The government should prioritize education as being in greater need of extra investment by the government ahead of other issues such as health, infrastructure, national defense and the environment. <p>There should be a focus on getting boys and girls to enroll in grade 1 at age 6. In 2011/12, 31.5% of children beginning grade 1 were older than 6. For every year over the age of 6 that a child begins primary school, they are 1.5 times more likely to have dropped out by grade 5 than a comparable child who began school aged 6. Starting primary school late also causes children, especially female to drop out of lower secondary school because they are already 15 or 16.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater effort is required to promote enrolment and retention of girls in educational institutions at all levels and areas of education including secondary school. One such measure would be to offer a greater amount of scholarships to women. Access to education need also be improved by, for instance, building dormitories to accommodate female students attending from far-flung areas. • To promote enrolment and 	<p>Education NGOs are finding it difficult to engage with provincial Joint Technical Working Groups for Education. MoEYS should ensure that NGOs are involved in provincial JTWG work.</p> <p>MoEYS should be more open to allow research on education issue.</p> <p>More freedom of speech and discussion on sensitive issues on education issues should be promoted.</p>

	<p>retention of indigenous, disabled and LBT women in educational institutions. Such efforts would include improving both physical and social access to education. Greater acceptance of indigenous, disabled and LBT women need be fostered through public campaigns and educational program in educational institutions.</p>	
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8. Water and Sanitation

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Civil society appreciates the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) of setting the clear goals for the water and sanitation aiming that 50% of rural population have access to safe drinking water in 2015 and 100% in 2025 and 30% of rural population achieve healthy sanitation in 2015 and 100% in 2025 (MRD conference 2012) even though those goals seem ambitious and unrealistic considering availability of current government's financial and human resources and efforts.</p> <p>Progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MRD has carried out several pilot projects in close cooperation with ADB, WFP and several NGOs to improve the water and sanitation sub-sector in some challenging rural areas and acquire best practices of water and sanitation works and share them with other development actors through the MRD annual conference e.g. on March 5, 2013. -TWG for Rural Water supply and Sanitation and Hygiene under the coordination of MRD has developed National Strategy for Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene 2011-2015 -Many NGOs are actively involved in these works and participation of TWG Water and Sanitation enable NGOs inputs into policy development. MRD is currently planning to review the membership of TWG. <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Only few NGO's are invited and actively participate TWG meetings -Lack of coordination between the ministries and development actors -Low visibility/profile of water and sanitation issues in current plans and discussions within the development agenda -Dissemination and implementation of National Strategy for Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene 2011-2015 from national to sub-national levels has been slow and capacity of provincial and district levels need to be strengthened before actual implementation of the strategy will be possible -Technical guidelines and tools for resource mobilization are still under development. 	<p>Water and sanitation is very relevant to rural livelihoods and well-being of the rural population. Civil society strongly recommends the government to pay more attention and allocate and mobilize more resources to the sub-sector so that the goals can be achieved as stated. NSDP 2014-2018 should put clear indicators and realistic plans with sufficient budget to meet the goals and objectives with gender responsive manner.</p> <p>More capacity building to male and female officers at sub-national level particularly at district and commune levels should be done with effectiveness and efficiency. MRD should play more active role to coordinate and cooperate with development partners including NGOs in the capacity building mentioned above. A reliable monitoring and evaluation system with gender responsive should be established to measure the progress against indicators, take lessons learned from pilot projects in the field for policies' revision and document lessons learned and share them with other relevant actors. NSDP 2014-2018 should indicate the roles civil society can play to contribute to meeting the goals and objectives of the sub-sector. NSDP 2014-2018 should promote community hygiene sensitization and WASH in school curriculum.</p> <p>Ensuring at stakeholder dialogues and consultations the proportional representation of women, the disabled, and the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. To allocate more government resources in providing more healthcare services and healthcare subsidies in mitigation of the negative health effects of non-potable water and poor sanitation amenities.</p>	<p>CSO/NGO should be allowed to take part in providing inputs to policies development through TWG or any other mechanism.</p> <p>NGOs should closely cooperate with MRD to learn and share best practices of water and sanitation projects. NGOs should continue to provide services particularly capacity building on water, sanitation and hygiene to rural communities in areas where the government services cannot reach.</p> <p>CSO/NGO should be allowed to help in the monitoring of the NSDP 2014-2018 progress achievements of the sub-sector so that the progress report against indicators of the government is transparent and reliable.</p> <p>Strong cooperation between the different development partners is needed and it is important to involve large number of partners working in the sector to work for the same vision.</p> <p>NGO's can provide technical assistance to the ministry/ministries on many components on national and subnational level to support the service delivery and conduct research/evaluations to contribute to the learning agenda</p>

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9. Labor and Employment

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Progress Increasing the minimum wages: The government has increased the minimum wage to workers in the garment sector (Cloths and Shoes)</p> <p>Other benefits: Government has made efforts to provide additional benefits such as living, transportations and healthsupport.</p> <p>Job Center: The Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training created a number of job centers and training centers for job seekers.</p> <p>Resolution Dispute Office: Government created resolution dispute offices for labor conflict. (In all district/khan in Cambodia).</p> <p>Challenges Although the government has increased the minimum wage to workers especially in the garment sector (Cloths and Shoes), still there is no balance between minimum wage and goods price, and the minimum wage is even lower compared to other countries in the regions.</p>	<p>The government must include the followings into the NSDP 2014-2018:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determine minimum and equity wages for male and female workers in all sectors at least 150 USD and minimum salary for civil-servants, polices and militaries at least 1,000,000 Riel. 2. Provide extra bonuses of 600,000 Riel for civil-servants, polices and militaries in the occasion of Khmer New Year and Pchum Ben Day. 3. Drop off the price of gasoline by 3,500 Riel per liter. 4. Abolish all kinds of illegal short-term contract. 5. Ensure the enforcement of Labor Law and ratified conventions effectively with gender responsiveness. 6. Take responsibility for the compensation to female and male workers in the case of factory or industry closed or bankrupted. 7. Withdraw monthly seniority from employer to store in the National Treasury to compensate for workers who resigned or in the case of industry closed. 8. Ensure no more using of the court systems against the trade unions and association freedom. 9. Stop violating and threatening the employees and trade union and association activists. 10. Arrange proper venues and environment for the workers of independent democracy of informal economy groups to run their business. 11. Ensure the implementation of National Social Security Fund on Health Insurance Scheme and Pension Scheme from 2013 with gender responsiveness. 12. Ensure the safety and security for male and female workers both at work place and transportation from home to work and vice versa. 13. Ensure the ratification of the conventions 183 and 189 on women's working conditions. 	<p>Workshop or training about National Social Security Fund (NSSF) conducted by NSSF department of Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training.</p> <p>Workshop or training about health care and how to prevention of emergency at work for workers that by ILO.</p> <p>Other activities that relate to labor sector provided by government and some CSOs/NGOs such as ILO, CLEC, ACILS, LICADHO, ADHOC, CCHR.</p>

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10. Disability

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>We appreciate the RGC ratification of the UNCRPD and development of the Law on the protection and the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities and sub-decrees. Many persons with disabilities have received vocational training in centres and are being employed to earn a living. Although significant progress has been made, the magnitude of the problems is daunting in light of the available resources.</p> <p>World Report on Disability (2012) from the World Health Organization highlighted the fact that people with disabilities are more likely to be unemployed and earn less. They experience higher rates of poverty, higher rates of deprivation e.g. access to education, food insecurity, access to safe water, sanitation, adequate housing, health care (extra costs for personal support, medical care, assistive devices).</p> <p>Furthermore, the 2009 ILO study noted that having a child or adult with a disability has negative economic effects on a household due to loss of working hours for caregivers in the family. Disability Network Consultation indicated that people with multiple disabilities, intellectual disability, mental health disability, blind, deaf and people with head injuries are not having their needs met regarding support and rehabilitation services.</p>	<p>We propose that disability be included in the NSDP 2014-2018 as crosscutting issue because it cuts across all sectors.</p> <p>Monitoring of implementation of UNCRPD and Law on the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.</p> <p>Promote implementation of and monitor implementation of sectoral disability inclusive policies for mainly education, health care, employment, gender, social safety net, public transport, physical infrastructure and information through the integration of disability references and indicators, a cross-cutting issue, into the NSDP Update (2014- 2018).</p> <p>Support the development of guidelines on the integration of disability in development programs and awareness raising activities about rights of persons, especially women and girls with disabilities into the actions of the Ministry of Interior and its administrative reform process and related capacity development.</p> <p>Promote community-based rehabilitation and disability mainstreaming into existing services (health and economic) over inclusion into pension schemes with gender responsiveness.</p> <p>Review and adjust the current disability definition, and monitor and collect statistics in line with the UNCRPD and recommendations of UNESCAP.</p> <p>Distinguish between causes of impairment/functional limitations and causes off disabling situations barriers to participation.</p> <p>To step-up policing of gender-based violence against disabled women. To step-up policing of gender-based violence as a cause of disability among women. To provide social welfare benefits to caretakers of disabled persons of either sex.</p>	<p>CDPO with relevant NGOs provide technical support across ministries to inform disability inclusive policy development. CDPO work with DPOs and disability NGOs to develop and implement tools to monitor implementation of UNCRPD and Law on the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. CDPO coordinate with relevant NGOs and DPOs to promote implementation of and to monitor implementation of sectoral disability inclusive policies. CDPO with relevant NGOs provide technical support and awareness raising and sensitizing activities to build capacity for development of guidelines on the integration of disability in development programs. CDPO work with DPOs and disability NGOs to gather relevant data and CDPO advocate for community-based rehabilitation and disability mainstreaming into existing services. CDPO consult with DPOs, NGOs and other relevant agencies and provide technical support to relevant ministries to review and adjust the current disability definition. CDPO provide technical support to develop an appropriate disability module to collect accurate and reliable disability data. CDPO work with DPOs, NGOs and other relevant agencies to develop</p>

		monitoring tools assess data validity.
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11. Gender

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Gender mainstreaming in national policies and programmes We note the comment that a larger number of ministries are preparing and implementing gender mainstreaming programmes. While some progress has been made, the following attendant issues need be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is crucial that eventually all ministries take on-board gender mainstreaming measures, as public policy should be advanced in a concerted, coordinated and harmonised manner. • It is not enough to have laws, policies and programmes in place. These must be effectively implemented. • Buy-in by the various stakeholders is critical to effective implementation of programmes. <p>Legal protection of women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is scarce mention of the plight of migrant workers as regards their exploitation and ill-treatment overseas. Migrant workers are provided little protection by Cambodian law. • There is scarce mention of legal protection measures as regards land disputes. A large proportion of those implicated by land disputes are women due to lower level of education among women. Women are also more badly affected land disputes due to their weaker economic status. <p>Economic empowerment of women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The statistics seem to indicate that the number of unpaid domestic workers has sharply reduced, particularly among female workers. Coupled with statistics that the number of women with wage employment has risen and the fact of a rapidly modernising economy, it might be inferred that more women are able to leave their employment in the non-formal sector for better and more stably remunerated employment in the formal sector. This however does not preclude economic exploitation of women labour in formal sector employment. Where before the women did not face as stern competition from men in their non-formal sector jobs, women face such competition upon 	<p>Gender mainstreaming in national policies and programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOWA to monitor gender mainstreaming across the government, regularly publishing progress statistics. • MOWA to regularly publish a Gender Development Index, which presents disaggregated data for indigenous, disabled and LBT women among other minority demographics. • To educate and train government officials on gender-sensitive laws and policies and their effective implementation. • To educate and consult with the public in advance on gender-sensitive laws and policies before implementation of policies/programmes. <p>Legal protection of women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stronger legal measures need be implemented to protect women who migrate in search of economic opportunities. Firstly, there should be stronger enforcement of The Sub-Decree on The Management of the Sending of Cambodian Workers Abroad through Private Recruitment Agencies. Also, there need be stronger bilateral agreements with receiving countries and implement structures of monitoring and evaluation to ensure that their women workers are treated fairly and properly while overseas. In particular, the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding between Cambodia and Malaysia regulating the recruitment and employment of Cambodian domestic migrant workers should be made public. • There need be the promoting of greater awareness of land rights among women. The government must make greater effort to inform and seek input from women about government land development plans. The government must ensure concrete post-eviction plans are put in place following government acquisition of land. In the case of the land rights of agricultural workers, the government should regulate the credit industry to ensure fair and equitable terms to secured transactions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGOs appreciate for providing opportunity for NGO participation in policy development and dialogues. NGOs are ready to constructively engage with relevant RGC institutions in policy consultation, partnership and other cooperation in all levels related to gender. • NGOs to be meaningfully and fully consulted, for the legal framework to be adapted and monitoring.

<p>entering the formal sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Therefore even as figures indicate an increase in the proportion of Cambodia’s total wage employment being women, there is a need to ensure wage equity before the conclusion that women labour is better-off overall can be drawn. • Maintaining employment is equally as important as gaining employment. There is no information on the employment turnover rate in the female workforce. We do not know whether women experience gender-based discrimination when they are retrenched due to pregnancy and their exercising of maternity leave. Likewise, we do not know whether women have to leave the workforce due to lack of access to childcare services. • Absent is disaggregated data on the number of women taking up employment as entertainment workers. This is pertinent as many of such workers do not enter into the line knowingly or voluntarily. • Absent is information on work environments and conditions. The gaining of wage employment does not necessarily connote improved wellbeing as it does not preclude economic exploitation and the endangering of human security. In particular, women entertainment workers are highly vulnerable to GBV and to contracting sexual diseases. <p><u>Promotion of women in decision-making</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We note the increase in female representation in decision-making in politics, that is female representation in the national government and the legislature, and the increase in the proportions of female vice-governors and commune council members. We do however also note that emplacement quotas have not been fulfilled. More need be done to increase women’s representation. • While there are indications that the proportion of women civil servants has increased, it is unclear whether this is mirrored by an increase in the proportion of women in decision-making positions within public administration. • Absent is information on the employment turnover rate of women in decision-making positions in politics and public administration. To ensure stable, consistent and 	<p><u>Economic empowerment of women</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More initiatives and investment are necessary for enhancing women’s access to market information and market-oriented skills. • More initiatives to raise women’s protection in the informal sectors. More financial support should be extended to women entrepreneurs. • There is a need to police and sanction discrimination in the workplace based on gender, and to ensure women can exercise their labour rights without endangering job security. A department within the Ministry of Women’s Affairs should be set up to receive and deal with complaints about gender-based discrimination in the workplace. • Women’s awareness among of their labour rights should be enhanced. • Union representation of women should be enhanced. • A detailed analysis of the employment data of entertainment workers should be pursued. Trends in the employment data of entertainment workers should be investigated. • Short-term contract workers should be entitled to retrenchment benefits to compensate for the instability of their employment. • Steps should be taken towards formalisation and regulation of non-formal industries. These steps must encompass preparatory phases to ensure that women in non-formal industries can meet the standards and conditions put in place by formalisation and regulation in so as to be able to maintain employment in those industries. • There is need for proper regulation of all industries to prevent economic exploitation of women and endangerment of human security. The law on minimum wage should apply to all industries. A pressing instance is for the law on minimum wage to extend to the construction industry. • Workplace safety laws should apply to all industries. • The Labour Law should be expanded to include domestic work. • Women minority groups must not be neglected in the economic empowerment of women. Anti-discrimination provisions need to be included in the Labour Law in order that indigenous, disabled and lesbian, bisexual and transgender (LBT) women can fully access 	
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<p>coherent representation on women issues, the career of women decision-makers must be enduring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also absent is data on the representation of indigenous, disabled and lesbian, bisexual and transgender (LBT) women in decision-making capacities. <p><u>Enhancing women's education</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We note that significant progress has been made in bringing about gender balance at the primary school education level. Gender balance at the secondary and tertiary school levels is however still left wanting. • School enrolment numbers in themselves are an inadequate indicator of the state of women's educational progress. Statistics on gender parity of literacy rates need be examined. • While enrolment is one thing, no indication has been provided as to drop-out rates of women. As while we may see an increase in enrolment numbers, we have no information as to enrolment turnover rates. • Absent is data on the gender balance in the areas of technical and vocational training. • Absent is disaggregated data on enrolment of indigenous, disabled and lesbian, bisexual and transgender women. <p><u>Promotion of health of women</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent are health statistics disaggregated by gender, and the provision of social and health services disaggregated by geographical dispersion. • Absent are statistics on maternal mortality rates. • Absent is data on sexual and reproductive health education. <p><u>Gender-Based Violence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We note that violence against women is recognised by more people as a crime. Lacking however are statistics on the number of cases of gender-based violence reported and the number of such cases prosecuted. • Overall, the attention paid to gender-based violence is sorely lacking. Gender-based violence has not been addressed head-on. This is troubling especially taking into account the fact that GBV deters, inhibits as well as impedes women taking steps to improve their lives. • Gender-based violence (GBV) is a 	<p>economic opportunities.</p> <p><u>Promotion of women in decision-making</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More initiatives and investment are needed for enhancing women's decision-making capacities and their participation in decision-making. The male populace need be engaged to enhance the acceptance women's participation in decision-making. An aspect of this would be for the inculcation of the equal sharing of social roles. • Statistics on women in decision-making positions within public administration should be published, for instance, judicial officials and prosecutors. • Greater effort is needed to recruit and retain qualified women in positions of political leadership and public authority. One measure would be to ensure that work environments are conducive and that work conditions are flexible for women's participation in decision-making capacities. Organisational support must be provided in order for women to be able to effectively juggle work and family commitments. • Minimum appointment quotas of indigenous, disabled and LBT women in decision-making capacities. <p><u>Enhancing women's education</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater effort is required to promote enrolment and retention of women in educational institutions at all levels and areas of education, including technical and vocation training. One such measure would be to offer a greater amount of scholarships to women. Access to education need also be improved by, for instance, building dormitories to accommodate female students attending from far-flung areas. • Statistics on gender parity of literacy rates, female drop-out rates and gender balance in the areas of technical and vocational training need be published. • To promote enrolment and retention of indigenous, disabled and LBT women in educational institutions. Such efforts would include improving both physical and social access to education. Greater acceptance of indigenous, disabled and LBT women need be fostered through public campaigns and educational programmes in 	
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<p>deterrent, inhibitor as well as impediment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - women being able to freely, fully and productively participate in economic activity, as it threatens the safety and conduciveness of work environments and conditions for women. - women being able to freely, fully and effectively accessing legal protection, as it affects the physical and mental health and emotional state of women which in turn affects their effective accessing of legal protection. - women being able to freely, fully and effectively accessing health services, as it affects the physical and mental health and emotional state of women which in turn affects their effective accessing of health services. - women being able to freely, fully and productively participate in decision-making. GBV affects the physical and mental health and emotional state of women which in turn affects their effective participation in decision-making. 	<p>educational institutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve the quality of teaching by increasing female teachers and their wages, and creating safe place for them to accommodate. <p>Promotion of health of women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More initiatives and investment are needed for improving the provision of and enhancing women’s physical and social access to social and health services. It must also be ensured that these services are adequately staffed and provided at adequate standards. For instance, there needs to be incentivisation of highly-qualified and highly-skilled medical and social workers to provide their services in rural communities. • This is especially so in light of victims of GBV predominantly being women. Special attention should be paid to the plight of indigenous, disabled and LBT women who are particularly vulnerable to GBV and sexual diseases. • Statistics on maternal mortality need to be regularly publishing. <p>Gender-Based Violence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics on the number of cases of gender-based violence reported and the number of such cases prosecuted should be published and tracked. • Measures to prevent, curb and treat GBV should include the following: (I)Implement educational programmes in and out educational institutions to create awareness, promote norms among men rebuking GBV, educate women about protection rights, sexual and reproductive health and healthy relationship.(ii)Increase the availability, easiness, appropriateness of legal aid and access to justice to all survivors of VAW without discrimination; (iii) Promote an effective police response by, developing by clarifying operational standards and codes of conduct and increasing gender sensitive responsive police protocols; (iv) Expedite the drafting of The Sub-Decree on Administrative Decisions by Local Authorities in Cases of Domestic Violence (DV) as was foreseen by the DV Law of 2005; and (v) Provide clarification on the definition of sexual harassment in the Criminal Code and the Labour Law. (VI) Capacities and resources of key sectors and stakeholders in national 	
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	and sub-national levels need to be strengthened to respond on VAW.	
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12. Disaster Management

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Disaster Management (NSDP 2009-2013):</p> <p>134:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on the disaster management. • National policy on the disaster management. • Participation in the adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 – 2015. <p><i>Progress:</i> Law still in draft form, being revised. National Policy – comprehensive policy not developed, awaiting finalization of the DM Law. Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) adopted and integrated into 2008-13 SNAP.</p> <p>135:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Action Plan and Strategy on Disaster Risk Reduction 2008-2013. <p><i>Progress:</i> 5 year SNAP developed - progress on achievement mixed – many key indicators partially met. No annual operational plans for the follow-up, or a mechanism for monitoring/ reporting progresses.</p> <p>327:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and develop a strategy to deal with the anticipated impact of the climate change, and strengthening disaster management capabilities. <p><i>Progress:</i> The Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCSP) drafted/ in development/ not finalised.</p> <p>432:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reform of Disaster Management System in order to meet the needs at all levels. • Promote the establishing of a disaster management working group (DMWG) at ministries/ agencies. • Formulate legal and regulatory framework, Standard Operation Procedure (SOP), and policy guidelines for disaster management. <p><i>Progress:</i> Reform of DM System on-going, need institutionalized structure, with clear strategy. DMWG established, varying levels of progress, lacking clear coordinated strategy, does not meet regularly. Law still in draft form, so no legislative foundation. NCP developed, as yet not operationalised.</p>	<p>Development of clear/ practical guideline on DRR mainstreaming strategy - identifying the key sectors where DRR should be integrated. With each sector clearly articulating activities to be implemented, targets to be achieved and indicators on progress achievement in which gender balance and equity is carefully considered and included.</p> <p>Finalisation and dissemination of the DM Law and Policy, with clearly assigned SOPs.</p> <p>Development of practical and achievable SNAP 2014-18, in line with AADMER commitments, with clear targets, time-line, persons responsible, M&E Framework, with annual operational plan and annual reviews on progress achieved, mechanism for sharing progress/ challenges with stakeholders in which gender and disability working group are included in the process.</p> <p>Finalisation/ implementation of the <i>Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCSP)</i>.</p> <p>Increased coordination/ synergies for both Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Response. Strengthen NCDMs role in line-ministry DRR plan development/ coordination/ annual review of target achievements.</p> <p>Establishment of permanent mechanism for coordinating DRR at national level through a multi-stakeholder National Platform for mainstreaming DRR into development policies, planning and programmes. Improved coordination of line ministries DRR activities with the sub-national level.</p> <p>Finalisation/ implementation of policy/ guidelines for DRR integration into National/ sub-national Planning processes with consideration of gender, ethnicity, and disability issues..</p> <p>Roll-out of EPRP guidelines. All provinces to develop standard CPs in-line with EPRP Guidelines (budgeted allocated for development/ annual review).</p> <p>NCP revision/ finalisation and</p>	<p>CSO/ NGO consultation on revised draft DM Law, to be led by NCDM.</p> <p>CSO/ NGO consultation on drafting of National DRR/ DM policy (sectoral).</p> <p>CSO/ NGO consultation on drafting of SNAP 2014-18.</p> <p>CSO/ NGO consultation/ input into sectoral/ departmental DRR/ DM plans to assist the establishment of clear targets and indicators (priorities).</p> <p>Civil Society DM/ DRR Joint Action Group (JAG) in collaboration with NCDM to provide technical assistance to individual Ministries in the identification and articulation of sectoral DRR/ DM cross cutting activities to reduce the negative impacts of natural disasters on Cambodia's development progress.</p>

<p><i>SOPs to be clearly articulated and institutionalised.</i></p> <p><i>Guideline on the integration DRR/CCA into the (CIP/CDP) and the Provincial Development Planning process developed, not finalized/ implemented.</i></p> <p>433:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure disaster risk reduction in preparedness for emergency response at both the national and grassroots levels, • Strengthen the management of disaster risks and preparedness for emergency response at sub-national and community levels, • Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning systems • Use knowledge, recent findings and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels • Mainstream risk reduction in policies and programmes of concerned ministries and institutions, • Strengthen preparedness for effective response to disasters at every level. <p><u>Progress:</u></p> <p><i>Little involvement of the research institutes in DRR.</i></p> <p><i>No DRR mainstreaming strategy identifying the key sectors where/ how DRR should be integrated.</i></p> <p><i>Standardized Emergency Response and Preparedness Plan guidelines finalized/ adopted.</i></p> <p>453:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake all actions to mitigate floods in all areas with high economic potential • Urgently respond to the needs of people residing in the areas affected by drought, flood and other calamities caused by water. <p><u>Progress:</u></p> <p><i>MOWRAM has made progress on flood mitigation.</i></p> <p><i>Developments on identifying areas for evacuation.</i></p> <p><i>Sub-national capacity in assessments and response needs improvements.</i></p> <p><i>Annual drought damage still a big issue, need for more resource allocation. Interventions currently ad-hoc rather than coordinated/ systematic.</i></p>	<p>dissemination.</p> <p>Standard EWS with focus on hazard prone provinces/ annual simulation exercise.</p>	
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In addition to the above the JAG (Joint Action Group for DRR/ DM) would like to make an additional submission. In the Guidelines for formulating the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2014-2018, Disaster Management is assigned as a Cross Cutting Issue. With such little detail/ guidance provided there is concern that Cross-cutting Issues risk no targets being set by the individual line departments/ Ministries.

Considering the RGCs Disaster Management commitments under the International Hyogo Framework for Action and the regional ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response; JAG Members believe that Disaster Management/ DRR should be a stand-alone issue for planning under the NSDP, which should also be mainstreamed into other key sectors (health, education, etc.). However, if it is to remain a Cross Cutting Issue, we note that for Climate Change there is a text box (*on page 4*) which puts emphasis on Climate Change mainstreaming. JAG would like to propose that for Disaster management we also submit a similar text box (*see below*) as it is imperative to mainstream DRR/ DM across relevant line departments/ Ministries.

Additionally, civil society DM/ DRR Joint Action Group (JAG) in collaboration with NCDM is able to provide technical assistance to individual Ministries in the identification and articulation of sectoral DRR/ DM activities to reduce the negative impacts of natural disasters on Cambodia's development progress.

9. Crosscutting issues: *The RGC has identified at least four crosscutting issues: gender, environment and natural resources management, disaster management, and the Public Finance Management (PFM) and attempts are to be made to mainstream these in all the sectors. Additionally, nutrition is one, albeit it cannot crosscut all activities.*

On Disaster Management

Cambodia is a country prone to being affected by natural disasters which can have a considerable negative impact on Cambodia's economic development, infrastructure, business environment etc. Recognising the importance of reducing the negative impact of natural disasters the RGC has identified the need to mainstream Disaster Risk Reduction/ Disaster Management activities across all sectors. It is important for line ministries to identify the risks in relation to their sectoral activities, and to come up with specific measures/ activities to address the potential negative impacts. Line ministries are requested to consider the following questions when designing your sectoral plans, and detail the measures/ activities identified for action:

- a. What are the natural hazard risks (*flooding, drought, storms etc*) that could adversely affect your areas of operation and should be considered in the planning of your sectoral activities and investments?
- b. Which dedicated Disaster Risk Reduction activities are required in the sector (*e.g. policy, planning tools, pilot projects and research*)?
- c. What are the information and capacity development needs, required to boost sectoral Disaster Risk Reduction capacities?
- d. Is there any support required from other line ministries to manage natural hazard risks (*e.g. joint assessment of climate risk, coordinated design of response policies etc.*)?

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Note:

* For the specific sector/sub-sector, please refer to the Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 of the Ministry of Planning (p.11-13). However, this may also include the issues not specified in the Guideline.

13. Social and Cultural Development

Leading NGO: CCC

Contributed NGOs: Krousa Thmey, VCAO, KCDI, EPIC ART, SCADP, WATHNAKPEAP, CLA, KHEMERA, PATA, Khmer Art Academy, and KYA

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Appreciated Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opened for CSO to involve in promoting socio-cultural development through organizational program included cultural heritages and patrimonies. - Actively promoted on cultural heritage and legacies on TV, Radio, and print materials and integrate culture, arts, religion in education program from primary to university. - Documented on cultural heritages as video clip, voice record, CD/DVD, and printed materials. - Promoted Khmer Boxer through National and International competition - Integrated intangible and tangible cultural heritages and legacies into the world heritage. - Created a Living Human Treasure System to promote Cambodian artists and created competition events on the f Khmer cultural heritage such as art, Broran song, Robam, and Poem on TV program. - There were many law and regulation for promoting cultural heritages in national and international level. - Opened for other religious/faith in campaign their religion of in Cambodia and provided freedom for people in faith. - Promoted role of religion in social education and social development through sermon (preaching) such as HIV/AIDs, gender equity, traffic law, social morality on TV program, Radio, and religious events. - Established Buddish University - Built and maintained lots of Wat (Pagodas) in nationwide for Buddhist Cambodian people. - Provided profession trainings to A-cha (person who selects and sets the weddings) to be a professional manner with common procedure of wedding ceremony for Cambodian and providing license. <p>Challenges to be improved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 2009-2013 NSDP plan and its progress seemed not well reached out to Cambodians, especially at sub-national level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Add socio-cultural development plan relevant to cultural heritage, arts, religion, and handicraft into NSDP 2014-2018 and incorporate into national strategies on community based and eco- tourism, on promotion of rights of individuals or groups to cross cultural and religions Cambodians and ASEANS and allocate national budget for implementation these strategies. - Promote engagement of indigenous people of either sex to show their own group culture in the national or international events in a way that respects and promotes their cultures. - Line ministry should provide profession trainings to communities both men and women on handicraft skills and encouraging public and private sector for investment products and/or services that promote cultures and traditions of Khmer. - Develop strategies to provide support for the arts and culture sector by providing technical assistance and capacity-building for arts and cultural NGO/Association - Create cultural enterprise zones or communities and provide opportunity for sub-national and national competition. - Stimulate markets for Khmer cultural goods through national and international market cultural events. - Strengthen the law enforcement related to arts and cultures at both county and ASEAN level to ensure all the law and regulation are effectively implemented with gender responsive manner. - Work in partnership with government and other stakeholders to promote and contribute to sustain the cultural heritage, legacies, and to identity, traditional, and language of Khmer indigenous people and engage them to involve in community development. - Create a strong monitoring and evaluation system for socio-cultural development sector. - To ensure the preservation of cultural heritage and traditions does not prevent young women from obtaining formal education up to graduation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government - NGOs Working Group to facilitate the inputs for the development of national plan, policy, guideline, and regulation related to socio-cultural development. - Partnership with line ministries to implement the developed national policies. Join monitoring the progress of NSDP implementation and provide inputs for improvement. Partnership with line ministry and religions to strengthen the roles and responsibilities of religion in community development and the race of faith for select target groups.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of provide profession training to cultural arts trainers which can build capacity and professional skills to the people in need. - Lack of opportunity for Khmer indigenous people to show their own group culture in the national or international events. - Lack of mechanism to ensure that Cambodians have adapted the right culture for their country. - Lack of law enforcement relate to copyrights law, sub-degree on brand name, degree on cultural heritage and patrimony protection....) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from secondary school. - To ensure young women’s participation in the tourism industry does not prevent them from obtaining formal education up to graduation from secondary school. 	
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Note:

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14. Improving Knowledge and Application of Science and Technology

Leading NGO: CCC

Contributed NGOs: OI, DDD, PLAN, NEP AND CRS

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>As CSO/NGO observation, the telecommunication service has expanded to most parts of the nation in terms of coverage, quality and quantity. Comparing to 2009, the figure of telephone (mobile and landline) use and internet use is expected to increase by 38% (from 6,447,000 to 8,900,000) and by 72% (from 291,413 to 500,000) respectively in 2013¹¹. Recently, besides the state-owned companies (managed by the MPTC), there are eight mobile phone companies, 28 ISP companies¹² and 3 backbone infrastructure operators operating in the country¹³. The use of computer, mobile phone technology and internet are spreading fast to get access to information. Based on the observation, young people both in the city and rural areas, gain more skills and knowledge through the use of ICT tools mainly mobile phone and computer. Moreover, the improvement of mass media (tv, radio, print, online press and social network) has been paid attention by the RGC to equip their citizens with quality of information and knowledge and to be able to expand their broadcasting range and programs including news, entertainment, technology, art, etc. Interestingly, private television stations has increased from 7 in 2007 up to 11 in 2009 while the number of radio stations also has increased from 40 to 44 at the same period. As stated in the Strategic Development Plan Update (2009-2013), the higher number of both the stated-own media and private owned media can be used as an indicator to show progress in the area¹⁴. Moreover, the government especially through the Ministry of Post and Tele-Communication (MPTC) has put a lot of efforts to strengthen the ICT related regulatory framework. Three main laws including Law on Telecommunication, Law on Radio-communication and Law on Cyber have been drafted by the</p>	<p>The telecommunication network and ICT infrastructure to be expanded especially in the rural areas. At the same time, the cost of internet use and other ICT related service charge to be reduced, making it suitable to the local living standard. Moreover, the package service (cable TV, internet, mobile phone) should be encouraged by the government to reduce cost and increase accessibility to information. Accelerate the development and strengthen the implementation of ICT regulatory framework. During this period, particularly, the Information Communication Technology Policy of Cambodia, the Law on Telecommunication and Law on Cybercrime to be submitted and approved by the National Assembly or other related entities. Expand service coverage while also improve quality and effectiveness of mass media. More broadcasting stations should be constructed in the remote provinces especially in the north eastern part of the country. More than that NGOs should be encouraged to have their independent radio and TV stations to disseminate their development program including gender gap which are benefits for the poor. Build institutional and human resource capacity. A minimum standard of ICT infrastructure and resources should be firstly set up within NGO community on specific prioritized IT category by not restricting to people of either sex. Then, the standard/best practice can be shared with the government. The science and technology programs to be included in the school and university curriculum to make sure that young generation both sexes will be well equipped with the ICT expertise and knowledge. Competitive market certificates for ICT practitioners should be encouraged and it would be best for Cambodia if this certificate can be obtained locally by having many Internationally recognized private schools.</p>	<p>Engage in wider consultations with government on policy development, implementation and monitoring. Supportive feedback role to monitor the implementation of the government' plan. Actively engage in wider consultations on Policy development and implementation, and monitoring. Working in partnership with the gov't by identifying strength (expertise) held by the government and NGOs respectively. Then, the roles and responsibility for each party can be set for this relationship. Working in partnership with the government to develop a minimum standard of ICT based on experiences that many CSOs have. Working in partnership with the government and private sector. Support development and inform community members and local government of how to use the system.</p>

¹¹RGC (2013). National Strategic Development Plan Update 2009-2013

¹²Wikipedia. (n.d.). Retrieved May 23, 2013, from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommunications_in_Cambodia

¹³MPTC (2013). *Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications*. Retrieved May 17, 2013, from <http://www.mptc.gov.kh/view/home/default.aspx>

¹⁴ RGC (2013). National Strategic Development Plan Update 2009-2013.

<p>authority in charge (National Information Communication Technology Development Authority, NIDA). Besides, some Sub-Decree, Ratification, Announcement, Circular and Prakas were made and disseminated¹⁵.</p> <p>Another important achievement observed was the formation and improvement of the Government Administrative Information System and E-Government. Moreover, Information Communication Technology Policy has been drafted by the RGC to directly or indirectly address socio-economic and human development and poverty alleviation in particular¹⁶.</p> <p>However, although significant progresses have been made, some challenges have also been faced and need to be paid more attention by the government and other relevant parties. These challenges become the areas of concentration in the stage of development and implementation of the new NSDP 2014-2018¹⁷.</p> <p>One of the most critical challenges is related to the management of the telecommunication sector while law on telecommunication, law on cyber and other related laws were not yet finalized and put for approval by the National Assembly. The absence of these legal frameworks did not allow the government to easily and effectively deal with the bad/sensitive cases especially to manage income generated from the sector.</p> <p>Another challenge has also been reported related to the illegal international gateway and other telecommunication operators who are in violation of their contracts. These remain big issues which continue to adversely affect the government revenue as well as the operation of other legal international gateway. Thus, the relationship and coordination between the MPTC and ICT operators still need to be improved especially through more regular meeting and regulatory framework.</p> <p>The cost of internet, other ICT service charge, ICT infrastructure and service coverage are also considered as a big challenge in the implementation of NSDP 2009-2013. Mostly, the coverage and facilities are better off in the city area rather than in the rural area due</p>	<p>Continue enlarging and improving the government administration information system and E-Government environment and make sure the system is linking within ministries to ministries. Attention also needs to be paid on the sub-national level. Moreover, the availability of the system and accessibility to the government information should be well informed to the public of either sex to ensure citizen rights to information. Besides this, the e-population and other related system should also be developed and put in place to assist in demographic database management.</p> <p>Enhancing and improving ICT system security by taking into account the confidentiality, integrity and accessibility of the information.</p> <p>To improve knowledge and application of science and technology by encouraging private companies to provide cost effective package for bottom line economy people to increase their access to information through affordable ICT tools that both sexes who are illiterate, ethnic, and disabled can access to it (smart phone, laptop, notepad....) to ultimately make citizens being familiar with the e-society.</p> <p>The government to set up an anonymous e-feedback system to allow public to contribute to the operation of their state institutions.</p> <p>Set up e-forum platform for each sector/ministry to update the progress of their implementation, debate new policy, solve problem and make decision.</p> <p>Encourage green-growth technology to make sure proper use of the technology to exploit natural resources in a more sustainable way. More than that, the application of nuclear technology to produce electricity should be considered.</p> <p>Encourage to use open source software and operating system (OS) for the government ministries/institutions so that the government does not need to worry or pay more on software licenses. More than that, this part is really useful to approach the best practice within the organization.</p> <p>To address, by way of public education campaigns and parent-engagement through schools, gender stereotypes and norms that discourage women</p>	
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¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ RGC (2013). Information Communication Technology Policy of Cambodia.

¹⁷ Ibid.

<p>to the power blackout, poor infrastructure and limited resources¹⁸ (5).</p> <p>Last but not least, the capacity of human resource in this sector is still relatively low especially among the mature population. Moreover, rural people have limited ICT skill, knowledge and less enabling environment comparing urban people. The issue needs to be paid high attention since Cambodia needs to prepare herself for ASEAN integration in 2015.</p>	<p>from undertaking study and undergoing training in science and technology subjects.</p>	
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Note:

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¹⁸ Dionys (2011). The Status of ICT in Cambodia in 2011, Interview. Retrieved May 22, 2013, from <http://www.checkpoint-elearning.com/article/10149.html>.

National Resource Management

15. Improving Agriculture Sector

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenge	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Progress Based on National Strategic Development Plan 2009- 2013, The Cambodian government aims to reduce the poverty through enhancing agriculture sector and improving the use of natural resource in sustainable manner. In order to achieve this objective, the government plans to improve the food security through building irrigation, providing agriculture training, and find market for agriculture products and setting up plan on sustainable natural resource management.</p> <p>Based on CSO/NGO observation and research studies, it shows that government has made some progress such as finding market for rice, build irrigation system in some provinces and some farmers living condition have been enhanced. CSO/NGOs find out that only rich farmer can improve agriculture crop because they have access to capital, human resource and market connection.</p> <p>Challenges Although the progress have been observed, many farmers still have challenges in doing farming in the countryside because they only can grow rice one time per year. In addition, their rice yield is still low because they do not have necessary knowledge and access to credit. Sometimes, they have difficulties to sell their agriculture products; therefore, some of them have been constrained to give up in doing agriculture and migrate to neighboring countries to search for better income. In addition, the absence of irrigation has also caused farmers having difficulties in doing seasonal crop.</p>	<p>In order to improve agriculture sector in Cambodia, the government should take the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build irrigation system throughout the country with good quality and increase national budget allocation for rehabilitation of damaged irrigation system. 2. Build agricultural extension for each province through the country for farmer field visit. 3. Provide credit assistance to farmers, especially women household head, widow, ethnic minority and disable people with low interests. 4. Find market for farmer's products, especially women household head, widow, disable and ethnic minority groups. 5. Need to distribute the land to landless farmers; especially women household head, widow, disable and ethnic minority groups. 6. To train male and female, ethnic, disable community people how to use fertilizer in the appropriate manner. 7. To facilitate women entrepreneurship through capacity building and improved access to credit. 8. To publicize, enforce and strengthen the law on secure transactions to ensure fair contractual terms in credit borrowing. 9. To enhance rice and crop breeding variety which can adapt to the climate change in order to help farmers to adapt to climate change and get high yield. 10. To encourage and improve studying and analysis of soil land fertility and give advice to farmers in order to cultivate their crops with good yield. 11. To broadly and properly increase agricultural technical service packages (agricultural tools, fertilizer, water, seed, and cultivation methods) to farmers to practise on their farm. 12. To increase accepted law for forestry community and fishery community in order to help community people to have enough right to manage natural resources. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The NGO should play the following role in improving the agriculture sector and enhancing the use of natural resource in sustainable manner : Continue working with government to find out what kind of assistance they need from NGOs/ CSOs. 2. Propose necessary policies to government to improve agriculture sector and natural resource management. 3. Monitor and follow up the progress of implementation of proposed agriculture policies by civil society into NSDP. 4. Encourage governments to hold national forum to share its progress and challenges of implementation of agriculture policies. 5. Cooperate with Ministry of Agriculture, Fishery, and Forestry to conduct rice field experiment for planting new varieties which are breed to be a model for farmers to practice to adapt with climate change. 6. Provide consultant service on land fertility for farmers in doing their crop cultivation in each area according to the real land fertility, rice variety and farmers' plants. 7. Cooperate with private sector and Ministry of

		<p>Agriculture, Fishery, and Forestry to broadly and properly increase agricultural technical service packages (agricultural tools, fertilizer, water, seed, and cultivation methods) to practice on their farms.</p> <p>8. To cooperate with Ministry of Agriculture, Fishery, and Forestry to encourage government to officially accept forestry community and fishery community in order to help community people to have enough right to manage natural resources.</p>
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Note:

* For the specific sector/sub-sector, please refer to the Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 of the Ministry of Planning (p.11-13). However, this may also include the issues not specified

16. Land Reform

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenge	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>NGOs welcome the efforts of the RGC, here especially MLMUPC¹⁹ to complement the legal framework by drafting various laws and policies such as the Law on Expropriation, the National Housing Policy, the Land Valuation Policy, the Sub-Decree on Land Management Urban Planning and Cities, Circular N° 03, Land Policy(white paper) and the Inter-ministerial Circular "On interim protective measure protecting land of indigenous peoples that has been request for collective ownership titling, while waiting titling process, according to procedure, to be completed".</p> <p>However, CSO still consider the sub-decree supporting the procedures for registration of indigenous community land as not conforming international standard, as it not fully protect or secure the land of indigenous peoples.</p> <p>While appreciating the formal opportunity for these laws and policies to be consulted with Civil Society, the timeframe given by the RGC to comment is too short, thus rendering any consultations ineffective.</p>	<p>NGOs encourage the RGC to continue developing additional laws and policies related to land and housing issues, to strengthen land management, land distribution and land use planning to ensure the tenure security and legal certainty.</p> <p>To allow the legal framework to take effect, efforts need to be strengthened to implement and enforce the legal provisions.</p> <p>In regards to Indigenous Peoples, the RGC should increase the available budget, the number of staffs and their capacity to increase the number of communal land titles. Interim protection should apply for all communities that are predominantly indigenous, regardless of whether or not they are registered. We also suggest to strengthening the enforcement of provisions in the land law, which serves to benefit interim protection, such as Article 23 to 28 Land Law.</p> <p>Moreover, the RGC should improve any consultation by sharing necessary documents to all stakeholders in advance; allow more time for consultations and consult with all related stakeholders.</p>	<p>NGOs can contribute to increased public awareness on the legal framework as they can disseminate related information to community. NGOs can contribute to policy consultation by coordinating inputs/comments with their respective network members and grassroots.</p>
<p>Without comprehensive and transparent state land management and state land demarcation, land grabbing²⁰ and speculation will continue, and the associated degradation of the natural environment and the violation of the rights of poor and vulnerable people.</p>	<p>A key and priority aspect for the RGC is to undertake a comprehensive and transparent demarcation of all state land (state land mapping). All relevant data should be made publicly accessible.</p> <p>RGC should undertake a comprehensive and transparent land use planning to enable orderly allocation of land for agriculture, industry, tourism and residential and reserved areas in order to prevent improper land use and land conversion.</p> <p>Capacity and resources for all relevant institutions should be strengthened to allow an accelerated, impartial and independent resolution of land conflicts, including high profile cases</p>	<p>NGO can contribute to technical support and help to disseminate relevant information on the process to the public.</p>
<p>On May 7th, 2012, the RGC issued the Directive 01 on "Measures to Strengthen and Enhance the Effectiveness of the Economic Land Concession Management", and</p>	<p>Existing mechanisms should be strengthened instead creating new ones, bypassing responsible bodies.. Directive 01 legalizes the occupation of land with "unclear status" but does not</p>	<p>NGOs can be a part of monitoring process as jointing the research assessment or others as necessary.</p>

¹⁹ Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction.

²⁰ Statistical Analysis on Land Disputes in Cambodia, 2010. Phnom Penh: The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF). Pg 2.

<p>announced a moratorium on the granting of new ELCs. According to the RGC, both aimed at land dispute resolutions and acceleration of systematic land registration.²¹</p> <p>However, the implantation of the Directive on lands inhabited by IPs affected indigenous people and undermined their efforts in receiving communal land titles, in cases where they accepted private titles. IPs who chose individual titles had to waive their rights being a member of the IP community. Villagers reported of being pressured to accept private titles and of being forced to decide whether to accept them without adequate time for consideration, thus creating division within communities²² if they get the individual land title they will lose land, traditional and culture.²³</p>	<p>comprehensively attempt to resolve conflicts involving concessionaires and to address the root causes for these conflicts. Shortcomings of Directive 01 need to be addressed to avoid land grabbing, to ensure that it really benefits poor and vulnerable people and that it contributes to a comprehensive resolution of land disputes with concessionaires. As a priority, a legal basis to convert individual titles to communal titles need to be implemented to allow IPs to continue their efforts in receiving CLT. RGC should prioritize communal land titling for all IP communities until 2018. In this regard, sub-decree 083 on procedures of registration of land of indigenous communities should be amended and the procedure should be simplified to allow an accelerated CLT process. Moreover, indigenous communities whose lands are most threatened by Economic Land- or Mining Concessions and other development activities should be prioritized for CLT. Plans of the RGC for CLT, as well information which areas are foreseen for CLT, including a timeframe for implementation, and information on available technical/financial support from Development Partners should be made publicly accessible.</p> <p>Overall, Speeding up Communal Land Registration and demarcation of all IP land. All indigenous peoples land must be secured before any development activities are being undertaken.</p> <p>Ensure that all draft legislations such as the Draft Law on the Management and Use of Agricultural Land, Draft Law on Agricultural Communities adhere to international standards and not negatively impact people's rights.</p>	
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²¹ MLMUPC, Meeting with NGOs, 02 May 2013.

²² Rabe, Alison (2013). Directive 01BB in Ratanakiri Province, Cambodia, Issues and impacts of private land titling in indigenous communities. Pg. 18.

²³ Rabe, Alison (2013). Directive 01BB in Ratanakiri Province, Cambodia, Issues and impacts of private land titling in indigenous communities. Pg. 24.

<p>NGOs welcome the RGC program to distribute land to landless and poor households via local and national initiated Social Land Concessions (SLCs). However, we observed²⁴ that the process is very slow, no infrastructure and the people faced difficulty access to livelihoods.</p>	<p>Increasing equity in land distribution on stock taking on land and implement the legal framework related to land and implementing the SLCs mechanism in order to accelerate the process.</p> <p>Explore all other mechanisms to increase equity in land distribution. These could either complement the concept of social land concession or follow it.</p> <p>The challenges listed below²⁵, need to be addressed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project implementation requires involvement from government authorities and institutions on various levels, thus resulting in a rather time consuming process. 2. Lateness of development and approval from relevant bodies also posed critical challenges. 3. Budget limitations and the lack of flexible revisions, especially for the procurement of roads, clearances, schools, bridges, poles, and other related issues. 4. Less land available, but higher needs. <p>Initiation and implementation of SLCs at the local level need to be increased, in order to distribute more land to target land recipients. Communes need increased support and cooperation from/with stakeholders, especially at the national level</p> <p>Increase awareness about good practices in (organic) cultivation of various agricultural products. Marketing opportunities for those products should be explored further; ensuring access to markets and fair market prices</p>	<p>NGOs are able to cooperate on the information dissemination and part of assessment.</p>
<p>Circular N° 03 implementation in Battambang, here NGOs appreciate progress made and the good cooperation with local authorities. Efforts are underway RGC pilot its implantation in Phnom Penh.</p>	<p>Circular 03 should be implemented country wide</p>	<p>NGOs can support local communities in the process of Circular N° 03 implementation.</p>
<p>While the RGC is implementing systematic land registration in 15 of Cambodia's 24 provinces and the capital, especially urban areas inhabited by the poor have been</p>	<p>Avoid further exclusions: If it is found during the adjudication process that there are overlaps with state land or lands involving dispute, these should be dealt with according to the existing</p>	<p>NGOs can contribute to comment the MLMUPCs concept of avoiding exclusions. NGOs can monitor SLR</p>

²⁴ Minute of the NGOFs LAHRIN network meeting, 25 May 2012, at the minutes are available at the Land & Livelihoods program of the ,NGOF; (Rasmei Kampuchea Daily Newspaper, 14 June 2012, Pg, 1, 6).

²⁵ See also the "Compilation of the NGO Comments on the Draft Mid-Term Review of NSDP Update 2009-2013". Submitted to Line Ministries/Agencies of the Royal Government of Cambodia, Compiled in November 2011 by the NGO Forum on Cambodia, Development Policy Project. Available upon request from NGO Forum.

<p>excluded from being titled. Areas have been excised from adjudication areas prior to or during the process of survey and demarcation, and land parcels have been left unregistered due to having "unclear status".²⁶ As a consequence, residents of these areas are prone to eviction.</p>	<p>legal process. The decision to grant or withhold land titles should be based on the legal status of the occupant, i.e. whether or not they meet the legal requirements of possession as set out in the Land Law.</p> <p>Accelerate SLR process</p>	
<p>Targets for the NSDP 2014-2018 were described as:"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since flooding has become a recurrent feature, it is important that some upland is opened up or crop production. For this, land development, creating irrigation facilities, and allotting land to farmer there are necessary" • Agriculture is seen as an engine of growth, therefore "The objective of increasing production for consumption and export, chamkar (non-rice) crops and non-farm products must also grow along with rice. • creating conditions so that farmers get the sufficiently high, yet competitive, prices for their produce • setting up industrial clusters, acquiring, indigenising and popularising food/agro-processing technologies, linking farms with industries through contract farming or similar systems • is still a lot of possibility to convert land into capital for high value addition. [...] The option to use land more optimally, therefore, is high now."²⁷ <p>The areas in the northeastern parts of Cambodia are being foreseen to cultivate crops on a extensive level to meet the RGC goals of increasing rice and rubber production. To support these plans by the RGC, extensive irrigation systems are being built in these areas which much more to come. The planned railway is another concern and all these plans together show that the RGC is trying to industrialize the North Eastern parts of Cambodia.</p> <p>All this will increase the possibility of</p>	<p>It is therefore vital to first transparently demarcate all land, including IP lands, assess the affected people's rights to their lands and install effective mechanisms to ensure that the RGC plans do not adversarial affect people's tenure and rights.</p> <p>Shift focus from large scale land acquisitions for rice, rubber and other productions to support smallholders in increasing the productivity of their land. This will contribute to sustain national food security</p>	

²⁶ See also Grimsditch et al. (2012). "Access to Land Title in Cambodia. A Study of Systematic land Registration in three Cambodian Provinces and the Capital", The NGO Forum on Cambodia, Pg ii f

²⁷ An Approach Paper For National Strategic Development Plan, 2014-2018 NSDP, 2014-28, General directorate of Planning, Phnom Penh 2012, Pg 10

having more land conflicts, especially with IP who live in these areas.		
Land disputes have continued to increase and affected the livelihoods of people. ²⁸	The RGC should conduct a comprehensive assessment of the dispute resolution mechanisms. The RGC should strengthen the existing dispute resolution mechanisms such as the Cadastral Commission, the National Authority for Land Dispute Resolution and the judiciary. Indigenous communities involved in land disputes should be able to register non-contentious areas of their land. A procedure of registration indigenous people's land should be created for subsequently registering the remainder of the land once disputes are resolved.	NGOs are willing to discuss more on the cooperation on the technical support.

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Note:

* For the specific sector/sub-sector, please refer to the Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 of the Ministry of Planning (p.11-13). However, this may also include the issues not specified in the Guideline.

²⁸ Statistical Analysis on Land Disputes in Cambodia, 2010. Phnom Penh: The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF), Page:2,6,

17. Forest Conservation

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MAFF developed the National Forestry Program (NFP) 2010-2029 to promote forest conservation and sustainable development contributing to equitable economic growth and poverty reduction, in particularly in rural areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A definition of "Forest" should refer to natural forests only and exclude plantations or artificial forests which contributes to conversion from natural forests to plantations and thereof will affect natural forests. Mono-cultural plantations cannot replace natural forests and do not have the same value in terms of biodiversity, ecological services (such as sediment and water regulations and environmental services to human beings), benefits for local economies and livelihoods as well as cultural identify of Cambodia's indigenous peoples and forest-dependent communities. - Encourage stakeholders' attentions to the development of Eco-tourism projects within the CFs or CPAs with potential to contribute to increased employment and livelihoods of local communities through tourism services. - Drawing donor attentions to improving communities' capacity and promote ownership of local communities in the sustainable management of CFs and CPAs. Strengthening cooperation between government, CSOs and NGOs to enhance sustainable forest management. Establish a program to promote and accelerate effective community forestry through capacity building and awareness raising on laws and policies and other relevant international agreements; conflict resolution, natural resources assessment; effective natural resource management and planning; sharing lessons and good practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGOs and CSOs are able to participate in policy dialogue, providing valuable input; NGOs and CSOs can disseminate relevant laws and policies to local communities and the general public through media or forum (MB &PUT) IPFN & CSO REDD. - Capacity building of local communities and local authorities for Eco-tourisms, CFs and CPAs formulation and management. - Strengthen NGOs' and CSOs' capacities on fund raising to enable them to continue their work on Community Forestry's (CF) and Community protected areas.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We appreciate the RGC for the development of the National REDD+ Roadmap and other forestry policies that provide opportunities for NGOs and CSOs to participate in the development process and to raise concerns and to contribute ideas. The proposals in the REDD+ Roadmap have allowed NGOs and CSOs to be represented in the key decision-making bodies, including REDD+ Advisory Group, Consultation and Safeguards Technical Team, Benefit-sharing Technical Team, REDD+ Demonstration Technical Team, MRV/RED Technical Team, and the REDD+ Consultation Group. We believe that this representation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National social and environmental safeguards for REDD+ and climate change should be developed by considering the existing policies and international standards and agreements on safeguards. Safeguards are protection measures against potential risks from external interventions. For local communities, forests have spiritual, subsistence, medicinal and commercial value. A clear mechanism on REDD+ benefit sharing is a needed. - Encourage local authorities to participate in protection of the forest and implementation of REDD+ - The consultation with relevant stakeholders should be included in all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGOs and CSOs are able to participate in policy dialogue, providing valuable input; and disseminate relevant laws and policies to the public through media or forum (MB &PUT) IPFN & CSO REDD. - NGOs can contribute to capacity building of local communities' empowering them to monitor the decision making processes and implementation of any

<p>contributes to constructive inputs and feedback in the development and implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy and other related policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The implementation of REDD+ does not only help to reduce emissions which lead to climate change and global warming but also helps to achieve a sustainable forest and natural resources management; secure livelihoods , as well as food security of local communities, especially forest-dependent communities and Indigenous Peoples. 	<p>stages, and consultation processes need to be designed focusing on local communities as local communities are the main actors in the development and implementation of REDD+.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - REDD+ and climate change issues should be added into the school curriculum - Ensuring REDD+ development including meaningful consultation with relevant stakeholders, especially local communities, from the design stage to implementation, conducting social and environmental assessments and ensuring feedback and grievance redress mechanisms are in place. 	<p>new development projects, as well as REDD+.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bridge the gap between communities and government agencies related to forest policies and implementation as well as raise awareness on relevant issues and concerns affecting communities. - Institutionalizing the role of CSOs in the formulation of safeguards on forestry and climate change issues can make the process of safeguard development more efficient and effective.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On May 7th, 2012, the RGC issued Directive 01 on Measures to Strengthen and Enhance the Effectiveness of the Economic Land Concession Management, and introduced a moratorium on ELCs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring that information on the review process of existing ELCs are updated and reported to the public. Install a rigid monitoring system for existing ELCs. - Make publicly accessible information on numbers, names and locations of all granted ELCs. - Permanently ban the granting of ELCs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Undertake research and field investigation to document an ELC data base and make all relevant information publicly accessible. (VOD) - Actively participate in the updating and reviewing process to help to ensure that ELCs do follow legal requirements and do not harm local communities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Until November 2011, MAFF has been approved on 130 CFs formulations. Up to now, 455 CFs were established; 342 CFs approved and 246 CFs received agreement from MAFF. 1 Community Forestry Management Plan was endorsed. - We acknowledge the intention of government to reforest the degraded lands and indicate their goals in the Joint Monitoring Indicators (JMIs) in the forestry sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accelerate and streamline the processes of CFs and CPAs registration or formulization. Support and encourage forest dependent communities to establish Community Forestry (CF). Increase the numbers of official recognized and approved CF communities to increase participatory management and utilization of the forest in a sustainable manner. - Sufficient national budget should be allocated for communes for activities regarding national resource protection. - Establish a transparent land-use planning system from the local to national level under cooperation with local communities. Formulate a community based forest management strategic action plan. - Deforestation and illegal logging have been dramatically increased in Prey Lang and other areas. The government should strengthen forest law enforcement and develop an 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Undertake research and field investigation on illegal logging and deforestation - NGOs and CSOs can participate and coordinate with MAFF and FA and communities in the whole process of establishing a forestry community. - Support and coordinate the formulation of community forestry and community protected areas

	effective mechanism to sustainably and effectively protect natural forest. The draft sub-decree on Prey Long should be adopted and enforced as soon as possible.	
We appreciate the RGC's work in the development of the National Policy on Green Growth and the National strategy on Green Growth, aiming to balance economic development, environment, social, cultural and sustainable use of natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that any new policies and regulations are being consulted with the public for awareness-raising purposes, and in particular with local communities who directly implement those policies. - Environmental services or ecology payments should be included in these policies. 	- NGOs can provide inputs based on the countrywide consultations with communities

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18. Fishery

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Progress Fish continues to be a vital source of food, nutrition and income of millions of Cambodians. Total production of fish grew to over 650,000 tons in 2008, the main increases coming from rice field capture and a steady growth in aquaculture. The new Fisheries Law was promulgated in May 2006; the fisheries sector has since undergone major reforms and now has a more poverty-focused approach. Since the release of the fishing lots for community use, 468 Community Fisheries have been established (433 inland, 35 coastal), of which 173 were formally legally registered in October 2008. In addition, 235 Community Fish Refuges (CFR) have also been established mostly in the remote areas far away from important water bodies. In aquaculture, 13 State and 152 private hatcheries are now operating and 15,000 families are engaged in small-scale aquaculture. Fisheries management was strengthened, including the increase in community's fisheries registration around Tonle Sap Great Lake, expansion of aquaculture activities and increased suppression on illegal fishing. The Fisheries Administration also tightened and will continue its efforts in preventing and suppressing flooded forest land grabbing.</p> <p>Challenges In spite of the significant progress made the fisheries sector still face many challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries are being seriously threatened through the destruction of flooded forests, land clearing for land ownership by both ordinary and powerful people, which requires a timely and effective intervention from the government. • FiA: Shortage of resources to carry out its functions: transportation, equipment, budgets and gasoline for management process, research and studies to develop and conserve fisheries resources. • FiA: Lack of resources to effectively protect the conservation site in Tonle Sap Lake, dolphin conservation in Upper Mekong River in Kratie and Stung Treng marine conservation posting and boundary of flooded forest and eradication of fishery violation 	<p>The NSDP 2014-2018 should prioritize the forestry sector which mentioning of clear mechanism in regard to the following actions:</p> <p>Strengthening out the Fishery boundaries</p> <p>Collaborating with Coalition of NGOs working on fishery, stakeholders, and Cambodian fishers which consider including of gender</p> <p>Providing the Coalition of NGOs and fishery communities with capacity development and advocacy opportunities with equitable representation of gender, in order to conserve the fisheries and related natural resources and ensure sustainable livelihoods of fishers</p> <p>Monitoring on progresses and impacting to beneficiary (mentioning male and female) after canceling the fishing lots over the country</p> <p>Facilitating the NGOs network and fishers to organize the national dialogue and monitoring on government plan and implementation of fishery</p> <p>Facilitating dialogues between relevant stakeholders LGBT, to jointly debate and address fisheries issues</p> <p>Imposing Laws on Fisheries-implementers, fishers and fisheries officials</p>	<p>Participating in monitoring of NSDP implementation</p> <p>Facilitating Coalition of NGOs and Cambodian Fishers to work together in NSDP implementation</p> <p>Providing recommendations for NSDP implementation</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competency of the fisheries communities still limited, most of the communities are not provided support by development partners, including NGOs. • Fishing by using electrocution fishing gears, long tubular mosquito nets, and destroying fish hatching sites in flooded forest is still taking place.²⁹ 		
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²⁹National Strategic Development Plan Update 2009 – 2013, p.34

19. Development of Hydropower Dams and the Energy Sector

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>The civil society organizations working on Rivers and Hydropower issue have seen the improvement of the government on the efficiency energy development strategic plan such as the promotion of the decentralized energy and the environmental friendly energy products in the rural and urban areas through the privatization and the development of the energy efficiency policy, for example, <i>The Development of the National Energy Efficiency Policy, Strategy and Action Plan for the Kingdom of Cambodia</i>. This policy is very useful for Cambodia to meet the energy demand in the future due to the increase of population and economic growth in Cambodia.</p> <p>Challenges: there has no increasing on the natural forest which is important for balancing ecosystem (water is part of this ecosystem. Without natural forest, water in the cardamom mountain could reduce water quantity to maintain the hydropower dam).</p> <p>Also in the sector 3.108 of mid-term review, government have mentioned a number of laws are being passed to protect the environment and make sustainable use of natural resources, specifically water resources. However, there was a limitation for the trans-boundary laws/regulations development within the neighbouring countries, for example, the use of Mekong River – Cambodia, Lao, Vietnam, and Thailand only have the 1995 Mekong Agreement which is not strong enough to put in place for enforcement.</p> <p>There is no more information related to hydropower development dams. Only the numbers of dams which under construction and/or proposed were demonstrated in the NSDP 2009-2013 progress report while the results and/or challenging occurring on this development do not mention. For example, the negative impacts to the environment and social sector. Addressing dam issue in the NSDP is very important as it could affect to thousands of people who living depend on the natural resources and the river in term of NTFP usages, agricultural and fishery activities.</p>	<p>In order to deal with the controversial issue on hydropower dams and the energy sector development in Cambodia and in the Mekong Region, the government should consider as following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue considering increasing natural forest rather than mono-crop artificial plantation and/or clearing hundred or thousand hectares of forest (wood) for hydropower dam reservoir and for centralized transmission line in Cambodia. As per the report "Cambodia's Initial National Communication" under UNFCCC, published by MoE in 2002, Cambodia has been continuing to increase the emission of GHGs and fostering the global warming. At the same time "Cambodia Green Growth Roadmap" or "Green Growth Master Plan for Cambodia" does not include hydropower dam in its action, which means that hydropower dam development is no more in the upcoming NSDP. 2. Should consider decentralized energy system to apply in the rural area rather than the promotion of building transmission line in the whole country as the difficulty of geographical feature and this activities can reduce hundreds hectares of natural forest. 3. Open space for dam affected communities to get all projects' documents and join the decision making process on hydropower dam particularly in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and Procedure Notification Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA) process. It is a requirement that EIA must be completed before any agreement has been made. 4. PNPCA should be transformed to the trans-boundary law on the involvement of relevant stakeholders in the decision making on the Mekong Water Usage. 5. Should cooperate with MRC to push out and adopt the trans-boundary EIA laws/regulations as soon as possible with the other MRC countries including Lao, Thailand, and Vietnam as it is really important to protect the food security of the Mekong Citizens and can forbid the 	<p>CSO/NGO engagement in the development of NSDP 2014-2018 development and its implementation is very important to ensure sustainable development on the energy sector, water resource management and environmental protection. Therefore, we would recommend government to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open space of CSOs/NGOs in any relevant policy development and implementation in order to monitor and evaluate the process of the government achievement - Attend and share recommendations/ inputs in the events which organized by CSOs/NGOs - Cooperate with CSOs/NGOs to gain public view, experts/academic's perception on the energy and hydropower development in Cambodia in order to minimize environmental impact and to meet the energy demand in the right way as the pro-poor strategy of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

	<p>countries who make use of Mekong without fair on benefit sharing to the riparian countries, especially the poor (men and women) and venerable people living depend on Mekong and Tonle Sap Fishery.</p> <p>6. Should transform 1995 Mekong Agreement to the trans-boundary law to ensure the transparency and accountability of the project development in the Mekong River</p> <p>7. Should create the hydropower development EIA guideline which including gender mainstreaming as there are many inter-related problems among the processes on this development.</p> <p>8. Should consider promoting more ecotourism sites rather than large hydropower dam in the protected areas and/or Ramsar site which recognized as the special ecotourism site and the world heritage place that could generate more income for Cambodian Citizens. For example, Stung Chhay Areang Dam, Sambor Dam, and Stung Treng Dam (the dams on the Mekong Mainstream could bring negatively impact to Tonle Sap River which could also affect to the Angkor Wat Temple).</p> <p>9. Transboundary issue on the project development activities on the Mekong River such as energy and hydropower development as well as the use of Mekong River should be one sector to be included in the NSDP 2014-2018 as it can influence to the micro and macro economic development in Cambodia (people living along the Mekong and Tonle Sap are depending on the aquatic resources and fishery).</p> <p><i>Regarding to the Guidelines for formulating National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2014-2018, we would recommend government to consider some part as following:</i></p> <p><u><i>Science and technology:</i></u> should ensure that Cambodia will have the technical experts and engineers to work on the monitoring the large hydropower</p> <p><u><i>Environment:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Should include wetland, watershed, biodiversity in this sector - Should ensure that the 60% of forest area is the natural forest not the plantation. <p><u><i>Cross-cutting issue:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Should consider the water management of river issue, fishery 	
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20. Environmental Protection/Conservation and Climate Change

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>1. Cambodia has become a signatory of the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol.</p> <p>2. The Royal Government of Cambodia has established a National Committees on Climate Change (NCCC). <i>Challenge: The two agencies (NCCC & NCDM) should consider delegation of authority to sub-national government (districts, communes), in particular, comprehensive climate change budget for implementation of projects on adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction in Cambodia.</i></p> <p>3. Establishment of a National Council of Green Growth and National Designate Authority. <i>Challenge: Should consider the roles of commune/Sangkat councils in expediting the implementation of the national green growth policy and allocate budget for implementation of green growth development projects at local levels.</i></p> <p>4. Inter-ministerial coordination for development of a Cambodian Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP). <i>Challenge: This Strategy was supposed to become a law, but in the draft guidelines on the new National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP), this sector does not seem to be considered a priority area.</i></p> <p>5. Drafted a law on environmental impact assessment. <i>Challenge: The law on environmental impact assessment (EIA) is still in a draft form. At present, implementation of the EIA Sub-Decree is confusing, is interpreted differently, and there are gaps in stakeholders' responsibilities. Most reports are copies from one report to another. Request that an independent agency supervise to ensure a standard and effective implementation (quality, international standard, and independence).</i></p> <p>6. Prepare the first and second national communication report for the UNFCCC and inventory of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Request that the government continue and further strengthen the monitoring of implementation of environmental management plans of private and State investment projects. - New guidelines³⁰ should include climate change as a priority matter. For natural protected areas, the government should have a clear, effective management and protection plan and eliminate economic land concession in these areas.³¹ - A large number of protected areas have been acquired by private companies. Request that the government and relevant ministries/agencies stop acquiring land in protected areas for land concession. The Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries should effectively preserve the forest remaining from economic land concession, especially encourage all companies to grow trees in degraded areas or in areas where reforestation is needed to maintain environmental equilibrium and ecology. The government should continue and expedite adoption and recognition of community natural protected areas. - Strengthen effective, accountable, and transparent enforcement of laws, Royal Decrees, sub-decrees, Prakas, and guidelines related to environment, natural resources, forest, land, and mines. - Strengthen and apply strong measures on the implementation of environmental impact assessment, especially, environmental management plans and measures to mitigate environmental and social impacts. All EIA reports must be consulted widely with communities. Review of EIA reports must take at least three months for all stakeholders to give comments and to investigate. The environmental and social restoration fund should be allocated to the commune/Sangkat levels so 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Become a full member of the Technical Working Group on Environment and Forestry (TWG-E&F). 2. Become an observer of the Technical Working Group on climate change (CCTT). 3. Participate fully in the process of consultations, decision making of the Royal Government on policies related to environment and climate change. 4. All documents related to decisions, legal framework, national reports, and development projects should be made publicly available for receiving sufficient information.

³⁰ Guideline for NSDP 2014-2018 in the environmental protection and climate change sectors by MoP.

³¹ Based on the EIA report from MoE from 2010-2013 that NGO Forum received.

<p>greenhouse gas. <i>Challenge: In 1994, Cambodia was a country absorbing greenhouse gas, but at end 2011, Cambodia became a country emitting greenhouse gas.</i></p> <p>7. Restoration of 3 dams that have the capacity to irrigate 214 ha of land area, and 3 flood prevention dams have the capacity to irrigate 172 ha of land area. Restoration of 128 m of collapsed banks. Installation of one pump station, and restoration of 36 stations. Save 221,505 ha of rice affected by drought. <i>Challenge: For project implementation by civil society organizations concerning water resources, rehabilitation reservoir canals and other activities, provincial department of water resources did not collaborate well and were restricted in approving technical standards / construction design.</i></p> <p>8. Almost all government agencies have mainstreamed climate change into their strategic plan and disaster risk reduction / emergency response.</p>	<p>that they can monitor implementation of projects and environmental protection at local levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The government should continue to strengthen and encourage development of capacity for people in general and civil servants from the national to local levels in adaptation and mitigation measures for climate change and greenhouse gas. - The climate change adaptation budget should be increased and allocated to sub-national levels, in particular, local communities, CSOs, commune and district authorities for implementation and for addressing challenges arising from the disasters of global climate. - The government should continue to encourage commune planning and strengthen the capacity of commune/Sangkat officials to mainstream climate change into commune/Sangkat plans. - Civil society organizations call on the government to stop accepting external loans for implementing climate change adaptation projects in Cambodia. - The government should mobilize additional funding for implementing the CCCSP, the National Green Development Strategic Plan, and the National Adaptation Program of Actions, etc. - Strengthen the Technical Working Group on Environment and Forestry, and civil society should be a member and have a role in discussions. - Mainstream climate change into all development sector, in particular, forestry, education, health, land use, energy, EIA, etc. - Monitor and evaluate coal fired power plants for emission of greenhouse gas into the atmosphere, public health, water, air, and soil pollution, as well as bio-diversity. - Enhance good governance, social accountability and transparency for implementation of national policies. 	
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Enabling Environment for a Broad-Based Inclusive Development

20. Enabling Environment for a Broad-Based Inclusive Development

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>Ref: Towards a strengthened GDCC-TWG mechanism [Ph.381-382]; A dialogue mechanism encompasses diversity of stakeholders [Ph.378]³²</p> <p>Achievement [Enabling environment]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RGC has made a good progress of adaptation and implementation of Paris Declaration, AAA, and Busan Partnership strategy. ▪ CRDB/CDC has made a good lead in drafting DCPS [2014-2018]³³ with inclusive consultation including NGOs (NGO Forum, MEDiCAM, and CCC in February 2013). ▪ RGC has incorporated the Government-NGO consultation meeting with other proposed forums such as Government-Private Sector Forum and Government-Development Partner Coordination Committee. RGC expresses commitment to continue working in partnership with NGOs working in a specific sector of national development. ▪ Although RGC has moved the arrangement of CDCF to 2014, RGC has apparently succeed in organizing the 19th GDCC in which new JMIs were endorsed for the next monitoring period [2012-2014]. ▪ RGC keeps good partnership with NGO members of TWG-P&H³⁴ via their participation in the 19th GDCC and TWG network retreats. ▪ RGC has provided seats for the representation of NGOs in 16 TWGs, except TWG-infrastructure, TWG-private sector, and TWG-public administration due to limited expertise of NGOs in the 3 TWGs. <p>Challenges [Enabling environment]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Partnership arrangement-“Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum - CDCF” and “Government -Private Sector Forum” which intend to transform all these fora into the “Cambodia Development Forum” are still in discussion process including its 	<p>CSOs’ proposed key aspects [Enabling Environment]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As for the broad-based inclusive development, the partnership structure of the GDCC-TWG mechanism and Government-NGO consultation, and Government-Private Sector Forum should be strengthened among RGC, development partners, and CSOs (including citizens) with an enabling environment guideline on roles of each development actors to encourage effective and efficient participation in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development results for the benefits of all Cambodian Citizens. ▪ For the accuracy and consistency of the knowledge sharing and use, either current database system or emerging building block data systems should be enhanced or initiated with transparent release of information to the public with ease and without bureaucratic barriers, especially the breakdown information between operational budget and for-result budget, we are working on priority policies according to the result framework. The most accurate and consistent data is believed to ensure the ideal enabling environment for achievements of the inclusive development. ▪ The RGC both at national and sub-national levels should further work on the unfinished agenda in Paris Declaration, Accra Agenda for Action (AAA) and Busan partnership strategy. ▪ CSOs should be provided with more favorable enabling environment to voice their concern and comprehensive knowledge about communities’ real needs in the partnership and dialogue 	<p>[Enabling Environment]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CSOs and local communities willingly engage with RGC, DPs, and private sector in the new dialogue mechanism as the proposed structure in the draft DCPS [2014-2018] in order to jointly establish the most applicable mechanisms which could help Cambodia achieve the development effectiveness for the citizens at both national and sub-national level. ▪ The inclusion of NGO representatives by CRDB/CDC on past occasions reflects good facilitation of the TWG network and capacity development of the TWGs-NGOs; however, we would like to see invitations to participate in this TWG Retreat and capacity building exercise be further extended to at least one NGO representative in each TWG. ▪ CSOs are committed to complete transparency and inclusive dialogue for mutual accountability. Agreed actions during any TWG meeting

³² [Ph.378] = Paragraph 378 based on NSDP update 2009-2013 [English version]

³³ Development Cooperation and Partnerships Strategy (2014-2018) as shown in the CRDB/CDC webpage: <http://www.cdc-crdb.gov.kh/strategy/default.htm>

³⁴ NGO Forum, CCC, and MEDiCAM in TWG-Partnership & Harmonization.

<p>structure, contents, process and roles of each stakeholder which may affect quality and breadth discussion among development stakeholders at sub-national and national level, ASEAN, and international platforms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DCPS [2014-2018] stipulates partnership between the Government and NGOs, which is limited with the target for NGOs working on service delivery, regardless of other NGOs who constructively involve in consultation-based monitoring on development policy, rights and legal framework, and governance. ▪ Enabling environment for CSOs is formally offered during the meeting to fulfill the call for inclusive agenda in which CSOs will next work on information sharing to its members at communities. CSOs find this formal way uneasy to express their comprehensive knowledge about communities. Limited encouragement is called for the CSOs' inputs during meeting. CSOs need to take careful consideration to ensure more constructive feedback.³⁵ ▪ Most comments and feedback from CSOs is observed to be mostly ignored during the discussion without constructive reasons for the next improvement due to limited access of CSOs towards the right information and limited catch-up capacity. 	<p>arrangement as proposed in the DCPS [2014-2018].</p>	<p>should be put into practice at national and sub-national level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CSOs wish to explore the partnership with private sector in order to promote social responsibility.
<p>Ref: Strengthen the legal framework for CSOs [Ph.388]</p> <p>Achievement [Legal framework]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RGC has made the draft law on the functioning of NGOs and association with consultation with CSOs and NGOs until 2014. <p>Challenge [Legal framework]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CSOs still demand that the law should genuinely empower CSOs to operate the programs efficiently and effectively in service delivery, and the law articles should be written with respect to democracy and human rights. 	<p>CSOs' proposed key aspects [Legal Framework]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The RGC should meaningfully and fully consult with CSOs prior to the adoption of any legal framework. ▪ Development actors should ensure the accountability and transparency of all process and results (policies, laws, plans) by engaging all stakeholders in all stages, responding to their inputs, and sharing related information to public. 	<p>[Legal Framework]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CSOs are committed to operate their programme efficiently and effectively in accordance with a inclusive-consultation-based legal framework.
<p>Ref: Public administrative reform [Ph.342]</p> <p>Achievement [Public administrative reform]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single window mechanism; organic law on the administrative management of the capital, provinces, municipalities, districts and khans; function of council for administrative reform, provincial council, district 	<p>CSOs' proposed key aspects [Public administrative reform]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Qualitative and quantitative indicators of rights based, inclusive partnership, transparency and accountability should be included in JMI framework in addition to service delivery indicators. ▪ Development actors should encourage investment and social responsibility in industry through mechanisms that 	<p>[Public administrative reform]</p> <p>CSOs are putting much effort for greater public awareness of human rights and freedom to exercise rights and improved availability of information about impact of development</p>

³⁵ Findings from the rapid survey on NGO Participation and Representation in TWG Meeting, conducted by NGO Forum in December 2012.

<p>council, and commune council; NCDD; and Social Accountability Framework Working Group.</p> <p>Challenge [Public administrative reform]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The seat for CSO representative has not been given in TWG on Public Administration Reform. ▪ People from grassroots find it insufficient for the accessibility, quality, and responsiveness of public service delivery³⁶; open access to information related to government plans, policies, laws, budget, and process; and good governance and inclusive partnership at both national and sub-national government officials. 	<p>weigh the benefits of proposed development activities against their cost to the environment, gender equality and equity, traditional livelihoods, community culture, human rights and democratic principles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RGC should highly emphasis on efficiency, reliability, responsiveness of public services. ▪ RGC should continue delegation of responsibilities and resources to district and commune administration. 	<p>policies and projects, and cooperate in consultation within grassroots for any inputs to DPs and the government in any partnership dialogues arrangement and platform.</p>
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Note: Consultative inputs from Plan International, Trocaire, HACC, EWMI, and NPA.

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Note:

* For the specific sector/sub-sector, please refer to the Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 of the Ministry of Planning (p.11-13). However, this may also include the issues not specified in the Guideline.

³⁶ It is based on regional and national consultations with grassroots (February in Battambang, March in Kampong Cham and May in Phnom Penh).

22. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

Appreciation of the progress of NSDP Update (2009-2013) implementation and challenges	Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018	Space for CSO/NGO engagement
<p>- NGOs appreciate the continued commitment to strengthening the M&E system through the effort in identifying more indicators assessing outcomes and in strengthening the database of the Cambodian economy.³⁷</p> <p>- Given the importance of M&E system in tracking the progress toward targets and informing policy decision and direction, CSOs appreciate the RGC's recognition³⁸ of CSO engagement in the development planning process, especially providing opportunity for CSOs to comment on the draft NSDP Update and the draft MTR.</p> <p>- At the same time, the JMI on Planning and Poverty Reduction which was adopted at the 19th GDCC meeting on 26 September 2012 also outlined that the national development plan will be effectively monitored through reliable mechanisms. These include improved partnership with LMs and DPs through TWG mechanism, improved consistency between planning and PFM through PIP mechanism, and capacity development.</p> <p>- In the abovementioned JMI, it has marked the establishment of a national working group on M&E by December 2013, which will set up consistency across datasets and support the national statistic committee.</p> <p>- However, the NGO participation through the TWGs has not been fully meaningful and effective, as observed in the formulation of the NSDP update and the drafting of the MTR.³⁹</p>	<p>- CSOs look forward to seeing a strengthened M&E system in the NSDP 2014-2018 in accordance with a result-based framework.</p> <p>- The NSDP 2014-2018 should include additional measurable and timely assessable monitoring indicators set on a yearly basis in order to enable concerned stakeholders to be able to monitor the progress against the implementation.</p> <p>- Balancing the input, output, outcome and impact indicators should be further improved in the NSDP 2014-2018. This would allow concerned stakeholders, especially the National Assembly, be able to better track the short-term and medium-term changes in the development efforts of the RGC against the targets stated in the plan.</p> <p>- In addition, NGOs believe that it would be more useful for the Ministry of Planning to consider including a policy matrix in the NSDP 2014-2018 to explicitly present, in a concentrated format, the progress of the policy implementation at the national level giving a clear framework in poverty reduction. This is because the current NSDP Update contains a significant number of policy commitments in several sectors and areas that deserve to be reported upon regularly in an easier format. This would help ensure that the Members of Parliament, the general public and other stakeholders are able to quickly see and assess the progress made on a sector basis and a national basis, and which line ministry or agency of the RGC should be held accountable for their performance.</p> <p>- The national working group on M&E should be mentioned on their roles and responsibilities, where independent CSOs should be allowed to participate, being</p>	<p>- CSOs/NGOs are ready to stand as one of the stakeholders in the M&E framework of the NSDP 2014-2018, and hopefully their roles will be clearly stated.</p>

³⁷ MoP's Guideline for Formulating NSDP 2014-2018 (April 2013).

³⁸ Such recognition was stated clearly in the NSDP Update (paragraph 387, 389).

³⁹ NGO Position Papers on Cambodia's Development in 2010-2012 (p. 171-175).

	extended further than the TWG mechanism.	
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