



វេទិកាសម្រាប់ការចែករំលែកប្រតិបត្តិការស្តីពីកម្ពុជា
The NGO Forum on Cambodia

ធ្វើការរួមគ្នាដើម្បីការប្រសើរឡើង
Working Together for Positive Change

MINUTE OF QUARTERLY MEMBER MEETING



Friday 11th October 2013 from 8:00 – 12:00AM

Venue: PPEDC (ICF)

MINUTES OF THE NGO FORUM'S QUARTERLY MEMBERS MEETING

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The NGO Forum on Cambodia organized its third Quarterly Members Meeting in 2013 on Friday 11th October 2013 at PPEDC's meeting room from 8:00am-12:00am. There are 129 (female 49) participants, who are NGOs member, NGOs Sector, and Networks of the NGO Forum have participated in this meeting.

1. Welcome remark by chairperson of the meeting

Mr. Keam Makarady, Programme Director of Environment and Health of CEDAC and member of the management committee of the NGO Forum on Cambodia mentioned the purposes of the quarterly member meeting 1) report the results achieved so far 2) discuss and find solutions on the priority issues 3) receive comments and suggestions for improvement of the NGO Forum on Cambodia. The NGO Forum on Cambodia consists of total of 90 member organizations, more than 60 percent are local NGOs and members of the network and more than 250 organizations are member of the networks coordinated by the NGO Forum including River Coalition in Cambodia (RCC), Agriculture and Food Security Network, Forestry Network, Climate Change Network, Development Issues and REDD+. We have achieved key results such as the government has suspended economic land concessions, some inputs from CSOs were accepted by the government, participated in formulating EIA law, some comments were integrated in NSDP Update, the government recognized transparency and model of effectiveness, comments on REDD+ through forums and meetings. He also thanked to all members and encourage for efforts to provide comments.



2. Discussion on Climate Change Fund Framework

2.1 The Status of Climate Change Framework Funding

Mr. Ma Chan Sathea, Deputy Director of Climate Change Department, Ministry of Environment (MoE) presented about climate change financing, experiences in Cambodia by mentioning the financial sources with total fund



more than US\$200 million for climate change programs over 3 to 4 years mostly support the climate change adaptation. The recent study indicates that more than 86 percent of aids on climate change are external sources including CIF (PPCR / SPCR), GEF, Adaptation Fund, UNDP, USAID, SIDA, Japan and EU. Funds support the national priorities are Cambodia Climate Change Alliance (CCCA), EU, SIDA, DANIDA and UNDP. Most of governmental institutions have received support from CIF, GEF, Adaptation Fund, UNDP and Japan. Non-Governmental Organizations received aid assistance from USAID, Swedish Community Adaptation Program (SIDA), United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and financial support the administration at sub-national through Cambodia Climate Change Alliance (CCCA). CCCA that National Climate Change Committee plays role to manage total USD 11 million of multilateral fund for 20 projects including 14 projects for governmental institutions and 6 projects for NGOs to response to climate change aiming at increasing the capacity of partnership between the government, NGOs and academic. These projects focus on livestock, water-borne diseases, ecosystem-based adaptation, gender in climate change, water and sanitation, and climate change response at sub-national level. Fund was given for pilot project in 3 districts through CCCA (2011-2013) in order to strengthen capacity and integrate climate change issues in sub-national planning. Next step is to formulate Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP), Ministerial Planning and CCFF, improve procedures in line with the strategic plan, improve mechanism for planning and budgeting, and improve monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and knowledge management. National Climate Change Committee plays role as advisor and financing, develop strategies and national implementer.

2.2 Findings of Climate Change Financing in Cambodia

Mr. Heng Pheakdey, researcher from Enrich Institute for Sustainable Development shared the results of research mentioning about background that Climate finance is the financing channeled by national, regional and international entities for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and programs. Climate finance is critical to tackling climate change as Kyoto Protocol states that developed countries have to provide financial



resources to assist developing countries. Cambodia is the most vulnerable country to climate change in Southeast Asia. Cambodia needs sustained financial resources to deal with the impacts of climate change. Information regarding climate change financing is scarce. There are rational for this research as Cambodia is challenged with the need to demonstrate effective policies and systems to access and deliver climate change finance, maximize the resources and use them most effectively and learn about the success and challenges in accessing as well as managing the fund effectively. There are key objectives 1) Identify and document the range of bilateral and multilateral funds that are currently available to and being accessed by Cambodia 2) Analyze the progress and challenges of the climate change financing at policy and implementation level 3) Make recommendations on the steps required to increase the ability of Cambodia to effectively and sustainably manage and utilize climate change funding. Methodologies

are used in this research including combining qualitative and quantitative data collected from desk research, key informant interviews (59 persons), and case studies (2 cases) and 2 feedback workshops. Data sources are from Council for the Development (ODA database), development partner's climate change project list, database of international multilateral funding agencies and direct consultation with donors, and implementation agencies and 59 domestic climate change relevance projects. Findings of the research indicates that Cambodia has mobilized US\$ 655.6 million in climate fund, 64% of which is grant while the remaining 36% is concessional loan since 2003. Out of the US\$ 655.6 million that Cambodia has mobilized so far, US\$ 338.8 million is estimated to have been disbursed and the remaining US\$ 316.8 million is available for next seven years (2014-2020). Sources of climate change financing are 52 percent of multilateral and 48 percent of bilateral. Climate change financing in Cambodia includes grant and loan from most donors like ADB (US\$25 million grant and US\$120.93 million loan), CIF (US\$55.3 million grant and US\$ 36 million load), Japan (US\$51.14 million grant and US\$ 11.26 million loan), France (US\$21.52 million grant and US\$18.37 million loan), the United States (US\$38 million grant), World Bank (US\$13.5 million grant and US\$10 million loan), GEF (US\$25.5 million grant), IFAD (US\$ 18.6 million grant and US\$1.9 million loan) and other donors such as China (loans), Germany (grant) Denmark (grant), EU (grant), Australia (grant), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Adaptation Fund, UN-REDD and others. Financing is provided in various sector such as agriculture and water resources (41%), energy (14 %), disaster management (16%) and other sectors like capacity building, forestry, natural resources, finance, policy, multi-sector, transport and infrastructure. Financing focuses on adaptation (70%), mitigation (22%), policy research, capacity building (4%), adaptation and mitigation (4%). Provinces that received climate change financing mostly are Pursat, Battambang, Kampong Chhnang and Siem Reap, medium in Prey Veng, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap, Kampong Thom, Kampot, Svay Rieng, Kratie. To date, Cambodia has been relatively been successfully in mobilizing climate fund, the national Climate Change Strategic Plan has been completed, Cambodia is also one of the first few countries in the world to complete the Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review, the ministerial action plans and Climate Change Financing Framework are currently being developed, new and promising approaches are also emerging to effectively use climate fund. The study found challenges including lack of monitoring and reporting framework; lack of data on money tracking; limited ownership in implementation, monitoring and evaluation; limited stakeholder engagement especially affected communities; low awareness on climate change of people; low capacity of the government and NGOs to address climate change; low coordination among governmental ministries among donors and between the government and implementing NGOs. For government, there are some points to be considered associated with linking climate finance with Cambodia's development plans, develop a harmonized reporting, recording and tracking system for climate change financing flow, improve transparency and accountability to all stakeholders, strengthen and promote financing through sub-national channel and improve inter-ministerial coordination. For donors, points to be considered such as promote country's ownership, promote pool funding mechanism, continue to raise awareness and strengthen the capacity of governmental and CSOs and improve effort to harmonize their system. For implementing NGOs, points to be considered such document lesson learns and share best practices of climate change projects, involve local community in project from planning to final evaluation, take seriously care of the target beneficiaries

and work closely with the government to share information. This study is also listed relevant consulted stakeholders and references.

Open Discussion

Question

- **Mr. Meas Chanthy:** Cambodia and Philippine are vulnerable, what are the factors leading to vulnerability?
- **Mr. Chiv YouMeng** from DCA/CA: What are the successes? Has the result been shared with local communities? What are the criteria for financing?
- **Mr. Makara:** Does MoE have any mechanisms to avoid risks based on Rectangular Strategy? Does MoE have any strategies to deal with natural disasters?

Answer:

- **Mr. Heng Pheakdey:** There are factors determine that Cambodia and the Philippines as vulnerable country to natural disasters due to floods and drought, and adaptive capacity to climate change and limited infrastructure.
- **Mr. Ma Chan Sathea:** There are 3 pilot projects. After projects ending, the outstanding project will receive additional financing through monitoring and evaluation team. Evaluation Committee assesses in different steps. Step 1 focuses on administration, paper work or proposal. Step 2 relates to assessing on response strategies to climate change. For the proposal implemented by civil society alone, this will be able to get US\$100,000 and US\$200,000 for collaboration between civil society and governmental institutions. Ministry of Environment has some Laws related to National Resources Management and a detailed action plan under the National Development Strategic Plan and the real implementation at local level.

3. Introduction to the Voting of Management Committee

Mr. Tek Vannara, Deputy Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia introduced 04 candidates for voting as Management Committee member as followings:

Candidate Name	NGO	Ballot
Mr. Rith Bunroeun	AFD	7
Mr. Om Savath	FACT	7
Mr. Va Moeun	Mlup Baitong	12
Ms. Mot Sana	Save the Children	16
	Total Ballots	42

Thank Giving to Member of Management Committees

Mr. Chith Sam Ath, Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia mentioned that there are 07 members of the Management Committee 1) Mr. Keam Makarady, 2) Mr.

Latt Ky, 3) Ms. Thay Bone, 4) Mr. Ngin Saoroth, 5) Ms. Pry Phally Phoung, 6) Ms. Te Sok Vy (replaced Mr. Sun Youra), 7) Mr. Mot Sana (replaced Mr. Son Song Hak. Management Committees have roles to appraise Executive Director, approve on action plan and budget of the NGO Forum on Cambodia. He also thanked to all old and new members who support though voting.



Representative from Save the Children instead of Mr. Mot Sana expressed commitment to help vulnerable people and contribute to development in Cambodia.

Mr. Chhith Sam Ath mentioned that the NGO Forum on Cambodia focuses on sensitive issues of development project through transparency and accountability. Recently, the NGO Forum on Cambodia just received the second certificate of good practice.

4. Key Recommendations for the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2014-2018.

Mr. Phen Raksmeay, Development Policy Project Coordinator of the NGO Forum on Cambodia presented the key results of the CSO consultation mentioned that the government is formulating National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP Update 2014-2018). Since early 2013, The NGO Forum on Cambodia gathered comments and inputs from 11 sectoral CSOs related to enabling environment; macroeconomic; economic development; knowledge and application of science and technologies; poverty and inequality; education, health, water and sanitation; social cultural development; environment; cross-cutting issues; demining and M&E. There are two more important components proposed in NSDP update including implementation and enforcement, and green growth. The importance of CSOs/NGOs engagement: CSO/NGOs see that country ownership of national policies goes beyond government ownership and NGOs have long experience of working with the poor to reduce poverty, therefore CSO/NGOs have an important role to play in priority-setting, policymaking, resource allocations and/or program implementation, through effective consultations which improve the content of the national plan. CSOs/NGOs can engage in formulation of the NSDP 2014-2018 by sharing insights from CSO/NGOs' work at the grassroots to inform policy development; Contributing to improving the inputs prepared by relevant LMs/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. Development Issues Program coordinates with CSOs/NGOs to prepare inputs for NSDP Update 2014-2018 from January to April 2013. NGO Position Paper for NSDP Update 2014-2018 mentioned the progress and challenges in implementation of NSDP Update 2014-2018; Key aspects to be proposed in the NSDP 2014-2018; and Space for CSO/NGO engagement. Some sector CSOs/NGOs have influenced the LM/LAs directly and at the same time submit the comments to NGOF for review and compilation. CSO/NGOs influenced the political parties for their political agenda in May and June, and other lobbying activities with DPs. As of 31 Aug 2013, 22 sector CSOs/NGOs have submitted their perspective papers to the NGO Forum for reviewing and compilation which were mainstreamed with

gender issues. CSO/NGO perspectives on NSDP 2014-2018 focus on good governance; land and natural resource management; social and human development; and enabling environment for development.

Good governance focuses on early passage of the draft Law on Access to Information with clear rules and time frames; a timely and systematic release of budget documents, more transparency of aid information and condition of concessional loans released by the government and Development Partners; increase public consultation over draft laws and regulations on extractive industry; and ensure full independence of the judiciary and the adoption of the fundamental draft laws.

Land and Natural Resources Management focuses on undertake a comprehensive and transparent demarcation of all state land; ensure effective supervision of Economic Land Concessions (ELC) and make information publicly available on the review of existing ELC; ensure participative consultation and decision-making with involvement of citizens in all development projects (mining, land, dams, etc.), and provision of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) reports two weeks in advance of hearing dates; adopt international best practices to compensate communities negatively affected by hydropower dams; Developing additional laws and policies related to land and housing issues, strengthen capacity building on Disaster Management at sub-national level, including disaster safeguard and practical standards; and strengthen climate change scenario and projection as well as ensure a monitoring mechanism with clear indicator Social and Human Development focuses on improve the quality of education services; strengthen the implementation and the M&E of the National Social Protection Strategy for the Poor and Vulnerable; Request gender issues be included in all sectors of the national development plans; and Increase appropriate budget allocation and encourage improvements in the use of clean water and toilets in the community.

Enabling Environment: government should consider the development frameworks that encourage the participation of the civil societies and citizens in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation based on the Joint Monitoring Indicators (JMIs); Responding positively to the comments/feedback of the people related to development impacts through the national consultation mechanism (TWGs, GDCC, CDCF); Broader mechanisms (e.g bilateral, trilateral and multi-stakeholder dialogues) for national consultation at sub national level with citizens by providing enough time for them to respond, and awareness raising of development programs, policies and law; and ensure the transparency of policy and planning implementation together with the development results in alignment with priority sectors in the government's national plans.

5. Key Results of Asia-Pacific CSO Conference on Sustainable Environment in Agenda of Post Development 2015

Mr. Tek Vannara, Deputy Executive Director of the NGO Forum on Cambodia shared about the result of Asia-Pacific CSO Conference on Sustainable Environment in the agenda of post development after 2015 and sustainable development goal that the conference aimed at sustainable environment in agenda of post development after 2015

and sustainable development goal, linking relation mechanism among CSOs and transparency that stress on CSO participation in identifying environmental issues for integrating in global agenda on environment; CSO participation in governance of UNEP; CSO participation in regional and inter-government; CSO participation in implementation of agenda after 2015. There are key results from Asia-Pacific CSO Conference on Sustainable Environment as followings:



- Environment in the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The SDGs adopt a rights-based approach and ecosystem based approach to realize a transformative development agenda.
- The new SDGs should include substantive targets and indicators to Realize clean air and equitable access to clean water, including safe drinking water; Support sustainable cities and settlements; Support non-toxic regions.
- Ensure progress towards biodiversity conservation, access to and equitable sharing of benefits arising from sustainable use.
- Mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change with the holistic approach.
- Move towards energy efficiency and truly renewable energy.
- Protect, rehabilitate, conserve and develop natural resources (air, water bodies, oceans, and land and forest management).
- Comprehensive global mechanism for regulating transnational corporations' activities
- Means of implementation (finance, technology and capacity-building) must be addressed.
- Develop better qualitative and quantitative time-bound indicators for measuring social environment impacts.
- Recognize trans-boundary environmental and social impacts of large-scale infrastructure projects.
- Civil society has an important role to play in setting development policy which is rooted in their close connection to affected communities. Asia-Pacific civil society input can be facilitated by improving regional engagement in the global processes by Increased support from UNEP to enable more effective civil society engagement in processes; Creating a regional Major Group Facilitation Mechanism; Ensure there is greater legitimacy and mandate of the Major Groups by encouraging broader participation of local and national groups; Bring the Asia-Pacific regional positions beyond UNEP meetings to all relevant regional and global meetings.

- Green economy and sustainable consumption and production by recognizing ecological limits in the greening of consumption and production and addressing it through ensuring greater resource efficiency; Incentivizing industries to apply green solutions; Shifting to sustainable energy systems and increasing renewable energy production; Ensure regular and substantive feedback and follow ups to members of the Major Group for greater transparency, accountability and legitimacy; Establish opportunities to interface with Government Representatives at the regional level.
- Greening budgets through auditing of budgets; incentivizing industry and public effort to implement green solutions; introducing policy for green budget including wasteland development and increasing renewable energy use and waste management policies.
- Community mobilizations towards green solutions and shaping economic development policies through education; strengthen work on community-based solutions to sustainable livelihoods, ecotourism, energy sources; Community-level ecological waste management.
- Support Common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) and development justice by giving Communities a say in determining their own development paths and priorities; supporting the increased consumption of poor people in the direction of addressing their needs for food, health and housing; change the behavior and lifestyles of the public; lobbying.

Chemicals and Waste are having a damaging effect on the livelihoods of farming and rural communities affected by industrial agriculture and mining industry. Poor disposal of hazardous chemicals and GMOs are also affecting food security, human health and ecosystems. We call for the following measures:

- **National level:** Ban riverine and ocean disposal of mine tailings; Encourage governments to sign on to relevant international conventions governments and multilateral bodies on economic development policies Establish a Commission of Enquiry into contamination by mining companies; Shift to organic agriculture and/or reduction of chemicals in farming and local practices; promote community-based certification schemes for organic products; establish monitoring and evaluation of impacts on human health and soil, air and water quality; and Establish participatory methodology for rural women to change to more sustainable farming systems; Introduce community-level waste management and recycling of green waste; encourage governments to pass and implement chemical-specific legislation; reinforce and implement capacity-building for users and traders in chemicals; embed environmental services into social and economic systems; increase accountability of polluters; respect and promote the use of traditional knowledge skills and practices for sustainable livelihoods.
- International level: Invite the Special Rapporteur from UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous peoples' to carry out a report on compliance; Establish sub-regional and/or regional facilities for environmentally sound disposal of hazardous waste and products containing toxic substances; Establish sub-regional and/or regional facilities

for a global program of monitoring human health; Establish sub-regional and/or regional mechanism to assess the potential environmental, social and economic impacts; More collaboration between FAO and UNEP on funding the shift to organic farming.

6. Work of Business and Human Rights Resources Centre

Ms. Marta Kasztelan, Former Project Researcher of Business and Human Rights Resource Centre mentioned that the centre is non-governmental organizational that was established in 2003 by Mr. Christopher Every who works for Amnesty International as Research Director for almost 10 years. When established this centre, most people considered that businesses have human right responsibilities toward the workers and people affected by operation. The trustees are diversified from academic, expert and business people that ensure there are different stakeholders. There are 80 International Advisory Network chaired by Ms. Mary Robinson, and 20 academic partners. This centre is operating in 12 countries over the world. Main office is located in United Kingdom. There are researchers and representatives in over the world. In Thailand, special representatives and researchers are responsible for covering business impacts on human rights in South-East Asia. First reaction from people, the centre does not work on corporate-social responsibility (CSR). Most of the time is public relation exercises that the decision comes from the top level of the company and services to society. Business and human rights approach means local concentrating on the ways that the companies are affecting people by the operation in the supply chain and also the works for the company. The centre does not produce any original research and advocacy. We are working on online library via researchers, NGOs, journalists, companies and others to feed the information on the impacts of the companies on human rights. The website is free weekly updated from different zones that consist of information, news and photos. The website is monitoring 5000 companies in 180 countries and covering over 150 issues in over the world. Beside this, human right abuses are documented of the issues of discrimination, environmental damage to human health, health & safety, poverty & development, child labor and access to life-saving medicines. NGO/CSOs contact Business & Human Rights Resources Centre (BHRRC) then BHRRC contacts companies and BHRRC get back to NGO/CSOs. The news will be on the website. The dialogue between NGO/CSOs and companies will be happened. There is an updated database on the website of the company responses. 75 percent of the companies response to Business & Human Rights Resources Centre. Responses of the companies recognize that there are impacts, but there are some cases. There are response rate from Asian companies (Malaysia: 67%, Singapore: 75%, China: 50% and India less than 50%). When we see the company response, it is observed the change of policies of the company.

Discussion:

- Related to business and human rights, there has not been widely disseminated to rural remote areas especially indigenous people. We would request CSOs pay more attention in dissemination of guideline and business to indigenous people especially human rights abuse.

7. Summary and Conclusion of the Meeting

Mr. Keam Makarady, chair of the meeting thanked to all guest speakers who shared useful information related to climate change financing, research findings on climate change financing, voting for new management committee of the NGO Forum on Cambodia, key results of CSO consultation and inputs for NSDP Update 2014-2018, key results of Asia-Pacific CSO conference on sustainable environment in agenda of post development 2015, and the work of Business and Human Rights Resource Centre. He also thanked all members for their presence and time in the quarterly meeting.

- END -