



ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT 2009

**United Nations Development Programme
Cambodia
*Building Capacity and Mainstreaming
Sustainable Land Management in Cambodia Project*
[01 Jan 2009 – 31 Dec 2009]**



DIFS Training Workshop, Apsara Angkor, Siem Reap, Feb 2009

Project ID & Title:	00044071
Duration:	3 years (Feb 2008 – Jan 2011)
Total Budget:	USD 775,000
Implementing Partners/ Responsible parties:	Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)
Country Programme Outcome:	#3

Table of Content

I. Executive summary	2
II. Implementation progress	3
Capacity Development.....	7
Gender.....	8
Lessons learned.....	8
III. Project implementation challenges.....	8
a. Updated project risks and actions	8
b. Updated project issues and actions	9
IV. Financial status and utilization	10

I. Executive summary

The SLM Projects 3 major areas of work are a) NAP preparation; b) Capacity Building and c) Mainstreaming of SLM.

Completion of the NAP: The project launched the full blown preparation of the National Action Program to combat desertification based on recent protocols for NAP preparation advocated by the UNCCD covering the 2010 to 2018 period. These recent protocols are based on the review of multi -country experience and was articulated by the Global Mechanism, discussed with key stakeholders (Feb 2009) and adopted by the MAFF Technical Review Team.

To provide a basis for plan preparation a major study of the nature and extent of land degradation was conducted and partially completed. This study pinpointed the key direct causes of land degradation. At the same time, the project began the review of previous and ongoing accomplishments as well as best practices in SLM.

Capacity Building: A Training Needs Analysis and Training Program was developed and partially launched. Initial courses under the training program were conducted to support capacity building needs of an initial set of key MAFF departments (DALM , DAE) who will be directly involved in monitoring land degradation, as well as develop and implement specific actions programs. Equally addressed are the needs of the Sub National and Local Authorities (communes). Over xxx national level personnel and xxx local level personnel participated in xxx orientation and training sessions

To provide the basis for designing local interventions by communes, the project reviewed the current Agro-ecosystem Analysis (AEA) tool to identify how it ca be improved to more effectively incorporate SLM concerns.

To provide the content for capacity building, the Project began the process of identifying, analyzing and documenting best practices in SLM. A framework was developed and the study team mobilized. The planned study on gender role in SLM was also started.

Mainstreaming: To support policy level mainstreaming, the project provided recommendations to the TWG for A& W on incorporating SLM in its 2010 to 2013 policy agenda. To support local mainstreaming, the project conducted SLM orientation sessions to xx communes in 9 provinces within and adjacent to the Cardamom mountains. The sessions were conducted in time with the commune planning cycle.

To generate multi-stakeholder appreciation, the Project co sponsored the World Day to Combat Land Degradation celebrations in July and provided several educational materials for this purpose. Towards the end of the year a communication planner was engaged for mobilization in 2010 to prepare a communication strategy.

II. Implementation progress

PROGRESS TOWARDS PROJECT OUTPUTS

OUTPUT 1: NAP is completed			
Output Indicators	Baseline (month/year)	Target (month/year)	Current status (month/year)
● DIF report with including protocol to prepare the NAP	NAP preparation protocol was not existed Dec 2008	Adoption of protocol for preparing NAP as recommended by the DIFS workshop	NAP annotated guideline develop in Feb 2009 during the DIFS workshop organized by GM and it was endorsed by Technical Review Team created by MAFF on Aug 2009. NAP preparation consultant adopt this annotated guideline
● First draft part 1 draft report	Draft Part 1 of the NAP existed since 2003	First draft part 1 based on agreements reaching during the DIFS revised	First draft part 1 of the NAP focus on analysis of cause of land degradation in Cambodia. An initial study was conducted under the leadership of an experienced Cambodian national soil scientist. The result of first finding indicated that the main human causes to land degradation in Cambodia are coming from forest degradation, improper agriculture practices, mineral deduction and mine clearance.
● Cost of land degradation study plan and strategies	Cost of land degradation in Cambodia is not yet know	Cost of land degradation study conducted by GM team	Under support from GM and Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) launched a research study on Cost of Land Degradation. With the first mission of SEI an agreement was reached on the possible scope for the research work plan was role and responsibility of the partner had identified.
● Highlight of TRT meeting to review the draft NAP	Consultation workshop for NAP was not existed	First draft part 1 of the NAP endorsed by the TRT	Due to delay in recruiting of a national consultant to prepare the NAP the draft part 1 was not endorsed by the TRT. However the TRT endorsed the annotated outline and NAP preparation strategies developed by the consultant.
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OUTPUT 2: Institutional Capacity to Plan and Implement SLM is Enhance			
Output Indicators	Baseline (month/year)	Target (month/year)	Current status (month/year)
● TNA report	TNA and training plan related to SLM was not existed	TNA conducted and training plan adopted	In March 2009, an early version of the TNA was adopted and used to guide initial training activities during this reporting period and at least 7 priority learning events conducted for 106 participants from 3 ministries 5 NGOs, and 5 projects.
● DIFS training workshop report	DIFS training workshop never existed in the Country	DIFS training workshop conducted	DIFS training workshop conducted to brought together professionals from different sectors of 49 national stakeholders, who are involved in SLM, on the preparation and development of NAP/IFS in Cambodia. Feedback from participants highlighted that they gained substantial new insight into the various issues related to land degradation

			(LD) and understood more clearly the need to adopt a multi-sectoral and landscape level approach to address LD related issues. An annotated outline to prepare the NAP produced and shared.
● Training reports and training assessment	Capacity related to SLM never provided	At least 7 priority learning event conducted to 8 PTT members and key national staffs and provincial and district team	7 priority training event provided to PTT and other 100 staff on 1-Strategic to mainstream SLM into CIP; 2- best practices documentary (3 sessions); 4- Basic English training; 5- GIS application for SLM
● AEA-SLM working papers	AEA tool for agriculture and fisheries existed	Draft guide for incorporating SLM in AEA process produced	Collaborated with department of agriculture extension of MAFF to identified the consultant to produce such incorporation tool but the international consultant was not available. However, the project inc collaboration with DOA organized a consultation meeting to identify the possibility tool for SLM incorporated into the existing AEA tool.
● Best practices report	No best practices related SLM documented	Folio of best practices for supporting SLM documented and assembled as input into the NAP preparation and capacity building and mainstreaming	Due to time constrain and lack of consultancy for publication during this year the project provided 3 sessions on best practices documentation to national and provincial staff in 3 project provinces. Result of the training show that most of the staff be able to collected and distinguish between lesson learn, best practices and case study. Further result was given when they collect 10 existing best practices documents from 3 provinces of Takeo, Kampong Speu and Preah Vihear. 5 promising best practices for low land agriculture, community forestry, community fisheries, community protected area and local government initiative in SLM were identified though a consultation meeting. 3 local consultants (community fisheries, low land agriculture and local government initiative were recruited. One round table discussion on low land agriculture best practices was organized to identify top ten potential best practices to be documented.
● Progress report	NGO sub-contracted to implement field work with not SLM concerned	Report on best practices that effectively spread good SLM practices among local authorities and user groups	2 NGOs subcontracted under supported from SGP of UNDP for improving local people livelihood with protected of soil erosion. Currently CEDAC had provided EM material for 30 for using EM to improvement their farm and the SLM project did soil analysis. Differently, CelAgrid had facilitate with local farmer to renew the pond that contribute to benefit of local community in rice production improvement and planting some tree round the dam to protect the soil erosion and SLM project was provide some technical back up and plan to do analysis of soil quality before and after the project. Recently this result still in the process.
● Cardamom vision signed by the government	Cardamom vision drafted by CI	Financial support provided to the institutional analysis conference to support vision for Cardamom (in collaboration with CI)	Under supervision from CI and FA and technical initiative from the SLM project, currently CI had produced a detail land-use plans (on a GIS) and socio-economic data on 6 communes and data and analysis in the 2008-9 Cardamom Vision. This vision is focused on reconciling conservation and development. Currently it was submitted to MAFF for highly consideration and approval.
●		Report on review Cardamom plans and recommendations for extrapolation	The project studied the trends of investment of communes in Cardamom mountain through collected about 3,000 commune investment program, provincial investment plan and provincial development plan from 2005-2009. Currently this information is being installed into the data

		as a candidate component of NAP	base system. In mid Dec 2009 the project proposed Cardamom as the study area for economic value of land degradation to GM and Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). This study would conduct by SEI under supervise from GM and assist by SLM project over 1 year period. This study combines of 4 steps – prepare a work plan; assessment of study; identification options and policy dialogue and reporting.
Gender mainstreaming consultant contract signed. Gender mainstreaming strategy method report	Gender mainstreaming in agriculture existed but No gender mainstreaming for SLM	Gender study and implementation in 3 provinces	Consultant to develop gender mainstreaming policy recruited and collected primary and secondary information for analysis the gender and SLM.
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OUTPUT 3: Sustainable Land Management Mainstreamed			
Output Indicators	Baseline (month/year)	Target (month/year)	Current status (month/year)
Schedule of information education and communication (IEC) products to be developed	No communication plan for mainstreaming SLM existed	Interim communication action plan formulated to guide advocacy efforts	Communicated with communication Unit of UNDP recruited an international consultant to prepare the communication plan.
SLM issues and best practices discussed in MAFF-based TWGs	Strategic plan for agriculture and water for 2006-2009 existed	At least 3 policy briefs produced and contributed to the TWGs	Provided input to TWG on water and agriculture by comment and input to the Draft Harmonized Program Logical Framework under SAW on program #2 - Food security; P#4 – water and land management; and P #5 – knowledge and technology transfer. On program #2 the project had input for component II – institutional and policy environment for improving of Action program developed to collect, maintain, and propagate sufficient stocks of <i>gerplasm</i> of indigenous species and varieties having food and nutrition value. Program # 4 on for component III - legal framework for agriculture lands is developed and component VIII - Strengthen the management of state land resources. Program #5 on Component II Research and Technology is developed. Further more the project also makes highly collaboration with various departments in MAFF like DALM, DAE, CARDI and RUA to mainstream SLM into their planning and actions.
Highlight of world national day celebration and country report for the UNCCD COP meeting	1 world national day celebration and 3 country reports existed in MAFF	World days national celebration conducted; an attendance of key MAFF officials in UNCCD COP meeting	World Day national celebration conducted for 165 participants from national, provincial, university and local level. This even lead by the international corporation department of MAFF and open and closed by the Minister of MAFF. This celebration was raised up the concern of MAFF on implementation of UNCCD convention and raised up an importance issue on land degradation through provide an argument that the land degradation is more serious problem that HIV/AIDS but the concern of SLM was

			less than the HIV/AIDS. Even though the project team could not have change to attend the COP 9 meeting Argentina due to time and administration constrain.
Website operational containing basic SLM document and 3 publication on SLM	Online information existed in UNDP website	Online platform on SLM; and at least 3 publication produced	Online platform on SLM is posted in the UNDP website since June 2009 and recently it still available in that webpage. 3 publications produced – 1,000 NAP leaflet produced in both language English and Khmer and distributed during world day and to national and provincial officers; 1,000 land degradation posters produced the same time in Khmer to raise awareness on land degradation issues and 500 SLM CD documentaries. This 1st English CD document was intended for technical, policy makers and researchers.
Highlight of sharing forum for provincial facilitating team on incorporating SLM in Commune Investment Planning (CIP)	SLM never mainstream into commune and district investment planning	Sharing forum to build the awareness of provincial and district facilitating team on SLM concern for CIP 2010	<p>SLM incorporated into provincial level planning was made through Project Support to Decentralization and De-concentration (PSDD) of UNDP in six provinces around the Cardamom Mountain and other 2 project provinces of TKO and PVH to raise awareness of 176 Provincial Facilitation Team (PFT) of Provincial Local Administration Unit (MOI), Provincial Department of Planning (PDP), Forestry Contentment (FC), Provincial Department of Agriculture (PDA), Provincial Department of Environment (PDE) and Provincial Department of Land Resources Management and Contraction (PDLMC).</p> <p>Integrated SLM activities into commune investment program 17 communes of 3 districts in Preah Vihear. As result SLM related activities are increasing compare to 2009. These increased activities mainly focused on extension of forestry law, environmental protection law and community forestry creation. Related to agriculture activities there would be focused on cultivation technique including land preparation technique, farmer field school, composting etc.</p> <p>Through mainstreaming SLM into provincial and local level, the project also act interest to the provincial departments and LAU to consider SLM as a center for local livelihood improvement and poverty reduction. Furthermore, the project was also made attention to 3 PDP and PDF to allocate budget for services infrastructure rather than physical infrastructure for 2010.</p> <p>To achieve next year incorporation and action of SLM, project attended 3 District Integration Workshop of 3 project provinces. During the meetings, the project committed to contributed to 8 main SLM potential activities in which 3 activities in Aural district of Kampong Speu province and 2 in Samrong and 2 in Training of Takeo province and 1 in Preah Vihear province.</p>

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PROGRESS TOWARDS COUNTRY PROGRAMME (CPAP) OUTPUT

OUTCOME 3: Improvement the capacity of national and sectoral authorities to plan and implement integrated approaches for environmental management and energy development in response to the needs of the poor			
Output Indicators	Baseline (month/year)	Target (month/year)	Current status (month/year)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NAP is prepared 	Draft NAP existing in the MAFF	NAP is completed	The start up to prepare a new NAP according to UNCCD guideline with supervised by the Global Mechanism lays the foundation for amending policies and long term program at both national and local levels to incorporate SLM concerns, principles and strategies into national policies and programs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enhance capacity at central and local levels ● Best practices for SLM based livelihood improvements ● Building capacity for gender mainstreaming/study 	National capacity staff assessment existed	Institutional and human resources capacity to plan and implement SLM is enhanced	Initial Capacity building measures were started at national level (for the PTT) for formulating the National Action Program (NAP) which will guide future policy and program formulation. Capacity building was also started for the local authorities in 3 provinces through consultation meetings and prepared Community Agro-ecosystems Analysis (CAEA) incorporate SLM and simultaneously shared the principles and processes of SLM and encouraged the use of local resources for SLM.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SLM incorporated in NSDP ● SLM incorporated into local authorities planning 	SLM incorporate in MAFF strategies and planning	SLM mainstream at policy level	The project began the process of mainstreaming SLM messages by building the capacity and understanding of the importance of SLM to local community and commune councils of 3 districts in PVH province and provincial and district facilitator team of 3 project provinces. A World Day event to combat desertification was also sponsored to create public awareness on SLM.

Capacity Development

The Project initiated capacity building to national technical staff in many causes through Training Need Assessment prepared by the ITA. There 17 training class provided to 691 national and provincial government and NGOs staff. One key importance of the training is a 3 sessions training on best practices documentation. The result of best practices documentation would highlight in the next coming year. Later this year the PTT could gain knowledge on assessing of gender role in sustainable land management and identified the constraint in contribution to this.

Gender

Due to the project is also working with gender mainstreaming action group (GMAG members are technical team of the project). The gender equity are present in the project due to about 40% of project technical staff are women and they are work very great with various institutions including national and provincial. Achievement to the gender equity and gender sensitive the project also provided a high responsibility to women in the project to be leading during project work plan preparation and implementation. One very good learning that could share with other project regarding to gender sensitive was an effective communication lead by women during meeting and workshop arrangement.

Lessons learned

Two emerging lessons are being learned. First, for a project that relies on partnerships with other organizations and projects to produce its outcome. It is important to adopt partnership and communication strategy that promotes early identification of benefits that the other concerned party will also gain. The SLM Project for instance, would help partner projects and institutions integrating SLM concerns in their work on agriculture, natural resources management, infrastructure and public administration. This partnership should also be complemented by an open, informal and formal communication strategy that helps partners fully understand the vital role that they play in addressing the SLM concerns of the Project.

The second, due to the project will end by next 2 years time so the project better to identify some exiting strategies that can help to sustain SLM action. With this regards the project has work closely with local administration unit of each province to mainstream and build their individual and institutional capacity to capable SLM and land degradation issues. To integrate SLM activities into commune investment program there is a need for understanding of important contribution of SLM in poverty reduction and supporting to the D&D.

III. Project implementation challenges

a. Updated project risks and actions

Project Risk 1:

SLM Project can not find entry points in the donor harmonization process to make donors interested.

Actions taken:

Project makes highly partnership with several donor agencies like: 1- IFAD through RULIP project on Agro-Ecosystem Analysis implementation and action on the result of the AEA; 2- UNDP country office through SGP on best practices documentation and implementation; 3- PSDD project, with local government through Local Administration Unit (LAU) though integrated training on SLM during annual refreshing training workshop to PFT and DFT.

Besides UNDP, the project had make partner ship building with commune council to integrate SLM activities into local planning.

Partnership with other agencies like GM, Stockholm Environment Institute and ICRAF also make for successful of the project implementation, especially related to the completion of the NAP. Project also made an interest to NGOs like World Vision and LWF in term of implementation and contribution to SLM.

Project Risk 2:

Poor participation from ministries and directorates involved in national planning, policies and legislation.

Actions taken:

Some key department directors are now assigned by the Minister to be members of SLM project management board and Technical review team, including UNCCD Science and technology focal person. During reporting period, these teams were working very effective contributed to achievement of the project output and outcomes.

Furthermore, the project also got very high commitment and contribution from Department of Agriculture Land Management (DALM) and Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) to assist the sustainability of the project, producing of AEA tool and to the completion of the NAP.

b. Updated project issues and actions

Project Issue 1:

Delay in recruiting NAP preparation coordinator and government sub-contractor to prepare the NAP due to strategies change by the TRT.

Actions taken:

NAP Preparation Coordinator recruited and implementing his TOR.

Project Issue 2:

Delay in purchasing project vehicle impact to project implementation to produce the result due to lending vehicle improper running.

Actions taken:

Procurement unit of UNDP CO processes the vehicle and committed to purchased in Jan 2010.

Project Issue 3:

Lack of manpower to implement the project due to many priorities that need to produce at the same time.

Actions taken:

NAP preparation coordinator; LD consultant, Data entry; best practice (BP) consultant for Community fisheries, BP consultant for Low Agriculture, BP consultant for Local Government Initiative and Gender consultant are implementing TORs. Communication planner consultant, BP for community protected area; and BP community forestry recruited.

Project Issue 4:

Knowledge and skills of some PTT members does not match requirements for developing the NAP. MAFF/DIC has limited capacity/time to support the process.

Actions taken:

After project coaching mentoring and training for 2 years most of PTT members are better able to collect baseline information on CIP investment and starting to prepare some best practices documents. Furthermore, some PTT starting to analyze the implementation strategies gaps of the government institutions, including their individual departments.

Project Issue 5:

Some PTT members are not capable of planning with local line agencies and communities.

Actions taken:

PTT members are now capable to mainstream SLM into local planning with understanding of D&D process and capable to input to commune investment program.

IV. Financial status and utilization

Table 1: Contribution overview [Apr 2008 – Mar 2011]

DONOR NAME	CONTRIBUTIONS		BALANCE
	Committed	Received	
UNDP	410,000	179,627	230,373
GEF	575,000	253,568	321,432
GOV	62,450	31,225	31,225
Total	1,047,450	464,420	583,030

Table 2: Annual expenditure by Activity (in Atlas format) [Jan 2009 to Dec 2009]

ACTIVITIES	2009 APPROVED BUDGET	2009 EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	DELIVERY (%)
Activity 2: NAP Completion, Validation and Dissemination	49,000	5,275	43,725	11%
Activity 3: Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management	300,303	141,746	158,557	47%
Activity 4: SLM Mainstreaming	79,500	54,185	25,315	68%
Activity 5: Monitoring and Evaluation	25,000	1,874	23,126	7%
Activity 6: Project Management ¹	132,194.67	54,592.167	77,602.50	41%
Total	585,997.67	257,672.167	328,325.5	44%

Table 3: Cumulative expenditure by Activity (in Atlas format) [project start date to Dec 2009]

ACTIVITIES	TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	CUMULATIVE EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	DELIVERY (%)
Activity 2: NAP Completion, Validation and Dissemination	52,304	5,579	46,725	11%
Activity 3: Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management	513,987	221,930	292,057	43%
Activity 4: SLM Mainstreaming	133,125	55,307	77,818	42%
Activity 5: Monitoring and Evaluation	46,000	1,874	44,126	04%
Activity 6: Project Management	302,034	141,107	160,927	47%
Total	1,047,450	425,797	621,653	41%

¹ This budget including annual government contribution of \$20,816.67