



Royal Government of Cambodia



Cambodia

United Nations Development Programme
European Commission

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC AND DECENTRALIZED LOCAL GOVERNANCE IN CAMBODIA: BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY THROUGH NETWORKING AND LOCAL - LOCAL COOPERATION

Brief description

The project aims to contribute to poverty reduction in Cambodia by strengthening democratic and decentralized local governance institutions, systems, mechanisms and processes. It intends to strengthen local democratization and development processes through co-operation between commune councils and other stakeholders for more effective and responsive local governance policies and greater local ownership, participation, civic engagement, and implementation of pro-poor inter-commune projects.

The project will be implemented through UNDP who will be directly responsible and accountable to the EC for the achievement of project objectives, and the proper use of financial resources contributed by EC to the project. A partnership approach to implementation will be pursued as a general approach, developing partnerships with various stakeholders involving national and sub-national government entities, CSOs/NGOs, private sector, and local citizens or user groups, and donors implementing similar D&D initiatives.

Implementation partnership will be developed principally with the Ministry of Interior (MOI), in particular with the Department of Local Administration (DoLA). As the principal implementing partner for this project, MOI will be responsible for ensuring the consistency of the project outputs to the RGC D&D reform program. This implementation partnership shall be assessed at the end of the first year of project implementation and updated once the D&D reform institutions are established by the organic law(s) currently formulated and expected to be passed during the project's first year of implementation.

Total Cost: Euro 10.5 million

Duration of project: 60 Months

December 2005

SIGNATURE PAGE

Country: Cambodia

UNDAF Outcome(s)/Indicator(s): By 2010, achieve significant progress towards effective participation of citizens, accountability and integrity of Government in public decision making and policy implementation for the full realization of human rights, and meeting the country MDGs.

Expected Outcome(s): (1) Increased participation of civil society and citizens in decision-making for the development, implementation and monitoring of public policies;
 (5) Increased efficiency and effectiveness of the public administration to deliver basic services.

Indicator (s): (1) 600 communes practicing participatory planning;
 (5) 1621 Communes deliver public goods and services

Expected Output(s)/Annual Targets: The project will use commune councils as entry point to achieve three complementary expected results, namely:

- Clearly defined and operational mechanisms and increased capacity put in place for good communication, accountability, dialogue, and partnership between commune councils and all other stakeholders to address issues of local governance;
- Network of commune/Sangkat councils (CC) established with institutional guidelines, and long-term objective to create a National League of Commune/Sangkat Councils (NLC/S), for improved co-operation among commune councils and other actors and promotion of good conduct and practices;
- Local area development needs addressed through implementation of pro-poor inter-commune projects as a means of developing good management capacity, processes and practices.

Implementing Partner: The Ministry of Interior (MOI)

Other Partners: Commune/Sangkat Council Associations (NLC/S & PAC/S)

Programme Period: 2006-2010
 Programme Component: Fostering Democratic Governance
 Project Title: **BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY THROUGH NETWORKING AND LOCAL-LOCAL COOPERATION**
 Project ID: _____
 Project Duration: 2006-2010
 Management Arrangement: Government Implementation

Budget	in Euro
General Management Support Fee 7%	
Total budget:	10.5 million
Allocated resources:	...
• Government	in-kind
• UNDP's Regular	0.5 million
• Other (EC):	10 million
• In kind contributions	_____
Unfunded budget:	

Agreed by:

Government : H.E. Mr. Keat Chhon, Senior Minister
 Ministry of Economy and Finance,
 First vice-chairman of the GDC..... 

Implementing Partner : H.E. Mr. Prum Sokha,
 Secretary of State
 Ministry of Interior..... 

UNDP: Mr. Douglas Gardner
 Resident Representative..... 

05 JAN 2006

Abbreviations

AWP	Annual Work Plan
CC	Commune Council
CDP	Commune Development Planning
CS Fund	Commune / Sangkat Fund
CSOs	Civil Society Organization
D&D	Decentralization and De-concentration
DFID	Department for International Development, U.K
DFT	District Facilitators Team
DIW	District Integration Workshop
DOLA	Department of Local Administration
DSP	Decentralization Support Project
EC	European Commission
GTZ	German Technical Development Cooperation
ICC	Inter-commune cooperation
ICJU	Inter-Commune Joint Undertaking
KAF	Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation
MOI	Ministry of Interior
NACC	National Association of Commune Council
NCSC	National Committee to Support Communes / Sangkat
NLC/S	National League of Commune/Sangkat
NTF	National Task Force
NTWG	National Technical Working Group
NWC	National Working Committee
PAC/S	Provincial Association of Commune / Sangkat
PFT	Provincial Facilitators Team
PIF	Provincial Investment Fund
PLG	Partnership for Local Governance project
P/MLAU	Provincial Local Administration Unit
PRDC	Provincial Rural Development Committee
PRDCExCom	PRDC Executive Committee
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
STF/S	Seila Task Force/Secretariat
Sida	Swedish International Cooperation Development Agency
TSU	Technical Support Unit
TWG	Technical Working Group
UNDP	United Nation Development Program

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Objectives and Strategies

The general objective of the project is to contribute to poverty reduction by strengthening democratic and decentralized local governance institutions, systems, mechanisms and processes.

It aims to strengthen local democratization process and development through co-operation between commune councils and other stakeholders for more effective and responsive policies, greater local ownership, participation, civic engagement, and implementation of pro-poor inter-commune projects.

The proposed project will use commune councils as entry point to implement three complementary interventions, namely:

- the creation of voice and accountability mechanisms to improve dialogues, promote partnerships and accountability, and facilitate capacity development
- the creation of a network of commune councils at the provincial and national levels as an institution to strengthen the role of CCs in the decentralization process; and
- Support to pro-poor inter-commune projects or joint undertakings to contribute to local area development.

2. Duration of the Project

The implementation period of the project is 60 months as of the signature of the Contribution Agreement.

3. Project Location

The project's coverage is national in scope, starting implementation with 5 pilot provinces in the MOI-UNDP DSP activities for association formation and inter-commune joint undertakings and 10 Provinces for association formation. The expansion of implementation coverage will be in phases and informed by results of pilot initiatives and 1st year project activities in selected provinces.

4. Beneficiaries and Stakeholders

The main stakeholders will be the commune councils. The Provincial/municipal authorities, CSOs/NGOs and residents in targeted areas will also benefit from the project. Ultimately the beneficiaries of the activities of the project are all the communes of the country and their inhabitants.

Implementation partnership will be developed with the MOI, in particular with the Department of Local Administration (DOLA), and the D&D reform institutions that will be established during the project's life. Partnership will also be developed with local NGOs and other relevant support programs.

5. Monitoring and Measuring the Results

Monitoring on a regular basis will be undertaken on the project activities based on the annual work plan and project indicators at purpose, output and activity levels. Benchmark information and a database will be established by the project during the first year of implementation as basis to track progress of activities, and the effects of the project interventions during the course of the project.

Assessments / evaluation through short-term consultancy engagements shall be commissioned to provide in-depth assessment and analyses on specific aspects of project interventions and operations and their policy implications. The policy analysis will be used to provide inputs into the policy development process to support decentralization reform. Given the on-going D&D policy fleshing out and organic law formulation initiatives, it is expected that there will be fundamental policy changes during the project life, especially on the first year of implementation in 2006 as well as after the local and national elections in 2007 / 2008.

An annual accomplishment report in accordance with requirements of EC will be prepared and discussed in an Annual Review meeting. A mid-term review will be undertaken at the 3rd year of project implementation to assess overall progress and identify, where appropriate, adjustment(s) in the project components, in the implementation arrangements, and in the overall project focus. A final review will be undertaken at the end of the project's implementation period.

An Annual financial audit will be conducted to ensure the proper use of funds. Annual financial reports shall be submitted to EC in accordance with the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) between the European Community (EC) and the United Nations (UN).

6. Budget

Expense classification	A: Total (€)	B: First year (€)	% (B/A)
1. Human Resources	2,828,520	533,220	18.80
2. Project Operation Cost	649,275	263,595	40.60
3. Capacity development & info activities	948,100	139,516	14.70
4. Investment for pro-poor ICPs	5,387,189	375,853	7.00
5. Admin recovery costs	689,916	91,853	
Total budget	10,500,000	1,404,037	13.40