



QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT [QUARTER 1, 2015]

United Nations Development Programme

Cambodia

Promoting Climate Resilient Water Management and Agricultural Practices
in Rural Cambodia (NAPA Follow Up Phase II)

[01-01-2015 – 31-03-2015]



Photo by Pinreak Suos: NAFRI-IRAS Lao visit in Preah Vihear, February 2015

Project ID: 00086715

Duration: 2 years

Total Budget: US\$2,646,193.22

Implementing Partners/Responsible parties: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) Project Support Unit (PSU)

Country Programme Outcome: By 2015, national and local authorities, communities and private sector are better able to sustainably manage ecosystems goods and services and respond to climate change.

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I. Executive summary

This is the last year of project phase 2 implementation. For smooth closing, the project team has been developing an exit strategy to ensure the 2015 Annual Work-Plan and Budget (AWPB) will direct its financial and technical resources toward the end-project results while ensuring replicability and sustainability of the project achievements.

The Senior Management of MAFF/PSU has gained better knowledge and experiences on the project implementation on the ground. In January 2015, MAFF/PSU has conducted a senior management follow-up visit in Preah Vihear and Kratie, aiming at assessing the 2014 progress, identify implementation challenges and acquire knowledge and information from project beneficiaries, local authorities and field implementing staff that can be used as inputs for the preparation of an exit strategy and the 2015 AWPB.

2015 AWPB preparation meeting was held. The 2015 AWPB has been finalized and approved by the project board at its Seventh Project Board Meeting in early February 2015. The AWPB focuses on two main areas: the attainment of planned results as indicated in the Project Result Framework and the implementation of exit strategy that ensures the sustainability and the replication of the project results. These will achieve through a continue efforts of the provision of capacity building support and technical/farm inputs to strengthen resilient livelihoods of 65 target villages and the assessment of project impact, terminal evaluation and various documentary of project experiences for sharing and replication purposes.

Lao Exchange Visit, "A Trans-boundary Exchange Visit to NAPA Follow-Up Project, Cambodia", was held from 15-20 February 2015. It was successfully hosted by MAFF/PSU in collaboration with the provincial administrations and line-departments of the two target provinces. The visit looked at how the project builds the resilience of the community through an integrated approach (Water infrastructure, Resilient Technical package and Group mobilisation and organisation), what are the roles of the local authorities at sub national level and the roles and responsibilities of the line departments in bringing the services closer to the community, and the innovation: mainstreaming climate change in local schools and transforming the school into a learning site for the application of resilient technical packages.

The project team has produced a number of communication materials such as project update, story from the fields, photo essay and photo albums. The team continues to develop case studies and video documentary and soon publish two training manuals: the Global Gender and Climate Change Training Manual in Khmer and the Resilient Small-scale Irrigation Training Manual in Khmer and English. In addition, the team work with partners to disseminate its communication materials through websites of Climate Change Department of Ministry of Environment (CCD (MoE)), Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC), UNDP Adaptation Learning Mechanism, and UNDP website Cambodia. With support from the UNDP global communications team, some of the communications materials are widely shared among their network such as Facebook, Twitter, the Adaptation newsletter etc. Extracted from No Water No Life photo album, a photo essay on this topic was produced in [English](#) and was then translated to [French](#) and [Spanish](#) for wider dissemination. A number of articles and success stories were written and shared on the website and the UNDP newsletter.

As part of the impact assessment, SBK – the Evaluation Consulting Firm, organized refresher training on how to administer the questionnaires and collect accurate data in the mid-line survey for enumerators and the project team, as a result the team feels confident and has the ability to use the questionnaires

effectively and efficiently. Then they successfully carried out field data collection in selected baseline villages in the two target provinces. Data entry and midline assessment report will be completed in quarter 2, 2015.

To get a detail information for the development of exit strategy, the project team drafted questionnaires and conducted focus group discussion in the target villages to assess the strength, weaknesses and needs related to integrated packages that have been implemented so far. The results will show the support required to ensure sustainability of the project achievements.

Follow up assessment on the Community-Based Early Warning System (CB-EWS) were conducted in 27 selected villages in both target provinces, and there were 30 to 40 households (randomized selection) per village participated in the interview. The purpose of the assessment was to get feedback from local communities on the usefulness of CB-EWS and its impacts on local livelihood.

GDA/DALM consultation workshop. The Department of Agricultural Land Management (DALM) of the General Directorate of Agriculture had made a report on Land suitability for Rice in Preah Vihear and Kratie that had identified and mapped the soil in four communes of the NAPA FU project, and demonstrated its suitability with the rice varieties in use by the farmers. During the consultation workshop held on February 2nd 2015, recommendations have been made to DALM to extend to others crops and formulate tools that propose resilient extension service with given climatic information for dissemination and decision-making at the sub-national level.

Global Knowledge Exchange workshop on Adaptation for Food Security and Resilience. The event, organized in Niamey (Niger) from 2 to 5 March 2015, gathered participants from thirteen countries. The NAPA FU was represented by three persons and shared its experience on solar-powered water pumps, water management committee, Gender Action Plan and Working with a private company measuring the impact of the project. The event had established a cohesive community of practice and generated an exhaustive series of best practices and innovations. The participating countries are committed to continue the learning exchange and route among which sharing case studies, undertaking comparative analysis.

The project has been in a good progress toward the project end. In this quarter, since the project focuses more on annual planning, developing exit strategy, experience documentation and sharing project experiences, etc. The project could deliver only US\$169,721.40 equal 65% of planned budget in quarter 1, 2015. It has been noted a small problem occurring during the preparation and approval of 2015 AWPB due to different statement from the UNDP financial system. This has caused some delay in the preparation and approval of sub-contracts of the provincial line-departments and led to delay some of field activities.

II. IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

a. PROGRESS TOWARDS PROJECT OUTPUTS

OUTPUT 1.1: Improved understanding among local communities and planners about gender-differentiated impacts and risks of climate change.			
Output Indicators	Baseline (September 2013)	Target (December 2015)	Current status (31 March 2015)
● A gender assessment is carried out in 32	A rapid gender assessment was	By the end of the project, a gender	It was done in 2014.

communes and gender-disaggregated sources of climate risks and vulnerability.	undertaken in 16 communes.	assessment is completed in 32 communes A report summarizing the results of the gender assessment is available.	
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OUTPUT 1.2: A community-based climate information system to facilitate resilient-agriculture is strengthened.

Output Indicators	Baseline (September 2013)	Target (December 2015)	Current status (31 March 2015)
● Availability of tailored climate information targeting male and female farmers.	General seasonal forecasts are available but they are not tailored or easily understandable to facilitate resilient farming practices.	Tailor-made climatic information is made available in at least 60 villages. The utilization of such information is assessed for male and female farmers.	The Department of Agriculture Land Management (DALM) performed soil assessment and soil/crop suitability analysis. The draft assessment report with technical advices had then presented in the national consultation meeting in February 2015 to get further feedback. A training material on how to interpret and advice farmers on resilient options in the context of climate change is being developed. A TOT training for provincial team will be done in Q2, 2015.

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OUTPUT 2.1: Community-level water supply infrastructure for both domestic and livestock use constructed and managed in 60 villages.

Output Indicators	Baseline (September 2013)	Target (December 2015)	Current status (31 March 2015)
● Number of households harvesting and/or conserving rain water in target villages for household.	1,020 households in 23 villages (24%) are actively involved in rainwater harvesting.	By the end of the project, at least 2,500 households in 60 villages are actively harvesting rainwater to conserve and	The target has been achieved. Till now, 2,501 households in 53 villages benefited from small scale water infrastructures. They include 86 pump wells, 48 solar pump systems, 5 community ponds, and 51 rain

		safeguard water resources for household use.	water harvesting tanks of which 3 are community harvesting tanks.
● Numbers of women receive technical/ leadership trainings on effective use of water.	990 women have received training on effective use of water.	2,200 women received technical/ leadership trainings on effective use of water.	Women in target communes are receiving additional knowledge on Gender and Climate Change, technical skills and water management through training and farmer exchange visits. Numbers of women benefited from these activities will be made available in the next quarter.
The project team conducted village situation analysis in 61 target villages to assess the capacity of farmer groups and water infrastructures supported by the project in order to develop a follow up plan and an exit strategy.			
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OUTPUT 2.2: Resilient livelihood methods (i.e. resilient or early/medium maturing seed varieties, SRI and diversified livestock production) expanded to 60 villages.

Output Indicators	Baseline (September 2013)	Target (December 2015)	Current status (31 March 2015)
● Area of Agricultural Land on which climate resilient farming practices and/or crops are actively adopted.	Resilient rice varieties have been used on 325 hectares.	By the end of the project, at least 1,000 hectares of agriculture land are under resilience farming (resilient or early/medium maturing seed varieties, and SRI).	As of now, 5,070 households in 65 villages practiced the resilient farming methods on 719 hectares of agriculture land through the provision of water supply, resilient seeds and farm tools.
● Number of the landless or land-poor benefiting from diversified livestock production.	441 households in target areas practice climate-resilient, diversified livestock production.	By the end of the project, at least 1,375 landless or land-poor households practice climate-resilient, diversified livestock production.	1,401 households of ID poor 1 and 2 selected in 4 target districts for the project phase 2 and benefited from the project.
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OUTPUT 2.3: Agricultural areas under irrigation expanded and managed.			
Output Indicators	<i>Baseline (September 2013)</i>	<i>Target (December 2015)</i>	<i>Current status (31 March 2015)</i>
● Land hectareage under irrigation.	848 hectares are currently covered by irrigation in Kratie province with LDCF financing.	By the end of the project, at least 1,500 hectares (i.e. additional 652 hectares) benefited from the irrigation systems.	The project rehabilitated/built 5 irrigation schemes (three in Kratie and two in Preah Vihear). The schemes could irrigate 1,389 hectares of paddy fields.
The project is conducting an assessment on irrigation systems in order to prepare an exit strategy. The exit strategy will be presented and discussed in the 9 th technical meeting to be held in Q2, 2015.			
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OUTPUT 2.4: Women's management capacity for community-water infrastructure strengthened.			
Output Indicators	<i>Baseline (September 2013)</i>	<i>Target (December 2015)</i>	<i>Current status (31 March 2015)</i>
● Number of women in water management groups who receive trainings on management, maintenance, user fees collection, etc.	1,192 women representing 55.4% out of 2,152 of FWUC, WUGs and FSI members have received training on Participatory Irrigation Management and Development (PIMD), roles and responsibilities of FWUC and basic concepts of early warning system.	3,200 of women benefit from training and exchange visits to FWUCs/WUGs that are successful in water management.	N/A in this quarter.
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OUTPUT 3.1: Increased public awareness and environmental education programmes on climate risk reduction designed and implemented.			
Output Indicators	<i>Baseline (September 2013)</i>	<i>Target (December 2015)</i>	<i>Current status (31 March 2015)</i>
● Number of workshops at the national and regional levels on lessons learned.	One national workshop has been organized with 140	By the end of the project, at least one additional national workshop is	Lao Exchange Visit, "A Trans-boundary Exchange Visit to NAPA Follow-Up Project, Cambodia", was held for 25 Lao

	<p>participants and practitioners from the national and sub-national levels to exchange and discuss experiences concerning climate change impacts and adaptation in Cambodia.</p>	<p>organized to present lessons learned, leveraging the enhanced M&E framework established.</p>	<p>delegates from IRAS project (NAFRI) from 15-20 February 2015. It was successfully hosted by MAFF/PSU in collaboration with the provincial administrations and line-departments of the two target provinces.</p> <p>The project team has produced a number of communications materials such as project update, story from the fields, photo albums and some articles and blog highlighted the changes of the beneficiaries under the project intervention. With support from the global communications team, the materials were widely shared among their network on Twitter, Facebook, the Adaptation newsletter, and website.</p>
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In addition, the team work with partners to disseminate its communications materials through websites of MoE Climate Change Department (MoE/CCD), Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC), UNDP Adaption Learning Mechanism, UNDP website Cambodia, Facebook and Twitter.

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OUTPUT 3.2: Improved knowledge among government planners about ongoing adaptation investments and gaps in the area of climate resilient farming.

Output Indicators	Baseline (September 2013)	Target (December 2015)	Current status (31 March 2015)
<p>● Sectoral assessments of adaptation gaps in the context of resilient rural agriculture.</p>	<p>Climate change public expenditure review was undertaken by UNDP but no assessments of adaptation gaps have been undertaken.</p>	<p>By the end of the project, at least one national level assessment on water and/or agriculture sectors is undertaken.</p>	<p>Achieved in 2014.</p>

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OUTPUT 3.3: An impact assessment study conducted capturing gender-disaggregated benefits of

adaptation investments promoted under the project.			
Output Indicators	Baseline (September 2013)	Target (December 2015)	Current status (31 March 2015)
● Availability of evidence-based case studies from the project.	Capturing of lessons learned is predominantly anecdote-based.	By the end of the project, at least one systematic study is undertaken on the gender-disaggregated impact of project carried out in 9 selected villages (3 integrated target, 3 scatter target and 3 non-target villages).	As part of the impact assessment, SBK – the Evaluation Consulting Firm, organized refresher training on how to administer the questionnaires and collect accurate data in the mid-line survey for enumerators and the project team, as a result the team feels confident and has the ability to use the questionnaires effectively and efficiently. They have successfully carried out field data collection in selected baseline villages in the two target provinces. Data entry and the assessment report will be completed in quarter 2, 2015.
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b. PROGRESS TOWARDS COUNTRY PROGRAMME (CPAP) OUTPUT

Output 2.3. A national strategy, Programme, and financing mechanism established for cohesive climate change response at national, sub-national, and community levels.

Output Indicators	<i>Baseline (September 2013)</i>	<i>Target (December 2015)</i>	<i>Current status (31 March 2015)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Climate Change Strategy and program adopted and implemented 	No	Yes	Contribution to CCCSP and Action Plan of MAFF. It was approved by MAFF in early 2014.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of climate sensitive sectors with strengthened adaptive capacity 	16 communes have developed a gender sensitive sub-national development plans.	By the end of the project, 32 commune-level development plans integrate gender-sensitive climate risks and concerns into the plans.	Climate Change Adaptation incorporated into the CIPs of 32 communes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of flood and/or drought prone communes applying climate resilient farming methods 	3,679 households (56% of the original target households) have implemented at least one additional measure to reduce livelihood exposure to climate change.	5,500 households in 60 villages have implemented at least two/three additional measure to reduce livelihood exposure to climate change.	5,070 households in 65 villages (22 communes) (60% are women) benefited from the resilient integrated packages (water and IFS).
	848 hectares are currently covered by irrigation in Kratie province with LDCF financing.	By the end of the project, at least 1,500 hectares (i.e. additional 652 hectares) benefited from the irrigation systems.	Five irrigation schemes (three in Kratie and two in Preah Vihear) rehabilitated/built and could irrigate 1,389 hectares of paddy fields.

III. Follow-up actions:

a. Seventh Board's decisions/recommendations:

Recommendation:

Strengthening the groups. Building the farmer confidence to maintain the project achievements and scale up the best practice through Farmers to Farmers. To this end, the project should take a set of measures including the review rules and regulations that will serve the interests of the groups formed e.g. revolving funds, payment of services, fees collection...

Action taken:

- The project team performed the village situation analysis focusing on on farmer group capacity building on financial management, group management, fee collection, maintenance, more hand-on agriculture technical skills and water infrastructures aiming at identifying areas to be further improved.
- The findings from the assessment are used for the formulation of an exit strategy. The draft strategy will be discussed in the 9th technical meeting in April 2015.

Recommendation:

Scalability and scaling-up. Since the project had adopted a scaling-up direction, it is recommended that the project starts costing the best practices for scaling up purpose. Not all the best practices are sustainable as for instance need to be subsequently subsidized by the government. Scaling up should apply to innovations that are built on evidence-based impact and sustainably proven (cost benefit analysis).

Action taken:

- The project team continues to develop case studies, video documentary and the best practices for scaling up. In addition, the cost-benefit analysis of selected small scale water infrastructures such as pump well, solar pump and rainwater harvesting tank, piloted in the project, have been calculated and incorporated into the small scale irrigation training manual.

b. Audit's recommendations:

Recommendation 1: Complying with Cambodian Law of Taxation

It is recommended that the Project properly withhold and remit the related Withholding Tax on service payments to the Tax Department to comply with the prevailing tax regulations. The Project should ensure that the Withholding Tax rate is properly applied.

Action taken:

- The Project is considering the appropriate action to be taken related to the withholding and remittance of tax to respond the recommendation by taking close monitor on the rest of payment installments of the video documentary consultant.
- MAFF/PSU has reviewed and amended the service contract between MAFF/PSU and the Video Documentary Consultant to reflect tax inclusive and term of payment.

Recommendation 2: Transactions reference number

During the course of audit, it was noted that there was no consistency in recording transactions reference numbers in the accounting system, for example, some transactions were recorded using cheque number as reference while other transactions were recorded by using voucher number. It is recommended that management should ensure the reference numbers are consistently recorded.

Action taken:

- The Project will take appropriate action to review the General Ledger and financial report and work closely with the financial team to ensure the reference numbers are accurately and consistently recorded.

Recommendation 3: Summary of travel allowance

During the course of audit, it was noted that the summary sheet of travel allowance given to staff does not contain detailed breakdown of travelling and per diem. The Project should use a more detail summary sheet to avoid missing any important information.

Action taken:

- The Project will carefully review and ensure all requests submitted are detailed with breakdown list to ensure the accuracy and avoid missing any important information.

IV. Project implementation challenges

a. New Identified Risks and Issues:

- Shortage budget is an opportunity for project team full comply with exist strategy activities planned

b. Updated project risks and actions:

- Project team is facilitate with IFAD program to continuing support

c. Updated project issues and actions:

Project Issue:

Actions taken:

IV. Financial status and utilization

Table 1: Contribution Overview [start date of the project – end date of project] [01/10/2013 - 31/12/2015]

DONOR NAME	CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTED	RECEIVED	CONTRIBUTION BALANCE
UNDP	403,767.32	403,767.32	-
CIDA	2,242,425.90	2,242,425.90	-
TOTAL	2,646,193.22	2,646,193.22	-

Table 2: Quarterly expenditure by project output or Activity [01/01/2015 – 31/03/2015]

OUTPUT	BUDGET PLAN [Q1]	EXPENDITURE [Q1]	BALANCE	DELIVERY (%)
Output 1: Improved capacity within local institutions to manage agricultural water resources in a changing climate	45,266.86	23,549.73	21,717.13	52.02%
Output 2: Locally appropriate adaptation options demonstrated to reduce exposure to climate -induced risks	146,143.51	87,195.70	58,947.81	59.66%
Output 3: Lessons learned in project sites replicated in other vulnerable areas of Cambodia	50,624.60	43,319.22	7,305.38	85.57%
Project Management	20,958.85	15,656.75	5,302.10	74.70%
TOTAL	262,993.82	169,721.40	93,272.42	64.53%

Table 3: Annual Expenditure by Project Output or Activity [1/01/2015 – 31/12/2015]

OUTPUT	BUDGET PLAN 2015	CUMULATIVE EXPENDITURE 2015	BALANCE	DELIVERY (%)
Output 1: Improved capacity within local institutions to manage agricultural water resources in a changing climate	169,352.77	23,549.730	145,803.04	13.91%
Output 2: Locally appropriate adaptation options demonstrated to reduce exposure to climate -induced risks	445,135.66	87,195.700	357,939.96	19.59%

Output 3: Lessons learned in project sites replicated in other vulnerable areas of Cambodia	177,511.91	43,319.220	134,192.69	24.40%
Project Management	106,629.60	15,656.750	90,972.85	14.68%
TOTAL	898,629.94	169,721.400	728,908.54	18.89%

Table 4: Cumulative Expenditure by Project Output or Activity [1/10/2013 – 31/12/2015]

OUTPUT	TOTAL BUDGET	CUMULATIVE EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	DELIVERY (%)
Output 1: Improved capacity within local institutions to manage agricultural water resources in a changing climate	342,640.50	196,837.46	145,803.04	57.45%
Output 2: Locally appropriate adaptation options demonstrated to reduce exposure to climate -induced risks	1,511,735.34	1,153,795.38	357,939.96	76.32%
Output 3: Lessons learned in project sites replicated in other vulnerable areas of Cambodia	557,074.51	372,562.32	184,512.19	66.88%
Project Management	234,742.86	140,195.02	94,547.85	59.72%
TOTAL	2,646,193.22	1,863,390.18	782,803.04	70.42%