



ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT 2010

United Nations Development Programme Cambodia
*Building Capacity and Mainstreaming and Sustainable Land Management
in Cambodia Project*

[01 Jan 2010 – 31 Dec 2010]



Project ID & Title:	00044071
Duration:	3 years (Feb 2008 – Jan 2011)
Total Budget:	USD 975,562.58
Implementing Partners/ Responsible parties:	Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)
Country Programme Outcome:	#3

Table of Content

I. Executive summary3
II. Implementation progress4
III. Project implementation challenges.....9
 a. Updated project issues and actions.....9
IV. Financial status and utilization.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

I. Executive summary

The Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project has 3 major areas of work are a) Completion of National Action Program to Combat Land Degradation (NAP), b) Capacity Building, and c) Mainstreaming of SLM.

Completion of the NAP:

The Project substantially completed 100% of the planned technical content of NAP Part 1 (Situation Analysis) and 70% of the planned technical content of NAP Part 2 (Investment Program). NAP part 2 is being developed by International Technical Advisor (ITA), NAP Coordinator and the team of Integrated Financial Strategy, based on the outline approved by Technical Review Team (TRT). The TRT has defined 2 major areas of intervention for strategic investment program: soil improvement and re-forestation programs. Moreover, the TRT had also approved the proposed key sub-programs and projects. The project plans to complete the finalization of draft NAP (Part 1 and Part 2) at the end of January 2011.

In addition, the project cooperated with the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) to conduct a study on the cost of land degradation (CLD) around Cardamom Mountain (Koh Kong and Pursat provinces) with financial support from Global Mechanism (GM). The study was started since late October 2010 and will be completed in November 2011. The primary findings and information for the first assessment was finished and incorporated already in the NAP Part 1.

The Integrated Financial Strategy (IFS) for NAP, which was supported by GM was finalized and incorporated with the NAP document. The IFS team (contract extended until Feb 2011) will work closely with NAP Coordinator and ITA, to define the Investment Program and develop the Integrated Area Framework for selected regional landscapes in Cambodia as a component of Part 2 of NAP.

NAP Part 1 incorporated the results of 8 studies done under the SLM Project on the topics of land degradation, mapping, best practices, agro-forestry, gender, cost of land degradation, and integrated financing and training needs. It is also the results of at least 15 consultative events involving over 400 participants.

Capacity Building:

The Project Technical Team (PTT) concluded their participation in SLM activities and has started to share the SLM gained knowledge to their respective Departments including DAE, DALRM, Planning, and DIC, NAL and MoE / GIS department. Documentation of this sharing is ongoing.

Under the leadership of the DAE, 100 best practices for SLM in 5 themes were identified in consultation with NGO partners and 4 themes completed follow the UNCCD and WOCAT protocols guided the identification process with the endorsement of 3 MAFF Departments (GDA, FA, FiA), and MOE/GDANCP.

In addition, the gender mainstreaming study in Sustainable Land Management was completed and the result was shared in Gender mainstreaming learning session at UNDP country office and World Day to Combat Desertification.

Two persons from MAFF and one person from the project conducted a cross visited different private and government offices in the Philippines to learn and share experiences in NAP formulation and implementation as well as understand sustainable land management governance experience. The visitors also learned on how agro-forestry is being implemented and practices at the farmers' level that contribute to sustainable land management and slop protection. The leaders of the Philippine Bureau of Soils served as host.

The project also cooperated with DALRM to undertake training need assessment (TNA) for the entire staff. Priority subject matters for immediate training were determined. But the training workshop for building capacity was not done because of conflicting DALRM schedules, there was lack of local soils resource persons that met the preference of DALRM. Through the ITA the project has cooperated with

Forestry Administration to provide technical inputs to an agro-forestry assessment and planning workshop at Kampot province which was funded by DANIDA.

Mainstreaming:

A tentative list of communication priorities was prepared, and an ITA engaged to translate into a communication strategy. The project begun a knowledge attitude and practices (KAP) survey as basis for the design of communication strategy related to NAP preparation, awareness raising on land degradation, and sustainable land management. However, the short term ITA resigned in midstream due to spouse medical problems at home. Nonetheless, based on available information, the project prepared several materials such as a poster and a video documentary.

The project cooperated with Department of International Cooperation of MAFF to celebrate World Day to Combat Desertification on 17 June 2010, participated by 189 people (23 females) with topic: Enhancing Soils Anywhere, Enhance Life Everywhere. The project cooperated with the Department of Agricultural Extension of MAFF to develop video documentary for 15mn regarding to sustainable management in Cambodia context.

The project cooperated with DALRM on the information sets to be prepared to support the upcoming preparation of the Agricultural Land Act. These information sets will be based on the 7 studies conducted under the Project. The project through the ITA also cooperated with FAO Bangkok to help identify the new ITA to support the preparation of the Agricultural Land Act

II. Implementation progress

PROGRESS TOWARDS PROJECT OUTPUTS

OUTPUT 1: National Action Program (NAP) is completed			
Output Indicators in revised log frame	Baseline (Dec/2009)	Target (Dec/2010)	Current status (Dec/2010)
NAP completion, adoption and dissemination	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 Nov 2009.	NAP is prepared with integration all Parts (Part 1&2)	The Project substantially completed 100% of the planned technical content of NAP Part 1 (Situation Analysis) and 70% of the planned technical content of NAP Part 2 (Investment Program). The project plans to finalize of draft NAP (Part 1 and Part 2) in the end of January 2011 and conduct the final consultations in Feb 2011.
Note:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project has cooperated with Department of International Cooperation (DIC) and Department of Agricultural Land Resources Management (DALRM) of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to launch workshop on preparation of National Action Program (NAP) to Combat Land Degradation in Cambodia involving key ministries. Moreover, the National Consultant for Land Degradation Study conducted consultation meeting with provincial level to review the report. - 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. - Results of documentation of SLM best practices, initial information on agro-forestry potentials as well as the results of the gender in SLM study were also incorporated in the NAP document. - The project has cooperated with Stockholm Environment Institute to conduct study on Cost of Land Degradation around Cardamom Mountain, with support by Global Mechanism (GM). The study was started to since late October 2010 and will complete in November 2011. The study is identified and described the true economic value of the 			

<p>various land use practices in a pilot region. The finalization of NAP will utilize the partial results of the study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first draft of the Integrated Financial Strategy (IFS) has been finalized and combined in NAP document. This activity had been supported by GM. - The basic strategies and content under NAP Part 2 was approved by TRT meeting. Under the guidance of the MAFF/TRT, the NAP preparation team developed programs for 2 themes: soil conservation/improvement and restoration of forest ecological services Moreover, the NAP draft also contains sub-program and projects to support the two themes of soil improvement and re-forestation. 		
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UTPUT 2: Capacity for Sustainable Land Management is enhanced			
Output Indicators in revised log frame	Baseline (Dec/2009)	Target (Dec/2010)	Current status (Dec/2010)
<p>MAFF officers applied acquired knowledge of SLM in strategy and work plan.</p> <p>A number of local officers participated in the SLM training and be able to integrate SLM activities into local planning process.</p>	<p>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 prioritized learning events conducted for 106 participants from 3 ministries 5 NGOs, and 5 projects. 7 prioritized training event provided to PTT and other 100 staffs on 1-Strategic to mainstream SLM into CIP. Basic English training; 5- GIS application for SLM</p> <p>DIFS training workshop conducted to bring together professionals from different sectors of 49 national stakeholders, who are involved in SLM, on the preparation and development of NAP/IFS in Cambodia.</p> <p>The project made collaborated with DAE organizing a consultation meeting to identify key topics for introducing SLM incorporated into the existing AEA tool.</p>	<p>Capacity Development through personnel support and through local study visit</p> <p>Develop AEA tool that integrated SLM concept</p>	<p>With the conclusion of capacity building support for the PTT, the latter returned to their respective Departments and continued sharing their SLM knowledge (land degradation, GIS, SLM in AEA etc). The project will undertake a review of the progress of sharing in Jan 2011</p> <p>The Project also conducted a detailed TNA for DALRM and under the leadership of the DALRM head identified priority topics and prepared the first training course. The DALRM has deferred implementation due to conflicting schedules and time needed to search for local resource persons</p> <p>The project organized three days study visit in Philippine from 25 -28 April 2010. Two persons from MAFF and one person from the project to learn NAP preparation experience as well as governance strategies for sustainable land management</p> <p>The key areas for incorporating SLM into the existing AEA tool were identified and endorsed to the MAFF</p>

4 sets of Best practices (SLM themes in agriculture ,forestry, fisheries, protected areas,) are documented, integrated into NAP and disseminated through extension services and community learning networks	3 potential consultants identified and contracted by project to develop SLM best practices (community fishery, low land agriculture and local government initiative)	Best Practices in 4 SLM themes are documented, and disseminated through local MAFF , local government and community learning networks	100 best practices for SLM in 5 themes were identified in consultation with NGO partners and 4 sets of Best Practices completed with the endorsement of 3 MAFF Departments (GDA, FA, FiA), and MOE/GDANCP
Greater awareness within national and provincial land management agencies on how to improve gender equity in SLM.	Consultant to develop gender mainstreaming policy recruited and collected primary and secondary information for analysis the gender and SLM.	Gender mainstreaming strategy is formulated and implemented.	Gender Mainstreaming in Sustainable Land Management Study completed. But the activity of developing gender mainstreaming strategy was dropped due to the project need to serve budget for supporting the formulation of the strategic investment program (NAP).
A number of community learning networks on SLM established/supported by local NGOs in collaboration with PDA.	The Project through the ITA assisted the RUIP – UNDP component develop the manual for community learning networks	At least 2 community learning network established	Further work on learning networks was not continued due to lack of project staff to implement (absent of National Project manager and National Project Assistance from January to May 2010)
Regional landscape level land use framework for Cardamom mountains prepared In corporation with CI and other partners	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.	Landscape level land use framework for Cardamom Mountains is developed	The Cost of Land Degradation (CLD) study around Cardamom Mountain started to conduct study since late October 2010 and will be completed in November 2011. The study is identifying and describing the true economic value of the various land use practices in a pilot region.
<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project cooperated with UNDP/GEFSGP to document Best Practice of successful farmers of CEDAC in Takeo province about Multi Purpose Farm or Integrated Farming system that they have done very well and can cope with climate change and improve soil fertility for environmental friendly. - Agro-forestry: The SLM Project through the ITA provided information inputs to the FA – DANIDA workshop assessing the results of the FA agro-forestry project. - The project cooperated with the Stockholm Environment Institute to conduct a study on the cost of land degradation around Cardamom Mountain with financial supported by GM. - Other capacity building for NAP preparation was done through the consultative workshops with provincial line departments under MAFF and other NGOs. as well as through the strategic dialogue in the TRT and Board Meeting utilizing the research based information from studies supported by the SLM 			
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OUTPUT 3: SLM is integrated into national and sectoral policies and regional planning.			
Output Indicators in revised log frame	Baseline (Dec/2009)	Target (Dec/2010)	Current status (Dec/2010)

SLM integration into NSDP and sectoral policy through TWGs.	Provided input to the 5 year log-frame of TWG on Water and Agriculture by comment and input in programme #4	Priority policy recommendations incorporated in sectoral TWG policy agenda	National Action Program to Combat Land degradation was integrated into new NSDP. The DALRM and SLM team discussed the preliminary actions leading to support the start up preparations for the Agricultural land law. Specific recommendations are awaiting final decision on by DALRM and SLM Project.
SLM is integrated into provincial, district and commune level development planning.	SLM incorporated into provincial level planning was made through Project Support to Decentralization and De-concentration (PSDD) of UNDP in 6 provinces around the Cardamom Mountain. Integrated SLM activities into commune investment program in 17 communes of 3 districts in Preah Vihear.	SLM investment trends of communes analyzed and presented to local government	Sustainable Land Management concept was mainstreamed into commune development program at provincial level (Kam Pong Speu, Takeo, and Preh Vihear). As result from the collecting and analyzing data, the activities related SLM in commune investment programme are increasing compare to 2008.
Increased funding for SLM programs and projects	Funds for SLM are difficult to mobilize	Proposals and recommendations developed for financing of priority component of NAP	The IFS identified and analyzed three sources of funding: internal, external and innovative financing

Note:

- NAP preparation was integrated into new NSDP 2009-2013. Sustainable Land Management concept was mainstreamed into Strategy for Agriculture and Water 2010-2013, and The Agriculture Strategic Development Plan 2009-2013 of MAFF 2009-2013.
- The information sets be supporting the upcoming preparation of the Agricultural Land Act will be based on the 7 studies conducted under the Project. The project through the ITA also cooperated with FAO Bangkok ot help identify the new ITA to support the preparation of the Agricultural Land Act
- The project engaged another International Consultant to design communication strategy related to NAP preparation, awareness raising on land degradation, and sustainable land management that used primarily in World Day to Combat Desertification in June 2010. This also included a small study on Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice (KAP) in order to gather information from people at national and provincial level about understanding land degradation and sustainable land management. However, the consultant resigned in midstream due to spouse medical problems at home
- The project cooperated with Department of International Cooperation of MAFF to celebrate World Day to Combat Desertification on 17 June 2010, participated by 189 people (23 females) with topic: Enhancing Soils Anywhere, Enhance Life Everywhere. 2 types of Poster were developed and share during World Day 2010. First, Soil Biodiversity and the second, Gender and Sustainable Land Management. But these posters were not printed to distribute to all stakeholders yet.
- The project cooperated with the Department of Agricultural Extension of MAFF to develop video documentary for 15mn regarding to sustainable management in Cambodia context.

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PROGRESS TOWARDS COUNTRY PROGRAMME (CPAP) OUTPUT

OUTPUT: 3.1. Capacities of government and local communities enhanced for biodiversity

conservation and livelihoods improvement			
Output Indicators	Baseline (Dec/2009)	Target (Dec/2010)	Current status (Dec/2010)
Sustainable Land Management National Action Programme (NAP) produced	The revised outline of National Action Programme (NAP) developed	NAP final draft which incorporates integrated financial strategy completed	Draft NAP part 1 already completed with 5 chapters including Integrated Financial Strategy study (IFS). The NAP part 2 (Strategic Investment Program) identified 2 programs, soil improvement and restoration of forest ecological services as well as sub-program and of projects approved in substance by TRT/MAFF. The NAP draft will be completed by Jan 2011.
Note:			
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Gender Study

The project conducted a study on gender mainstreaming in sustainable land management. The purpose of study is to assess gender role, opportunity of gender in SLM and some barrier regarding gender for SLM and collect secondary information as well as make recommendation for preparing gender mainstreaming strategy for SLM for the NAP. The study covered in the project target province Takeo, Kampong Speu and Preah Vihear provinces and focused decision Making Process and Women Constraints in agriculture activities.

Lesson learnt

NAP:

While the NAP will finally be completed, its history is rich with lessons. One of these is that the delay could have been minimized if there was common understanding of its manpower requirements among the key Project actors: MAFF, UNDP, SLM Team and ITA. For instance preparation of the NAP initially relied only on one full time local technical person when by experience (including GM recommendations) indicates that it also needs the inputs of short term, multidisciplinary and local expert team. Engaging such short term inputs was affected by differing TA recruitment policies of MAFF and UNDP. There is a need for strategic resolution of this kind of issue for future UNDP MAFF projects.

Human Resources:

The Project's issue revolves around asymmetry between project design expectations and human resources management. First the PTT was practically only 30-40% operational. Due to management issues, the NPM had to be replaced but it took almost half a year to do that. Meantime the only technical person working in 2010 was the PTC, the NAP consultant and 12 % of the PTT. The ITA was working on an intermittent basis. More extra ordinary measures could have helped in early 2010 to address the HR challenges if project design objectives had to be met.

The lack of accountability of Local TA to ITA affected implementation of quality standards for NAP preparation as suggested by the ITA. This was particularly prominent during the period when there was not Project leader to enforce suggestions by the ITA. Roles and accountabilities between ITA and local TA should be clarified especially under A NEX project under which ITA suggestions are purely recommendatory. This becomes more important if the ITA is not on a full time basis and does not have constant physical presence to follow up and advocate on recommendations.

The project cooperated with Small Grant Program/UNDP to support to 2NGOs for documenting Best Practice in Takeo province: the project found that Integrated Farming System (IFS) or Multi Purpose Farm is the best solutions for household in rural area that can make farmers earn more income to feed their families. This approach can help the project to mainstreaming sustainable land management and maintain soil improvement concept to NGO and community at provincial level through piloting integrated farming system activities.

III. Project implementation challenges

a. Updated project issues and actions

Project Issue 1:

Absence of National Project Manager (NPM) from 3 February to 19 May 2010 and Project Assistance (PA) from 5 January to 20 April 2010 lead to slow project implementation. This was exacerbated by only 10% of PTT actually working.

Actions taken:

The Project Technical Coordinator handled all tasks of vacancy post while the UNDP process to recruit new NPM and PA (at the expense of other project activities under capacity building).

Project Issue 2:

The project lack of budget to implement NAP preparation due to the project needs to have more consultation workshop and meeting to validate NAP document.

Actions taken:

The project decided to reserve budget from capacity building and mainstreaming activities to support to NAP preparation. The Project also took advantage of the multiple project events as opportunities for consultations.

Project Issue3:

NAP preparation was late due to poor communication between National Consultant and Technical Review Team. This was also affected by the unclear accountability of local NAP TA to ITA in terms of meeting quality standards for NAP preparation. There was also delayed action and communication from GM in terms of approval and recruitment of new NAP ITA (which eventually did not materialize)

Actions taken:

MAFF established new NAP facilitator group to support TRT team and work with the project consultants. Moreover, GM agreed to extend IFS team contract and the UNDP extended one and two months contract with no cost extension for National Consultant (NAP Coordinator) and ITA respectively.

IV. Financial Status and Utilization

Table 1: Contribution Overview [Project started: 2005 – Project end: 2011]

Donor Name	Contributions		Actual Expense	Balance
	Committed	Received		
UNDP (04000 - TRAC)	428,451.32	405,581.60	413,051.34	15,399.98
GEF (62000 - GEF)	575,000.00	533,189.79	503,656.78	71,343.22
Total	1,003,451.32	938,771.39	916,708.12	86,743.20

Table 2: 4th Quarter 2010 Cumulative Expenditure by Activities [01 Oct – 31 Dec 2010]

Activities - Description	Budget [4QT, 2010]	4th Quarter 2010 Cumulative Expenditure			Balance	Delivery (%)
		Gov/SLM (Disbursed)	UNDP (Disbursed)	Total		
Activity 1: PDF-A Exercise	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Activity 2: NAP Completion, Validation and Dissemination	8,810.00	3,446.67	-	3,446.67	5,363.33	39%
Activity 3: Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management	69,821.50	23,421.67	4,854.24	28,275.91	41,545.59	40%
Activity 4: SLM Mainstreaming	630.00	685.74	1,526.00	2,211.74	(1,581.74)	351%
Activity 5: Monitoring and Evaluation	15.00	-	-	-	15.00	0%
Activity 6: Project Management	20,112.31	2,632.87	14,182.18	16,815.05	3,297.26	84%
Total	99,388.81	30,186.95	20,562.42	50,749.37	48,639.44	51%
Remarks: TRAC =	8,810.00	3,446.67	2,583.79	6,030.46	2,779.54	68%
GEF =	90,578.81	26,740.28	17,978.63	44,718.91	45,859.90	49%
TOTAL =	99,388.81	30,186.95	20,562.42	50,749.37	48,639.44	51%

Table 3: Quarterly Cumulative Expenditure by Activities [01 January – 31 Dec 2010]

Activities - Description	Budget [2010]	2010 Cumulative Quarterly Expenditure			Balance	Delivery (%)
		Gov/SLM (Disbursed)	UNDP (Disbursed)	Total		
Activity 1: PDF-A Exercise	-	-	(50.00)	(50.00)	50.00	0%
Activity 2: NAP Completion, Validation and Dissemination	61,750.00	20,775.12	21,229.00	42,004.12	19,745.88	68%
Activity 3: Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management	182,118.00	96,478.22	58,270.21	154,748.43	27,369.57	85%
Activity 4: SLM Mainstreaming	25,000.00	13,910.21	4,787.58	18,697.79	6,302.21	75%
Activity 5: Monitoring and Evaluation	2,500.00	-	519.68	519.68	1,980.32	21%
Activity 6: Project Management	83,218.00	13,371.92	80,361.07	93,732.99	(10,514.99)	113%
Total	354,586.00	144,535.47	165,117.54	309,653.01	44,932.99	87%
Remarks: TRAC =	122,270.00	42,010.19	81,157.90	123,168.09	(898.09)	101%
GEF =	232,316.00	102,525.28	83,959.64	186,484.92	45,831.08	80%
TOTAL =	354,586.00	144,535.47	165,117.54	309,653.01	44,932.99	87%

Table 4: Cumulative Expenditure by Activities [Project started: 2005 – Project end: 2011]

Activities - Description	Total Budget [2004-2011]	Cumulative Expenditure			Balance	Delivery (%)
		Gov/SLM (Disbursed)	UNDP (Disbursed)	Total		
Activity 1: PDF-A Exercise	33,798.74	-	33,748.74	33,748.74	50.00	100%
Activity 2: NAP Completion, Validation and Dissemination	85,586.49	40,536.80	25,303.81	65,840.61	19,745.88	77%
Activity 3: Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management	517,614.13	244,354.70	245,889.86	490,244.56	27,369.57	95%
Activity 4: SLM Mainstreaming	83,243.06	70,977.53	5,963.32	76,940.85	6,302.21	92%

Activity 5: Monitoring and Evaluation	11,504.83	303.30	9,221.21	9,524.51	1,980.32	83%
Activity 6: Project Management	271,704.07	56,879.01	183,529.84	240,408.85	31,295.22	88%
Total	1,003,451.32	413,051.34	503,656.78	916,708.12	86,743.20	91%
Remarks: TRAC =	428,451.32	181,866.03	247,483.38	429,349.41	(898.09)	100%
GEF =	575,000.00	231,185.31	256,173.40	487,358.71	87,641.29	85%
TOTAL =	1,003,451.32	413,051.34	503,656.78	916,708.12	86,743.20	91%

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