



Country: CAMBODIA
Initiation Plan

Project Title: Preparatory Assistance for CMDG/NSDP Monitoring
Expected CP Outcome(s): Improve monitoring of NSDP and CMDGs including broad-based policy dialogue and participatory reporting
Initiation Plan Start Date: July 2008
Initiation Plan End Date: June 2009
Implementing Partner: UNDP

Brief Description

In the context of the donor harmonized approach in support of the Ministry of Planning Strategic Plan (MPSP), the UNDP's assistance is designed to support the Ministry of Planning in monitoring and evaluation of the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) and the Cambodian Millennium Development Goals (CMDGs). The overall goal of the programme is to accelerate poverty reduction through more effective and efficient national policy formulation and implementation by enhancing national and sub-national M&E capacities (people, process and system).

To this end, UNDP is executing an Initiation Plan (or Preparatory Assistance) to strategically articulate with the Ministry of Planning and Development Partners the activity results, schedule, budget and management arrangement of the programme.

This Initiation Plan will contribute to the overall programme of the Ministry of Planning (MPSP), by establishing appropriate institutional mechanism for implementing and monitoring activities committed in the plan. Capacity assessment and long-term capacity development strategy will form the core focus area of the support. The Technical Working Group mechanism (i.e. TWG-PPR) will be used as coordination platform to facilitate the implementation of activities under this initiation plan.

It is expected that the following four outputs would be achieved through this 12-month Preparatory Assistance:

- 1) Strategic MOP Capacity Development Plan developed and endorsed to support the implementation of a PBA at MOP
- 2) Local Poverty/MDG monitoring tool developed
- 3) Key policy documents widely disseminated at central and local levels
- 4) 3-years MOP/UNDP work plan to support the implementation of the MPSP approved

MOP is the beneficiary of this Preparatory Assistance and the total estimated budget to undertake the planned activities amounts to US\$ 105,000.

Programme Period: 2006-2010
 CPAP Programme Component: Achieving the MDGs and Reducing Human Poverty
 Atlas Award ID:
 PAC Meeting Date:

Total resources required	US\$ 105,000
Total allocated resources:	US\$ 105,000
• Regular	US\$ 105,000
• Other:	
○ Donor	_____
○ Donor	_____
○ Donor	_____
○ Government	_____
Unfunded budget:	_____
In-kind Contributions	_____

Agreed by UNDP: *[Signature]* 08/07/2008

I. PURPOSE

Cambodia is one of the signatory countries for the Millennium Declaration in September 2000. The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) has strongly committed to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, which was expressed with the adoption of the first Cambodia MDG Report in 2003. The report lays out development goals and targets for Cambodia to achieve by 2015, considering the realities of the country's context.

In line with the CMDG commitments, The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) presented the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2006-2010, specifying selective, overarching and pro-poor goals and enumerating the targets to be met during the period 2006-2010. The NSDP is widely considered as MDG-based plan, while two-third of NSDP monitoring indicators are drawn from CMDG indicators. The Ministry of Planning (MOP) is mandated to formulate and monitor the NSDP and tasked to report to the RGC on progress and achievements.

The Ministry of Planning Strategic Plan (MPSP), finalized in July 2007, highlights key activities and resources needed for monitoring the NSDP. It provides a framework with which External Development Partners (EDPs) can align their support. The formulation of the MPSP indicates good sign in the sense that MOP expressed their willingness move from an uncoordinated to a more coordinated and manageable way of doing their work. Development partners are committed to supporting the work of MOP and are ready to align their support to the MPSP with view of helping MOP moving towards a Programme Based Approach (PBA)¹.

Under the leadership of the Ministry of Planning, UNDP has been active in supporting the RGC in the formulation of the MDG-based national development strategy. With accumulated experiences globally in strengthening national systems for poverty and MDG monitoring, UNDP will assist in developing the capacity of the Ministry of Planning for monitoring the CMDGs and NSDP implementation, which will, in turn, inform decision making process at central as well as local levels for poverty reduction and the development of the country.

To this end, UNDP is executing an Initiation Plan (2008-2009) to strategically articulate with the Ministry of Planning and Development Partners the activity results, schedule, budget and management arrangement which will contribute to the formulation and implementation of the Ministry of Planning overall Programme.

II. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

UNDP in partnership with MOP has developed set of activities in line with the Ministry of Planning Strategic Plan (MPSP), with the focus on supporting the MOP moving toward a full Programme Based Approach. The activities in this Initiation Plan are designed to assist MOP in setting up basic infrastructure and developing strategy to address the capacity issues (both hard and soft) so that the Ministry could play a more effective role in the monitoring of the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) as well as in the Cambodia Millennium Development Goal (CMDG).

The overall target is to support the establishment of institutional mechanism for implementing and monitoring activities committed in the MPSP. Capacity assessment and long-term capacity development strategy will form the core focus area under this support. The Technical Working Group mechanism (i.e. TWG-PPR) will be used as coordination platform to facilitate the implementation of the proposed activities.

More specifically, expected outputs through this Initiation Plan include:

¹ A Programme-based approach is a way of engaging in development co-operation based on the principle of co-ordinated support for a locally owned programme of development, such as a national poverty reduction strategy, a sector programme, a thematic programme or a programme of a specific organisation. Programme-based approaches is new way of working, processes, aimed at promoting aid coordination, reducing transaction costs associated with aid and improving overall effectiveness of a programme/sector. It is not about financing modality.

- 1) Strategic MOP Capacity Development Plan developed and endorsed to support the implementation of a Programme Based Approach at MOP
- 2) Local Poverty/MDG Monitoring tool developed
- 3) Key policy documents widely disseminated at central and local levels
- 4) 3-years MOP/UNDP work plan to support the implementation of the MPSP approved

III. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The activities under this Initiation Plan are implemented as part of the overall UNDP supporting programme to MOP. A UNDP Programme Analyst will be responsible for managing activities and deliverables of this Initiation Plan. S/he will work closely with representative of MOP, who is assigned to coordinate tasks under this Initiation Plan, to ensure smooth implementation of the activities.

UNDP will work in close collaboration with MOP for the purpose of planning, overall management and coordination, including reporting, accounting, monitoring and evaluation. MOP will provide guidance for the implementation of the activities in accordance with the Ministry of Planning Strategic Plan (MPSP) and the Ministry's Annual Operational Plan.

UNDP will, in turn, enter into partnerships/agreements with other organizations or entities – which shall be referred to as “responsible parties” as necessary to assist in successfully delivering the outputs under this Initiation Plan.

This Initiation Plan will be spear-headed by a Project Board; chaired by UNDP and comprised of MOP representatives and other key partners. The Project Board will review the progress on implementation of activities, assess the relevancy of the activities within the overall context of national reforms and will propose necessary recommendations to adjust the proposed activities as required. At these meetings, opportunities to channel best practices emerging from the grass roots pilots will inform reviews of upstream policy and legal frameworks.

IV. MONITORING

The activities in this Initiation Plan are subject to review and reporting in accordance with UNDP monitoring and evaluation procedures and any additional policies and procedures agreed to by the Project Board.

The activities will be managed and monitored on the basis of qualitative and quantitative benchmarks of progress, indicators of production and use of outputs. The benchmarks will be set out in the annual work plan and will indicate the extent of progress towards the completion of activities.

The UNDP, with support from technical staff members, will be responsible for preparing the annual work plan, progress reports (substantive and financial), as well as for the regular up-dating of the issues and risks logs. For this purpose, S/he will work in close partnership with MOP. During the course of the implementation, lessons learned and best practices will be systematically captured to be shared with other projects, within the broader UNDP network, and with NSDP core group and other interested parties. Under this framework, the government counterpart will regularly review the status of progress towards outcomes, outputs, activities and emerging issues.

V. RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK

UNDAF Outcome: The national development plan and its implementation serve as an effective guide for sector plans and related budgets, as well as reflecting Cambodia's obligations in relation to human rights and the CMDGs. National Plan effectively monitor with focus on MDG progress.					
Intended Outcome as Stated in the CPAP: Improved monitoring of NSDP and CMDGs including broad-based policy dialogue and participatory reporting.					
Applicable Strategic Plan Result: Promoting inclusive growth, gender equality and MDG achievement.					
Intended CPAP Output (s): - Strengthened national capacity of development planners through selected policy impact assessments and policy briefs for needs-based budgeting. - NSDP/CMDGs monitoring and evaluation mechanism and processes in place.					
CPAP outputs, indicators, baseline and benchmark: - Policy research findings and recommendations inform the development of a sound strategy for effective use of natural resources revenues. - Quality NSDP annual reports. - Essential poverty related data					
Project title and ID: Preparatory Assistance for NSDP Monitoring					
Expected Outputs	Performance Indicators (baseline and benchmark)	Indicative Activities	Responsible Parties	Inputs (in USD)	
1: Strategic MOP Capacity Development Plan developed and endorsed to support the implementation of a Programme Based Approach at MOP	1. Capacity assessment methodology and scope discussed and approved by key partners	1.1: Develop and agree on TOR for MOP capacity assessment	UNDP/MOP	Output 1: 45,000	
	2. Capacity assessment findings and recommendations shared and discussed at the TWG-PPR	1.2: Discuss the methodology and scope of capacity assessment in the TWG-PPR		International consultant to facilitate the conduct of capacity assessment exercise and formulation of the strategic capacity development plan	30,000
	3. Strategic Capacity Development Plan, including implementation plan, shared and discussed at the TWG-PPR	1.3: Facilitate the conduct of capacity assessment exercise and capacity development strategy		National consultant to facilitate the conduct of capacity assessment exercise and formulation of the strategic capacity development plan	10,000
		1.4: Organise MOP retreat to discuss implementation plan of the Strategic Capacity Development Plan		MOP retreat	5,000

2: Local Poverty/MDG monitoring tool developed	<p>1. Design mission TOR on local Poverty/MDG monitoring tool developed based on the Commune Database and the CAMInfo database</p> <p>2. Tool and methodology shared and discussed in the TWG-PPR and UNCT</p> <p>3. Tool and methodology tested and piloted in selected provinces</p>	<p>2.1: Develop and agree on TOR for the development of local Poverty/MDG monitoring tool</p> <p>2.2: Facilitate the mission for the development of local Poverty/MDG monitoring tool</p> <p>2.3: Discuss the methodology and scope of the study in the TWG-PPR</p>	UNDP/MOP	<p>Output 2: 30,000</p> <p>International consultant to develop the methodology and design of the local Poverty/MDG monitoring tool 20,000</p> <p>National consultant to develop the methodology and design of the local Poverty/MDG monitoring tool 10,000</p>
3: Key policy documents widely disseminated at central and local levels	<p>1. Executive Summary translated in Khmer for distribution</p> <p>2. Selected provincial dissemination events organized</p>	<p>3.1: Support consultation meetings to discuss and validate the key policy documents</p> <p>3.2: Prepare, translate and print the summary of key policy documents for dissemination</p> <p>3.3: Support the dissemination of key policy documents (NSDP, CMDG, Brussels Plan of Action, etc.)</p>	UNDP/MOP	<p>Output 3: 30,000</p> <p>National consultant to prepare and translate the Executive Summary of key policy documents 3,000</p> <p>Consultation meetings, workshops to discuss findings and recommendations of key policy documents 2,000</p> <p>Dissemination of key policy documents (NSDP, CMDG, BPOA, etc.) 15,000</p> <p>Printing and publication 10,000</p>
4: Three-years MOP/UNDP work plan to support the implementation of the MPSP approved	<p>1. The draft project document discussed and approved by the TWG-PPR</p> <p>2. Management and implementation arrangements approved by MOP</p>	<p>4.1: Organise stakeholder consultation meetings to discuss work plan and implementation arrangement</p> <p>4.2: Organise necessary Appraisal Committee meetings to endorse the work plan</p>	UNDP/MOP	<p>Output 4: 0</p> <p>UNDP Programme Officer and MOP to develop the programme document 0</p>

105,000

Grand Total: