



**Joint UN Cambodia Disability Program  
Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) Meeting  
22 October 2013  
UNICEF Conference Room, Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

**1. Opening Remarks**

Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren, The UN Resident Coordinator provided an official welcome to the meeting, underlining the relevance of integrating disability to development efforts in Cambodia and the thorough, participatory approach taken for the formulation of the joint programme document. Appreciation to AusAID was particularly noted.

**2. Overview of the agenda items**

Ms Ann Lund, Senior UN Coordination Specialist, and rapporteur for the meeting, provided an overview of the agenda (see detail in annex).

**3. Brief presentation of the Project**

Presented by Ms. Sunah Kim, Deputy Representative UNICEF.

Ms Kim highlighted the visible commitment of the Royal Government of Cambodia to supporting people with a disability. The programme presents an integrated approach to responding to the needs of peoples with a disability. The opportunity to increase coordination across organisations was highlighted. The presentation comprehensively covered all elements of the programme inclusive of: Cambodia's commitments to the rights of PWD; Disability sector and systems mapping in Cambodia; programme overview; components; indicative budget; programme governance; programme management and coordination; next steps and timelines.

(full presentation attached)

**4. Presentation on the role of Government**

Presentation by Mr Lao Veng, Ministry of Social Affairs, Director of People with a Disability Welfare Department. Mr Lao Veng provided an overview of the draft of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSVY) strategic plan 2014 -2018 priority 3: Enhance Welfare for Persons with Disability, focusing on the provisions for enhanced welfare of people with disability.

(full presentation attached)

## **5. Presentation on the voice of the disabled persons**

H.E. Yi Veasna, Adviser to the Royal Government in the Kingdom of Cambodia, Representative of People with Disability gave a presentation focused on the programme design, centered on the proposed strategic choices and issues of gender equality, partnership and sustainability.

He requested the following point be considered in relation to the programme strategy:

### **Health**

- Reconsider the focus on rehabilitation with requested greater focus on detection, prevention and intervention. Equal focus on the cause of disability and prevention to reduce disability.
- Epilepsy services not provided, request to address sustainability of provision of drugs to the community level. Currently not a focus within the strategy.
- Limited participation of people with disability in development of programmes or policy; encouraging increased consultation with people with disability.
- Physical rehabilitation centres will face changes when NGO support is phased out, government support (budget) will be needed. Already the impact is seen with the closing of rehabilitation centres.

### **Education**

- Scholarship for peoples with disability for higher education needed.
- Lack of accommodation, transportation and adaptation of school curriculum for children/young adults with special needs. Drop out of people with disability prior to lower secondary level needs to be addressed.
- NGOs are the main providers of services for people with disability. Consideration needs to be given to how this will continue (including advocacy).

### **Economic**

- Vocational training centres in Cambodia previously supported by international partners are now closing. This reduces opportunities for people with disability. No access to vocational training. No access to business training.

### **Structure**

- Need to promote gender equity and equal opportunity for women with disability.
- Recruitment processes need to take into consideration the additional time needed to recruit and include people with disability. Including on recruitment panels.
- Greater focus on sustainable system building is needed taking into consideration the needs and inclusion of people with disability.
- Capacity building that builds ownership.
- Continued awareness raising.

### **Partners**

- How will programme sustainability be assured once NGOs phase out?
- Increased linkages between partners and increased coordination is needed.
- Greater flexibility in responding to local needs.

In conclusion the priorities for people with disability are: employment, sport, religion, minority groups, cultural and political involvement, and inclusion in disaster risk reduction discussions and planning.

## **6. Review of the Joint Programme Document**

The UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren, introduced this section of the agenda and explained that the aim is to come to joint understanding, agreement and endorsement of the programme document.

### **Alignment with national priorities and strategy**

H.E Sok Setha, State Secretary of Ministry of interior, Head of National Committee for Democratic Development Secretariat (NCDD-S) responsible for NCDD, outlined three recommendations:

1. Development policy, strategy and planning at the national level needs good coordination with relevant ministries and to be in line with the decentralization reform. The Ministry of Social Welfare is one ministry targeted for review of functions with the plan to transfer responsibility to sub national government.
2. It is noted the Joint Programme design outlines four components and provides for the development of guidelines under component 4. The Ministry of Interior (MOI) and the Secretariat of NCDD (NCDD-S) will work with other concerned ministries to develop guidelines for the district and commune level based on the training manual prepared by the Disability Welfare Department of MOI and implemented by MOI and NCDD-S. The capacity development strategy for government will include an annual capacity development plan and a small group could be formed to prepare the guideline and the manual to integrate into national systems for supporting the capacity development of the sub national government.
3. Ownership, alignment and integration of programme into government policy and plan/framework is important and therefore propose integrating the programme into the process of providing capacity to national sub-national government as a means to integrate issues of disability into the plans of sub-national governments to ensure strengthening and sustainability.

Dr Prak Piseth Raingsey, Director Department of Preventative Medicine, Ministry of Health

It was noted that the programme focused on the rehabilitation of disabled persons, not on prevention and also did not seek to address issues of how to protect people from disability. Diagnoses particularly for children was recommended for consideration as an added focus.

H.E Yi Veasna, Adviser to the Royal Government in the Kingdom of Cambodia, Representative of People with Disability

Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) is noted as a small part of this programme. CBR is a worldwide priority but in the programme it is given less of a priority. Cambodia has a policy on CBR but it is not strongly represented in the programme document.

It was recommended that the Disability Action Council (DAC) be included in the structure of the governing board of the joint programme. DAC is now separate from the Ministry of Social Affairs and therefore should be able to participate in the inter-ministerial committee as a separate entity.

There should be consideration for what remains as tangible evidence of the joint programme when it concludes. For example there is no library for people with disability. Consider the development of something that would be a symbol to represent the contribution of the programme.

At the onset there should also be a meeting with high level representatives of government to reinforce how the programme aligns with government structures for national ownership and continuity of programme priorities. This will promote high-level awareness. It should also be considered how to engage with the parliament.

Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren, The UN Resident Coordinator

Highlighted the joint nature of the programme and noted that as such it puts a premium on inter-sectoral, inter-ministerial and joint implementation. On the UN side support is jointly provided by the three agencies UNDP, UNICEF and WHO. The UN understands the importance of linking with national strategies and implementation mechanisms.

### **Results framework**

Dr Khuon Eng Mony, Deputy Director of the Department of Preventative Medicine, Ministry of Health

Requested to include early detection and rehabilitation services. These services are most particularly relevant to the Ministry of Health.

Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren, UN Resident Coordinator

Underlined the need to make some choices in addressing such a vast issue as disability, between what could be included in this programme and what should be left to complementary initiatives. She invited feedback from UN colleagues involved in the design of the programme and others..

Mr. Velibor Popovic, UNDP

As a member of the design team, noted that these questions have been discussed throughout the process. Difficult choices were made taking into account the history of the sector primarily supported by AusAID. There is commitment from all to mobilize partners and resources to widen the programme, in due course. One benefit of having the UN system as leader and main partner for the government is the ability of the UN to convene different stakeholders and potentially attract resources. The joint programme partners are aware there is a need to enhance government ability to attract and analyse data. All issues raised are a priority and there are plans to secure resources to address them. The programme currently reflects what can be done and what has been prioritized with the resources available. There is strong commitment from the UN and we are aware this is the first programme of this size globally.

Pieter van Maaren, WHO

Noted that critical comments have been raised about the need for prevention of disabilities; mental health in particular. This is an area WHO focuses on. This

programme is likely to generate a lot of interest and increased support in other areas such as mental health. This programme can be a trigger for additional support in the area of prevention.

Mr Chhun Bunnara, Deputy Director, Programme Management and Support Division, NCDD-S

Recommended that capacity development as led by NCDD needs to be linked to the programme components.

Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren, UN Resident Coordinator

It was clarified that all actors will come together to discuss implementation quarterly. Several of the comments received will can be addressed in that context and inform future programme implementation.

Mr. Napoleon Navarro, UNDP

Explained that with regard to the suggestion that DAC be integrated into the governance structure of the programme, it's important to note that DAC will be a direct beneficiary and thus this would pose a conflict of interest. It is important that we make the distinction between implementation and governance. There is however room within the programme for close cross collaboration.

H.E. Yi Veasna, Adviser to the Royal Government in the Kingdom of Cambodia, Representative of People with Disability

Expressed the view that there should still see space for beneficiaries to be in the board design. This is particularly important given that DAC will take over the structure in the future. Their positioning within the programme governance structure still requires consideration given the importance of continuity or hand over of the programme at its conclusion.

The National Centre for Disabled Persons is not included in the responses to employment. There is the need to collaborate with this centre.

Ms, Sunah Kim, UNICEF

Explained that community based approaches and prevention are key priorities. The programme design has been about what can be achieved with available resources. There is room to include strategies within the finalized structure. The programme represents what is currently seen as the most strategic focus at the moment. UN agencies will simultaneously influence the inclusion of issues of disability in other programming. The programme partners are aware of the need to address prevention mechanisms, particularly for early detection.

A community based approach is the main approach of programme component 4. The reason it features there is the priority for use of the existing community based organisations to come up with strategies to create services. The grant programme will also facilitate community based approaches.

H.E. Sak Setha, Secretary of State, Ministry of Interior, Head of NCDD-S

Noted that Mr Lao Veng has already presented the future plan of MOSVY with regard to people with disability, and thanked UN agencies and all government representatives. The Ministry welcomes this programme. It is hoped the disability sector will improve step by step as a result of this programme and the wide support of all other actors.

## **Budget,**

Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren, UN Resident Coordinator

Introduced a budget clarification, noting that financing of the programme is based on resources provided by AusAID in AUD. Should there be loss in USD through foreign exchange it is envisaged that the programme will be reviewed. The programme explicitly provides for the mobilization of additional resources, which should cover any shortfall, otherwise activities will be scaled down to the level of resources available. The pace of implementation in the first, year, often slower due to start up, may also generate savings for future years and the ability to cover all planned activities. She also noted that the commencement of implementation is a couple of months delayed from the original plan.

Ms. Setsuko Yamazaki, UNDP

On behalf of UN agencies we would like to express appreciation to AusAID and the Government of Australia. We have a strong indication from AusAID that they are ready to sign to ensure commencement of the programme with an initial shortened period of three years.

It is important when developing any programme of this kind to have an exit strategy. As the UN we are very pleased that the Government of Cambodia signed the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. We are here to help government align its work with the Convention and ensure the lasting impact of the programme. Outcome one is focused on reviewing the laws and legislations alongside the Convention and then institutionalizing the laws within the system. At the close of the programme the blue print will then be in place. As Middle Income Country (MIC) status comes about, ODA resources will go down. Now is therefore the right time to build the system with the support of the Australian government.

## **Conclusions**

Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren, UN Resident Coordinator

Thanked participants for the rich discussion and noted that on this basis we can conclude that all partners see this Disability Programme as relevant and important and that its emphasis on a multi-faceted, multi-sectoral approach is correct, bringing concerned departments and organizations together. The discussion has underlined the importance of the choices made in the programme design and the extent to which the programme can continue to reflect on these priorities during implementation as well as in the activities of other line Ministries and other UN system programming, particularly with regard to disaster risk reduction, prevention, decentralisation and deconcentration and gender equality.

We have been reminded of the importance of keeping sustainability in mind, particularly institutional sustainability. This will be a priority for the programme board and require further reflection once programme implementation starts. This meeting has also reaffirmed the importance of the community-based dimension of the programme; the importance of involving people with disabilities and building on their own resilience.

There have been no fundamental questions regarding the design, which was endorsed with the clarifications provided, but there have been many comments and questions that can be taken on board in the inception period.

## **7. AOB**

None

## **8. Wrap up and closing remarks**

Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren, UN Resident Coordinator

The appraisal mechanism for this joint programme is now completed and the programme document is finally endorsed. The next step is to move to signing of the programme document by the Royal Government of Cambodia and the three supporting UN agencies.

Following the programme document signing, an MOU between the fund manager in HQ and supporting UN agencies will be signed to clarify cooperation modalities.

A Special Administrative Arrangements (SAA) legal agreement between AusAID and HQ fund manager will also be prepared and signed.

Practically outlined in section 3.2.1 of the programme document are activities that need to follow in the inception period with the first priority to the constitution of the Programme Board, TOR of the Board and Technical Review Committee and the first meeting of the Programme Board. The Board will reconfirm the allocation of resources across various components so implementation can begin. There is an expectation that the UN agencies will simultaneously commence the selection of the programme coordinator and other programme personnel, based on draft TOR for these positions available in annex to the programme document.

The Chair took note of the recommendation that effort be made to ensure people with disability have the opportunity to participate in the programme implementation team.

The group was congratulated for excellent work in bringing the programme planning to this point. Best wishes were extended for finalizing the legal documentation and starting implementation.

H.E Yi Veasna, Adviser to the Royal Government in the Kingdom of Cambodia, Representative of People with Disability

His Excellency extended congratulations to the design team, and hoped the programme would really help people with disability. He extended a thank you on behalf of all people with disability in Cambodia.

**Close: 11.25hrs**

**Joint UN Cambodia Disability Program  
Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) Meeting  
22 October 2013 at UNICEF Conference room**

| Time          | Agenda Items  | Presenter/Facilitator  | Remarks   |
|---------------|---|--|---|
| 9.00-9.15am   | Opening remarks   | UN Resident Coordinator and Chairperson of the LPAC                    | The purpose of the LPAC meeting is to review the technical soundness and relevance of a new project with the participation of key stakeholders and concerned UN Agencies. It is a necessary step before final endorsement of the project.   |
| 9.15-9.30am   | Overview of the agenda items  | Senior UN-Coordination Specialist and Rapporteur of the LPAC           |   |
| 9.30-10.15am  | Brief presentation of the project Design<br>Role of the government<br>Voice of the disabled persons   | UNICEF representative Ministries' representatives<br>Advisor to the PM |   |
| 9.15-11.30am  | Review of the Joint Program Document covering the following aspects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alignment – whether the proposed project is aligned with the UN mandates and UNDAF Action Plan; whether it is relevant to the international commitments and aligned with national priorities (including national obligations in the light of ratified international instruments), policies and community needs.</li> <li>• How the project strategy addresses the underlying disability problems and promotes sustainability (including approaches, and proposed types of activities).</li> <li>• Results framework</li> <li>• Management and coordination arrangements</li> <li>• Fund management arrangements</li> <li>• Monitoring, evaluation and reporting</li> <li>• Legal context and basis of relationship</li> <li>• Work plans and budgets</li> </ul> |  | LPAC's members are expected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To read the joint-program documents.</li> <li>• To use the guiding questions and guidelines for reviewing standard Joint-Program document.</li> <li>• Be prepared with written note on the comments/feedbacks from his/her respective Agency</li> </ul> |
| 11.30-11.40am | AOB   |  |   |
| 11.40-12.00pm | Wrap up and closing remarks   | UN Resident Coordinator and Chairperson of the LPAC                    |   |



List of confirmed participants to LPAC Meeting for Disability Joint Programme  
22 October 2013, UNICEF Main Conference Room

| Partners                              | Name                          | Position   | Contacts  | Address                                | Confirmation  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|--|---------------|
| <b>Government</b>                     |                               |  |   |  |               |
| MoSVY                                 | 1. H.E Sem Sokha              | Secretary of State   | <a href="mailto:sem_sokha@yahoo.com">sem_sokha@yahoo.com</a><br>012 830 223                         | #788, Preah Monivong Blvd, Phnom Penh  | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 2. Mr. Lao Veng               | Director of People with Disability Welfare Department  | <a href="mailto:Veng_lao@yahoo.com">Veng_lao@yahoo.com</a><br>017 775 512                           | #788, Preah Monivong Blvd, Phnom Penh  | Confirmed     |
| MOH                                   | 3. Dr Prak Piseth Raingsey    | Director, Department of Preventive Medicine, Ministry of Health  | <a href="mailto:pisethrainsey@gmail.com">pisethrainsey@gmail.com</a>                                | #151-153 Kampuchea Krom Ave            | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 4. Dr Khuon Eng Mony          | Deputy Director of the Department of Preventive Medicine   | <a href="mailto:monykhemara@yahoo.com">monykhemara@yahoo.com</a><br>012 862 033                     | #151-153 Kampuchea Krom Ave            | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 5. Dr Sann Sary               | Director of Hospital Service Department  | <a href="mailto:sannsary@gmail.com">sannsary@gmail.com</a><br>012 869 838                           |  | tbc           |
| Mol                                   | 6. H.E Sak Setha              | State Secretary of Ministry of Interior - Head of National Committee for Democratic Development Secretariat (NCDD-S) | Mr. Tip Piseth - 017 665 954<br>email: <a href="mailto:tippiseth@gmail.com">tippiseth@gmail.com</a> |  | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 7. Mr. Tip Piseth (Assistant) |  |   |  |               |
|                                       | 8. Mr. Chhun Bunnara          | Deputy Director of Prog. Management and Support Division, NCDD-S   |   |  | Confirmed     |
| <b>Participating UN Organizations</b> |                               |  |   |  |               |
| UNRC                                  | 9. Ms. Claire Van der Varaan  | Resident Coordinator   |   |  | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 10. Ms. Ann Lund              | Senior UN Coordination Specialist  | <a href="mailto:ann.lund@one.un.org">ann.lund@one.un.org</a>  |  | Confirmed     |
| UNDP                                  | 11. Ms. Setsuko Yamazaki      | Country Director   | <a href="mailto:setsuko.yamazaki@undp.org">setsuko.yamazaki@undp.org</a>                            |  | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 12. Mr. Napoleon Navarro      | Deputy Country Director (Program)  | <a href="mailto:napoleon.navarro@undp.org">napoleon.navarro@undp.org</a>                            |  | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 13. Mr. Velibor Popovic       | ACD, Governance team leader (a.i)  | <a href="mailto:velibor.popovic@undp.org">velibor.popovic@undp.org</a>                              |  | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 14. Mrs. Lang Sok             |  | <a href="mailto:Lang.sok@undp.org">Lang.sok@undp.org</a>  |  | Confirmed     |
| WHO                                   | 15. Mr. Pieter Van Maaren     | Country Representative   | <a href="mailto:vanmaarenp@wpro.who.int">vanmaarenp@wpro.who.int</a>                                | #177-179, Street 51, Phnom Penh.       | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 16. Dr. Khim Sam Ath          | National Professional Officer  | <a href="mailto:khims@wpro.who.int">khims@wpro.who.int</a>  |  | Confirmed     |
| UNICEF                                | 17. Ms. Rana Flowers          | Country Representative   | <a href="mailto:rflowers@unicef.org">rflowers@unicef.org</a>  |  | Not available |
|                                       | 18. Ms. Sunah Kim             | Deputy Representative  | <a href="mailto:sukim@unicef.org">sukim@unicef.org</a>  | UNICEF<br>#11, Street 75<br>Phnom Penh | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 19. Mr. Chhaya Plong          | Child Protection Specialist and the Office Emergency Focal Point   | <a href="mailto:cplong@unicef.org">cplong@unicef.org</a>  |  | Confirmed     |
|                                       | 20. Ms. Anne Lubell           | Donor Relations and Resource Mobilisation  | <a href="mailto:alubell@unicef.org">alubell@unicef.org</a>  |  | Confirmed     |
| <b>Non-Government</b>                 |                               |  |   |  |               |
|                                       | 21. H.E Yi Veasna             | Adviser to the Royal Government in the Kingdom of Cambodia, Representative of People with Disability                 | <a href="mailto:ncdp_dir@ncdpcam.org">ncdp_dir@ncdpcam.org</a><br>016880 354                        | #3 Norodom Blvd, Phnom Penh            | Confirmed     |

