

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
Nation Region King

Inception Report of



**Generating Accessing and Using
Information and Knowledge
Related to the Three Rio Conventions**



Phnom Penh, June 2016

Contents

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS.....	4
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	9
INTRODUCTION	10
PROJECT BACKGROUND	10
PART I - PROJECT	13
A. PROJECT SUMMARY	13
A.1 Project Rationale.....	13
A.2 Project Strategy	14
A.3 Key Indicators, Assumptions, and Risks	15
B. COUNTRY OWNERSHIP	15
B.1 Country Eligibility	15
B.2 Country Drivenness	16
<i>B.2.a National Capacity Self-Assessment.....</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>B.2.b Sustainable Development Context</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>B.2.c Policy and Legislative Context</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>B.2.d Institutional Context</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>B.2.e Barriers to Achieving Global Environmental Objectives</i>	<i>33</i>
C. PROGRAMME AND POLICY CONFORMITY	34
C.1 GEF Programme Designation and Conformity	34
<i>C.1.a Guidance from the Rio Conventions</i>	<i>38</i>
C.2 Project Design.....	39
<i>C.2.a GEF Alternative.....</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>C.2.a.1 Project Rationale.....</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>C.2.a.2 Project Goal and Objectives</i>	<i>40/41</i>
<i>C.2.a.3 Expected Outcomes and Outputs.....</i>	<i>41</i>
C.3 Sustainability and Replicability.....	56
<i>C.3.a Sustainability</i>	<i>56</i>
<i>C.3.b Replicability and Lessons Learned</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>C.3.c Risks and Assumptions.....</i>	<i>59</i>
C.4 Stakeholder Involvement.....	65
C.5 First Year and Three-Year Work Plans	67
C.6 Monitoring and Evaluation	68
D. FINANCING	72
D.1 Financing Plan.....	72
D.2 Cost Effectiveness.....	81
D.3 Co-financing.....	82
E. INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION AND SUPPORT	83
E.1 Core Commitments and Linkages	83
E.2 Implementation and Execution Arrangements	84
F. LEGAL CONTEXT.....	88
PART II: ANNEXES	89
Annex 1: Key Project Achievements and Delivery (October 2015-June 2016).....	90
Annex 2: Agenda and Minutes of the Inception Workshop.....	92

Annex 3: Capacity Development Monitoring Scorecard	97
Annex 4: Project Results Framework	107
Annex 5: Targeted outputs for Year 1 with baselines, risks and assumptions	113
Annex 6: Provisional Work Plan	120
Annex 7: Terms of References	130
Annex 8: Environmental and Social Review Criteria.....	135
Annex 9: PPG Status Report.....	136
Annex 10: Letter of agreement between UNDP and Government of Cambodia for the provision of support services.....	138
Annex 11: Gender Mainstreaming Work Plan	142
Annex 12: Communication Strategy for the Three Rio Conventions project	154
Annex 13: Terms of Reference of National MEA Expert.....	158
Annex 14: Terms of Reference for CD International Adviser	166
PART III: CO-FINANCING LETTER	172

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- Project background
- Report on changes in the project environment since the project was submitted and approved
- Any changes made in the project activities, timeframe in the inception stage
- Updates on key issues/Recommendations
- Work plan for Year 1/UNDP “Atlas” Budget
- Terms of Reference for key positions
- Revised Logical Framework
- ATLAS Risk Management

not to make a new version of the ProDoc. 173 pages for Inception report is too much given the ProDoc is 85 page long.

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Acronyms and abbreviations

AFPIC	ASEAN Forest Product Industry Club
APR	Annual Project Report
AR	Assessment Report
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AWP	Annual Work Plan
CBO	Community Based Organization
UN-CBD	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
CCA	Climate Change Alliance
CCBAP	Cambodia Community Based Adaptation Programme
CCCD	Cross Cutting Capacity Development
CCCSP	Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan
CCTT	Climate Change Technical Team
CD	Capacity Development
CDC	Council for the Development of Cambodia
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CHM	Clearing-House Mechanism
CI	Conservation International
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CLC	Civil Liability Convention
CO	Country Office
COP	Conference of Parties
CPAP	Country Programme Action Plan
CR	Capacity Result
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DB	Department of Biodiversity
EEU	Environment and Energy Unit
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ELC	Economic Land Concessions
EMIS	Environment Management Information System
EU	European Union
FA	Forestry Administration
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FFI	Fauna & Flora International
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GMS	Greater Mekong Subregion
GOC	Government of Cambodia
GPA	Global Programme of Action
GSSD	General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development
HACT	Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
DB	Department of Biodiversity
INC	Initial National Communication
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LDC	Least Developed Countries

M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAB	Man and the Biosphere (programme)
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
MARPOL	Marine Pollution (International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships)
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MIS	Management Information Systems
MLMUPC	Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
MOE	Ministry of Environment
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MOWA	Ministry of Women Affairs
MOWRAM	Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology
MOEYS	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoT	Ministry of Tourism
MPWT	Ministry of Public Works and Transportation
MRD	Ministry of Rural Development
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NBC	National Biodiversity Committee
NCDM	National Committee for Disaster Management
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCCC	National Climate Change Committee
NCSA	National Capacity Self-Assessment
NGGC	National Green Growth Council
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NPD	National Project Director
NSDP	National Strategic Development Plan
OFP	Operational Focal Point
PA	Protected Area
PAC	Project Appraisal Committee
PB	Project Board
PIR	Project Implementation Review
PMU	Project Management Unit
POP	Persistent Organic Pollutant
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
RCU	Regional Coordination Unit
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
RTA	Regional Technical Advisor
SBAA	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement
SBSTTA	Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
SC	Steering Committee
SEAMEO	Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization
SGP	Small Grant Programme
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound
SNC	Second National Communication
SPAE	Strategic Plan of Action on the Environment
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

UNDP/GEF project “*Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the 3 Rio Conventions*”

SWOT	Strength/Weakness/Opportunity/Threat
TORs	Terms of Reference
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UN	United Nations
UN-CBD	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCLOS	United Nations Conventions on the Law of the Sea
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP CO	UNDP Country Office
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USD	United States Dollar
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WHC	World Heritage Convention
WWF	World Wildlife Fund



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United Nations Development Programme

Country: CAMBODIA

PROJECT DOCUMENT

Project Title: Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Three Rio Conventions.

UNDAF Outcome: I. Economic Growth and Sustainable Development; and V. Governance.

UNDAF Country Programme Outcome 1.2: National institutions, local authorities and private sector are better able to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources (protected areas, fisheries, forestry, mangrove, and land), cleaner technologies and responsiveness to climate change;

UNDAF Country Programme Outcome 4.3: Enhanced capacities for collection, access and utilization of disaggregated information (gender, age, target populations, region) at national and sub-national levels to develop and monitor policies and plans that are responsive to the needs of the people and incorporate priority population, poverty and development linkages.

UNDP Strategic Plan Outcome 1: Growth and development are inclusive and sustainable, incorporating productive capacities that create employment and livelihoods for the poor and excluded.

UNDP Strategic Plan Output 1.4: Scaled up action on climate change adaptation and mitigation across sectors which is funded and implemented

CPAP Cambodia Outcome 2: By 2015, National institutions, local authorities, communities and private sector are better able to sustainably manage ecosystems goods and services and respond to climate change.

Executing Entity/Implementing Partner: Ministry of Environment (MOE)

Implementing Entity/Responsible Partners: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Ministry of Environment (MOE)

Brief Description:

This project is in line with the GEF-5 CCCD Programme Frameworks two (2) and four (4), which calls for countries (2) to generate, access and use information and knowledge and (4) to strengthen capacities to implement and manage global convention guidelines. It is also aligned with the first objective of GEF6 that is to integrate global environmental needs into management information systems (MIS). It is a direct response to national priorities identified through the NCSA conducted in 2005-2006 and it is also part of the institutional strengthening underway at MOE and MAFF. Through a learning-by-doing process, this project will harmonize existing environmental information systems, integrating internationally accepted measurement standards and methodologies, as well as develop a more consistent reporting on the global environment. Under the first outcome, the project will support the development of national capacities to effectively and efficiently standardize environmental related information that is generated on the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia, and give open-access to this information. In parallel to this, the project will support the strengthening of Cambodia's capacity to better engage stakeholders and better coordinate the implementation of the Rio Conventions in the country. Under the second outcome, project resources will be used to improve the use of environmental related information for the development of innovative tools supporting decision-making processes related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions. Project support will also include activities to develop the capacity in using this environmental related knowledge of national institutions involved in international negotiations at Conventions COPs, as well as using this knowledge to produce national reports meeting Conventions reporting obligations.

Programme Period:	2015-2017	Total resources required	USD 2,290,000
Atlas Award ID:	00083830	Total allocated resources:	
Project ID:	00092117	• Regular UNDP Cash	USD 150,000
PIMS #	5222	• Other:	
Start date:	October 2015	○ GEF	USD 990,000
End Date	September 2018	○ Government In-kind	USD 150,000
Management Arrangements	NIM	○ UNDP In-kind	USD 1,000,000
PAC Meeting Date	13 October 2014		

Agreed by:

H.E. Say Sam Ai
Ministry of Environment



Minister of Environment

19 Jan 2015
Date/Month/Year

Agreed by:

Ms. Setsuko Yamazaki
United Nations
Development Programme
(UNDP)

S. Yamazaki
Country Director UNDP-CO Cambodia

14/1/15
Date/Month/Year

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As per previously shared ProDoc cover page:
Project Start Date is Jan 2015
Planned End Date is Jan 2018

For any extension beyond Jan 2018, a request for project extension will have to be submitted in line with the project extension policy for UNDP-GEF projects.

It's highly recommended to take necessary measures to speed up the delivery.

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Already clarify. No adjustment on the pro doc. The project will mention about the need for project extension in the IPR.

Executive Summary

The Project “*Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Three Rio Conventions*” was approved by GEF CEO on 23 September 2014 and its official starting date was October 1, 2015. It is a three-year project and its expected termination date is September 2018. The project will be directly implemented by the GSSD/MOE in close partnership with the UNDP Country Office and with various project counterparts. The project has a GEF budget of USD 990,000 and co-financing commitments amounting to USD 1,300,000, including USD 1,150,000 from UNDP and USD 150,000 from the Royal Government of Cambodia.

An eight-month inception phase was conducted to kick-start the project, including the organisation of an inception workshop held on 26 May 2016, during which participants validated the project document after reviewing the expected outcomes and outputs as well as the activities planned to achieve the outcomes with a particular focus on the three-year work plan, the first year detailed work plan, the project result resource framework, the project monitoring and evaluation plan, the terms of reference for positions in the Project Management Unit, the gender mainstreaming work plan, the project communication strategy, the list of UNDP country support services to the project, and the way forward for project implementation. A draft of the workshop report was circulated to all the participants and revised on the basis of comments received. The final report is annexed to this Inception Report.

This Inception Report is an update of the project document. It takes into account the new context of the country regarding the implementation of the three Rio Conventions and the changes made to the outputs and main activities after the application of the GEF Theory of Change approach, as well as the suggestions made during the inception workshop. Once approved by the Project Board, this Inception Report will be the new project strategy. It will ensure that all relevant stakeholders are fully committed to the implementation of the project with the same baseline information and the same understanding of the objectives and agreed ways and means for implementation, particularly for the first year of implementation.

INTRODUCTION

Project Background

1. In 1992, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the world community adopted three global agreements, namely the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UN-CBD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), to address the non-sustainable use of the world's natural resources and the resulting environmental degradation by calling for strategic commitments that would halt and reverse the negative impact of human activities on the environment and promote environmentally long-term sustainable economic development at all levels on the planet, from local to global levels. Cambodia is a party to all these so-called Rio Conventions.

2. Difficulties as well as limited integration and synergy in implementing the three Rio Conventions efficiently led countries to identify the best way to frame resources by first determining their own capacity needs. Cambodia carried out its National Capacity Self-Assessment project in 2005 and 2006. Recognizing that, in Cambodia, capacities to meet the obligations of the Rio Conventions were severely lacking, the project identified country-level capacities needed to address domestic environmental issues and concerns that are concerns of the three Rio Conventions. The assessment also identified a list of priority actions including the need for better coordination for the implementation of the Rio Conventions, more public awareness and the need to mainstream the environment into national policies, plans, programmes and relevant initiatives.

3. As a follow-up to this assessment, Cambodia developed, with the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the present project entitled “Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Three Rio Conventions,” with the General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development (GSSD)/Ministry of Environment as executive agency. A project document was developed to seeks US\$ 2,290,000 to achieve the following two outcomes:

- (a) Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions; and
- (b) Improved use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions.

4. The project is expected to step up the changes needed to implement the three Rio Convention in a more effective, integrated, coherent and efficient manner, including by (i) promoting the generation of information on climate change as well as adaptation and mitigation measures to address climate change, on biodiversity and its related ecosystem services, and on land degradation, drought and desertification, (ii) putting in place the best mechanisms for gathering, synthesizing and managing that information, and thus (iii) facilitating access to and use of that information for well-coordinated and efficient decision and policy-making, in particular through communication, education, various types of training and awareness-raising programme, taking into account gender issues. The project will also facilitate, harmonize and reduce the burden of the reporting required under the three Rio Conventions.

5. The project document described essentially the project's (i) rationale, (ii) context with the possible risks and ways to address them, (iii) strategy including stakeholder engagement, outputs and activities, (iv) design with the implementation schedule, expected results and monitoring/evaluation plans, financing plans, and proposed budget, and (v) institutional coordination and support.

Activities Performed during the Inception Phase

6. The project was initiated in October 2015 with an inception phase that was ended with the Inception Workshop held on 26 May 2016. The Project Board, Chair of Project Board, the National Project Director, and PMU staffs, are established, assigned and recruited during inception phase to perform the project implementation and significant achievements are highlighted (See Annex 1: Key Project Achievements and Delivery (October 2015-June 2016). The inception phase provided opportunity to consult with a wide range

of stakeholders (representatives of each Rio convention, relevant Government ministries and agencies, local communities, research institutions, development partners including local and international organizations, UN agencies and the private sector) informally and formally through the Inception workshop. It was also a time to steer inter-ministerial collaboration, mobilize stakeholders, and identify possibility for complementarity and synergy in implementing the planned activities.

7. The Inception Workshop gathered representatives of all the stakeholder groups to:
 - (a) Review the Project Document,
 - (b) Seek clarification on all aspects of the project;
 - (c) Propose, as needed, elements for improving the project design and implementation, including in particular the consideration of a gender mainstreaming work plan and a communication strategy;
 - (d) Inform about areas where stakeholders can possibly intervene to support the project (See Annex 2: Agenda and Minutes of the Inception Workshop).
8. A fundamental objective of the Inception Workshop, held in both English and Khmer, was to further instil understanding and ownership of the project’s goals and objectives among the project team, government and other stakeholder groups. The workshop also served to finalize the preparation of the project’s first annual work plan on the basis of the project’s results framework matrix with measurable performance (process and output) indicators, and in a manner consistent with the expected outcomes for the project.
9. This Inception Report is a document produced at the end of the project’s inception phase to update the Project Document by capturing changes that have happened since the project design including activities that took place during the inception phase, in particular the conclusions of the Inception Workshop.

Important changes made to the Project Document

10. The following changes were made to the **Project Document** to update and complete it:
 - (a) The GEF Theory of Change approach was applied to clarify the project objectives and outputs, and identify the whole suite of activities needed to achieve them. Thus section C2 a3 “Expected Outcomes and Outputs” was revised and completed. More specifically,
 - i. For Output 1.1, emphasis was broadened to include effectiveness and efficiency, feasibility, i.e. beyond harmonization of existing systems;
 - ii. Output 1.3 was added on information generation;
 - iii. For Output 1.4, more details are provided;
 - iv. For Output 2.1, two additional tools of critical importance to Cambodia i.e. scenario/modelling and impact assessment were added;
 - v. Regarding Output 2.2, not only capacity to negotiate is important (see output 2.3 below) but also and mainly capacity to implement the 3 Rio Conventions in a more coherent, coordinated and efficient manner;
 - vi. For Output 2.3, not only capacity of existing institutions needs to be strengthened but also of individuals;
 - vii. Regarding Output 2.4, not only ‘unified’ process is needed but it should be coherent and well-coordinated.
 - (b) General approach for identifying main activities under each output: (i) survey or assessment of the situation, (ii) strength/weakness/opportunity/threat (SWOT) assessment or problem and opportunities identification, (iii) addressing SWOT at small scales (pilot phase): identifying and testing possible solutions, and (iv) upscaling application of best solutions and capacity building;
 - (c) The NCSA triangulation procedure was used for SWOT analysis, and for effectiveness, efficiency and success assessment. The procedure consists of (i) desk study, (ii) Interviews and small group discussions, and (iii) stakeholders’ workshops and validation;

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For any further changes to project framework, standard M&E tools and mechanisms should apply, e.g. Inception report, PIRs, Annual reports, Project Boards, etc.

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- (d) The three-year work plan was revised in light of the revised outputs and identified main activities, and the first year work plan considered during the Inception Workshop was finalised with related targets for the year. These work plans are contained in Annexes 5.1 and 4.2b, with their related budgets in annexes 4.1 and 4.2a;
- (e) The text of the Project Document has been updated in general taking into account that the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) deadline was reached at the end of 2015; that the world community had adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Transforming our world with Sustainable Development Goals for 2030; that the 21st meeting of the UNFCCC COP 21 had taken place in Paris, France; and that Cambodia adopted its revised NBSAP in early 2016;
- (f) In section B2b, the sub-section on biodiversity was revised in line with the revised NBSAP because, as written, that section focused on forests without covering all aspects of biodiversity. The section now refers to the value of biodiversity, ecosystem services, green economy, sustainable development, impact of climate change and other drivers including desertification/drought and resulting ecosystem degradation. The links with the other Rio Conventions has now been highlighted;
- (g) Throughout the document, role of MOEYS, research institutions and local communities was highlighted for the generation of information/knowledge and as users of information;
- (h) Table 3 on “Risks for each outcome and output, their levels and assumptions” was revised and completed in the light of new outputs and main activities;
- (i) In Annex 2 on “Capacity Development Monitoring Scorecard”, two new indicators were added for their relevance to the project: (i) Indicator 6bis – Amount of information and data generated on biodiversity, climate change and land degradation/ drought/ desertification including biological/ecological, socioeconomic information and traditional knowledge, practices and know-how, and (ii) Indicator 9bis. Extent of gender mainstreaming planning and implementation. The columns on “Comments” and “Next steps” were also revised and the contributions to the outcomes adjusted accordingly;
- (j) The Annex on “Project Results Framework” was also revised by taking into account the new statement of the outputs and having in mind the main activities that would lead to the outputs; and
- (k) Texts on MEAs that have been ratified or signed by the country were revised.

PART I - PROJECT

A. Project Summary

A.1 Project Rationale

11. Cambodia's history of conflicts and isolation through the 1970s to 1990s resulted in destruction of almost all the areas of national life, including human resources, which are most critical to underpinning the country's socioeconomic development efforts. The restoration of peace and policy stability over the past decade has brought steady economic growth in Cambodia, averaging between 8 and 10 percent since 1998, leading to substantial reductions in poverty. However, despite this progress, Cambodia still continues to face significant poverty and governance challenges.

12. Development and environmental management in Cambodia is led by a set of key policies, supported by Laws. It includes the “*Rectangular Strategy-Phase III*” that is the Socio-economic Policy Agenda of the political platform of the government of Cambodia of the Fifth Legislature of the National Assembly (2013-2018). This strategy (Phase III) recognizes that the environment and climate change has become another challenge for the sustainability of Cambodia's economic growth and social development due to pressures from population growth, urbanization, expansion and intensification of agriculture as well as development of transport, energy and other sectors. It stated “*many environmental issues are cross-sectoral in nature, which requires coordination across government agencies at both national and sub-national levels including cooperation with all the stakeholders*”. This strategy is the government comprehensive policy framework guiding national development and in particular guiding the formulation of the NSDP.

13. The “*National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP)*” formulated for the period 2009-2013 placed a high priority on tackling key sectoral challenges in the areas such as garments and other manufactured goods; tourism infrastructure; diversification of the agriculture sector; infrastructure development; and, improving people livelihoods. The recently drafted NSDP for the period 2014-2018 focuses on intensifying efforts to reduce the impact of climate change by strengthening the adaptation capacity and resiliency to climate change, particularly by implementing the “*Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan 2014-2023*”, “*National Policy on Green Growth*” and the “*National Strategic Plan on Green Growth 2013-2030*”.

14. As a GEF eligible country, Cambodia obtained an UNDP-GEF grant to conduct its National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA), which started in 2005 and was concluded in 2006. The goal of the project was to develop and strengthen national capacities for sustainable management and use of natural resources and of the environment, for the benefit of the Cambodian poor. Its objective was to identify country level priorities and needs for capacity development, to address global environmental management requirements, particularly the thematic concerns of the three UN conventions. The project looked into existing capacities and capacity needs in Cambodia, to address domestic environmental issues and concerns that are also concerns of the three Rio Conventions: UNFCCC, CDB, and UNCCD, which Cambodia is a party to.

15. This extensive assessment identified a large number of common issues and capacity needs. As per the NCSA action plan, “*existing thematic capacities in Cambodia are severely lacking, over-all. Capacities to attend to the thematic concerns and meet the obligations to all three Conventions are almost all weak. They hardly lend to being prioritized in that all are needed the soonest time they can be acquired. It concluded that “the cross-cutting capacity needs, which address broad national conditions of the economy and socio-political system of Cambodia that constrain the thematic capacities, are essentially at the highest levels of government and Cambodian society*”. This assessment also identified a list of priority actions including the need for better coordination for the implementation of the Rio Conventions, more public awareness and the need to mainstream the environment into policies, plans and programmes. This proposed project will address some of these priority actions.

16. This project is also in line with the GEF-5 CCCD Programme Frameworks two (2) and four (4), which calls for countries (2) to generate, access and use information and knowledge and (4) to strengthen capacities to implement and manage global convention guidelines. Through a learning-by-doing process, this project will harmonize existing information systems, and integrate internationally accepted measurement standards and methodologies, as well as consistent reporting on the global environment. It will target the development of capacities at the individual and organizational level, strengthening technical skills to manage data and transform this information into knowledge. The project will also support activities to strengthen the coordination between key sectors to address biodiversity, climate change and land degradation issues at systemic and institutional levels.

A.2 Project Strategy

17. This proposed project will address some of the priority actions identified through the NCSA such as better use of environmental information in decision-making and policy-making, better coordination, mainstreaming environmental management into national policies, plans and programmes and development of the national negotiation capacities to advance Cambodian national interest on environmental matters in international fora. Its goal is to improve the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia through the development of national capacities to better coordinate and generate better information related to the implementation of these Conventions.

18. The project’s objective is to improve generation, access to and use of environmental information related to biodiversity, climate change, desertification/land degradation and drought through the harmonization of existing environmental management information systems and improving coordination and synergy in the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia. The harmonization of these existing systems will be translated into better decision-making and more effective and efficient implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia. This objective will be achieved through two (2) outcomes:

- 1) **Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions:** Under this outcome, the project will support the development of national capacities to effectively and efficiently manage environmental information that is generated for the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia, and facilitate access and exchange of this information. In parallel to this, the project will support the strengthening of Cambodia’s capacity to better engage stakeholders and better coordinate the implementation of the Rio Conventions in the country.
- 2) **Improved use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions:** Under this second outcome project resources will be used to improve the use of environmental information in the application of innovative tools supporting decision-making in the framework of the implementation of the Rio Conventions. The project support will also include activities to strengthen the capacities in using this environmental knowledge in international negotiations at the meetings of the three Conventions and in regional forums as well as using this knowledge for resource mobilization and to produce coherent and coordinated reports to meet the Conventions’ reporting obligations.

19. The proposed project will develop crosscutting capacity to respond to the needs of the three conventions; particularly the reporting requirements. During the project implementation, the coordination and information generation capacities of the focal points established by the government will be enhanced.

20. The project will take an adaptive collaborative management approach to implementation, which calls for stakeholders to take an early and proactive role in the mainstreaming exercises, as well as to help identify and solve unexpected implementation barriers and challenges. By taking an adaptive collaborative approach, project activities and outputs can be more legitimately modified and adapted to maintain timely and cost-effective project performance and delivery.

A.3 Key Indicators, Assumptions, and Risks

21. A set of indicators was identified to measure progress against the objective and outcomes. It includes the summary results of the capacity development scorecard as one indicator used to measure progress on the development of capacities at the objective level. Two other indicators were identified at this level to measure the harmonization of environmental management information systems and the quality of reports/communications on the implementation of the Rio Conventions. A total of 11 indicators were identified to measure progress at the objective and outcomes level. For each indicator, a baseline was set as well as a target at the end of the project.

22. The review of risks to the project indicates that these risks are manageable through the project’s learn-by-doing approach. This proposed project is a direct response to national priorities identified through the NCSA process; as a result, there is a strong national ownership and willingness to succeed, hence low risks that key stakeholders will not participate in the project and lack of political will.

B. Country Ownership

B.1 Country Eligibility

23. Cambodia is eligible to receive technical assistance from UNDP, and is thus eligible for support under the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Cambodia ratified the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UN-CBD) on February 9, 1995, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on December 18, 1995, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) on August 18, 1997. Cambodia ratified important protocols under the Rio Conventions in later years, namely:

- a. It acceded to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity on December 16, 2003 to ensure the safe handling, transport and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on biodiversity, taking also into account risks to human health.
- b. It acceded on August 22, 2002 to the Kyoto Protocol, which commits its Parties by setting internationally binding greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.
- c. Cambodia deposited on August 30, 2013 its instrument of accession to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress adopted to provide international rules and procedures for damage resulting from the transboundary movements of LMOs. As of April 2016, the instrument is yet to enter into force on remedial measures arising from damages caused by the transboundary movement of living modified organisms.
- d. Cambodia signed the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization on February 1, 2012 and ratified it on April 19, 2015.

24. Other global conventions signed or ratified by Cambodia and related to the environment include:

- a. International Plant Protection Convention (1952)
- b. World Heritage Convention (WHC) (Acceptance May 12, 2000)
- c. CITES in 1997
- d. Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Entered into Force on October 23, 1999)
- e. International Whaling Commission (IWC) (Adherence December 28, 2004)
- f. Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean (1982)
- g. Pacific Tuna Fisheries (2008)
- h. Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (April 7, 1993)

- i. Montreal Protocol to the Vienna Convention (Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer) and its Amendments (April 8, 1993)
 - j. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) (September 7, 2004)
 - k. Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal (September 7, 2000)
 - l. Waigani Convention (June 28, 2001)
 - m. London Convention (July 12, 1979)
 - n. International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, 1996: Marine Pollution: UNCLOS (Chapters 1 & 12)
 - o. MARPOL (International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto) Annexes I, II, III, IV, V and VI
 - p. CLC Protocol 92 (entered into force on February 5, 2008)
 - q. Fund Protocol 92 (February 5, 2007)
 - r. Bunkers Convention 2001
 - s. Anti Fouling Convention 2001
 - t. Ballast Water Management Convention 2004
 - u. SPREP Pollution Emergency (Protocol concerning Cooperation in Combating Pollution Emergencies in the South Pacific Region) (1986)
 - v. SPREP Dumping Protocol (1986)
25. Cambodia is also part of several regional planning frameworks to support its work in managing the environment. It includes:
- a. Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia, Cambodia signed in 2003 a MoU with this instrument under the Convention on Migratory Species.
 - b. The Asia-Pacific Plant Convention; inter-governmental agreements such as the FAO Regional Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries; and the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Agreement on Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region
 - c. A framework agreement on co-operation between the European Union (EU) and Cambodia signed on 29 April, 1997 and that came into force on 1 November 1999
 - d. The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) - an international treaty organization established in 1965 with the aim of promoting regional cooperation in education, science, and culture
 - e. The Putrajaya Declaration on Regional Cooperation for the Sustainable Development of the Seas of East Asia and adopted the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia signed by Cambodia on December 12, 2003 for the regional implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development Requirements for the Coasts and Oceans
 - f. A number of ASEAN agreements and cooperative arrangements addressing key environmental issues of regional concerns such as the ASEAN Strategic Plan of Action on the Environment, 1999-2004 (SPAEE), ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (1999-2004), and the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (2002)
 - g. The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), particularly for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. ASEAN's forestry program includes, *inter alia*, the development of guidelines for criteria and indicators, trade harmonization and promotion through the ASEAN Forest Product Industry Club (AFPIC), and work on forest fires and haze
 - h. Cambodia also signed up to undertake the goals determined by the Millennium Resolution and Millennium Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region as part of its commitments to the participation of local communities in fisheries management

B.2 Country Drivenness

26. The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Cambodia is a five-year strategic programme framework that outlines the collective response of the UN system to development

challenges and national priorities in Cambodia for the period 2011-2015. It provides a framework for coordinated UN development assistance in Cambodia in keeping with the UN reform process and the commitments laid out in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. The UNDAF 2011-2015 is anchored in and aligned with the Government’s Rectangular Strategy Phase II and the National Strategic Development Plan (2009-2013). It builds on the achievements and progress made over the last decade and leverages the UN’s position as a trusted and neutral partner of the Royal Government of Cambodia and the people of Cambodia. This programme is based on the findings from the Common Country Assessment published in 2009. The UN Country Team also adopted a Human Rights-based Approach in undertaking the country analysis and to advocate for priorities in the national development framework. These principles require a specific focus on the marginalized, the disadvantaged and the excluded, and form one of the core programming principles of the UNDAF.

27. This UNDAF sets out three levels of results expected from UN cooperation in Cambodia for the period 2011-2015: (a) at the UNDAF outcome level, the contribution is articulated in terms of specific development results that support national priorities as articulated in the Rectangular Strategy Phase II and the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP); (b) at the country programme outcome level, results aim to capture institutional and behavioral changes that result from the collective efforts of two or more UN agencies alongside actions of others, in particular the government; and (c) at the output level, interventions will target capacity gaps that hinder the various levels of government from fulfilling their commitments and those that prevent people living in Cambodia from fulfilling their rights. Overall, the UN focuses on strengthening the knowledge and skills, human and financial resources, as well as coordination and communication that are necessary (but not sufficient) if Cambodia is to achieve its MDG targets by 2015.

28. The UNDAF identified five priorities (also called UNDAF Outcomes) that form the core of the UN’s support to Cambodia for the period 2011 to 2015. There are presented below with their respective country programme outcomes:

- a. **Economic Growth and Sustainable Development:** *By 2015, more people living in Cambodia benefit from, and participate in, increasingly equitable, green, diversified economic growth*
 - i. Sustainably developed agricultural sector promoting equitable physical and economic access to an increased number of safe and nutritious food and agricultural products;
 - ii. National institutions, local authorities and private sector are better able to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources (protected areas, fisheries, forestry, mangrove, and land), cleaner technologies and responsiveness to climate change;
 - iii. More diversified economy in Cambodia with increased pro-poor investment, trade and private sector development due to strengthened national and sub-national capacity;
 - iv. Increased employability and productive and decent employment opportunities, particularly for youth and women, through diversified local economic development in urban and rural areas.
- b. **Health and Education:** *By 2015, more men, women, children and young people enjoy equitable access to health and education*
 - i. Increased national and sub-national equitable coverage of quality reproductive, maternal, newborn, child health, and nutrition services
 - ii. Strengthened health sector response on HIV
 - iii. More women, men, children, and young people enjoy safe water, sanitation and hygiene conditions
 - iv. Increase in reach and sustainability of children learning in relevant and quality basic education through increased institutional capacities
 - v. Enhanced national and sub-national institutional capacity to expand young people’s access to quality life skills including on HIV and technical and vocational education and training (TVET)
- c. **Gender Equality:** *By 2015, all women, men, girls and boys are experiencing a reduction in gender disparities and progressively enjoying and exercising equal rights*
 - i. A harmonized aid environment that promotes gender equality and the empowerment of women

- ii. Strengthened and enhanced gender mainstreaming mechanisms at national and sub-national levels
- iii. Women are progressively empowered to exercise their rights to full and productive work with decent terms and conditions
- iv. Enhanced participation of women in the public sphere, at national and sub-national levels
- v. Improved societal attitudes and preventive and holistic responses to GBV
- d. **Governance:** By 2015, national and sub-national institutions are more accountable and responsive to the needs and rights of all people living in Cambodia and increase participation in democratic decision-making.
 - i. Effective mechanisms for dialogue, representation and participation in democratic decision-making established and strengthened
 - ii. State institutions at national and sub-national levels better able to protect citizens’ rights under the Constitution and provide effective remedies for violations, in particular those relating to labor, children, land and housing, gender-based violence, indigenous people, people living with HIV and people with disabilities
 - iii. Enhanced capacities for collection, access and utilization of disaggregated information (gender, age, target populations, region) at national and sub-national levels to develop and monitor policies and plans that are responsive to the needs of the people and incorporate priority population, poverty and development linkages
 - iv. Sub-national governments have the capacity to take over increased functions
 - v. Strengthened multi-sectoral response to HIV
- e. **Social Protection:** By 2015, more people, especially the poor and vulnerable, benefit from improved social safety net (SSN) and social security programmes, as an integral part of a sustainable national social protection system.
 - i. Increase in national and subnational capacity to provide affordable and effective national social protection through improved development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of a social protection system
 - ii. Improved coverage of Social Safety Net programmes for the poorest and most vulnerable
 - iii. Improved coverage of social security for both formal and informal sector workers

29. Although the target year of 2015 has passed, the project will contribute to priority 1 – Economic Growth and Sustainable Development and to a lesser degree to priority 4 – Governance. By improving the access to environmental information and developing the capacity to use this information and knowledge for better decision-making, the project will particularly contribute to the development of capacities of national institutions, local authorities and private sector to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources (protected areas, fisheries, forestry, mangrove, and land), cleaner technologies and responsiveness to climate change. The project will also contribute to strengthening the governance framework (priority 4) in the environmental area through improving coordination mechanisms and increasing stakeholder engagement in Rio Conventions related dialogues and decision-making. In addition, the project will facilitate the generation, adequate management and dissemination of data, information and knowledge for use in education programmes (priority 2), contribute to priority 3 on gender equality through the development and implementation of a gender mainstreaming work plan. The ultimate goal of the project being to enhance the implementation of the objectives of the three Rio Conventions (conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the associated ecosystem services, and the equitable sharing of benefit from the utilization of genetic resources; fight against desertification, land degradation and drought with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development goals; and stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, ensure that food production is not threatened and enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner) is a contribution to priority 5 on social protection.

30. Within the context of the UNDAF 2011-2015 and of the UNDP Country Programme 2006-2010, UNDP developed its Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) for the period 2011-2015. This programme

was designed to respond to national priorities contained in the NSDP with a special focus on helping accelerate progress towards the MDGs before 2015, including the support of policies to plan local responses to climate change. This programme contributes directly to three UNDAF outcomes: economic growth and sustainable development; gender equality; and governance.

31. The CPAP is divided into six components: a) Poverty reduction; b) Environmental and climate change; c) Democratic governance; d) Capacity and functions of the sub-national administrations; e) Planning; and f) Gender equality. Under the environment and climate change component, the expected outcome is by 2015, national and sub-national authorities, communities and private sector are better able to sustainably manage ecosystems goods and services and respond to climate change.

32. As a crosscutting capacity development initiative, this proposed project falls under this component. It will contribute to the development of capacities at the individual level but also at the institutional and systemic levels. It will seek to improve engagement of stakeholders in the management of the environment, to better use environmental information for policy-making and plan/programme development, to better coordinate environmental sectors - particularly those related to Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) obligations, and develop the economic valuation of the use of natural resources in Cambodia.

B.2.a National Capacity Self-Assessment

33. The aim of the National Capacity Self Assessment (NCSA) projects - funded by the GEF - was for countries that are Parties to the UN-CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC, to assess their own capacities and capacity development needs to address the requirements of the three conventions and identify measures to address these needs.

34. As a GEF eligible country, Cambodia obtained an UNDP-GEF grant to conduct its NCSA, which started in 2005 and was concluded in 2006. The goal of the project was to develop and strengthen national capacities for sustainable management and use of natural resources and of the environment, for the benefit of the Cambodian poor. Its objective was to identify country level priorities and needs for capacity development, to address global environmental management requirements, particularly the thematic concerns of the three UN conventions. The project looked into existing capacities and capacity needs in Cambodia, to address domestic environmental issues and concerns that are also concerns of the three Rio Conventions: UNFCCC, UN-CBD, and UNCCD, which Cambodia is a party to.

35. It focused on issues and concerns within its jurisdiction to address Cambodia’s obligations under the three conventions. It was a national assessment of Cambodian capacities undertaken by the government of Cambodia and done by Cambodians. The project had two main parts: (1) stock taking and thematic assessment (assessment of existing capacities and capacity needs in Cambodia), and (2) developing an Action Plan to embark on developing the needed capacities in the country in the short- (1-3 years), medium- (4-6 years), and long- (6-10 years) terms:

- a. The Stock Taking involved a series of several activities: (1) an inventory of Cambodian obligations under each of the three conventions; (2) the determination of the capacities that are required to fulfill these obligations; (3) assessing existing capacities, (4) determining present capacity needs, (5) identifying the constraints on developing the relevant capacities in Cambodia, and (6) assessing for common and cross-cutting issues and capacity needs that impinge on the capacities to fulfill the obligations to the three conventions.
- b. The Action Plan followed the completion of the stock taking and thematic assessment activities.

36. The approach taken by Cambodia in implementing the NCSA project included extensive stakeholder consultations through interviews, focus group discussions and 3 workshops (2 workshops to consult stakeholders on initial findings and 1 workshop to validate the final action plan). The process followed the guidance given in the NCSA Guide and was supported by the NCSA Global Support Programme overseen by UNDP and UNEP.

37. The process that led to the prioritization of national capacity needs identified several “conditions” that were in place to promote Cambodian capacities for implementing the Rio Conventions. They include:

- a. The increasing stability of governmental and political institutions, which encourage public and private investments on capacity development;
- b. The increasing number of academic institutions offering degree programs and engaged in some research that are relevant to the conventions;
- c. The presence of a large community of foreign-based and local NGOs that are engaged in activities relevant to the conventions;
- d. The presence of a large community of donors, all committed to assist Cambodia build up its basic institutions and its national capacities;
- e. The importance placed on agriculture by the government and the increasing mainstreaming of environmental and natural resource protection in national development strategies.

38. On the contrary, the assessment also found few “conditions” that inhibited the implementation of the Rio Conventions. They include:

- a. The capacity of the civil service that is still struggling to re-establish itself after it had been effectively dismantled for years prior to the 1990s;
- b. Limited capacity and activities to address environmental issues;
- c. The administrative systems and mechanisms in the Royal Government of Cambodia still under development.

39. This extensive assessment identified a large number of common issues and capacity needs. As per the action plan, “existing thematic capacities in Cambodia are severely lacking, over-all. Capacities to attend to the thematic concerns and meet the obligations to all three Conventions are almost all weak. They hardly lend to being prioritized in that all are needed the soonest time they can be acquired. What needs prioritizing is the development of the dimensions of capacities (human, financial, organizational, public support) in ways that will address the most number of thematic capacity needs of the country”. Furthermore, this same action plan states that “the cross-cutting capacity needs, which address broad national conditions of the economy and socio-political system of Cambodia that constrain the thematic capacities, are essentially at the highest levels of government and Cambodian society”. Using a timeframe divided into three timelines: short-term (1-3 years), medium-term (4-6 years), and long-term (7-10 years), the assessment was conducted in each thematic area, followed by an assessment of crosscutting capacity issues and needs. For each area, the review looked into human capabilities, financial capabilities, organizational commitments, and public support.

40. On the basis of the assessment of issues and needs and their prioritization, a long list of priority actions was identified; 160 priority actions divided as follows: 53 in the short-term, 53 in the medium-term and 54 in the long-term. An action plan was then formulated for the implementation of the 53 priority actions in the short term with a budget of USD 16.15 million required for implementing this plan.

41. Among these 53 priority actions, recurrent themes include: better coordination – including coordination mechanisms – for the implementation of Rio Convention obligations; more public awareness about these obligations; environmental mainstreaming into policies, plans and programmes; improve collect, update, storage, and access/use of environmental management information; more integrated approaches across sectors such as environment, agriculture, forestry; higher capacity of government staff in environmental management; more government resources allocated to environmental management; set-up innovative financing mechanisms for implementing obligations from the global environmental agenda; Improve and strengthen their ability to advance Cambodian national interests on environmental matters in international fora.

42. This proposed project will address some of these priority actions such as better use of environmental information in decision-making and policy-making, better coordination, mainstreaming environmental management into national policies, plans and programmes and development of the national negotiation capacities to advance Cambodian national interest on environmental matters in international

fora. By improving the access to environmental information, the project should also contribute in addressing the need for better reporting to these international Conventions.

B.2.b Sustainable Development Context

43. Cambodia is located in Southeast Asia, bordering Vietnam, Laos and Thailand, and has a total land area of 181,035 km². The country's population grew from around 9 million in the 1960s to around an estimated population of about 15,765,000 in 2016¹. The country has a relatively low population density of about 82 people per km² (2011). With the current annual population growth rate of around 2.5%, the population could reach 19 million people in 2020 (National Institute of Statistics 2007). Approximately 80 percent of the country's inhabitants live in rural areas with limited access to electricity and seasonal food shortages.

44. Cambodia's history of conflicts and isolation through the 1970s to 1990s resulted in destruction of almost all the areas of national life, including human resources, which are most critical to underpinning the country's socioeconomic development efforts. As a consequence, Cambodia is designated as a least developed country (LDC). The restoration of peace and policy stability over the past decade has brought steady economic growth in Cambodia, averaging between 8 and 10 percent since 1998, leading to substantial reductions in poverty.

45. Cambodia is one of the poorest countries in Southeast Asia. Its Human Development Index is 0.555 (2014)², which gives the country a rank of 143th out of 187 countries with data and which increased from 0.444 in 2000. In 2012, about 18% of Cambodians live under the national poverty line (World Bank³), which is down from 50% in 2007. According to this same dataset, about 19% of the population live with less than \$1.25 a day (PPP-2009) - which came down from over 32% in 2007 - and almost 50% live with less than \$2 a day; down from about 60% in 2007. Around 3 million people currently live in cities (about 20 % of the total). The rural population represents about 80% and 24 percent of the rural population lives below the national poverty line in 2011; down from 58% in 2007.

46. Despite this progress, Cambodia still continues to face significant poverty and governance challenges. Cambodia's economy is heavily reliant on export markets and saw a steep decline in GDP growth following the 2008/09 economic crisis. Since then, the economy rebounded in 2010. Over 60% of the population is dependent on agriculture and the country is a net rice exporter and generally food self-sufficient. However, according to FAO, the level of food poverty in Cambodia was about 57% of the population (2007). Large proportions of the population are employed in agriculture although shifts in employment towards industry and services are taking place - 72 percent of the population was employed in agriculture in 2008 compared to 51 percent in 2012. Foreign investment in agriculture has expanded rapidly in recent years with the primary cash crop being rubber. At the same time, landlessness has risen steeply and was estimated at 20% in the 2004 Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey. Road networks are increasingly bisecting the country and providing greater access to rural areas and higher paying international markets. Major road building programmes are stimulating economic development and increasing opportunity costs of land but been criticized for inadequacy of social and environmental safeguards.

Biodiversity

47. Cambodia relies predominantly on its rich biodiversity and other natural resources for its socio-economic development and most people's food, livelihoods and well-being. In the past decades, high population growth and increasing economic demands by this growing population has often led to natural forest conversion to agriculture, land degradation and pollution from unsustainable agriculture and industries; habitat fragmentation from public works and urbanization; overharvesting and overexploitation of resources particularly in forests, freshwaters and marine and coastal areas. These pressures on

¹<http://www.worldometers.info/world-population/cambodia-population/> (accessed on 2 April 2016)

²<http://countryeconomy.com/hdi/cambodia>

³<http://data.worldbank.org/country/cambodia>

biodiversity and associated ecosystem services are often exacerbated by the impact of climate change and more frequent natural disasters.

48. Cambodia took a lot of measures, in particular the designation of a wide network of protected areas to reduce biodiversity loss. However, limited financial resources and capacities in general combined with poor awareness of the value and vulnerability of ecosystems, of which the natural capital is part, did not allow an effective control of the drivers of biodiversity loss, with detrimental consequences on the country’s sustainable development.

49. Taking into account the results of a recent study on the status of biodiversity and the findings from the implementation of the 2002 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), Cambodia has adopted early this year a revised NBSAP with the following strategic objectives:

- **A:** Identify, inventory, monitor and enhance awareness about genetic resources, species, habitats or ecosystems and related ecosystem services that are important for sustainable development and poverty eradication in Cambodia, as priority for conservation and sustainable use;
- **B:** Identify and describe the direct and indirect factors and processes that are negatively impacting Cambodia’s priority biodiversity components; and apply, as appropriate, preventive and corrective measures;
- **C:** Maintain or strengthen measures that have a positive impact on biodiversity and thus enhance the benefits to all in Cambodia from biodiversity and associated ecosystem services for an equitable economic prosperity and improved quality of life;
- **D:** Strengthen the enabling environment for implementation of the strategy.

50. Land degradation, desertification, drought and climate change are addressed in the NBSAP as major drivers of biodiversity loss, and biodiversity conservation (e.g., carbon sequestration in protected areas/forests) and sustainable use (REDD⁺) are among the strategies for climate change mitigation and adaptation, while tree planting are some of the means for restoring degraded lands, and the sustainable management of forests and agriculture contributes to the prevention of desertification.

51. Regarding climate change, Cambodia is among the most vulnerable countries in Southeast Asia, due to its high dependency on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, water resources, forestry, fisheries, and tourism, all of which form the foundation of its economic growth and support the livelihoods of a great majority of its population. Strategic objectives and key actions to address climate change in the NBSAP consist of (i) assessing the impact of climate change and climate change mitigation or adaptation measures on genetic resources, species, ecosystems and related ecosystem services, and on sectors depending primarily on biodiversity in particular agriculture, fisheries and livestock; (ii) assessing and documenting the role of biodiversity in climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, and strengthening biodiversity conservation measures that have a positive impact on climate change mitigation and adaptation; and (iii) minimizing the anthropogenic pressures (such as pollution, exploitation and sedimentation) on ecosystems that are vulnerable to climate change so as to maintain their integrity, functioning and resilience.

52. In the revised NBSAP, awareness, education, and research coordination and development are key elements of the enabling environment. Increasing public awareness and understanding of the importance of biodiversity, as well as acquiring expertise and know-how are essential elements in guaranteeing the effectiveness of measures to achieve the conservation and sustainable use of the natural capital sustaining life and human well-being in Cambodia. To be efficient, awareness and education activities have to be supported by adequate scientific research and documentation. For efficiency and enhanced synergy, and in the framework of the ecosystem approach or similar approaches, research being carried out by various bodies within the government, knowledge institutions and by non-governmental organisations needs coordination to take full advantage of complementarities and synergies.

53. The revised NBSAP has provisions for an improved clearing house mechanism. Limited relevant information for policy and decision-making, difficult accessibility when information is available, and the limited capability of the existing national clearing-house mechanism led to the development of strategic

objectives and key actions that would (i) improve access to and generation of information, including in Khmer language; (ii) improve the use of available information and knowledge; and (iii) increase availability of financial, technical and human resources for the clearing-house mechanism.

54. Of particular importance, are the biodiversity targets adopted by Cambodia in its revised NBSAP in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the National Green Growth Roadmap 2013-2030 and in support of the National Strategic Development Plan. The vision of the revised NBSAP is that ‘by 2050, Cambodia’s biodiversity and its ecosystem services are valued, conserved, restored where necessary, wisely used and managed so as to ensure equitable economic prosperity and improved quality of life for all in the country.’

Climate Change Vulnerability

55. Cambodia is a low emitter and highly vulnerable country to the negative effects of climate change. As an essentially agrarian country, Cambodia is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The results of modelling studies in the Initial National Communication (INC) and the Second National Communication (SNC) indicate that Cambodia’s mean surface temperature has increased by 0.8°C since 1960. The mean temperature is projected to increase between 0.013°C to 0.036°C per year by 2099, depending on location. The rate of temperature increase is higher in low altitude areas than in high altitude areas. According to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global mean sea level rise for the period 2081–2100, compared to 1986–2005, is likely (*medium confidence*) to be in the 5–95% range of process-based models, which give 0.26–0.54 m for RCP2.6 (NB: RCP or Representative Concentration Pathways are four greenhouse gas concentration (not emissions) trajectories adopted by the IPCC for its fifth Assessment Report (AR5) in 2014), 0.32–0.62 m for RCP4.5, 0.33–0.62 m for RCP6.0, and 0.45–0.81 m for RCP8.5. For RCP8.5, the rise by 2100 is 0.53–0.97 m with a rate during 2081–2100 of 7–15 mm yr⁻¹.

56. An increase in the temperature is likely to affect agricultural productivity. According to the International Rice Research Institute, rice grain yields decline by 10% for each 1°C increase in minimum (night) temperatures during the growing period in the dry season. Additionally, the frequency and intensity of floods may increase with changing climate conditions, and cause severe damage to rice harvests. Successions and combinations of droughts and floods have resulted in a significant number of fatalities and considerable economic losses. Losses arising from floods have been further exacerbated by deforestation. Floods have accounted for 70% of rice production losses between 1998 and 2002, while drought accounted for 20% of losses⁴.

57. Sea level rise may also affect the 435-km long coastline, which already suffers from storm surges, high tide, beach erosion and seawater intrusion. Low-lying areas, including settlements, beach resorts, and seaports may become submerged with rises in sea levels and adversely affect coastal fisheries and mangrove.

58. In addition, vector-borne diseases, in particular malaria, may become more widespread under changing climatic conditions. Poor infrastructures and high poverty rates make malaria treatment unaffordable for large segments of the population. Only 55% of the population has geographic access to public health facilities (RGC, 2001)⁵.

59. At the 21st meeting of the UNFCCC COP, the world community adopted the Paris Agreement including on nationally determined contributions (NDC) building on current Intended Nationally Determined Contributions, and a global “stocktake” that will inform every five years after 2023 collective efforts on mitigation, adaptation and support. Through the Agreement, the UNFCCC Parties agreed to keep the global temperature rise below 2°C above preindustrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. They also agreed to create institutions and mechanisms, particularly for means of implementation, such as the Paris Committee for Capacity Building, and the mitigation and sustainable development mechanism. Cambodia submitted its INDC. Building on

⁴ Ministry of Environment, August 2002, *Cambodia’s Initial National Communication Under the UNFCCC*

⁵ Ministry of Environment, October 2006, *National Adaptation Programme of Action to Climate Change (NAPA)*

the Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP) (2014 – 2023), Cambodia’s INDC contains a component on adaptation and one on mitigation. Implementation of these contributions will draw on actions planned in the UN-CBD and UNCCD.

Land Degradation

60. In 2010, agricultural land was about 24% while forest land was about 56% of the country’s total land area. The land used for agriculture was estimated to be about 3.7 million ha; excluding the Economic Land Concessions (ELC)⁶. Major agricultural production zones are scattered in the northeastern region of the country, near to Thai border, low land around the Tonle Sap lake and other main rivers down to the delta on the southern and south-eastern parts of the country.

61. From 1993 to May 2010, the government of Cambodia has granted 142 companies the right to use ELCs for cultivation of agricultural and agro-industrial crops, forest and rubber trees, in the hopes that this action could help restore the forest cover and improve biodiversity. Since then, 43 of the 142 companies did not follow the investment contracts, cleared the land and left it without forest cover, which caused soil erosion and loss of biodiversity; contributing to land degradation. As a result, the government terminated these contracts and confiscated the corresponding land. There are now 99 valid ELCs companies exploiting a total area of 1,046,591ha scattered in 17 provinces⁶.

62. Land degradation in Cambodia includes soil degradation, deforestation and the subsequent loss of biodiversity. The key effects include low agricultural productivity and increased vulnerability to drought and floods. The immediate causes of land degradation in Cambodia are inappropriate forest use and agricultural land use practices. Inappropriate land use practices are in turn influenced by such factors as population growth; urbanization; land tenure security and resource access by land users; the influence of prices and markets; the adequacy of regulations and enforcement; and availability of technical support to guide land users.

63. At least two other factors exacerbate the effects of land degradation in Cambodia. One is the inherent low soil fertility in large portions of agricultural lands, which has been reported as early as 1966. Related to this is the natural limitation of most soils to retain water which tends to limit the organic matter content of soils, thereby contributing to low soil fertility.

64. In 2009, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight Against Desertification, which runs from January 2010 to December 2020 to promote action that will protect the drylands. The Decade is an opportunity to make critical changes to secure the long-term ability of drylands to provide value for humanity’s well-being. In line with the sustainable development Goal 15 the Parties to the UNCCD are targeting a land degradation neutral world by 2030, by combatting desertification, and restoring degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods.

Development Challenges

65. Since the 2008-09 global financial crisis, Cambodia is facing new unexpected challenges within the context of the global economic recession and the turmoil in the global financial markets. The National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) formulated for the period 2009-2013 placed a high priority on tackling key sectoral challenges:

- a. Diversify the markets for our garments and other manufactured goods market to East Asia, the Middle East and Africa etc.
- b. Further improve tourism infrastructure and the development of more tourism destinations and attractive tour packages.
- c. Prioritize the use of resources and expertise of the government, and donors to broaden and diversify our agricultural sector, in order to attract more quality investments in agri-business

^{6,6} Royal Government of Cambodia, January 2012, National Action Programme to Combat Land Degradation in the Kingdom of Cambodia – 2011-2020

and improve agricultural trade linkages, land reform, agricultural diversification and agro-processing.

- d. Further invest in infrastructure development, particularly energy generation to reduce energy costs to the private sector and to the community.
- e. Continue to promote and support wealth creation and improving the people’s livelihood according to the correct principles and procedures as stipulated in the Cambodia’s Constitution.

66. In 2015, the world community adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Transforming our world. Many of its 17 ‘Sustainable Development Goals’ and 169 targets are relevant to the three Rio Conventions and will be taken into consideration during their implementation. Goal 13 “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts” and its targets are on climate change as well as targets 1.5 on poverty reduction, target 2.4 on sustainable food production. Goal 15 “Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss” and its targets address biodiversity and land degradation/desertification issues as well as target 8.4 on economic growth. Biodiversity components and ecosystem services cut across many goals, including in particular Goal 15, and Goals 2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture), 6 (Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all), and 14 (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development).

B.2.c Policy and Legislative Context

67. Development and environmental management in Cambodia is led by a set of key policies, supported by Laws. It includes the following key policies:

Rectangular Strategy – Phase III

68. The Rectangular Strategy-Phase III is the “*Socio-economic Policy Agenda*” of the political platform of the government of Cambodia of the Fifth Legislature of the National Assembly (2013-2018). The central themes of the rectangular strategy are *Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency*. This is the government comprehensive policy framework guiding national development and in particular guiding the formulation of the NSDP. Phase III of this strategy is to “*guide activities of all stakeholders to further pursue and strengthen long-term sustainable development aimed at promoting economic growth, creating jobs, equitable distribution of the fruits of growth, and ensuring effectiveness of public institutions and management of resources*”.

69. The strategy includes four strategic objectives:

- a. Ensuring an average annual economic growth of 7%
- b. Creating more jobs for people especially the youth through further improvement in Cambodia’s competitiveness
- c. Achieving more than 1 percentage point reduction in poverty incidence annually
- d. Further strengthening institutional capacity and governance, at both national and subnational levels

70. This strategy (Phase III) recognizes that the environment and climate change has become another challenge for the sustainability of Cambodia’s economic growth and social development due to pressures from population growth, urbanization, expansion and intensification of agriculture as well as development of transport, energy and other sectors. It stated “*many environmental issues are cross-sectoral in nature, which requires coordination across government agencies at both national and sub-national levels including cooperation with all the stakeholders*”. Furthermore, it stated that “*as a response, the government will continue to take a comprehensive development approach toward environmental management in Cambodia, through:*

- a. Sustainable management of natural resources;
- b. Intensifying efforts to reduce the impacts of climate change by strengthening adaptation capacity and resiliency to climate change, particularly by implementing the “National Policy on Green Growth” and the “National Strategic Plan on Green Growth 2013-2030”;
- c. Continuing to strengthen technical and institutional capacity to promote the mainstreaming of climate change responses into the policies, laws and plans at national and sub-national levels;
- d. Continuing to introduce measures to control environment and ecosystems pollution

National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) Update – 2009-2013

71. Development planning in Cambodia is done through a five-year planning cycle, which is aligned to the Rectangular Strategic Framework (*see above*).

72. The National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) Update 2009-2013 is a comprehensive development plan reviewing the major achievements under the period of the previous plan (NSDP 2006-2010) and challenges in key development sectors. Its main focus is to set the key policy priorities and actions for the period 2009-2013. The environmental sector is within the third priority “Enhancement of the Agricultural Sector”. It states that “the Ministry of Environment (MOE) will:

- a. Ensure sustainable use of natural resources and will implement measures that will require the carrying out of Environmental Impact Assessments of proposed development projects before implementation;
- b. Ensure ecology system and environment of water is not polluted;
- c. Control and reduce environment pollution;
- d. Strengthen management of protected areas in order to eliminate anarchy in Protected Areas, eliminate illegal exploitation of natural resources, control land clearing for use, and illegal cutting down of the forests;
- e. Finding resources, support and financing for solving climate change issues.

73. It was noted that a new NSDP 2014-2018 is being drafted (May 2014) and will focus on:

- a. Sustainable management of natural resources.
- b. Intensifying efforts to reduce the impact of climate change by strengthening the adaptation capacity and resiliency to climate change, particularly by implementing the “Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan 2014-2023”, “National Policy on Green Growth” and the “National Strategic Plan on Green Growth 2013-2030”.
- c. Continuing to strengthen the technical and institutional capacity to promote the mainstreaming of climate change responses into policies, laws and plans at the national and sub-national levels.
- d. Continuing to introduce measures to control the environment and ecosystems

National Biodiversity Strategic and Action Plan (NBSAP) – 2016

74. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), which was approved in July 2002, represents the national policy on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use including certain cross-cutting issues. It was developed through a participatory process involving input and extensive consultation with various line ministries, research institutions, local governments and NGOs in addressing international obligations as required by the UN-CBD and its COP decisions. This NBSAP was revised in 2016 (see from paras 46 above) to take into account the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 adopted by the UN-CBD Conference of the Parties in 2010 and later on endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly.

75. Cambodia’s updated NBSAP consists of more than 475 key actions identified to achieve 73 strategic objectives under 24 themes. It is necessary to implement all these actions to realize the vision of this NBSAP. With a view to streamlining NBSAP implementation, the Inter-ministerial Technical Working Group defined 20 specific and time-bound targets, some of which are also measurable, to be achieved before or by 2020. Specific actions are listed as well as indicators of progress towards the achievement of each target. The actions are essentially drawn from the key actions under the NBSAP themes, and many of them have already been adopted as part of strategies and plans for sustainable development and various sectoral

plans and programmes. In addition, linkages between targets are highlighted so that implementation can be as efficient as possible.

76. Thus, Cambodia Biodiversity 2015-2020 Targets can be seen as a platform that will promote coherence, coordination, cooperation, co-evolution and synergy while maximizing resource use and efficiency in implementing the key actions. The targets will facilitate, in particular, cooperation and creation of concrete collaborative programmes and activities among different Ministries and their Departments, among different actors within and across economic sectors, and among organizations at the national, regional and international levels

National Strategic Plan on Green Growth – 2013-2030

77. The vision of this strategic plan is to develop a sustainable economy, together with environmental, social and cultural sustainability for poverty alleviation. Its objective is to promote a national economy with growth stability, reduction and prevention of environmental pollution, safe ecosystem, poverty reduction, and promotion of public health service, educational quality, natural resources management, and sustainable land use and water resources management to increase energy efficiency, ensuring food safety and glorify the national culture.

78. It provides orientation to relevant ministries/institutions, authorities at subnational levels, private sector, civil society and stakeholders for efficiency of green growth with balance among economy, environment, society and culture, aiming at poverty eradication nationwide. This key strategy relies on duty fulfillment of relevant institutions with support, participation and close cooperation from all concerned parties, including the public, the private sectors, civil society and the general public.

79. This National Strategic Plan on Green Growth 2013-2030 focuses on several strategic directions:

- a. Green Investment and Green Jobs Creation;
- b. Green Economy Management in balance with Environment;
- c. Blue Economy Development with Sustainability;
- d. Green Environment and Natural Resources Management;
- e. Human Resources Development and Green Education;
- f. Effective Green Technology Management;
- g. Promotion of a Green Social Safety System;
- h. Uphold and Protection of Green Cultural Heritage and National Identity;
- i. Good Governance on Green Growth

Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan – 2014-2023

80. The CCCSP was developed following the guidelines of the Council of Ministers. The vision of this strategic plan is for Cambodia to develop towards a green, low-carbon, climate-resilient, equitable, sustainable and knowledge-based society. The plan is to create a national framework for engaging the public, the private sector, civil society organizations and development partners in a participatory process for responding to climate change to support sustainable development. It has three goals that are aligned with national goals and priorities:

- a. Reducing vulnerability to climate change impacts of people, in particular the most vulnerable, and critical systems (natural and societal);
- b. Shifting towards a green development path by promoting low-carbon development and technologies;
- c. Promoting public awareness and participation in climate change response actions

81. According to the Climate Change Vulnerability Mapping for Southeast Asia, Cambodia is among the most vulnerable country to climate change in this region because of low adaptive capacity. Through the analysis conducted for this mapping, several points in matters related to this project were highlighted. Interest in knowledge and information related to climate change was identified as a strength. However, weak knowledge and science-based decision making; lack of clear procedure for integration of climate change in the national development plans; limited capacity of the national institutions responsible for

climate change and limited participation of stakeholders; outdated information to address climate impacts; and limited knowledge, research and technology were identified as weaknesses. Finally, the establishment of national knowledge and information structure was identified as an opportunity.

82. Among the planned actions, several are related to this project. It includes the review of the institutional arrangements and the development of a national M&E framework, including the provision of information to fulfill the UNFCCC reporting obligations.

National Adaptation Programme of Action to Climate change(NAPA) and National Adaptation Plan (NAP)

83. The main goal of Cambodia’s 2006 National Adaptation Programme of Action to Climate change (NAPA) “is to provide a framework to guide the coordination and implementation of adaptation initiatives through a participatory approach, and to build synergies with other relevant environment and development programmes. Cambodia’s NAPA presents priority projects to address the urgent and immediate needs and concerns of people at the grassroots level for adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change in key sectors such as agriculture, water resources, coastal zone and human health. The Cambodian NAPA is supportive of the Government’s development objectives as outlined in the “Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency” adopted in July 2004, as well as in the National Strategic Development Plan 2006-2010 (NSDP).”

84. The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process was established under the [Cancun Adaptation Framework](#) in 2010 (COP16/CMP6) to enable Parties to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs. The NAP process is meant to complement the existing short-term projects under the NAPAs and play a critical role in reducing vulnerability and, building adaptive capacity by mainstreaming climate change adaptation (CCA) into all sector-specific and national development planning. Cambodia initiated its NAP process through a joint NAP-GSP/GIZ NAP-process stocktaking mission to Cambodia in February 2014. The NAP process is country-driven, gender-sensitive and participatory. Its continuous and iterative nature provides unique opportunities to integrate biodiversity and land degradation/desertification and drought issues.

National Action Program to Combat Land Degradation (2011-2020)

85. The land degradation situation in Cambodia is caused mainly by deforestation, soil erosion, and climate change. As a signatory of the UNCCD, Cambodia developed a National Action Program (NAP) to combat desertification and promote sustainable land management (SLM). In consultation with NGOs, MAFF identified best practices under the following 5 themes: sustainable agriculture, community forestry, community fisheries, community protected areas and SLM oriented initiatives of local authorities.

Other Policies related to the environment

86. In addition to these key policies in Cambodia, the government also developed/formulated national sectoral strategies and plans; it includes:

- a. National Protected Area System Strategic Management Framework (2014);
- b. National Forest Programme (2010-2029);
- c. Strategic Planning Framework for Fisheries (2010-2019);
- d. Strategy for Agriculture and Water;
- e. Strategic Agriculture Development Plan (2006-2010);
- f. National Action Plan for Coral Reef and Seagrass Management in Cambodia (2006-2015);
- g. Strategic Plan on Management of Mercury in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining.

Brief Overview of the Legislative Framework

87. On the legislation side, Cambodia is equipped with an environmental legislative framework that includes:

- a. Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Management (1996);
- b. Land Law (2001);
- c. Law on Mineral Resource Management and Exploitation (2001);
- d. Law on Water Resources Management (2007);
- e. Law on Fisheries (2006);
- f. Forestry Law (2002);
- g. Law on Protected Areas (2008);
- h. Law on Biosafety (2008);
- i. Law on Pesticide and Chemical Fertilizer Control (2011);
- j. Law on Water Resources Management (2007);
- k. Law on Crop Seed Management and Rights of Plant Breeders (2008);
- l. Royal Decree on the Protection of Natural Areas (1993);
- m. Royal Decree on the Establishment and Management of the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve (2001);
- n. Sub-Decree on Environmental Impact Assessment (1999);
- o. Sub-Decree on Solid Waste Management (1999);
- p. Sub-Decree on Water Pollution Control (1999);
- q. Sub-Decree on Air Pollution and Noise Disturbance Control (2000);
- r. Sub-Decree on the Management of Ozone Depleting Substances (2005);
- s. Sub-Decree on State Land Management (2005);
- t. Sub-Decree on Economic Land Concessions (2005), amended 2009;
- u. Sub-Decree on Community Fisheries (2007);
- v. Sub-Decree on Forest Concession Management (2000);
- w. Sub-Decree on Community Forestry Management (2003);
- x. Sub-Decree on Procedures for Establishment Classification and Registration of Permanent Forest Estate (2005);
- y. Sub-Decree on the Establishment of the Protected Forest for Biodiversity Conservation, Elephant Corridor; and,
- z. Sub-Decree on Timber and Non-Timber Forest Products Allowed for Export and Import (2006);

B.2.d Institutional Context

88. The key government ministries and agencies that play a critical role in addressing environmental management include:

89. The **Ministry of Environment (MOE)** is the national environment authority in Cambodia. It was established in 1993 and it is responsible for environmental protection and natural resource management in the country.

90. The **Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)** has an extensive network of staff at the national, provincial, district and commune levels. The Forestry Administration (FA) has the mandate for the management of Protected and Community Forests. Given this broad mandate, there is substantial overlap with MOE in the perception of functions and responsibilities. It is noteworthy that the 2006-2010 Strategic Agriculture Development Plan formulated by this Ministry does not take climate change adaptation or mitigation into account.

91. The **Ministry of Women Affairs (MOWA)** is responsible for leading and managing activities concerning empowering and promotion of women in all social aspects, in particular gender equality.

92. The **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MOEYS)** has the mission of leading, managing and developing the Education, Youth and Sport sector in Cambodia in responding to the socio-economic and cultural development needs of its people and the reality of regionalization and globalization.

93. The **Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MOWRAM)** has the responsibility of observing and managing all activities related to water resources and meteorology development and natural disasters.

94. The **Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction** is responsible for the formulation of development plans and land use plans at the national and sub-national levels.

95. The **Ministry of Mines and Energy** is responsible for leading and managing mine and energy including oil, gas and electricity.

96. The **Ministry of Industry and Handicraft** is responsible for leading and managing the industry and handicrafts sectors in Cambodia.

97. The **Ministry of Public Works and Transportation** is responsible for the construction of roads and infrastructure such as bridges and ports.

98. The **Ministry of Rural Development** is responsible for: i) supplying small-scale water supply infrastructure to households; ii) primary health care; and iii) small-scale infrastructure in the rural areas in Cambodia.

99. The **Ministry of Health** is responsible for the development of the health sector for better health and well-being of Cambodians and thus contributes to poverty alleviation and socioeconomic development. The Health Strategic Plan (2008-2015) of the MOH does not consider climate change impacts.

100. The **Ministry of Tourism** aims to preserve the scenic beauty and natural resources of Cambodia.

101. The **National Committee for Disaster Management**, which was established in 1995, is an inter-ministerial body chaired by the Prime Minister. The members of the committee are drawn from all concerned ministries and the armed forces. NCDM plays a key role in disaster management, working both on disaster risk reduction/prevention and response preparedness.

102. The **Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC)** is the principle contact between the government and all donor countries, organizations and NGOs working in Cambodia. This Council was established by the “*Law on Foreign Investment in the Kingdom of Cambodia*” of 1994. This law made the CDC the highest decision-making level of the government for private and public sector investment. It is chaired by the Prime Minister and composed of senior ministers from related government agencies. It is also the government entity responsible for the development of the NSDP.

103. The **APSARA Authority** is responsible for directing the management and tourism development, concerning the zoning and management of Siem Reap/Angkor. It also acts, with the Ministries concerned, as an umbrella organization over the establishments responsible for the administration and the management of the region of Siem Reap province.

104. The **Tonle Sap Authority** is in charge of facilitation and coordination in management, conservation and development of Tonle Sap Lake. This authority is under direct management of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

105. The **Mekong River Commission**, which was established in 1995, is responsible for sustainable management and development of water and related resources in the Mekong river. This commission works with concerned governmental agencies and the regional partners along the river.

106. Additionally, to ensure a more effective and successful implementation of sustainable development related programmes, the government has established a few cross sectoral national committees, including:

- a. **National Climate Change Committee (NCCC)**: it was established in 2006 and chaired by MOE with the Prime Minister as honorary chair. The NCCC serves as a policymaking body (comprising policy-makers from 19 ministries), which coordinates the development and implementation of plans, policies and measures to address climate change risks across Cambodia. Its membership includes only government agencies. As such, the NCCC is the focal point for all climate change-related engagement within Cambodia. A Climate Change

Technical Team (CCTT) was established as an inter-ministerial body to provide technical support to the NCCC.

- b. **Cambodia Climate Change Department (CCCD), Ministry of Environment:** it was created in 2003 and serves as a secretariat for the NCCC. The CCCD has the mandate to implement the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol by creating an enabling environment for effective climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- c. **National Biodiversity Steering Committee (NBSC):** The Inter-ministerial Biodiversity Steering Committee and a National Secretariat for Biodiversity have been established on April 3, 2001 to coordinate the implementation of the NBSAP, including monitoring, reviewing and reporting as well as providing recommendations for NBSAP revision.
- d. **National Green Growth Council (NGGC):** it was established in October 2012 and it is chaired by MOE and the Prime Minister is the honorary Chair. This Council ensures coordination between different arms of government and it can also help remove constraints on investments to green projects and result in a better chance of success and increased green growth opportunities. It is noted that in the context of its institutional strengthening programme, the government plans to review its committee and council structure and may merge the NCCC with the NGGC and possibly other committees into the Sustainable Development Council.

107. In addition to government entities, civil society groups and organizations have also an instrumental role and responsibilities in environmental management in Cambodia; particularly in enhancing involvement of local communities. According to a government study on aid effectiveness conducted in 2010, NGOs provide or manage almost a quarter of all aid that is delivered to Cambodia with the greater share of this aid distributed at the sub-national level. This study identified about 450 local NGOs and 316 international NGOs; however, other estimates put the total number of NGOs operating in Cambodia at over 3,000. The top three sectors in which these NGOs implement programmes are respectively agriculture, health and education; given that over a third of NGO disbursements are used to implement public health programmes. According to this same study, it was noted that the funding of NGO activities in “*Environment and Conservation*” in Cambodia is relatively low. It was estimated at about USD 7M for the period 2008-2009 over a total of over USD 203M, that is about 3.4%⁷.

108. Nevertheless, there are NGOs intervening in the management and conservation of the environment in Cambodia. Some of the key ones include:

- a. **Fauna & Flora International (FFI):** It is an international conservation innovator that continues to make a lasting impact on global biodiversity – the variety of life on Earth. It has built strong relationships with the government of Cambodia over the past 13 years. FFI assists the national authorities in building up their institutional capacity and in developing environmental policies and legislation. FFI’s field activities focus on community engagement and empowerment, law enforcement, bio-monitoring and research related to biodiversity.
- b. **IUCN:** The IUCN Cambodia project office is part of the Southeast Asia Group under the umbrella of the global IUCN. Occasional technical support to the country programme is provided through regional and international experts based in various IUCN offices, e.g. in ARO, Bangkok and in IUCN headquarters in Switzerland. IUCN Cambodia focuses on three core program themes: (1) Protected Areas; (2) Governance; and (3) Sustainable Financing.
- c. **WWF:** It was established in Cambodia in 1995. As a part of the WWF Greater Mekong Programme, WWF-Cambodia is one of 4 country offices coordinating conservation efforts across Indochina, including Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam. Its mission in Cambodia is to ensure that there will be strong participation and support from all people to

⁷ Cooperation Committee for Cambodia, *NGO Contributions to Cambodia’s Development 2004-2009*.

conserve the country’s rich biological diversity, while enhancing local livelihoods and contributing to poverty reduction in Cambodia.

- d. **Conservation International (CI):** Building upon a strong foundation of science, partnership and field demonstration, CI empowers societies to responsibly and sustainably care for nature, our global biodiversity, for the well-being of humanity. Since 2008, CI has been working to ensure that Tonle Sap Lake and its floodplain remain a healthy freshwater ecosystem able to support Cambodia’s people, wildlife and economy.
- e. **Live and Learn:** Live & Learn supports communities across the Asia-Pacific region to overcome the many challenges they face, whether that is violence against women, deforestation, limited incomes and savings, or other constraints. Vulnerability to natural disasters is posing an ever-increasing risk to communities and it recently became a focus for the Live & Learn network to strengthen community resilience.
- f. **Birdlife:** BirdLife International in Indochina seeks to promote the conservation of habitats, sites and species by working with government and non-government partners to: (i) Provide support for improved planning and management of important habitats, sites and species; (ii) Introduce and advocate new ideas for integrating biodiversity conservation into planning and policy; (iii) Stimulate greater public interest in birds and biodiversity, and awareness of the need for biodiversity conservation; (iv) Develop capacity for improved management of habitat, sites and species; and (v) Provide information on biodiversity and protected areas to planners, policy makers and other interest groups.
- g. **WCS:** The Wildlife Conservation Society, founded in 1895, has the clear mission to save wildlife and wild places across the globe. Their story began in the early 1900’s when they successfully helped the American bison recover on the Western Plains. Today, they protect many of the world’s iconic creatures in the US and abroad, including gorillas in the Congo, tigers in India, wolverines in the Yellowstone Rockies, and ocean giants in the world’s amazing seascapes. WCS has been working alongside the Cambodian government since the late 1990s to conserve the unique ecosystem of the Tonle Sap lake and floodplain, WCS currently supports two conservation projects that are protecting key species in the lake’s flooded forest and greater floodplain.
- h. **Wildlife Alliance:** Wildlife Alliance’s comprehensive approach to environmental conservation is to work directly with habitats and communities to protect, preserve, and provide. Wildlife Alliance’s focus is on direct action on the ground and direct access to the people actually performing the everyday tasks, to preserve habitats, conserve the environment, and alleviate poverty. It uses a comprehensive holistic approach to combat the drivers of environmental destruction in the tropical belt. Its forest programs tackle forest degradation and diminishing biodiversity in the wild; its community programs empower local people towards sustainable practices and incomes; its wildlife programs protect and care for endangered and trafficked animals; its education programs help bolster its conservation work in the long term; its advocacy programs coordinate its efforts with policy and decision makers both nationally and internationally.
- i. **ERECON:** The Institute of Environment Rehabilitation and Conservation - called ERECON - is a non-profit international organization established in April 2000. ERECON aims to contribute to the sustainable use of natural resources in Asian countries. Therefore, the organization pursues the environment rehabilitation and conservation as well as the environmental education for the harmony between agriculture and urban development and the natural environment.
- j. **RECOFTC:** The Center for People and Forests is an international organization with a vision of local communities actively managing forests in Asia and the Pacific to ensure optimal social, economic, and environmental benefits. Its strategy is a pro-poor approach to building capacity for community forestry in Asia and the Pacific.

- k. **The NGO Forum on Cambodia:** It is a membership organization that builds NGO cooperation and capacity, supporting NGO networks and other civil society organizations to engage in policy dialogue, debate and advocacy. It was established in the early 1980s by international NGOs and has had full Cambodian leadership since 2006. It focuses on development issues, land and livelihood and environment. In this sector, the NGO Forum intervenes in climate change awareness, alternative energy, agriculture and forestry.

109. The project will be executed by MOE. It will benefit from the key role of MOE in environmental management in Cambodia. It will provide a necessary communication and coordination mechanism for implementing project activities.

B.2.e Barriers to Achieving Global Environmental Objectives

110. As described in Section B.2.a, Cambodia assessed its own capacities and capacity development needs to address the requirements of the three conventions through the NCSA. It focused on issues and concerns within its jurisdiction to address Cambodia’s obligations under the three conventions. It was a national assessment of Cambodian capacities undertaken by the government of Cambodia and done by Cambodians. The assessment was cross-cutting across the three Rio Conventions (climate change, biodiversity and land degradation) and was conducted at 3 levels: i) systemic capacity, or creation of an “enabling environment” – the overall policy, economic, regulatory and accountability frameworks within which institutions and individuals operate and the relationships between institutions, both formal and informal; ii) institutional (or organizational) capacity – the overall organizational performance and functioning capabilities or organizations as well as their abilities to adapt to change; and iii) individual capacity – the process of changing attitudes and behaviors, usually through imparting knowledge and developing skills through training (learning by doing, participating, owning, being motivated, accountable, responsible, and managing better).

111. This extensive assessment identified thematic environmental issues. These thematic issues were then reviewed together across the three thematic areas and crosscutting capacity constraints were identified as well as ways to address these constraints and effectively promote linkages and synergies across the conventions and meet their respective requirements obligated by the Parties.

112. Thematically, the assessment identified the following environmental issues⁸:

Climate change

- a. Altered patterns of rainfall and monsoons and sea level rise can affect coastal fisheries and farming in Cambodia;
- b. Sea level rise can lead to increased salt water intrusion into inland water tables and this can affect the freshwater supply (and farming practices) in the country;
- c. Climate change can alter drought regimes and is expected to lead to more frequent and more severe weather events and to the resurgence of certain pests and diseases. These put Cambodian agriculture, food security, economy and society at risk and vulnerable to serious harm.

Land degradation

- a. Land degradation can have major economic, social and political impacts in Cambodia where 80% of the population is dependent on agriculture for income and subsistence;
- b. Land degradation is most severe in coastal areas and in the border with Vietnam. Kampong Speu is experiencing widespread loss of soil fertility;
- c. Siem Reap has widening sandy soils;
- d. Svay Rieng is experiencing acidic soil while in Kampot the soil is increasingly becoming saline.

⁸ Ministry of Environment, February 2007, *Thematic Assessments and Action Plan for the Three Conventions: UN-CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD to Contribute to the Poverty Alleviation*.

Biodiversity conservation

- a. Cambodia’s losing its unique and valuable pool of genetic resources, many of which are found in this general area of mainland Southeast Asia and nowhere else in the world (e.g., the Kouprey (*Bos sauveli*, Javan rhinoceros, Siamese crocodile);
- b. Cambodia’s forests are unique in that they are among the last remaining fringes of the dipterocarp forest biome in Asia. Forest covers still remained more than 11 million ha (61% in 2003);
- c. The genetic resources of the country, spread across over 3.3 M ha of protected areas nationwide, could prove valuable in a world that is just now expanding its biotechnological industries for agriculture, pharmaceuticals, and veterinary products.

113. In addition to these thematic environmental issues, the cross-cutting analysis identified five cross-cutting capacity issues; they included:

- a. The capacity to develop and execute strategies to engage different sectors on addressing environmental issues in all levels of government in the country; this involves mustering a nationwide effort to arrest environmental degradation and to improve the quality of the environment;
- b. The capacity to stabilize population fluxes in all areas of the country; this includes widening livelihood opportunities for the poor to stabilize migration and mobility rates across Cambodia; this includes as well intensifying efforts to deliver reproductive health services to vulnerable mothers and infants in order to stabilize the fertility and mortality rates among the poor;
- c. The capacity to develop clear procedures, systems and tools on forming environmental policies and on selecting natural resources management strategies; this includes generating and updating data and information on environmental systems and on sharing them with different users and decision makers.
- d. The capacity to stimulate the build-up of local capital and investments (e.g., venture capital, endowment funds, securities) to support environmental initiatives and resource regeneration in the country;
- e. The capacity to procure support to build up the 4 preceding capacities.

114. These crosscutting capacity issues are the justification of this project. These issues are common barriers to the management of all environmental areas in Cambodia at both national and sub-national levels. The project will particularly address the management of environmental information and the access and use of this information for improving policy and decision-making; it will, therefore, focus more on the third issue but also will contribute to improve the barriers under issues #1 and #4.

C. Programme and policy conformity

C.1 GEF Programme Designation and Conformity

115. The GEF strategy for Cross-Cutting Capacity Development (CCCD) projects serves to provide resources for reducing, if not eliminating, the institutional bottlenecks and barriers to the synergistic implementation of the Rio Conventions. This particular project is in line with the GEF-5 CCCD Programme Frameworks two (2) and four (4), which calls for countries (2) to generate, access and use information and knowledge and (4). It is also aligned with the first objective of GEF6 that is to integrate global environmental needs into management information systems (MIS). Through a learning-by-doing process, this project will harmonize existing information systems, and integrate internationally accepted

measurement standards and methodologies, as well as consistent reporting on the global environment. It will target the development of capacities at the individual and organizational level, strengthening technical skills to manage data and transform this information into knowledge. The project will also support activities to strengthen the coordination between key sectors to address biodiversity, climate change and land degradation issues at systemic and institutional levels.

116. The project has two outcomes that are (1) to improve access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions; and (2) to improve the use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions. The project will develop skills and knowledge of staff at MOE and MAFF to research, acquire, organize and store environmental information. Through the provision of better environmental information, the project will also increase the capacity of national and sub-national levels’ stakeholders and counterparts to diagnose and understand complex dynamic nature of global environmental problems and develop local solutions. Through workshops and training activities, the project will raise the awareness of decision-makers on environmental matters and the need for strengthening the environmental governance system in place in Cambodia.

117. The project will also enhance the mechanisms within MOE and the skills of the staff and key stakeholders to improve the use of this environmental information/knowledge. As a result, it is expected that the staff within MOE and key stakeholders will have a greater capacity to assess the state of the environment and report the implementation status of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia as well as participating to international dialogues in these areas.

118. At the same time, the project will support the financing of national campaign for raising environmental awareness and the financing of environmental education activities. The project will focus on the harmonization of environmental information management systems in Cambodia and the use of this knowledge for better policy- and decision-making related to the management of the environment.

119. As part of the GEF CCCD programme, it does not lend itself readily to programme indicators, such as improving the estimation of greenhouse gas emissions, reducing the percentage of people to the impact of climate change, or percentage increase of protected areas containing endangered endemic species. Instead, CCCD projects are measured by output, process, and performance indicators that are proxies to the framework indicators of improved capacities for the global environment. To this end, CCCD projects – this one included - look to strengthen crosscutting capacities in the five major areas of stakeholder engagement, information and knowledge, policy and legislation development, management and implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. In order to help GEF funded projects to monitor the development of capacities in the environment, UNDP, UNEP and GEF developed a scorecard to measure the development of capacities. It is a tool that attempts to quantify a qualitative process of capacity change through the use of appropriate indicators and their corresponding ratings. This tool is recommended to be used at three stages in a project life: design, mid-term and at end of project life. This scorecard was completed for this project at this stage (design) to establish a baseline (*See Annex 2*).

120. As detailed in the Results Framework presented in Annex 3, a set of indicators was identified to measure progress against the objective and outcomes. The results of the scorecard discussed in the previous paragraph are one indicator used to measure progress at the objective level. Two other indicators were identified at this level, mostly measuring the quality of the products delivered with the support of the project. A total of 13 indicators were identified to measure progress at the objective and outcomes level. For each indicator, a baseline was set as well as a target at the end of the project.

121. This project is a response to the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) conducted in Cambodia during the period 2005-2006. It will address some of key priority actions such as better use of environmental information in decision-making and policy-making, better coordination, mainstreaming environmental management into national policies, plans and programmes and development of the national negotiation capacities to advance Cambodian national interest on environmental matters in international fora. By improving the access to environmental information, the project should also contribute in addressing the need for Cambodia to better report to the international Conventions.

122. This project will implement capacity development activities through an adaptive collaborative management approach to engage stakeholders as collaborators in the design and implementation of project activities that take into account unintended consequences arising from policy interventions.

123. The project is also consistent with the programmatic objectives of the three GEF thematic focal areas of biodiversity, climate change and land degradation, the achievement and sustainability of which is dependent on the critical development of capacities (individual, organizational and systemic). The implementation of this project will leverage individual, institutional and systemic capacities to improving environment knowledge and information generation, management and sharing at the national and sub-national levels with all key environment stakeholders. As a result, Cambodia will have a greater capacity to manage and use environmental information/knowledge for better decision-making related to the environment; and also to improve the quality of national reports to MEAs.

124. Through the successful implementation of this project, the 11 operational principles of capacity development identified in the GEF Strategic Approach to Capacity Building will be implemented in Cambodia. Table 1 below summarizes the project’s conformity with these operational principles.

Table 1: Conformity with GEF Capacity Development Operational Principles

Capacity Development Operational Principle	Project Conformity
Ensure national ownership and leadership	Climate change impacts on the environment and more generally on the agriculture and biodiversity-based livelihoods of people in Cambodia is becoming a key priority for the government and also for donors. Better environmental knowledge is necessary for stakeholders to address key environmental issues. The timing of this project is excellent; it comes at a time when national leaders are looking for support in these areas. Hence, the project enjoys already a good national ownership with an excellent leadership from the BD of the GSSD/MOE.
Ensure multi-stakeholder consultations and decision-making	The project will use multi-stakeholder and expert consultative reviews or analyses towards the harmonization of environmental information and the use of this knowledge. Project implementation will take an adaptive collaborative management approach, which includes stakeholder representatives in the project decision-making structures. As described in section B.2.d, many institutions will be involved in the project. Through a project steering committee and the technical team established under this project, stakeholders at the national and sub-national levels will be engaged and consulted to oversee the implementation of the project.
Base capacity building efforts in self-needs assessment	The findings from the NCSA include the need to improve the capacity to develop clear procedures, systems and tools on forming environmental policies and on selecting natural resources management strategies. It includes the need for generating and updating data and information on environmental systems and on sharing them with different users and decision makers. Finally, it also includes the capacity to develop and execute strategies to engage different sectors on addressing environmental issues. The project is designed in such a way that it will support capacity development activities to address these needs.
Adopt a holistic approach to capacity building	The overall approach of the project to develop capacities will be holistic. It will proceed based on a review of crosscutting capacity gaps and then it will address these gaps at all levels: individual, institutional and systemic level. Necessary training will be provided, mechanisms within institutions and across institutions will be reviewed and improved as necessary and finally the enabling environment will

Capacity Development Operational Principle	Project Conformity
	also be reviewed to ensure it provides adequate policy and legislation frameworks to support the project achievements.
Integrate capacity building in wider sustainable development efforts	As a result of strengthening the process of harmonizing environmental information and better using this knowledge by decision-makers, environmental matters will be better integrated in national sustainable development. The capacity development approach of the project will contribute to mainstreaming these project supported capacity development activities within the sustainable development agenda of Cambodia.
Promote partnerships	By its very nature – focusing on the Rio Conventions that are under the responsibility of two ministries (MOE and MAFF) - this project requires collaboration and coordination among Cambodia’s government ministries and agencies and also among civil society organizations as well as local and indigenous communities. Partnering with all stakeholders will be a critical success factor of the project and will be promoted as needed.
Accommodate the dynamic nature of capacity building	The project’s management arrangements include a multi-disciplinary and multi-sectorial steering committee and a technical support team (members drawn from the broad based steering committee) to guide and oversee the implementation of the project. Members will be drawn from key public and civil society sectors. Additionally, the management team will use adaptive management as a management tool to provide flexibility in the implementation of the project. It is well recognized that this type of projects needs to be flexible and to adapt as needed when national context/realities change. This project will be implemented with the recognition that capacity development is a dynamic process.
Adopt a learning-by-doing approach	The core of project’s capacity development activities is via a learning-by-doing approach. Government representatives and other stakeholders will be involved in the collaborative review, analysis for the formulation of recommendations for the various sectoral analyses and the implementation of project activities.
Combine programmatic and project-based approaches	This project takes a bottom-up and top-down approach to Rio Convention mainstreaming. This project effectively began with the NCSA, which was a bottom-up approach to develop a National Capacity Development Strategy. Using the Rio Convention provisions as the analytic framework for the sectoral analyses, recommendations were made to harmonize environmental information management systems and improve the use of this knowledge in Cambodia, as key area to strengthen environmental management in the country and which by extension would provide global environmental benefits. The project is part of a government programme to improve environmental management – including environmental governance - in Cambodia.
Combine process as well as product-based approaches	The project strategy is to support a change to reach two main expected results; environmental management information systems in Cambodia that are better harmonized and this environmental knowledge that is better used by any people who are in need and decision-makers. These two results will be the main products that will be developed with the support of the project. In order to achieve these results, most activities that will be supported by the project will be process-based but they

Capacity Development Operational Principle	Project Conformity
	will also be combined with the delivery of products such as databases, environmental information management systems, training syllabuses, etc.
Promote regional approaches	The project will partner with related on-going and upcoming GEF projects implemented at national level, including regional projects and project achievements will be disseminated in the region through various existing regional networks.

C.1.a Guidance from the Rio Conventions

125. Cambodia is committed to meet its obligations under the MEAs that it is a Party to. Among these obligations, there are capacity development needs that are required for Parties to be able to implement the Rio Conventions nationally and contribute to global environmental benefits. A summary of these capacity development requirements is presented in the table below.

126. The proposed project is intended to facilitate an important step towards developing the capacities for an effective national environmental management framework by focusing on developing the national capacity to harmonize environmental information management systems in Cambodia and also to improve the use of this environmental knowledge by decision-makers. It will address several shared obligations under the three Rio Conventions, which call for countries to strengthen their national capacities for effective national environmental management systems. It will particularly address a set of Rio Convention articles that call for improving information management and knowledge and improving environmental governance to address global environmental issues (See second and third types of capacity in table below).

Table 2: Capacity Development Requirements of the Rio Conventions

Type of Capacity	Convention Requirements	UNFCCC	UN-CBD	UNCCD
Stakeholder Engagement	Capacities of relevant individuals and organizations (resource users, owners, consumers, community and political leaders, private and public sector managers and experts) to engage proactively and constructively with one another to manage a global environmental issue.	Article 4 Article 6	Article 10 Article 11 Article 13 Article 14	Article 5 Article 9 Article 10 Article 19
Information Management and Knowledge	Capacities of individuals and organizations to research, acquire, communicate, educate and make use of pertinent information to be able to diagnose and understand global environmental problems and potential solutions.	Article 4 Article 5 Article 6	Article 7 Article 8 Article 9 Article 10 Article 12 Article 14 Article 17 Article 18 Article 26	Article 9 Article 10 Article 16 Article 26
Environmental Governance	Capacities of individuals and organizations to enact environmental policies or regulatory decisions, as well as plan and execute relevant sustainable global environmental management actions and solutions.	Article 4	Article 6 Article 14 Article 19 Article 22	Article 4 Article 5 Article 8 Article 9 Article 10

Type of Capacity	Convention Requirements	UNFCCC	UN-CBD	UNCCD
Organizational Capacities	Capacities of individuals and organizations to plan and develop effective environmental policy and legislation, related strategies, and plans based on informed decision-making processes for global environmental management.	Article 4 Article 6	Article 8 Article 9 Article 12 Article 14 Article 16 Article 17 Article 18	Article 4 Article 5 Article 8 Article 11 Article 12 Article 13 Article 17 Article 18 Article 19
Monitoring and Evaluation	Capacities in individuals and organizations to effectively monitor and evaluate project and/or programme achievements against expected results and to provide feedback for learning, adaptive management and suggesting adjustments to the course of action if necessary to conserve and preserve the global environment.	Article 6 Article 12	Article 7 Article 8 Article 14 Article 19 Article 26	Article 10 Article 16 Article 26

127. As a project focusing on crosscutting issues, the implementation process will also contribute to the development of other capacities in addition to the environmental information management and use of this knowledge. The project will contribute to improve stakeholder engagement through a participative approach to implement the project; will provide better information to policy-makers; and use this knowledge to better report to international environmental agreements. As per the table above, this project will contribute to the development of these five types of capacities and increase the capacity of Cambodia in meeting its obligations under the MEAs that it is a Party to.

C.2 Project Design

C.2.a GEF Alternative

C.2.a.1 Project Rationale

128. This project takes an incremental approach from a GEF construct towards strengthening Cambodia’s environmental information management and knowledge to meet Rio Convention objectives. In the absence of this project, the necessary capacity building to address the environment data needs of GSSD/MOE will remain an outstanding need at the national level. It would prevent Cambodia to achieve global environmental benefits through better environmental information and knowledge. Government staff would remain insufficiently equipped and knowledgeable about how to harmonize environmental management information systems and how to use it for better practices and decision-making. More generally, they would also remain insufficiently knowledgeable to fully understand the implications of global environmental directives under the conferences of the parties on national environmental and development policies, and how these directives can be strategically implemented and supported through existing national information systems.

129. From an external funding point of view, the objectives pursued by the current project alternative will not be attained in the baseline at this point in time. The baseline (status quo) would prevent Cambodia to achieve global environmental benefits through better environmental knowledge, which by extension should improve the environmental management framework in Cambodia such as better coordination, better decision and ultimately better policies; and no other projects will address these issues. Other current funded activities funded by the GEF and other donors are more thematically focused on the implementation of a particular convention such as the national communication for UNFCCC or the support to prepare the

national biodiversity strategy and action plan for the UN-CBD or the strengthening of protected areas in Cambodia. Most of these projects are not fully addressing cross-sectoral issues (also called horizontal issues) such as environmental governance, stakeholder engagement and monitoring the implementation of Rio Conventions.

130. Cambodia would continue to govern its environment through the existing environmental knowledge base with mixed results. While these results would still provide some global environmental benefits, they would do so at a lower level and at a higher transaction cost than through the proposed GEF Alternative. The main barriers to meeting and sustaining global environmental outcomes in Cambodia are described in section B.2.e.

131. Addressing these horizontal issues need reforming procedures and protocols, developing an enabling environment, and developing capacity of institutions and staff to perform their revised expected duties. The government has limited resources and has currently other top priorities such as battling with socio-economic development to ensure a minimum level of human livelihood of its people. Support of an international partner such as GEF to undertake this major reform in a timely fashion is needed.

132. Under the GEF Alternative, the GEF resources will allow Cambodia to address this long outstanding environmental information need within GSSD/MOE. This GEF support is crucial to assist the government of Cambodia in this important area at the country level. Barriers identified through the NCSA process will be thoroughly re-assessed and effective and efficient solutions to address those related to the availability of environmental information will be detailed and implemented with the support of the project. Overall, the expected outcomes of this project rely in its innovative and transformative approach to mainstream the Rio Conventions obligations within the existing national environmental governance framework. This project will test the assumption that by harmonizing the environmental management information systems, better environmental knowledge will be available to decision-makers in Cambodia and by extension will provide a better enabling environment, which in turn will deliver greater global environmental achievements.

133. It is the government of Cambodia’s intent to harmonize its environmental management information systems, which is a perfect opportunity/entry point to mainstream global environment issues in the national development framework through better environmental information, hence for GEF to step in and complement the baseline. The allocation of the GEF increment and the government co-financing of project activities, demonstrate the proposed partnership. It will complement the baseline and strengthen the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia. The project will improve Cambodia’s environmental information base and the use of this knowledge for decision-making.

134. Considering the issues rose during the NCSA process, the nature of this project is the logical way to go forward and address these main issues. A limited coordination capacity and a limited access to environmental knowledge are critical barriers to good environmental management and good environmental decision-making in Cambodia. The NCSA process included consultations with a broad group of stakeholders whom participated actively. The results pointed to the need for harmonizing environmental management information systems and the need to better use this environmental knowledge. It was viewed as critical barriers for a better holistic environmental management approach in the country and also to address the global environmental management commitments made by Cambodia.

135. The expected global environmental results of the current project proposal is that Cambodia’s decision-making process to meet Rio Convention objectives will be greatly improved by having access to more complete, relevant and updated environmental knowledge. The project will be implemented through the participation of stakeholders in environmental information management and the sustainability of project achievements will be greatly enhanced by the strong support of key stakeholder groups and their representatives at the appropriate government level.

C.2.a.2 Project Goal and Objectives

136. In order to address the issues presented above, a project has been designed over a period of 3 years in consultation with key stakeholders. A set of expected results has been identified (see the Project Results

Framework in Annex 3) and is described below. This project will address the critical need to provide better environmental knowledge in Cambodia. This is a timely response to address this priority, particularly when considering the emerging issues due to global climate change. The provision of better environmental knowledge will be useful for stakeholders to identify responses to threats including negative impacts of global climate change on the local environment, which is the basis of livelihoods, human health and economy in Cambodia. It will also contribute to the broader institutional strengthening initiative of MOE, currently underway.

137. Every effort will be made to incorporate gender issues in the implementation of this project. Roles of men and women to participate in activities of the project will be equally assigned without any discrimination. The project will take steps to ensure that women account for at least 40% of all training and capacity building in the project. Moreover, the project will strengthen data management – gender segregation of data collection and data management will be introduced as a basis for ensuring long-term gender benefits.

138. *The goal of this project is to improve the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia through the development of national capacities to better coordinate and generate better information related to the implementation of these Conventions.* The proposed project will develop crosscutting capacity to respond to the needs of the three conventions; particularly the reporting requirements. During the project implementation, the coordination and information generation capacities of the focal points established by the government will be enhanced. For example, improved access and generation of information will help to fill the data and information gaps required to guide planning and implementation of activities that yield global environmental benefits as exemplified in low-emission and climate resiliency e.g. REDD+ while at the same time sets out to meet the objectives under all three Rio Conventions through improved decision making.

139. *The project's objective is to improve access to environmental information related to the Rio Conventions through the harmonization of existing environmental management information systems and improving coordination of the implementation of these conventions in Cambodia.* The harmonization of these existing systems will be translated into better access to information related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia. As a result, the project will lead to both direct and indirect global benefits. It will include the decision-making process to meet Rio Convention objectives, which will be greatly improved by having better access to more complete and relevant information.

140. It will also include innovation to set up a network of enhanced information exchange, dialogue and cooperation between the state agencies and other civil society stakeholders. With the greatly improved information generated and accessible, this will provide the basis for better monitoring the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia, and be an input into planning and design of other development activities across the country. Improved management of forest under the REDD+, for example, will provide global environmental benefits in lowering greenhouse gas emission levels.

C.2.a.3 Expected Outcomes and Outputs

141. The expected achievements of this project are a set of improved capacities⁹ to meet and sustain Rio Convention objectives. This project will have strengthened and helped institutionalize commitments under the Rio Conventions by supporting mechanisms that generate information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions, by improving access to and promoting the use of this information for better decision-making. The project will achieve these outcomes by focusing on ways and means to enhance synergies among the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia. It will also strengthen the capacity of Cambodians to communicate

⁹ Capacity is defined in the NCSA report as ‘capability + commitment’ whereby ‘capability’ is having (a) the human resources to do the tasks relevant to the obligations, and (b) the financial resources to sufficiently defray the costs related to doing the tasks; and ‘commitment’ is having the (a) organizations that have the legal mandate and leaderships to address the thematic concerns of the conventions, and (b) a public support in Cambodia for addressing the concerns.

and report on the implementation of these conventions, while ensuring that gender issues are taken into account. The Strategic Results Framework on which the intervention logic is based is outlined in Annex 3 of this Inception Report.

142. The Strategic Results Framework as well as the outputs and activities under the two outcomes were revised having in mind the GEF “Theory of Change” approach. This approach focuses on explaining the process of change by outlining causal linkages in an initiative: its shorter-term, intermediate, and longer-term outcomes. When used at the emergence of a project concept, the “Theory of Change” defines long-term goals and then maps backward to identify the necessary preconditions to reach these goals. The identified changes are mapped –as the “outcomes pathway” – showing each outcome in logical relationship to all the others, as well as chronological flow. The innovation of this approach lies (1) in making the distinction between desired and actual outcomes, and (2) in requiring stakeholders to model their desired outcomes before they decide on forms of intervention to achieve those outcomes. It is expected that implementation of the outcomes and the associated outputs and activities will enable Cambodia to reach the project’s objective.

143. This Framework also outlines the indicators, sources of verification and risks and assumptions pertaining to the project objective and outcomes.

144. The implementation of the project will achieve two expected outcomes:

- I. Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions; and
- II. Improved use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions.

Outcome 1: Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions.

145. Under this outcome, the project will support the establishment of user-friendly, easily accessible environmental information management systems suitable to the three Rio Conventions and relevant to other related global and regional agreements. In the process, the project will develop national capacities to generate effectively, efficiently and in a timely manner sufficient data/information and tools of relevance to the 3 Rio Conventions, and facilitate access to this information, in line with the ‘Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity’. In parallel to this, the project will support the strengthening of Cambodia’s capacity to better engage stakeholders and better coordinate the implementation of the Rio Conventions in the country. The GEF will support activities to achieve the following expected outputs:

Output 1.1: An efficient and effective information management system covering the three Rio Conventions

146. The project will support activities to inventory and assess information management systems in Cambodia and develop options for the design and operationalization of system(s) that will fulfill the needs of the Rio Conventions in the most effective and efficient way. The options will include, among others, the assessment of data needs, data collection and storage protocols, reporting formats, data storage mechanisms, data access mechanisms and tools to manage, process and give data access. They will include the review of monitoring indicators. The main aim under this output is to bring together and provide an easy access to information and tools on the implementation of the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia.

Main Activities:

147. The project will support the following main activities:

1.1.1: Conduct an inventory of existing information management systems of relevance to the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia.

This inventory will provide a list of information management systems of relevance to the three Rio Conventions with the names, locations and activities of the national, regional and international institutions or agencies using the systems to manage information about Cambodia. Agencies/institutions will include the ones that generate, collect, collate, store, analyze, synthesize and disseminate information on climate change, biodiversity, desertification/land degradation and drought in Cambodia, including not only

environmental/ ecological/biological information but also the associated legal and socioeconomic information; and including not only scientific data but also traditional and citizen’s knowledge of relevance to the three Rio Conventions. Rules and protocols/procedures for accessing the knowledge of local communities and minority ethnic groups will be documented. The list will also include information on how these management systems are working and will be as comprehensive as possible.

1.1.2: Assess these systems to identify overlaps and gaps in fulfilling the coherent and integrated implementation and reporting needs of the three Rio Conventions, and evaluate the complementarity and synergies of these systems as well as their effectiveness and efficiency in generating and facilitating access and use of information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia.

This assessment will include an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats/constraints, paying particular attention to the financial, human, technological and institutional (including existing laws, regulations and policies that govern information) capacities and needs in Cambodia, and bearing in mind the findings in the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) report. The procedure used in the NCSA (procedure referred to as “triangulation” in rapid appraisals with the following sources and processes: (i) a desktop assessment, (ii) interviews and focused group discussions conducted in relevant agencies and organizations, and (iii) stakeholders’ workshops and validation held in different parts of the country¹⁰), which proved successful and is now familiar with all the stakeholders in the country, will be used for this assessment and the other assessments in the project.

1.1.3: Select the most appropriate systems and identify ways and means to upgrade them, as needed, to optimize their effectiveness and efficiency. Alternatively, design one or a few information management systems having the desired characteristics, building on the most appropriate systems

This activity will require

- (a) expertise in information technology and information management systems;
- (b) defining the desired characteristics of the information management system including the types of information technology architecture (e.g. server, hardware, software) to use, and the norms, standards (e.g. sampling standards, geo-referenced standards and data exchange standards)¹¹ and procedures for managing information, as much as possible in line with international requirements. Norms, standards etc. will be developed through consultation and agreement with stakeholders; they will then be submitted for Government endorsement;
- (c) interacting/involving/collaborating with the owners of the selected information management systems to assess with them the feasibility of the ways and means to upgrade their systems;
- (d) human capacity development through training and, as needed, investments in hardware and software required for upgrading the systems, designing new ones and operating them.

1.1.4: Test the information management systems selected or designed under activity 1.1.3 for their suitability to all three Rio Conventions, and their effectiveness and efficiency in generating, disseminating and facilitating access and use of relevant information and tools, in communicating

¹⁰ In general, desk studies will involve a review of documents (reports, publications, data bases etc.) and will be carried out by teams composed of experts mainly from government agencies, the academia, and relevant UN programmes (in particular UNDP) and local and international organizations; interviews and focused group discussions (FGDs) will be done by the PMU team with selected officials and technical staff of relevant agencies, organizations, and will also serve to validate (correct, modify, revise, support) the findings from the desktop study; and the stakeholders’ workshops and validation will review and modify the outputs of the FGDs as needed.

¹¹ IPBES notes in its “Guide on production and integration of assessments from and across all scales” that data that comply with a standard have the same format and meaning (syntax and semantics) and so can be integrated with other data, for example in data portals, and data will be more easily accessed and widely used, allowing analyses that can be more robust.

key messages, and catalyzing integrated, coordinated and coherent reporting on the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia.

The testing of information management systems entails in particular the identification of and agreement on indicators of success, the regular/frequent monitoring of the indicators, and engagement of holders/generators as well as users of information. Sustainability of the systems beyond the project period and acceptability by information holders and users from the three Rio Conventions are also important characteristics to be taken into account.

Output 1.2: A common clearing-house mechanism for the three Rio Conventions

148. The Ministry of Environment operates (i) a biodiversity clearing-house mechanism hosted by GSSD/MOE (<http://www.chm.gdancp-moe.org/>) to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation, knowledge sharing and information exchange within Cambodia and with other countries and (ii) a website for the United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) (<http://camclimate.org.kh/en/>). Cambodia has also established thematic websites of relevance to the three Rio Conventions such as the one for REDD+ (<http://www.cambodia-redd.org/>). This project will support the development of a unified clearing-house mechanism capable of handling the information needs of the three Rio Conventions. The vision is a single point of access to all data, reports, research, tools, plans and documents available for and on the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia. The common clearing-house mechanism will be linked to relevant databases in the country (interoperability). All stakeholders including government agencies, development partners, civil society organizations and academia will be able to post documents and data into the common clearing-house mechanism (interactivity). It will have a bilingual (Khmer, English) referencing system; given that the Khmer language is the most important language in the country. Characteristics of good clearing-house mechanisms have been agreed for example in decision III/4 of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity¹².

149. In addition, the project will support under this output the implementation of information sharing/exchange mechanisms such as an interactive webpage, Facebook and Twitter accounts, Google Alerts for Media Monitoring. All these features will strengthen the role of the clearing-house mechanism at the policy-science interface, bearing in mind that the clearing-house mechanism will also support and will benefit from other information mechanisms such as radios, television stations, newspapers, and mobile and web technologies. The common clearing-house mechanism will also support the achievement of Cambodia Biodiversity Target 19, through which by 2020, an interoperable and user-friendly information system containing data and information on biodiversity values, functions, status and trends, threats, and the consequences of its loss will have to be established and maintained for wide sharing among stakeholders

150. The project will support the following main activities:

Main activities:

1.2.1 Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the UN-CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC clearing-house mechanisms (CHMs) in fulfilling the needs of the three Rio Conventions as well as the opportunities and constraints that they experience.

To carry out this assessment, a prerequisite is to have a list of the information needs of the three Rio Conventions and identify information that is common to the three conventions, on the one hand, and have the list of key characteristics of a useful, efficient and effective clearing-house mechanism.

¹² <https://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/default.shtml?id=7100>.

The following key issues were identified in the NCSA report regarding the UN-CBD clearing-house mechanism of Cambodia: (i) not clearly needs-driven and not updated regularly; (ii) not structurally decentralized and little structure to promote scientific and technical cooperation; (iii) limited information stored; (iv) no biosafety clearing-house and Nagoya Protocol clearing-house; and no Khmer language.

The assessment will include an evaluation of (i) the quality, diversity and amount of information considered against the needs; how information is analyzed, validated, communicated, disseminated, accessed and used; how much the CHM is needs-driven; (ii) hardware and software and other features of the CHMs; (iii) available human and financial resources for the operations of the CHMs; cost-effectiveness, efficiency, transparency; (iv) linkages to other CHMs, their interoperability and interactivity; how the CHM is structurally decentralized; (v) the role of the CHM as a strength of the science-policy interface in the country; and (vi) role in facilitating cooperation within the country and with other countries in the region and elsewhere.

The methodology used to carry out will be based on the NCSA “triangulation” procedure (i.e. a desktop study, interviews and/or group discussions, and stakeholders’ workshops and validation) in close collaboration with the CHMs’ focal departments.

- 1.2.2 Select one of the existing clearing-house mechanisms and identify ways and means to expand its role to address the needs of the three Rio Conventions. Alternatively, establish a new clearing-house mechanism that will respond to the needs of the three Rio Conventions, and that will replace or will be linked to (i.e. interoperable with) the existing CHMs.

An ad-hoc or informal advisory committee will be established to guide the process until the end of the project. The committee will consist of representatives of the focal ministries (MOE and MAFF), representatives of major categories of information users and providers including among others, government representatives, research institutions, local communities and the private sector. The committee will be as much as possible interdisciplinary, inter-sectoral and gender-balanced. As part of its mandate, the committee will agree on the key characteristics of the three Rio Conventions’ clearing-house mechanism, consider the feasibility of the two options (i.e. select one among the existing clearing-house mechanisms and strengthen it to address the needs of the three conventions or establish a new one for the three conventions) and select the best option as the ‘common’ clearing-house mechanism or the “Rio Conventions’ clearing-house mechanism.” The Committee may also decide to assign the “Rio Conventions’ clearing-house mechanism” a mandate beyond the project, if appropriate.

- 1.2.3 Apply the most appropriate ways and means to enable the “Rio Conventions’ clearing-house mechanism” to address in a synergistic and coordinated manner the needs of the three Rio Conventions

Application of the most appropriate ways and means will include having in place (i) a team of experienced IT managers equipped with up-to-date computers, software and hardware, including for webinar services, archiving and high-speed WiFi devices, (ii) a dynamic team of managers capable of gathering, collating and in-putting information, and informing and attracting the potential users including through social media and other communication means, and an agreed mechanism for monitoring the performance of the clearing-house.

- 1.2.4 Monitor the performance of the ‘common’ clearing-house mechanism, adjust its effectiveness and efficiency as experience is gained, and enhance awareness about this clearing-house mechanism and its usefulness.

The ad hoc or informal advisory committee will define the performance criteria and decide on the schedule for monitoring the performance of the ‘common’ clearing-house mechanism. This evaluation will be done in a transparent manner. The committee will also be mandated to lead awareness-raising regarding the existence of the clearing-house mechanism, its operation and usefulness, in line with the communication strategy being developed through this project.

Output 1.3: Generation of information related to the Rio Conventions enhanced qualitatively and quantitatively, coherent and better coordinated for complementarity, synergy and efficiency

151. Cambodia needs to generate information on the status and trends of biodiversity and its ecological/biological and socioeconomic value and services, and on the causes of loss of biodiversity and associated ecosystem services; on the past, present and future climatic factors, and on climate change impacts and their ecological and socioeconomic consequences; on status, trend and causes of desertification/land degradation and drought; and on the impact of measures taken to control biodiversity loss, desertification/land degradation and drought, and climate change impact so that decision-makers can take well-informed decisions for the implementation of the three Rio Conventions. Various national, regional and international entities generate such information but there is a need to enhance the generation of the needed information and organize it in a way that will make it more accessible to and usable by a wide range of stakeholders and decision- as well as policy-makers. Generation of information will require

(a) developing an annotated list of identified knowledge needs prioritized on the basis of agreed criteria. It may be necessary to put in place a process involving the research community and other knowledge holders and users for this activity;

(b) using a communication strategy for engaging the research community and other knowledge holders and encouraging/guiding them to address the identified knowledge needs; and

(c) partnering with national and international long-term observatories and monitoring centers/programs holding specific know-how and technology and/or that can provide data for indicators, other metrics and projections needed in scenarios assessments.

152. The project will support the following main activities:

Main activities:

1.3.1 Survey organs/bodies/institutions that generate data/information of relevance to Cambodia on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought.

The list will include not only national and foreign entities/institutions operating in the country but organizations outside of the country generating or holding data and information on climate change, biodiversity (including biological specimens) and desertification/land degradation and drought in Cambodia. The list will include not only academic and research institutions but also local communities, NGOs and the private sector.

1.3.2 Assess the qualitative and quantitative effectiveness of these institutions/organs/entities, their strengths and weaknesses, their opportunities and constraints.

While conducting the survey (stock taking), information will be gathered on the nature and amount of data/information that is being generated, on the effectiveness in generating the information, on the technologies used and capacities in place to generate that information, and on the sustainability of these institutions. Information will be collected on the standards, norms, legislation, rules and procedures guiding information generation, and, in the case of foreign organizations, the types of agreements linking them with Cambodia. A particular attention will be paid to the weaknesses and obstacles met by national organizations in generating the needed information. These weaknesses will likely include limited or irregular funding, limited human capacities, lack of up-to-date technology, lack of incentives and limited time when staff are overloaded with many other tasks.

1.3.3 Identify ways and means to address the weaknesses and constraints of these organs/institutions while reinforcing the strengths and taking advantage of the opportunities and test them in a pilot phase.

One area that will need to be strengthened is the inclusion of issues, which are common and cross-cutting in the three Rio Conventions, in education curricula and public awareness programmes. The sustainability and permanence of institutions generating information/data are other features that will require consideration.

This activity can gain a lot by using the NCSA “triangulation” procedure (i.e. a desktop study, interviews and group discussions, and stakeholders’ workshops and validation).

1.3.4 Implement the identified/selected ways and means to enhance generation of data/information and adjust the measures taken on the basis of experience gained.

153. The selected ways and means for enhancing information/data generation will first be tested on a small scale in a pilot phase. Using the experience that will be gained during the pilot phase, these activities will be replicated and up-scaled across the institutions in the country, and their performance/successes will be monitored and evaluated.

Output 1.4: Existing stakeholder platforms strengthened and better coordinated in order to facilitate access and exchange of information, and increase stakeholder networking and engagement in Convention related dialogues and processes

154. The existing coordination platforms in place in Cambodia focus mostly on one sector or on one Convention such as the *Climate Change Technical Team* or the *Technical Working Group on NBSAP Updating* (TWG-NBSAP), REDD+ Working Group. Under the current MOE institutional reform, the Kingdom of Cambodia established the National Council for Sustainable Development to oversee the climate change and biodiversity issues. Under this output, a mechanism building in particular on the National Council for Sustainable Development will be developed and operationalized to oversee the work on climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation and drought. Representatives from selected civil society organizations (CSOs) – including partners from the GEF UNDP Small Grant Programme (SGP) - will be invited to join this crosscutting platform. The NCSA report described the types of capacities needed at the system-level in Cambodia¹³.

155. The project will support the following main activities:

Main activities:

1.4.1 Survey the platforms involved in the implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions, including in particular the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD), and describe their structures, roles and achievements with regard to access, generation and use of information on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought.

For the survey, reports, strategies and plans developed for the implementation of the three Rio Conventions, related agreements and strategic documents on sustainable development and poverty eradication will be consulted. Focal ministries and their respective departments will be consulted, especially to describe the achievements, strengths and weaknesses of the respective platforms.

1.4.2 Identify ways and means and test them in a pilot project to strengthen these existing stakeholder platforms with regard in particular to their role as platform for dialogues on climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation and drought.

¹³ For reference, it is noted in the NCSA report that at least three capacities would be needed to address these two system-level issues in Cambodia.

1. The capacity to develop and implement standardized methods, approaches and tools for fostering inter- and intra-agency data and information sharing, particular among MOE and MAFF as focal agencies of the conventions, among pertinent departments in the two ministries, and with other agencies that have mandates related to the conventions.

2. The capacity to establish and maintain effective means and tools of communication and coordination (e.g., websites, CHM, BCH and CC-website) between MOE and MAFF (and their relevant departments) and among other convention-relevant agencies and organizations in Cambodia.

3. The capacity to procure the trained personnel, the funding, the organizational commitment and the public support to develop the preceding two capacities in Cambodia, including the capacities to negotiate with other ministries and institutions in the country that may already have related expertise to develop them, and with donors for relevant technical and funding assistance.

The identification activity will be conducted in close collaboration with the focal ministries and related agencies/departments. Feasibility of the identified ways and means to strengthen existing stakeholder platforms will be carried out using a participatory approach involving departments/agencies that will implement the selected ways and means. Implementation will be done in a stepwise manner, starting with one or a few platforms before the work using the best ways and means is generalized to all the platforms under consideration.

- 1.4.3 Identify ways and means and implement them so as to enhance coordination and promote synergies among these platforms, including by identifying or, as appropriate, establishing a crosscutting (i.e. interagency, inter-departmental, inter-sectorial, inter-disciplinary) platform with clear and manageable terms of reference and formalizing it.

Ways and means for enhancing coordination and promoting synergies among stakeholder platforms will be identified in consultation with the focal ministries and their respective departments, also taking into account experiences in other countries. They will then be tested to select the most efficient and effective ways. Alternatively, a single crosscutting (i.e. interagency, inter-departmental, inter-sectorial, inter-disciplinary) platform can be proposed with clear and manageable terms of reference if that will be more efficient and effective.

Outcome 2: Improved use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions.

156. Under this second outcome, project resources will be used to put in place mechanisms that will improve the use of information and knowledge for the implementation of the Rio Conventions in a more efficient and effective way. Project support will also include activities to develop individual and institutional capacities for using this information and knowledge including for the production of national reports called for in each of the three conventions. The GEF will support activities to achieve the following expected outputs:

Output 2.1: Enhanced capacity in using tools for decision- and policy-making

157. A variety of tools exist to support policy- and decision-making in the field of environment, in particular for the best management and use of biodiversity in poverty eradication and sustainable development programmes. As noted in the NCSA report, there exist many barriers to their use in Cambodia, such as a lack of understanding, shortage in human and technical resources and lack of guidance. The project addresses these barriers through the development of training and awareness-raising materials (including manuals, e-modules, pamphlets, documentaries etc.) on selected tools, and the organization of training courses and workshops for well-targeted audience (e.g. university students, decision-makers, parliamentarians etc.). The project considers (i) economic valuation of ecosystem services, (ii) impact assessment and (iii) scenario analysis and modelling. These tools are relevant, interlinked and will greatly support the implementation of the three conventions in a coordinated manner as well as sustainable development and poverty eradication in Cambodia.

Economic valuation of ecosystem services

In the NCSA report, the critical role of biodiversity and its associated ecosystems in economic development was recognized. It was thus recommended to enhance competence in the country on economic tools by expanding and intensifying their understanding and knowledge including their effects on biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, and combating land degradation and mitigating drought. NCSA recommended focusing on economic instruments that enable the Government to maintain existing Conventions-related infrastructure and equipment and to meet new needs, through the sustainable use of biodiversity, land, soils and water resources, and the successful adaptations to climate change. There are many such tools, among which the project selects to consider economic valuation of ecosystem services i.e. the natural benefits including all the goods and services (provisioning, regulation, cultural/spiritual and supporting services) we can get from ecosystems/nature. The importance of economic valuation has been repeatedly underlined by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as an important basis for public-awareness and policy action on conservation and sustainable use of the countries' natural capital, and for stepping up activities needed to stop land degradation and promote climate change

adaptation and mitigation. Aichi Biodiversity Targets 1 and 2¹⁴ of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and their corresponding targets 1 and 3 in the 2015 revised Cambodia National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan¹⁵ relate to the valuation of biodiversity. Targets 1 and 3 in the 2015 Cambodia NBSAP are among the highest priorities for the implementation of the NBSAP. Outputs 1.1 and 1.2 from this project will facilitate the gathering and dissemination of information on the values of biodiversity and associated ecosystem services. Selected economic valuation methodologies have been recommended under the Convention on Biological Diversity¹⁶ and also in the work of the IPBES. Economic values and the other values are important factors for consideration in scenarios and impact assessments.

Scenarios analysis and modelling

Scenario analysis and models are described as processes used to improve decision-making by analyzing possible future events and considering alternative possible outcomes. They can help highlight opportunities, risks and trade-offs in decision-making, and help develop robust strategic plans in the face of an uncertain future. As such, they are central to the advancement of our understanding of the complex interactions between the natural world and past, present and future human activities. While the term 'scenario' usually describes possible future developments caused by driving forces within a system, models are more systematic tools for projecting or predicting future events and, thus, for scrutinizing alternative scenarios. Scenario and modelling are thus pivotal in taking decisions that consider future events.

Impact assessment

Impact assessment is the process of identifying and evaluating the consequences of a current or proposed action. It is used to ensure that projects, programmes and policies are economically viable, socially equitable and environmentally sustainable. The term environmental impact assessment (EIA) issued for the assessment of the environmental consequences (positive and negative) of a project prior to the decision to move forward with the proposed action. The term 'strategic environmental assessment' is applied to policies, plans and programmes. 'Social impact assessment' focusses on analyzing, monitoring and managing the intended and unintended social consequences, both positive and negative, of planned interventions (policies, programs, plans, projects); it thus brings in humans at the center of the impact assessment. Integrating monetary values in impact assessments is an essential element in incorporating the benefits and costs of environmental effects into the analysis of alternatives. In this way, the wider array of benefits and costs associated with a project can be considered in deciding which alternative produces the largest net benefit to society.

In order to support adequate consideration of biodiversity in impact assessments, the Parties to the UN-CBD adopted guidelines for biodiversity-inclusive strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and environmental impact assessment.

158. The project will support the following main activities:

Main activities:

¹⁴ Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably. Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems

¹⁵ Cambodia NBSAP Target 1 (Aichi Target 1¹⁵): By 2020, every Cambodian is conscious about the environmental, economic, health, social and cultural value of the services derived from ecosystems and integrates this knowledge in the way they deal with these ecosystems and resources.

Cambodia NBSAP Target 3 (Aichi Target 2¹⁵): By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and sub-national development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes.

¹⁶ <https://www.cbd.int/incentives/tools.shtml>.

2.1.1 Review ongoing work on selected tools¹⁷, including their best practices at the local, regional, and international levels

This review will be done by people with the right expertise on each of the tools and who have a good knowledge of what is being done in the country. They will gather materials that will describe the state of application/use of the tools in the country (covering in particular the conditions and the impacts/results of their applications). The review will also document good practices and failures in the application of the tools in Cambodia and also in countries that are in similar ecological, socioeconomic and political conditions as Cambodia. Reviewers will consult organizations and individuals involved in the dissemination and promotion of the tools including for example UNEP TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity) and partners of the UN-CBD Secretariat for ‘economic valuation of ecosystem services’, IPBES for scenario analysis and modelling, and the International Association for Impact Assessment for ‘impact assessment’. The results of the review will be used in training activities.

2.1.2 Develop training and awareness-raising materials including manuals for training workshops targeting different categories of audiences

Building on existing training and awareness-raising materials (including electronic modules such as <https://www.conservationtraining.org/mod/page/view.php?id=3901>), training manuals and awareness-raising materials will be developed for each tool guided by the communication strategy in the revised ProDoc. The development of the training materials will ensure that cross-references are made between materials prepared for each tool and will take into account gender issues bearing in mind the gender markers and gender mainstreaming work plan in the revised ProDoc.

The training materials will be developed in collaboration with universities and research institutions, and be adapted and targeted to clearly identified audiences consisting essentially of trainers and people who will use the new knowledge and skills immediately or in a near future. As stated in the NCSA report, awareness-raising activities will aim to “expand stakeholders’ awareness and ownership of the range of issues and actions to address biodiversity threats and objectives, climate change vulnerabilities, and land degradation and drought; this, through public information using media, public forums, seminars, training, and public campaigns.” Considering their cross-cutting nature, training and awareness-raising materials will have to be peer-reviewed so as to ensure that important perspectives (the three Rio Conventions issues, considerations across line ministries and economic sectors, different groups in the society etc.) in the country are taken into consideration.

2.1.3 Organize pilot training and awareness-raising activities including international days on environment and biodiversity

Training and awareness-raising activities will be organized in a pilot phase e.g., in one Province or in one subsector, paying particular attention to women, the youth, and people in decision-making positions. The decision whether to conduct the pilot phase in one Province or one subsector will be taken during the implementation of the project.

As a follow-up to the training, the project will accompany the people who took the training when they are using their new knowledge and skills to apply the new tools in their work.

2.1.4 Replicate and up-scale the training, awareness-raising and related activities across the country, and assess the success of these activities

A schedule/timetable and venues for these activities will be decided in light of the results of the pilot phase and the budget will be adjusted accordingly.

Output 2.2: Institutional and individual capacities to implement the three Rio Conventions in a more coordinated and synergistic manner strengthened using the new reporting guide,

¹⁷ The selected tools are: (i) economic valuation of ecosystem services, (ii) impact assessment, and (iii) scenario analysis and modelling.

and the environmental knowledge as well as the improved information mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1

159. The NCSA reports identified various types of capacities¹⁸ required for a sufficient, effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions. They include capacities for the generation, access and use of relevant information and tools and factors that can strengthen the enabling environment for building these capacities. Although the NCSA was completed in 2007, many of its conclusions are still relevant.

160. While focusing on capacities related to the generation, access and use of information and tools of relevance to the three Rio conventions, the project will support the following main activities:

Main activities:

2.2.1 Review and update the institutional and individual capacity needs identified in the NCSA report, for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions, with a particular focus on information generation, access and use.

This study will include consultations with people and institutions dealing with biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought and, as much as possible, people who participated in the NCSA. Particular attention will be paid to the following capacities among others: (i) capacity to develop and implement standardized methods, approaches and tools for fostering inter- and intra-agency data and information sharing, particularly among GSSD/MOE and MAFF as focal agencies of the conventions, among pertinent departments in the two ministries, and with other agencies that have mandates related to the conventions; (ii) capacity to identify and use information, often in the form of key messages, to influence and convince policy- as well as decision-makers and funding agencies, and to raise awareness of all stakeholders. This implies, among others and as noted in the NCSA report: capacity to develop strong, concise and implementable policies, plans and guidelines, for fostering a synergy of missions and mandates among the focal ministries; capacity to collect the right information, including relevant gender disaggregated data, and interpret the metrics during the phases of monitoring and evaluating the implementation performances; capacity to establish and maintain effective means and tools of communication and coordination (e.g., websites, clearing-house mechanisms and climate change website) between GSSD/MOE and MAFF (and their relevant departments) and among other convention-relevant agencies and organizations in Cambodia; and capacities to explain and simplify difficult concepts on biodiversity conservation, ecosystem resilience, ecosystem-based approaches to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and area conservation to halt and reverse desertification/land degradation and drought.

¹⁸ For reference, it was noted in the NCSA report that at least five capacities are needed to address institution-level issues in Cambodia. These capacities recognized by UNDP are also considered in the UNCCD reporting manual:

1. The capacity to strengthen sectoral laws and regulations (on biodiversity conservation, climate change, and land degradation) toward ensuring that they are clear, comprehensive and supportive of the objectives, mandates and goals of the focal ministries and related agencies.
2. The capacity to develop strong, concise and implementable policies, plans and guidelines, for fostering a synergy of missions and mandates among the focal ministries (MOE and MAFF).
3. The capacity to review the mandates of (and pertinent regulations on) the focal ministries and related agencies, toward reducing their overlaps on the concerns of the three conventions.
4. The capacity to improve the implementation (or design, if necessary) of the existing mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the convention-related performance of focal and other concerned ministries (MOE, MAFF, MOWRAM, MRD, MIME, MLMUPC).
5. The capacity to procure the trained personnel, the funding, the organizational commitment and the public support to develop the preceding four capacities in Cambodia, including the capacities to negotiate with other ministries and institutions in the country that may already have related expertise to develop them, and with donors for relevant technical and funding assistance.

2.2.2 Building on the Cambodia NCSA Action Plan¹⁹, identify ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for the generation, access and use of information and tools needed for the effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions.

Capacity building will be done mainly through training workshops after the development of training materials including manuals. A programme can be developed on the basis of the conclusions of the NCSA Project. For thematic training, capacity can be built in such a way that people in biodiversity are better equipped to contribute to work on climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought, and people working on climate change can contribute to biodiversity and desertification/land degradation and drought work etc. This will build synergy in implementing the 3 Rio conventions.

2.2.3 Apply and assess the identified ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions in a pilot project.

Application and assessment of the identified ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities will first be conducted in a pilot project that will be decided on the basis of the findings under activity 2.2.2.

2.2.4 Select the most suitable ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions; apply them across the country, building on the experience gained in the pilot project; monitor the results and effect adjustments as needed.

One of the overall objectives of these activities is, as noted in the NCSA, to upgrade the technical and organizational skills of the staff engaged in the implementation of the three Rio Conventions and build a critical mass of staff with the proper skills²⁰.

¹⁹ “Thematic Assessments and Action Plan for the Three Conventions: UN-CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD - To Contribute to the Poverty Alleviation. Ministry of Environment, Phnom Penh February 2007.”

²⁰ The desired skills include (see NCSA):

(a) Technical Skills: Most staff engaged in executing mandates to address environmental concerns in Cambodia has generally poor levels of technical preparation and training. While there are experts in different ministries and related organizations in the country (some with post-Baccalaureate degrees like Master’s degrees or Doctoral degrees) they are by far too few or, because of their credentials, they are overloaded with administrative work. A large proportion of the staff and personnel of convention-relevant offices in the technical ministries (like MOE and MAFF), have minimum skills to do biodiversity conservation, adaptation and vulnerability assessment, or land degradation and drought mitigation. Only a few have the correct technical preparation and expertise, and those that do are more easily prone to leave government service to work with IOs or NGOs. The many that remain are hardly able to understand the science behind their jobs, the policies and legal framework of what they do, nor even, among some, the terms of reference of their employment. These affect several capacities required in the three conventions, mainly: 1. Capacities to develop and execute programs; 2. Capacities to incorporate thematic concerns in national plans; 3. Capacities to prepare reports and communications on Cambodia’s progress to fulfill the obligations; Capacities to collaborate with others on addressing the thematic concerns of the conventions.

(b) Organizational Skills Organizational skills include the ability to work with others, coordinate actions with others who are doing related work, network with other groups and entities, negotiate and compromise, and mitigate or resolve conflicts among those engaged in the work being done. Most personnel in the relevant agencies and organizations doing work on the concerns of the three conventions have low levels of these skills. This condition affects at least three kinds of capacities required in all three conventions: (i) Capacities to engage and share information with other agencies; (ii) Capacities to engage, share information and negotiate with stakeholders; (iii) Capacities to coordinate with other sectors (business, academe, research institutions, NGOs) to achieve a complementation of capacities to address the concerns of the conventions.

Output 2.3: Capacity of existing institutions and individuals to advance Cambodian national interests on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought matters and their interlinkages in regional and global networks and forums strengthened.

161. The Ministry of Environment (MOE) is implementing UNFCCC and UN-CBD, while the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) is in charge of implementing UNCCD. The project will support activities to develop the capacity of these ministries and their respective departments to prepare meetings of the Conference of Parties to each of the three Rio Conventions, meetings of their subsidiary bodies (e.g. scientific bodies such CRIC, SBSTA, SBSTTA, Article 8j Working group), and meetings of related conventions and relevant regional agreements and programmes. During these meetings, ideas will be gathered from all stakeholder groups on biodiversity, desertification/land degradation and drought and climate change and used to develop national positions on issues under consideration by the meetings. These preparatory meetings will provide representatives of Cambodia with the necessary knowledge and negotiation skills. Participants in these preparatory meetings will become more acquainted with and benefit from outputs 1.1 to 1.4, 2.1 and 2.2 above.

162. The project will support the following main activities:

Main activities:

2.3.1 Review obligations from the three Rio Conventions and related decisions of their respective Conference of the Parties, and how these obligations have been and are being implemented in Cambodia and through the regional programmes and agreements.

This review will focus in particular on whether and how obligations from one convention were taken into account in the other conventions, and whether and how the country’s representatives in the meetings of the respective Conference of the Parties ensured that the decisions taken were in line with Cambodia’s interests. The review will also include the country’s obligations in regional and subregional organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and cooperation or agreements (e.g., around the Mekong River: the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Cooperation or Mekong River Basin framework or the 1995 Mekong River Sustainable Development Agreement; the Satoyama Initiative; the International Coral Reef Initiative; the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) and the East Asian Seas Programme).

Obligations are described in the conventions’ texts and, in more details, in the decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the respective conventions. Focus in the review will be on decisions and issues requiring the attention of future meetings of the respective Conference of the Parties. Measures taken or to be taken to implement the provisions of the conventions and related decisions of the respective Conference of the Parties are described in the strategic and programme documents such as the 2015 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, the 2006 National Adaptation Programme of Action and related national communications on climate change, the “[Climate Change Action Plan 2016-2018](#)”, and the regional, subregional and national action programmes to combat desertification (RAP, SRAP and NAP respectively).

The status of implementation of the three conventions is documented in the national reports and other thematic reports developed under each of the three conventions. The latest national report on biodiversity was submitted in 2014 and a National Biodiversity Status Report was completed in 2015. The “Third National Report to the Convention to Combat Desertification” is the latest report submitted by MAFF on land degradation and drought in Cambodia. “Cambodia’s Second National Communication” on climate change was submitted in 2015. Other relevant reports include e.g., the 2004 “National Report to the Fifth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests” and the 2010 Country report for the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010.

Close interactions with institutions in charge of reporting on climate change, biodiversity or desertification/land degradation and drought and associated thematic reports are necessary to ensure a comprehensive collection of the needed information and accessing reports and information that are not posted on the websites.

A “Guide to the Negotiations under the Rio Conventions” and policy briefs on key issues will be produced and updated before each global or regional meeting of relevance to the three Rio Conventions to be attended by representatives of Cambodia. The guide will be posted on the Rio Conventions Clearing-House Mechanism.

2.3.2 Assess how institutions/organizations engaged in the implementation of the three Rio Conventions and related agreements including MOE and MAFF are advancing Cambodia’s positions and priorities in global, regional and subregional forums, programmes and initiatives.

This study requires interacting with relevant institutions and if possible other participants in the relevant global, regional and subregional forums, programmes and initiatives to have an idea of ways used to advance Cambodia’s priorities and positions in those forums, including in particular the promotion of the interlinkages between the three Rio Conventions and their coordinated and synergistic implementation.

2.3.3 Design a training programme on the three Rio Conventions and their processes (meetings of the respective Conference of the Parties and their subsidiary or ad hoc bodies) as well as ways through which Cambodia can address the obligations in related multilateral initiatives and programmes, taking into account the country’s priorities and positions.

A Consultant familiar with negotiations can be called upon to assist with the development of negotiation strategies and skills. While these training programmes will be targeted primarily to those who represent Cambodia in international forums discussing climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation and drought, the knowledge and skills that will be taught will also be useful to those who will be negotiating funds for the implementation of the three Rio Conventions.

2.3.4 Carry out preparatory sessions for forthcoming meetings under the three Rio Conventions.

These sessions will be organized as workshops where participants from the three Rio Conventions will be invited, including in particular the potential representatives of the country in the forthcoming meetings²¹. Basically, climate change representatives should be informed about the biodiversity and land degradation dimensions of the issues on the agendas of climate change meetings; those who will attend biodiversity meetings will be informed about climate change and land degradation issues; and those who are from MAFF to attend meetings on desertification/land degradation and drought will be informed about biodiversity and climate change aspects of their issues.

Output 2.4: A coherent and coordinated reporting process for the three Rio Conventions

163. Using the environmental knowledge and the improved mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1 (i.e. the information management system designed to cover the three Rio Conventions in an efficient, effective and well-coordinated manner; the clearing-house mechanism dedicated to the three Rio Conventions; the improved systems for generating information needed for the implementation of the three Rio Conventions) and the capacities being strengthened under outputs 2.1 to 2.3 above to strengthen capacity in using tools for decision- and policy-making and implementing the three convention in an

²¹ For 2016, relevant meetings of the three Rio Conventions:

UN-CBD: 4-8 April 2016 CHM meeting in Serbia for West Asia; 25-30 April SBSTTA 20 in Montreal (climate change, land degradation/restoration, PAs etc. are on the agenda); 13-17 June CHM in Fiji for Pacific area; 4-17 Dec. COP 13 in Cancun, Mexico (issues related to all the 3 Rio Conventions will be considered)

UNCCD: CRIC 15 Oct 2016 but TBC

UNFCCC: 18 - 22 April 2016: GHG Training workshop in Bonn **SBI 44 SBSTA 44** as well as the first session of the Ad-hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (**APA 1**) will take place from 16 to 26 May 2016, in Bonn, Germany; from 7 Nov 2016, COP 22 in Marrakesh, Morocco.

efficient and well-coordinated manner, the project will support the development of a reporting system that will deliver timely reports on the status of the implementation of the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia in line with the reporting obligations of these conventions..

164. The project will support the following main activities:

Main activities:

2.4.1 Review reporting requirements of the three Rio Conventions and identify commonalities and differences in the processes and the themes to be addressed.

This desk study will be done by consulting the decisions of the Conferences of the Parties to the three conventions and related documents (e.g. (i) national reports on biodiversity, strategic documents such as the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UN-CBD, (ii) the National Action Programme to combat desertification (NAP) under UNCCD, and (iii) the National Action Plan on Adaptation (NAPA) and related national communications on climate change under the UNFCCC) from the three conventions. Interactions with the secretariats of the respective conventions may be needed to take advantage of additional useful but unpublished information, including for example experiences of other countries communicated to the convention secretariats during workshops.

The review will include the reporting templates, guidelines and manuals posted on the conventions’ websites, the frequency of national reporting, including thematic reporting e.g. on REDD+, forest resources assessments submitted to FAO, and the guidance on data to collect and how to use that information (indicators, standards). It is important to review in particular indicators that are included in the reporting process of each of the three Rio Conventions, with a view to identifying areas of synergies existing among the reporting processes of the three conventions.

With a view to be comprehensive and proactive, the study will also consider biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought information needed in other strategies, plans and programmes such as the recently adopted **2030 global Agenda for Sustainable Development or the Cambodia National Green Growth Roadmap 2013-2030** and plans and commitments in relevant global and regional agreements.

2.4.2 Design a reporting guide that addresses in a more efficient and effective way the reporting needs of the three Rio Conventions taking advantage of the improved mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1 for improved data generation and facilitated access to information and knowledge of relevance to the three conventions.

The designing of the reporting guide will include an agreement on a number of items such as the procedures guiding the processes from the identification of data/knowledge through data compilation and peer-review of draft reports, and report approval. Standards (e.g. sampling standards, units/scale etc.), indicators, baselines, scenarios, projections, level of certainty etc. will also have to be agreed upon, in line with international standards such as the Biodiversity Data Standards (See e.g., www.tdwg.org). This whole process may require input from an International Consultant.

The final product will be a guide on the production, collation and analysis of data and information for reporting on the three Rio Conventions. The guide will contain an agreed table of content of the common report for the three Rio Conventions as well as some suggestions about the scoping of each chapter. The scoping will be flexible, consisting of suggestions because the environment may change as well as the focus for reporting.

2.4.3 Implement/formalize this reporting guide within the mandated institutions.

The guide will be developed using a participatory approach, including in particular institutions that will be involved in the reporting writing as well as other institutions that are holding or generating and using information relating to biodiversity, desertification/land degradation and drought and climate change. There will be some form of formal agreement or a mandate to use the guide will be given to the institutions involved in reporting.

2.4.4 Design and deliver training to staff involved in the new reporting guide.

A training manual on the reporting guide will be developed and training sessions organized to train the trainers from the reporting institutions, who will in turn organize, as regularly as needed, training within their respective institutions. Training programmes will take into account gender issues and will include women, the youth and local communities as well as ethnic minority groups. Elements of the guide will also be included in school and university curricula.

2.4.5 Produce the first national reports under this new reporting guide

Trained people will start producing thematic integrated reports as part of their training. As soon as a group of trained people is constituted, they will be tasked to develop the first national report using the new reporting guide, the environmental knowledge and the improved mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1 and the capacities being strengthened under outputs 2.1 to 2.3 above. All the information and data, raw and processed, will be appropriately archived.

The drafts of the first report will be submitted to peer-review before endorsement by an ad hoc multidisciplinary and inter-sectoral review committee and approval by the Government. The report will be disseminated in accordance with the communication strategy that this project will adopt.

C.3 Sustainability and Replicability

C.3.a Sustainability

165. The project will build mainly upon institutional structures and systems existing in Cambodia and strongly anchored at Department of Biodiversity/GSSD/MoE. The project will develop capacities and establish systems that enhance environmental knowledge, access and sharing this knowledge and improve national coordination, which are critical elements to allow national institutional mechanisms to continue to operate after the project is completed.

166. A strong focus on building knowledge and generating information as well as a strong focus on stakeholder engagement in environmental management is expected to lead to social sustainability. The sustainability of the project will be greatly enhanced by the strong support from the government and representatives and champions from key stakeholder groups. The local development benefits of the environmental goods and services are critical incentives for sustainability.

167. Through better access to environmental information/knowledge and better coordination of the implementation of the Rio conventions in Cambodia, the project will help overcome environmental degradation and contribute to global environmental benefits over the long term. Additionally, the project implementation team will also make every effort to be inclusive, including involving a large number of women in its activities. As much as possible, training activities will include an equal number of men and women. When harmonizing the environmental management information systems and developing a better coordination approach, the project will ensure that collecting data will be gender disaggregated and that reporting environment information will also be gender disaggregated. This approach will facilitate a focus on gender-based environmental issues and gender-based solutions.

168. The nature, implementation strategy and the approach of the project are such that sustainability of project achievements should be ensured over the long-term. It includes several features that are forming the sustainability strategy of the project:

169. The project will build upon existing strategies and programmes of the government. The need for better environmental information was identified as a national priority through the NCSA process. The project is a full response to this priority and will be part of the proposed actions to address the environmental information needs. The project will also be part of the institutional strengthening process that is underway at MOE; it will become part of the ministry strategy to strengthen its operations. It is an excellent opportunity, which will translate into an institutionalization of project achievements as the project is being implemented; hence contributing to the long-term sustainability of project achievements.

170. The project will be implemented by the DB of GSSD/MoE itself; therefore, facilitating the institutionalization of project achievements. DB was established by a Sub-decree in 2015 under GSSD/MoE being responsible for, among others, (1) leading and assisting draft legal instrument, policies, strategic plans, action plans, programmes and projects, (2) leading and facilitating studies, research, training and exchange of technology in terms of sustainable development, (3) managing and disseminating information of sustainable development, (4) facilitating the development of concerned national reports required by the international agreements on sustainable development with Cambodia being a signatory. DB also has the responsibility to attend international environmental conventions and to develop - in collaboration with relevant agencies - national strategies, action plans, policies and legal instruments related to biodiversity. Its role is also to promote research, education, dissemination of information, training and awareness raising. Finally, the department is also mandated to collaborate with national, regional and global agencies, development partners, civil society, and private sector related to biodiversity. One of the foci of the project is to develop the capacity of GSSD/MoE to provide more accurate and timely comprehensive information on the state of the environment in Cambodia. It is expected that results will be automatically institutionalized along the implementation of the project; therefore, contributing to the long-term sustainability of project’s achievements.

171. The approach to implement the project will be as much as possible holistic; that is to focus on developing the overall capacity of GSSD/MoE to be able to provide to the public and decision makers better environmental information/knowledge. Capacity development activities will be implemented through an adaptive collaborative management approach to engage stakeholders as collaborators in the design and implementation of project activities that take into account environmental information needs.

172. In addition to a focus on the main agency of the government, the project will also include other agencies involved in sectoral environmental areas such as climate change, land degradation, forestry, environmental health, etc. The overall approach to develop this capacity will be holistic. It will proceed based on a review of capacity gaps and then will address these gaps at all levels: individual, institutional and systemic level. Necessary training will be provided, mechanisms within institutions and across institutions will be reviewed and improved as necessary and finally the enabling environment will also be reviewed to ensure it provides adequate policy and legislation frameworks for these two systems to work. This approach will ensure that staff at GSSD/MoE and in other relevant agencies/ministries will have the necessary skills and knowledge needed to sustain project achievements but also that the mechanisms and procedures in these organizations are adequate to support these achievements over the long-term within a policy and legislation environment that are supportive of these results.

173. Another important feature of this project’s strategy to sustain its achievements is the learn-by-doing approach. Each project activity will seek the active participation of key stakeholders that are involved in the process that will be addressed by the project. This participation will lead to a calibration of activities towards user-friendliness of existing and new information instruments, which will contribute to the rapid uptake of these information instruments in the policy making and reporting processes. The rationale being that government and other stakeholders responsible for environmental planning, decision-making, monitoring and enforcement are the stakeholders that need more accurate and timely environmental information. Having a government agency to execute this project directly also builds capacities for the implementation of appropriate project activities, and will contribute to the institutionalization of results. It is assumed that mistakes will occur and implementation will not always be smooth, but these problems should still be seen as opportunities for learning better practices.

174. Sustainability will also be strengthened by the project’s attention to resource mobilization. Notwithstanding a high level of commitment, championship, and strong baseline, the sustainability of project outcomes will require a certain amount of new and additional resources that is currently not available outside of the project’s construct, which is why this project is being supporting through an external grant. The mobilization of project resources will explore the kind of resources needed to sustain project outcomes, and identify realistic sources from both the government of Cambodia, and through official development assistance as appropriate.

175. Finally, the project will support the development of capacities and will harmonize environmental management information systems. These capacities and these systems will be institutionalized and should continue to operate after the project is completed. They will be used to (i) ensure coordinated and effective environmental data/information management; and (ii) mainstream the global environment into national decision-making in Cambodia. The training, the information, the awareness, the demand-oriented nature of these systems will all contribute to ensuring that project outputs are sustainable.

C.3.b Replicability and Lessons Learned

176. The project will directly address national priorities that were identified through the NCSA process; it is not about piloting or demonstrating a new approach or a new system. The need for better environmental information is a priority capacity need for Cambodia to improve the implementation of the Rio Conventions in the country. Therefore, the project will support the development of a public good that will be used by the public and in particular by decision-makers and policy-makers. It will address an issue that has been clearly identified and that needs to be addressed.

177. As discussed in the previous section, project’s achievements should be sustained after the project end, as it is a national need. With the support of the project, Cambodia should have access to more accurate and timely environmental information and a better coordination mechanism for the implementation of the Rio Conventions.

178. Nevertheless, as a medium-size project, this intervention will also have certain limitations such as the capacity of the project to develop skills and knowledge of all actors involved in environmental management nationally. This project will serve as a catalyst of a longer-term approach to Rio Convention implementation by improving the generation and access to timely environmental knowledge and by strengthening the coordination of activities related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions.

179. It is anticipated that the project will provide resources to transfer knowledge such as dissemination of lessons, training workshops, information exchange, national forums, etc., ensuring that the body of knowledge developed with the support of the project will be available to other stakeholders in Cambodia. As a result, it should contribute to its sustainability but also its up-scaling at the local level, closer to communities benefiting from a healthy environment. At the same time, the project should also benefit from lessons learned in the region but also in other parts of the world, particularly when the project will focus on economic valuation of the environment in Cambodia.

180. Two main areas of the project will particularly need up-scaling/replicability: the use of economic valuation, impact assessment and scenario/modelling tools for better decision-making throughout the country and better coordination of actions in climate change, biodiversity and land degradation areas also throughout Cambodia.

181. In the former area, the project will support the piloting of innovative tools for decision-making using the economic valuation of the use of natural resources, biodiversity inclusive environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment as well as scenario analysis and modelling. This is a good first step but the project intervention will mostly act as a catalyst in this innovative area and in order to ensure the long term sustainability of this initiative, up-scaling and replicability throughout government operations will be needed in the future.

182. In the second area, a better coordination mechanism will be supported by the project at the national level. As a result, more coordinated actions should ensue to address crosscutting environmental issues. However, this approach will also need to be developed at the sub-national level in Cambodia through the regional and local levels of government, including the non-governmental partners intervening at the sub-national level.

183. Part of the catalytic role of the project will be to demonstrate the value of its achievements. Therefore, it will also be important that the project prepares a timely exit. An exit strategy will be prepared 6 months before the end of the project to detail the withdrawal of the project and provide a set of

recommendations to the government to ensure the long-term sustainability and the up-scaling of project achievements to other parts of Cambodia.

C.3.c Risks and Assumptions

184. For each expected results at the objective, outcomes and outputs levels, risks and assumptions were identified (*See Annex 3*) during the preparation of this project. There are presented below:

Table 3: Risks for each outcome and output, their levels and assumptions

Outcome and output	Risks	Level	Assumptions
Outcome 1: Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions	Lack of relevant expertise in local market may result in delay of required outputs and distortion of targeted deadlines	Medium	Implementation of project activities and recruitment of relevant national expertise is monitored and actions will be identified if the lack of expertise is affecting the timely implementation of the project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 1.1: An efficient and effective information management system covering the three Rio Conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managers/owners of information management systems are not willing to give full information about their systems (e.g., by hiding the weaknesses of their systems) that will allow a good assessment of their system effectiveness and efficiency 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitations and coordination will be made with encouragement and support from the PB.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of GSSD/MoE and MAFF have difficulty agreeing on which Ministry should host the common information management system 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance from the PB and meetings with the focal points of each Rio convention
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 1.2: A common clearing-house mechanism for the three Rio Conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of GSSD/MoE and MAFF have difficulty agreeing on which Ministry should host the common clearing-house mechanism 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better environmental information is readily available and actively utilized and used

Outcome and output	Risks	Level	Assumptions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New information is not used and stays stored in computers at GSSD/MOE and MAFF 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New data and information will be collected through 3 Rio conventions Project mechanism, especially through communication strategy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 1.3: Generation of information related to the Rio Conventions enhanced qualitatively and quantitatively, coherent and better coordinated for complementarity, synergy and efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The research community and other knowledge holders do not find incentives to share their findings 	Low	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of a science- policy interface, resulting in fact that language of scientific findings is not understandable by potential users 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involving them in the project implementation and support from University scientists
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 1.4: Existing stakeholder platforms strengthened and better coordinated in order to facilitate access and exchange of information, and increase stakeholder networking and engagement in Convention related dialogues and processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder platforms are not willing to lose their individuality in favor of the crosscutting platform, and no interest from stakeholders to increase crosscutting dialogues on the implementation of the Rio Conventions 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All stakeholders involved in implementing the Rio Conventions in Cambodia are demanding for greater exchange of environmental information and to better engage in crosscutting dialogues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Political</i> - delays due to ministerial reforms. <i>Operational</i> - Irregular frequency of meetings for relevant bodies, unclear approval 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting mechanisms are in-place.

Outcome and output	Risks	Level	Assumptions
	mechanism for an inter-sectorial coordination body, unwillingness to participate in the inter-sectorial coordination body.		
•	• Cross-sector coordination and joint programming involving different ministries or agencies remains difficult and challenging	Low	• Meetings and workshops are conducted.
Outcome 2: Improved use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions.	• Project activities and resources do not translate in increasing the capacity of GSSD/MoE and MAFF to provide better environmental information relevant to the Rio Conventions.	Low	• The project is effective in developing the capacity in the area of environmental information management.
	• Individual and institutional capacities for using this information and knowledge are limited	Low	• The project is effective in promoting synergy among the Rio Conventions
	• Government is unwilling to give facilitated access to environmental information.	Low	• MOE will support GSSD/MoE and provide it with necessary resources to develop this mechanism and give public open-access.

Outcome and output	Risks	Level	Assumptions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 2.1: Enhanced capacity in using tools for decision- and policy-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No interest from decision-makers to use economic valuation, EIA and scenarios as well as modeling as tools to support decision-making. 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The benefit of using better economic valuation, impact assessments and scenarios and projections will encourage decision-makers to use these tools.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 2.2: Institutional and individual capacities to implement the three Rio Conventions in a more coordinated and synergistic manner strengthened using the new reporting guide, and the environmental knowledge as well as the improved information mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government staff and institutional capacity is not fully available for implementation of the conventions obligations due to other tasks and lack of sufficient national monetary incentives 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government staff will be engaged in line with their official functions and TORs, to minimize extra project-related tasks. Non-monetary incentives will be promoted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 2.3: Capacity of existing institutions and individuals to advance Cambodian national interests on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought matters and their interlinkages in regional and global networks and forums strengthened. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited progress on all the other outputs resulting in delays in strengthening institutional and individual capacities to advance Cambodian national interests in regional and global networks and forums 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project will be on schedule. Key stakeholders will be involved early and throughout project execution as partners

Outcome and output	Risks	Level	Assumptions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 2.4: A coherent and coordinated reporting process for the three Rio Conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delays in formalizing the common reporting guide 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitments are made via the agreed mechanism.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited capacity from outcome 1 and output 2.1 to 2.3 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity built during the project implementation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications and national reports are not submitted on time 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications and national reports are submitted on time and include information from the harmonized systems.

185. The review of these risks indicates that these risks are manageable through the project’s learn-by-doing approach. This proposed project is a direct response to national priorities identified through the NCSA process; as a result, there is a strong government ownership and willingness to succeed, hence low risks that key stakeholders will not participate in the project and lack of political will.

186. The fact that the project will also be housed at DB/GSSD-MOE will contribute to managing any operational risks. The project will be tightly integrated to the operation of the Department, ensuring that project activities will be implemented in close collaboration with MOE but also other related ministries and agencies. It will also contribute to a better prospect for long-term sustainability of project results.

187. Notwithstanding, this also assumes that project activities will be successful, and that the commitment to implement project activities through adaptive collaborative management remains intact. To this end, staff needs and motivation will be important considerations to reduce the risk of high staff turnover. The project will help minimize this risk by instituting a training programme to better understand and apply global environmental issues into national environmental management.

C.4 Stakeholder Involvement

188. This project was developed on the basis of consultations with stakeholder representatives, most of whom will benefit directly from this project. A team of three consultants (one international and two national consultants) was recruited during the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase of this project to consult with key stakeholder representatives, to review the institutional set up as well as the policy and legislation frameworks related to this project and to consolidate this information in the current project document.

189. An inception workshop to kick-start the PPG phase was organized on January 24, 2014. This workshop invited a broad range of stakeholders with the participation of 120 people from relevant institutions and organizations in order to identify potential cooperation and partnerships for the development of this project. The process to develop the project was presented at the workshop as well as an overview of the implementation status of the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia.

190. As a result of the project development phase, key project stakeholders were identified and consulted. Taking an adaptive and collaborative management approach to execution, the project will ensure that key stakeholders will be involved early and throughout project execution as partners for development. This includes their participation in the Project Board, review of project outputs such as recommendations for endorsing a set of environmental indicators, protocols to collect environmental data, institutional mechanisms to collect, share and exchange data, etc., as well as participation in monitoring activities.

191. A key feature of this project is its learn-by-doing approach, which is intended to actively engage stakeholders. This approach should result in key stakeholders that will be more likely to validate the analysis and legitimize the recommendations. It is also intended to catalyze the institutionalization of knowledge and experiences, which is critical for ensuring sustainability.

192. Given the project strategy, the key project stakeholders are government ministries and their subsidiary agencies and departments that are mandated with the management of natural resources. These stakeholder representatives will participate in activities to better monitor the environment and provide more accurate and timely environmental information; including fulfilling Cambodia’s reporting obligations under the MEAs that it is a Party to. In addition to these governmental stakeholders, there are also non-governmental stakeholders, including civil society organizations as well as other generators/holders and users of the knowledge needed for the implementation of the Rio Conventions, in particular local communities, indigenous ethnic minorities and research institutions. These non-state organizations will also be invited in project activities to share their comparative expertise, but also to undertake selected project activities. Their participation will be determined during project implementation when defining annual work plans.

193. The table below indicates the role of key stakeholders for implementing the project.

Table 4: Stakeholders Anticipated Roles in Implementing the Project

Stakeholder	Anticipated role in the Project
Department of Biodiversity (DB), National Council for Sustainable Development/ the Ministry of Environment (MOE) in charge of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UN-CBD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement project in close cooperation and support from MAFF and from relevant institutions, local authorities and communities and development partners; • Make relevant policies’ advices to GOC based on the technical outcomes of this project (produce policy relevant information based on the outcomes of this project implementation at national level) • Facilitate and coordinate technical inputs and support from other public, private and civil society sectors • Provide the technical support required to implement the project at all levels of society • Ensure alignment of the project outcomes to all MEAs to which this project supports, at the MEA level, in accordance to national priority needs • Undertake and spearhead the communication, education and public awareness on the role of this project and its relevant linkages and alignment to what GOC is also doing in other sectors, on related areas
Department of Climate Change of the Ministry of Environment (MOE) in charge of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support DB/GSSD in providing the necessary and relevant coordination that may be required • Make relevant policies’ advices to MOE based on the technical outcomes of this project (produce policy relevant information based on the outcomes of this project implementation at national level) • Provide the technical support required to implement the project • Ensure alignment of the project outcomes to UNSCC, which this project supports in accordance to national priority needs
Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in charge of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support DB/GSSD in providing the necessary and relevant coordination that may be required • Make relevant policies’ advices to MOE based on the technical outcomes of this project (produce policy relevant information based on the outcomes of this project implementation at national level) • Provide the technical support required to implement the project • Ensure alignment of the project outcomes to UNCCD, which this project supports in accordance to national priority needs
Ministry of Women's Affairs (MOWA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the perspective of gender equality and outreach activities • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing gender policy through the project’s implementation
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the perspective of education, awareness-raising and research activities • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing education and research policy through the project’s implementation
Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MoWRAM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the water resources and meteorology development and natural disasters. • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing water resources through the project’s implementation
Ministry of Land Management, Urban	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the land use planning.

Stakeholder	Anticipated role in the Project
Planning and Construction (MLMUPC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing land use management to be set up through the project’s implementation
National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary from the relevant disaster management. • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing disaster management to be set up through the project’s implementation.
Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the water use and hydropower. • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing water and energy resources to be set up through the project’s implementation
Ministry of Public Works and Transportation (MPWT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the MCIC • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing marine resources database to the EMIS to be set up through the project’s implementation
Ministry of Rural Development (MRD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the water supply, health care and infrastructure development. • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing rural development to be set up through the project’s implementation
Ministry of Health (MoH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the health sector. • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing health development in Cambodia to be set up through the project’s implementation
Ministry of Tourism (MoT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the tourism and ecotourism management and development. • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary from the scenic beauty and natural resources of Cambodia to be set up through the project’s implementation
Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the principle contact between the royal government of Cambodia and all donor, and NGOs.
Donors (UNDP, ADB, USAID,...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and assistance necessary and relevant from the relevant implementing regulations.
Local & International NGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the relevant NGOs relevant portfolio and core functions/purposes. • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing natural resources database to be set up through the project’s implementation.

C.5 First Year and Three-Year Work Plans

194. Annex 5.1 provides the three-year timeline by quarter for each activity planned to achieve the project outputs and outcomes. Basically, survey activities and general descriptions of information management systems, stakeholder platforms, research institutions, obligations under each of the three Rio Conventions including reporting requirements are the main activities in the first year. Assessment of the effectiveness information management systems, stakeholder platforms and research institutions, their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and obstacles and identification of options for addressing the weaknesses and improving access, generation and use of information and for guiding in well-coordinated

Commented [EH7]: Project has 2 years left only. Please revise accordingly.

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reporting on the three Rio Conventions are considered and tested at small scales in pilot projects in the course of the second year, while the third year is generally devoted to upscaling application of the best options and developing or strengthening the required capacities. The annual budget by output and budget item for each of the outcomes and for the Project Management is given in Annex 4.1.

195. Annex 4.2a presents Year-1 budget per quarter for Outcome 1 and Outcome 2, while Annex 4.2b describes what is to be achieved under each of the main activities and what achievement is targeted for the first year, bearing in mind the baselines, the risks and assumptions in addressing the risks. Additional activities to be undertaken in the first year include: (i) the development of the Inception Report, (ii) the organization of the Project Board meeting to consider the Inception Report, (iii) the recruitment of consultants and individuals and institutions who will carry out the planned activities, (iv) partnership building, (v) Day-to-day and quarterly monitoring of implementation, (vi) implementation of the project communication strategy, (vii) training of PMU staff in using guidelines for the APR/PIR and mainstreaming gender into the project implementation, and (viii) preparation of the first Annual Project Report/PIR.

196. Both the three-year and first year work plans were reviewed during the project inception phase. They are provisional pending endorsement by the Project Board.

C.6 Monitoring and Evaluation

197. Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures. The project team – based at GSSD-MOE and the Cambodia UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO) will undertake monitoring and evaluation activities, with support from UNDP-GEF, including independent evaluators for the mid-term and final evaluation. The project results framework matrix in Annex 3 provides a logical structure for monitoring project performance and delivery using SMART indicators during project implementation. The output budget and the work plan in the project document provide additional information for the allocation of funds, both the GEF and co-financing, for expected project deliverables and the timing of project activities to produce these deliverables. A GEF tracking tool for CCCD will be used as part of monitoring and evaluation activities to assess project delivery (See Annex 2). The work plan reviewed during the project inception phase is provisional pending endorsement by the Project Board.

198. The following sections outline the principal components of monitoring and evaluation discussed during the project’s inception phase so as to fine-tune indicators and means of verification, as well as an explanation and full definition of project staff M&E responsibilities.

199. Day-to-day monitoring of implementation progress will be the responsibility of the Project Coordinator based on the project’s Annual Work Plan and its indicators. The Project Coordinator will inform the UNDP-CO of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the appropriate support or corrective measures can be adopted in a timely and remedial fashion.

200. When and if needed, the Project Coordinator may fine-tune outputs, main activities and performance indicators in consultation with the full project team, with support from UNDP-CO and assisted by the UNDP-GEF. Specific targets for the first year implementation performance indicators, together with their means of verification were reviewed at the inception workshop. These will be used to assess whether implementation is proceeding at the intended pace and in the right direction and will form part of the Annual Work Plan. Targets and indicators for subsequent years would be defined annually as part of the internal evaluation and planning processes undertaken by the Project Team, and agreed with the PB.

201. Periodic monitoring of implementation progress will be undertaken by the UNDP-CO through monitoring discussions and site visits based on quarterly narrative and financial reports from the Project Coordinator. These quarterly progress reports will be prepared following guidelines provided by the UNDP-CO and UNDP-GEF RCU; they are short reports outlining the main updates in project performance.

202. Furthermore, specific meetings may be scheduled between the PMU, the UNDP-CO and other pertinent stakeholders as deemed appropriate and relevant (particularly the PB members). Such meetings

will allow parties to take stock and to troubleshoot any problems pertaining to the project in a timely fashion to ensure smooth implementation of project activities.

203. *Annual Monitoring* will occur through the Annual Project Board meeting. This is the highest policy-level meeting of the parties directly involved in the implementation of a project. The project will be subject to PB meetings at least twice per year. The first such meeting will be held within the first twelve months following the initiation workshop. For each year-end meeting of the PB, the Project Coordinator will prepare harmonized Annual Project Report / Project Implementation Reviews (APR/PIR) and submit it to UNDP-CO, the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordination Unit, and all PB members at least two weeks prior to the meeting for review and comments.

204. The APR/PIR will be used as one of the basic documents for discussions in the PB year-end meeting. The Project Coordinator will present the APR/PIR to the PB members, highlighting policy issues and recommendations for the decision of the Committee participants. The Project Coordinator will also inform the participants of any agreement(s) reached by stakeholders during the APR/PIR preparation, on how to resolve operational issues. Separate reviews of each project output may also be conducted, as necessary. Details regarding the requirements and conduct of the APR and PB meetings are contained with the M&E Information Kit available through UNDP-GEF.

205. The combined *Annual Project Report (APR) and Project Implementation Review (PIR)* is a UNDP requirement and part of UNDP-CO central oversight, monitoring and project management. As a self-assessment report by project management to the CO, the APR/PIR is a key input to the year-end Project Board meetings. The PIR is an annual monitoring process mandated by the GEF. It has become an essential management and monitoring tool for project managers and offers the main vehicle for extracting lessons from on-going projects. These two reporting requirements are very similar in input, purpose and timing that they have now been amalgamated into a single APR/PIR Report.

206. An APR/PIR is to be prepared on an annual basis (at least one month in advance) in order to be considered at the PB meeting. The purpose of the APR/PIR is to reflect progress achieved in meeting the project’s Annual Work Plan and assess performance of the project in contributing to intended outcomes through outputs and partnership work. The APR/PIR is discussed by the PB, so that the resultant report represents a document that has been agreed upon by all of the key stakeholders.

207. A standard format/template for the APR/PIR is provided by UNDP-GEF. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Progress made toward project objective and project outcomes - each with indicators, baseline data and end-of-project targets (cumulative)
- Project outputs delivered per project outcome (annual)
- Lesson learned/good practice.
- AWP and other expenditure reports
- Risk and adaptive management
- ATLAS QPR
- Portfolio level indicators (i.e. GEF focal area tracking tools) are used by most focal areas on an annual basis as well.

208. UNDP will analyze the individual APR/PIRs by focal area, theme and region for common issues/results and lessons. The APR/PIRs are also valuable for the independent evaluators who can utilize them to identify any changes in the project’s structure, indicators, work plan, among others, and view a past history of delivery and assessment.

209. A *mid-term review* may be conducted if needed at the mid-point of the implementation of the project (i.e. in March-April 2017) to review the progress of the project and provide recommendations for the remaining implementation phase, including recommendations for ensuring a smooth exit and maximize the sustainability of project achievements.

210. An *independent final evaluation* will take place three months prior to the terminal tripartite review meeting, and will focus on: a) the cost-effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation and performance; b) highlight issues requiring decisions and actions; and c) present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. Findings of this evaluation will be incorporated as lessons learned, and recommendations for improvement addressed to ensure the institutional sustainability of project outputs, particular for the replication of project activities. The final evaluation will also look at project outcomes and their sustainability. The final evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities, as appropriate. The terms of reference for the final evaluation will be prepared by the UNDP-CO based on guidance from the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit, in consultation with the PB.

211. During the last three months of the project, the PMU will prepare the *Project Terminal Report*. This comprehensive report will summarize all activities, achievements and outputs of the project, lessons learned, the extent to which objectives have been met, structures and mechanisms implemented, capacities developed, among others. Together with the independent final evaluation, the project terminal report is one of two definitive statements of the project’s activities during its lifetime. The project terminal report will also recommend further steps, if necessary, in order to ensure sustainability and replicability of the project outcomes and outputs.

212. *The terminal review meeting* is held by the PB, with invitation to other relevant government stakeholders as necessary, in the last month of project operations. The Project Coordinator is responsible for preparing the terminal review report and submitting it to UNDP-CO, the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit, and all participants of the terminal review meeting. The terminal review report will be drafted at least one month in advance of the terminal review meeting, in order to allow for timely review and to serve as the basis for discussion. The terminal review report considers the implementation of the project as a whole, paying particular attention to whether the project has achieved its stated objectives and contributed to the broader environmental objective. The report also decides whether any actions remain necessary, particularly in relation to the sustainability of project outputs and outcomes, and acts as a vehicle through that lessons learned can be captured to feed into other projects under implementation or formulation. The terminal review meeting should refer to the independent final evaluation report, conclusions and recommendations as appropriate.

213. The UNDP-CO, in consultation with the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinator and members of the PB, has the authority to suspend disbursement if project performance benchmarks are not met as per delivery rates, and qualitative assessments of achievements of outputs.

214. The Project Coordinator, in consultation with and clearance from the National Project Director will provide the UNDP Resident Representative with *certified periodic financial statements* relating to the status of UNDP (including GEF) funds according to the established procedures set out in UNDP’s Programming and Finance manuals. An *audit of the financial statements* will be conducted by the legally recognized auditor of Cambodia UNDP-CO.

215. *Learning and knowledge sharing*: Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone through existing information sharing networks and forums at the national, regional and global levels, in line with the communication strategy.

216. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to project implementation though lessons learned. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects.

217. *Communications and visibility requirements*: A draft communication strategy was tabled and considered during the Inception Workshop. The final strategy is contained in Annex 11 to this Inception Report.

218. Full compliance is required with UNDP’s Branding Guidelines. These can be accessed at <http://intra.undp.org/coa/branding.shtml>, and specific guidelines on UNDP logo use can be accessed at:

<http://intra.undp.org/branding/useOfLogo.html>. Amongst other things, these guidelines describe when and how the UNDP logo needs to be used, as well as how the logos of donors to UNDP projects needs to be used. For the avoidance of any doubt, when logo use is required, the UNDP logo needs to be used alongside the GEF logo. The GEF logo can be accessed at: http://www.thegef.org/gef/GEF_logo. The UNDP logo can be accessed at <http://intra.undp.org/coa/branding.shtml>.

219. Full compliance is also required with the GEF’s Communication and Visibility Guidelines (the “GEF Guidelines”). The GEF Guidelines can be accessed at: http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/C.40.08Branding_the_GEF%20final_0.pdf. Amongst other things, the GEF Guidelines describe when and how the GEF logo needs to be used in project publications, vehicles, supplies and other project equipment. The GEF Guidelines also describe other GEF promotional requirements regarding press releases, press conferences, press visits, visits by Government officials, productions and other promotional items.

220. Where other agencies and project partners have provided support through co-financing, their branding policies and requirements should be similarly applied.

221. Audit on project will follow UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable Audit policies.

Table 5: Monitoring Work Plan and Budget

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$	Time frame
		<i>Excluding project team staff time</i>	
Inception Workshop and Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Coordinator ▪ UNDP CO, UNDP GEF 	Indicative cost: 5,000	As early as possible from project start up
Measurement of Means of Verification of project results.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNDP GEF RTA/Project Coordinator will oversee the hiring of specific studies and institutions, and delegate responsibilities to relevant team members. 	To be finalized in Inception Phase and Workshop.	Start, mid and end of project (during evaluation cycle) and annually when required.
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Progress on output and implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oversight by Project Coordinator ▪ Project team 	To be determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation.	Annually prior to ARR/PIR and to the definition of annual work plans
ARR/PIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Coordinator and team ▪ UNDP CO ▪ UNDP RTA ▪ UNDP EEG 	None	Annually
Periodic status/ progress reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Coordinator and team 	None	Quarterly
Mid-term Review (if needed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Coordinator and team ▪ UNDP CO ▪ UNDP RCU ▪ External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team) 	Not Required for MSP project but can be undertaken if it is deemed necessary by the Project Board	At the mid-point of project implementation.
Final Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Coordinator and team, ▪ UNDP CO ▪ UNDP RCU ▪ External Consultants (i.e., evaluation team) 	Indicative cost: \$20,000	At least three months before the end of project implementation

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$	Time frame
		Excluding project team staff time	
Project Terminal Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Coordinator and team UNDP CO Local consultant 	0	At least three months before the end of the project
Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP CO Project Coordinator and team 	Indicative cost per year: \$3,500	Yearly
Visits to field sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP CO UNDP RCU (as appropriate) Government representatives 	For GEF supported projects, paid from IA fees and operational budget	Yearly
TOTAL indicative COST		US\$ 35,500	
Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff and travel expenses		(+/- 3.5% of GEF budget)	

D. Financing

D.1 Financing Plan

222. The financing of this project will be provided by the GEF (US\$ 990,000), with co-financing from the Government of Cambodia (US\$ 150,000) and UNDP (US\$ 1,150,000). The GEF leverage thus represents approximately a 1:1.3 ratio. The allocation of these sources of finances is structured by the two main project components, as described in section C.2.b above. More detailed financial information is provided in Annex 4. The table below gives a summary of the allocation of the budget per component/outcome.

Table 6: Project Costs (US\$)

Total Project Budget by Component	GEF (\$)	Co-Financing (\$)	Project Total (\$)
Component 1	478,960	599,600	1,078,560
Component 2	406,304	639,700	1,046,004
Project Management	104,736	50,817	155,553
Total project costs	990,000	1,290,117	2,280,117

Table 7: Estimated Project management budget/cost (for the entire project)

Component (*)	Estimated Staff weeks	GEF (\$)	Co-Financing (\$)	Project Total (\$)
Locally recruited personnel: Project staff		68,092		68,092

Commented [EH9]: PMC cannot exceed the amount approved in the ProDoc. GEFSec rules do not allow to allocate more than 10% of the project technical components budget to PMC. Revise back to USD 90,000.

Commented [RN10R9]: Team will review on the cost allocation for PMC (will revisit this) - Lynet

Commented [EH11]: This should be USD 1,300,000.

Commented [RN12R11]: Revisit, if there is any adjustment put in the footnote - Lynet

Commented [EH13]: Revise as per comments above. No more than USD 90,000 can be spent on PMC from GEF budget.

Commented [RN14R13]: Project team will revisit - Lynet

Rental & Maint. of Other Equip		5,000		5,000
Direct Project Costs		23,500	10,817	34,317
Office supplies, audits, miscellaneous		5,209	40,000	45,209
Equipment and Furniture		2,935		2,935
Total project management cost		104,736	50,817	155,553

* Local and international consultants in this table are those who are hired for functions related to the management of project. Please see table below for consultants providing technical assistance for special services.

223. An internationally recruited consultant will be contracted to undertake the independent final evaluation towards the end of the project. The travel budget includes the costs of DSA, TE and return airfare for the international consultant.

224. No UNDP Implementing Agency Project cycle management services are being charged to the Project Budget. All such costs are being charged to the IA fee. In agreement with the Government of Cambodia, UNDP may provide a few implementation support services (mostly recruitment of international consultants) under the National Implementation Modality; these will be charged to the Project Management Budget. A budget of \$34,000 was allocated to these Direct Project Costs (DPCs), including \$19,000 that will be funded by the GEF grant and \$15,000 through the UNDP cash contribution to the project. Details of such charges are provided in Annex 8.

Table 8: Total GEF Budget and Work Plan

Award ID:	0009211700083830
Project ID:	08383000092117
Award Title:	Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Three Rio Conventions
Business Unit:	KHM10
Project Title:	Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Three Rio Conventions
PIMS No:	5222
Implementing Partner (Executing Agency):	Ministry of Environment

Expected AWP/PROJECT OUTPUT	Responsible Party	CHART OF ACCOUNT					Amount (USD) Year 1_Oct-Dec 15	Amount (USD) Year 2	Amount (USD) Year 3	Amount (USD) Year 4_Mid Spet 2018	Total (USD)	Budget No.
		Imple. Agent	Fund	Donor	Account	Description						
Component 1: Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	71200	International consultant		23,000	15,000	5,000	43,000	1
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	71300	Local Consultant		50,300	45,000	20,000	115,300	2
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	9,290	46,800	46,800	35,100	137,990	3
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	71600	Travel	6,048	12,000	9,000	3,000	30,048	4

Commented [EH15]: Revised budget will have to be submitted in the Budget revision template (attached to email) for RTA clearance.

Commented [RN16R15]: This already exist, the team will put it as the Annex – Lynet

GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	72200	Equipment & Furniture		10,000	2,000		12,000	5	
GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	72300	Material & Goods		5,400	3,000	500	8,900	6	
GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	72500	Supplies	340	4,000	3,000	1,000	8,340	7	
GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	72800	Information Technology Equipment	6,881	13,000	3,000		22,881	8	
GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	73300	Rental & Maint. of Info. Tech. Equip.		1,500	1,500	500	3,500	9	
GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	73400	Rental & Maint. of Other Equip.		6,000	6,000	3,000	15,000	10	
GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	74500	Miscellaneous			1,000	500	1,500	11	
GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	75700	Training Workshops and Conferences		36,202	30,000	10,000	76,202	12	
UNDP	001981	04000	00012	71300	Local Consultant Evaluation		-	10,000		10,000	13	
UNDP	001981	62000	10003	71600	Travel and project monitoring		-	3,200		3,200	14	
UNDP	001981	04000	00012	71600	Travel Cost		1,450	1,450		2,900	15	
UNDP	001981	04000	00012	61300	Professional Services (Programme Oversight)		8,500	8,500		17,000	16	
GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	00012	74500	Miscellaneous		450	450	200	1,100	17	
Sub-Total Outcome 1							22,558	218,602	188,900	78,800	508,860	

Component 2: Improved use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	71200	International Consultant		15,500	25,000	10,000	50,500	18
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	71300	Local Consultant		15,200	40,000	25,000	80,200	19
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	4,903	39,000	39,000	29,250	112,153	20
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	71600	Travel		15,000	12,000	5,000	32,000	21
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	72200	Equipment & Furniture	1,738	4,000	2,000	1,000	8,738	22
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	72400	Communication & Audio Visual Equip.		2,435	2,500	1,000	5,935	23
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	72500	Supplies		1,500	2,000	1,000	4,500	24
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	72800	Information Technology Equipment	413	14,000	1,000	1,000	16,413	25
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	73300	Rental & Maint. of Info. Tech. Equip.		450	450	450	1,350	26
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	73400	Rental & Maint. of Other Equip.		3,000	3,000	1,000	7,000	27
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	74500	Miscellaneous			1,000	745	1,745	28
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	75700	Training Workshops and Conferences		15,620	55,000	12,000	82,620	29
	GSSD/MoE	001115	04000	00012	71200	International Consultant		7,500	49,500		57,000	30
	UNDP	001981	04000	00012	71200	International Consultant Evaluation		-	25,000		25,000	31

	UNDP	001981	62000	10003	71600	International Consultant Evaluation		-	2,000		2,000	32	
	UNDP	001981	04000	00012	71600	Travel Cost		500	400		900	33	
	UNDP	001981	04000	00012	61300	Professional Services (Programme Oversight)		6,500	8,500		15,000	34	
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	00012	74500	Miscellaneous		500	400	250	1,150	35	
	Sub-Total outcome 2							7,054	140,705	268,750	87,695	504,203	
Project Management	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	3,742	23,400	23,400	17,550	68,092	36	
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	72200	Equipment & Furniture	135	1,500	1,000	300	2,935	37	
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	73400	Rental & Maint. of Other Equip.		2,500	2,500		5,000	38	
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	72500	Supplies	507	1,500	2,000	500	4,507	39	
	UNDP	001981	62000	10003	74100	Professional Services (Yearly Audit and HACT Assessment)	3,219	4,000	4,000		11,219	40	
	GSSD/MoE	001115	62000	10003	74500	Miscellaneous	2	300	300	100	702	41	
	UNDP	001981	04000	00012	74500	Miscellaneous	-	1,500	1,500		3,000	42	
	UNDP	001981	62000	10003	74598 64398	UNDP Direct Project Costing (Operations)	-	6,500	5,781		12,281	43	
	UNDP	001981	04000	00012	74598 64398	UNDP Direct Project Costing (Operations)	317	4,000	5,000		9,317	44	

	Sub-Total PMC	7,922	45,200	45,481	18,450	117,053
	TOTAL	37,534	404,507	503,131	184,945	1,130,117

Summary By Responsible Party					
GSSD/MoE	33,998	371,557	427,800	184,945	1,018,300
UNDP	3,535	32,950	75,331	-	111,817
Total	37,534	404,507	503,131	184,945	1,130,117
GEF	37,217	374,557	393,281	184,945	990,000
UNDP	317	29,950	109,850	-	140,117
Total	37,534	404,507	503,131	184,945	1,130,117

Budget Notes:

(1) International consultant (@600/day / @500/day) to develop information management system for the three Rio Conventions.

(2) National consultant (@300/day/ @200/day) to support the assessment and implementation of solutions for harmonizing environmental information systems.

(3) Project Coordinator.

(4) Travel budget for capacity building events, and for government delegates to participate in COPs, SBSTTA, Ad-Hoc meetings, and other related meetings for the Rio conventions

(5) Budget provision for office Machinery and Equipment

(6) Material and Goods for component 1

(7) Office supplies for component 1

(8) Information Technology Equipment for Outcome 1

(9) Rental and Maintenance of Information Technology Equipment for Outcome 1

(10) Car rental for operations

(11) Miscellaneous Expenses

(12) Training, workshop, 3 Rio conference, meeting, and events to promote harmonize environmental system management, to promote access to the environmental management system, and to communicate and exchange information related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions

(13) **Local. Consultant (@250/day) for Mid-Term and Final Evaluations (UNDP)**

UNDP

Commented [EH17]: Shall be International Consultant

(14) **Local. Consultant (@250/day) for Mid-Term and Final Evaluations (UNDP)**

UNDP

Commented [RN18R17]: For evaluation, the plan is to have one international (see in budget note 31), and 1 local (it is splitted into two budget notes 13 and 14, coz of two budget sources)

(15) **Travel costs for project monitoring for CO staff**

UNDP

(16) **Professional Services (Programme Oversight_Programme Analyst and Programme Associate)**

UNDP

(17) *Miscellaneous Expenses*

(18) *CD International Advisor @500/day*

(19) *MEA Expert @200/day*

(20) *Finance officer, Secretary and Cleaner*

(21) *Travel budget for capacity building events, and for government delegates to participate in COPs, SBSTTA, Ad-Hoc and other related meetings for the Rio conventions*

(22) *Budget provision for office Machinery and Equipment*

(23) *Communication and Audio Visual Equipment under Outcome 2*

(24) *Office supplies for component 2*

(25) *Information Technology Equipment for Outcome 2*

(26) *Rental and Maintenance of Information Technology Equipment for Outcome 2*

(27) *Car maintenance, petroleum and other*

(28) *Miscellaneous Expenses for component 2*

(29) *Training, workshop, 3 Rio conference meeting and related events improved capacity building, national coordination and dialogue mechanisms on the 3 Rio Conventions*

(30) *CD Inter. Advisor*

(31) **Inter. Consultant (@600/day) for Project Evaluations (UNDP)**

UNDP

UNDP/GEF project “Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the 3 Rio Conventions”

<i>(32) Inter. Consultant (@600/day) for Project Evaluations (UNDP)</i>	UNDP
<i>(33) Travel and project monitoring (UNDP)</i>	UNDP
<i>(34) Professional Services (Programme Oversight_Programme Analyst and Programme Associate)</i>	UNDP
<i>(35) Miscellaneous Expenses</i>	
<i>(36) Admin Officer and Driver</i>	
<i>(37) Budget provision for office Machinery and Equipment (PMC)</i>	
<i>(38) Car maintenance and spare part</i>	
<i>(39) Office supplies for project management</i>	
<i>(40) Professional Services (Yearly Audit and HACT Assessment) (UNDP)</i>	UNDP
<i>(41) Miscellaneous Expenses</i>	
<i>(42) Travel and project monitoring (UNDP)</i>	UNDP
<i>(43) UNDP Direct Project Costing (Operations) Revised</i>	UNDP
<i>(44) UNDP Direct Project Costing (Operations) Revised</i>	

225. The table below provides details on planned consultancies for implementing this project. One consultancy with one international environmental monitoring expert is planned under outcome 2. The other consultancies are planned to be conducted by local consultants.

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Table 9: Consultants for technical assistance components (estimated for entire project)

Local Consultants	Estimated Staff weeks	GEF (\$)	Co-Financing (\$)	Project Total (\$)
International consultant (s) to develop information management system for the three Rio Conventions (@500-@600/day)	14	43,000	-	43,000
CD International Advisor to advise the project during the three years of implementation (@500-@600/day)	16	50,500	73,000	50,230
MEA Expert for the duration of the project to support the PMU and the National Project Director in implementing the project (@200-@300/day)	80	80,200	-	80,200
Inter. Consultant(s) for Mid-Term and Final Evaluations	10	-	18,000	18,000
Total	120	173,700	91,000	191,430
National consultants to support the assessment and implementation of solutions for harmonizing environmental information systems	LOA	115,300	-	115,300

D.2 Cost Effectiveness

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226. An important indicator to consider for analyzing the project cost-effectiveness is the percentage of the total project that is being used for project management services. As per table 10 below, this percentage is 6%, which is reasonable for a project of this size. It is noted that due to the small size of the project budget, this project management cost cannot be lower.

227. Due to a good co-financing of this project, the cost-effectiveness of this project is good. As described in the sections, above, this project is a response to a national need and it will benefit from a significant investment of government staff (decision-makers and planners) to actively participate in project activities. The table below is an estimate of this contribution over the three years of project implementation.

228. The cost-effectiveness of this project is also demonstrated in efficiently allocating and managing the financial resources of this project. The recruitment of consultants will consist mostly of local consultants, reducing the transaction costs associated when contracting international consultants.

Table 10: Project Costs (%)

Project Budget Component by Contribution type	Contribution (US\$)	Percentage (%)
Component 1: GEF	478,960	21%
Component 1: Co-Financing	599,600	26%
Component 2: GEF	406,304	19%
Component 2: Co-Financing	639,700	28%
Project Management: GEF	104,736	4%
Project Management: Co-Financing	50,817	2%
Total	2,280,117	100%

Commented [EH19]: Revise as per previous comments

Commented [RN20R19]: Will action – Lynet. As per response in the earlier comment.

D.3 Co-financing

229. UNDP will allocate US\$ 1,150,000 directly to this project in cash (US\$150,000) and in-kind (US\$1,000,000) as part of its commitment to supporting the Government of Cambodia to strengthen its environmental information management and monitoring functions. The Government of Cambodia, through MOE is contributing US\$ 150,000 in kind, which includes the human resources and their salaries - to support the project team in the implementation of the project - office furniture and space. The table 11 below presents the co-financing sources for this project. Letters to support this co-financing are presented in Part III of this project document.

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Table 11: Co-Financing Sources

Name of Co-financier	Classification	Type	Amount	
			Confirmed (US\$)	Unconfirmed (US\$)
MOE	National Executive Agency	In-kind	150,000	
UNDP	GEF Implementing Agency	Grant	140,117	
UNDP	GEF Implementing Agency	In-kind	1,000,000	
Total Co-financing			1,290,117	

Commented [EH21]: Not matching with the info in the text. Why is UNDP co-financing reduced?

Commented [RN22R21]: Team will work on this case as per response earlier – Lynet

E. Institutional Coordination and Support

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E.1 Core Commitments and Linkages

E.1.a Linkages to Other Activities and Programmes

230. The project is fully compliant with the comparative advantages matrix approved by the GEF Council. UNDP was selected as the GEF Implementing Agency for this project based on their experience and expertise in supporting capacity development efforts in Cambodia, and the lessons learned and best practices that it could bring to bear from their experience in other countries. UNDP and the Government previously worked jointly on implementing the NCSA and its follow up initiatives, and agreed to cooperate on environmental governance for future projects.

231. More broadly speaking, UNDP has developed a global expertise in supporting the development of in-country environmental governance capacity, including the development of environmental indicators and monitoring/evaluation tools, which are extremely necessary in measuring impact of such capacity development programmes.

232. There are a number of key programmes and initiatives with which this project is to be coordinated. Each of these programmes and initiatives has important data and information requirements. Likewise, each is generating the key data and information needs to facilitate and catalyze improved decision-making to meet global environmental objectives. They are also important components of a holistic approach to improve the management of the environment in Cambodia. This proposed project will build upon existing initiatives and their achievements and coordinate with related key programmes, plans, and projects. The main ones are presented below:

- Cambodia Climate Change Alliance – Phase 2 (MOE/UNDP-EU-SIDA, 2011-2015, USD 12.9M);
- Forest Carbon Partnership Facility REDD+ Readiness Project (MAFF/UNDP-Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, 2014-2017, USD 6.7M);
- Promoting Climate-Resilient Water Management and Agricultural Practices in Rural Cambodia (NAPAFU Phase 2) (MAFF/UNDP-CIDA, 2013-2015, USD 2.4M);
- Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management and Bio-Energy Markets to Promote Environmental Sustainability and to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Cambodia (MAFF/UNDP-GEF-DANIDA-GERES, 2011-2015, USD 10M);
- Cambodia UN REDD National Programme (UNDP-FAO-UN-REDD, 2011-2014, USD 4.2M);
- Cambodia Community Based Adaptation Programme (CCBAP) (UNDP-SIDA, 2011-2015, USD 4.3M);
- FFI initiative on sustainability finance of catchment areas in Cambodia, including a feasibility study on Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES);
- IUCN projects in Cambodia including: (i) the Regional Building Coastal Resilience to Climate Change Project (EU funded USD 4M, 2011-2014); (ii) Mekong Water Dialogues (regional project funded by Finland Euros 4M, 2010-2014); (iii) Strengthening capacity of fishing Communities in the Tonle Sap to manage their natural resources sustainably (funded by EU); and (iv) Bridge 3S (Building River Dialogue and Governance) (regional project over three rivers: Sekong, Sre Pok, and Sesan);
- CI initiatives in climate change – both adaptation (forestry management) and mitigation (REDD), and land degradation;
- ECHO initiatives including the 2009 capacity development needs assessment of MOE and capacity development of civil society (22 NGOs);

- WWF initiatives including policy level work with government of Cambodia in biodiversity and in the context of the Green Growth strategy currently being implemented; and
- ADB funded projects including (i) Mainstreaming Climate Resilience into Development Planning (2013-2014), and (ii) Greater Mekong Sub-region Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Project (regional, 2011-2019).

233. UNDP’s activities in Cambodia are in line with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2011-2015 and the UNDP Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP). Both UNDAF and CPAP identify the sustainable use of natural resources as a threat to development, and UNDP Cambodia is investing core resources to address this threat. Specifically, the project will particularly contribute to the achievement of the UNDAF Priority 1 that is *the development of capacities of national institutions, sub-national authorities and private sector to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, cleaner technologies and responsiveness to climate change*. As for CPAP, this project will be part of the fourth component that is aiming *by 2015 to contribute to developing the capacity of national institutions, sub-national authorities, communities and private sector to be able to sustainably manage ecosystems and respond to climate change threats*. Under this fourth component, UNDP allocated a budget of about \$10 million from its own regular resources and an additional budget of over \$35 million from other resources for the period 2011-2015.

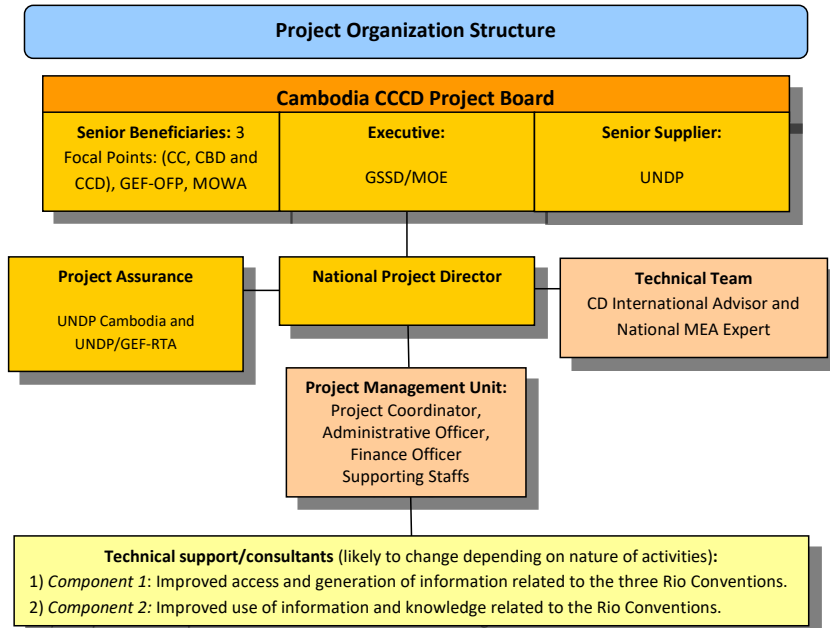
E.2 Implementation and Execution Arrangements

234. The project will be implemented according to Operations Manual for the Secretariat of the National Climate Change Committee (August 2013).

235. Establishing an effective project management structure is crucial for its success. Every project has a need for direction, management, control and communication, using a structure that differs from line management. As a project is normally cross-functional and involves partnership, its structure needs to be more flexible, and is likely to require a broad base of skills for a specific period of time. The UNDP project management structure consists of roles and responsibilities that bring together the various interests and skills involved in, and required by, the project. It is proposed that the management arrangements illustrated below be discussed and considered for the Cambodia CCD project:

Commented [EH23]: 1.No, must be complaint with UNDP rules. As per original text: The project will be implemented according to UNDP’s National Implementation Modality (NIM) as per NIM guidelines agreed by UNDP and the Government of Cambodia.

Commented [RN24R23]: This one we already discussed will include the update on this point where relevant when the overall report text is adjusted. – Nith



The Ministry of Environment (MOE) is the designated Implementing Partner for the project. It will execute the project through the Department of Biodiversity, GSSD/MOE on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) under Operations Manual for the Secretariat of the National Climate Change Committee (August 2013). The Implementing Partner (MOE) is the entity responsible and accountable for managing a project, including the monitoring and evaluation of project interventions, achieving project outputs, and for the effective use of GEF/UNDP resources. A single implementing partner is designated to manage each UNDP-supported project. The implementing partner may enter into agreements with other organizations or entities to assist in successfully delivering project outputs. Possible implementing partners include government institutions, other eligible UN agencies and inter-governmental organizations, UNDP, and eligible civil society organizations (CSOs). Eligible CSOs are those that are legally registered in the country where they will be operating. The implementing partner was identified based on an assessment of its legal, technical, financial, managerial and administrative capacities that will be needed for the project. In addition, its ability to manage cash was assessed in accordance with the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT). The implementing partner may enter into agreements with other organizations or entities, namely Responsible Parties, to assist in successfully delivering project outputs. The Implementing Partner will assign a Representative and provide its staff and network of experts as support to the Project Management (as part of government co-financing).

236. **Executive:** An individual representing the project ownership to chair the group will be represented by a senior official of MOE.

237. **Senior Beneficiary:** An Individual or group of individuals representing the interests of those who will ultimately benefit from the project. The Senior Beneficiary’s primary function within the Board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries. The Departments of

Biodiversity and Climate Change, GSSD/MOE and the Department of International Cooperation, MAFF represent the Government of Cambodia and act as the Senior Beneficiary of the Project.

238. **Senior Supplier:** Individual or group representing the interests of the parties concerned, which provide funding for specific cost sharing projects and/or technical expertise to the project. The Senior Supplier’s primary function within the Board is to provide guidance regarding the technical feasibility of the project. UNDP-Cambodia, which provides support to the project on behalf of the GEF takes the role of the Senior Supplier. UNDP is the GEF Implementing Agency for this project, with the UNDP Country Office responsible for transparent practices, appropriate conduct and professional auditing.

239. **Project Board (PB):** The three parties above (Executive, Senior Supplier and Senior Beneficiary) make up the core members of the Project Board of which the main function is to strategically guide the course of the project towards achieving its objective. It is specifically established by the project to provide management oversight of project activities and is to be chaired by the Senior Official of MOE. The PB will review progress and evaluation reports, and approve programmatic modifications to project execution, as appropriate and in accordance to UNDP procedures. Policy recommendations will be discussed and recommended for consideration by the Cabinet of Ministers and Parliament. The PB is also responsible for making by consensus, management decisions for a project when guidance is required by the Project Coordinator, including recommendation for UNDP/Implementing Partner approval of project plans and revisions. In order to ensure UNDP’s ultimate accountability, PB decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. The Project Board will report to the National Council for Sustainable Development.

240. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the PB, final decision shall rest with the chair of the PB. In addition, the PB plays a critical role in UNDP commissioned project evaluations by quality assuring the evaluation process and products, and using evaluations for performance improvement, accountability and learning. Project reviews by this group are made at designated decision points during the running of the project, or as necessary when raised by the Project Coordinator. This group is consulted by the Project Coordinator for decisions when Project Coordinator’s tolerances (normally in terms of time and budget) have been exceeded (flexibility). Based on the approved annual work plan (AWP), the PB may review and approve project quarterly plans when required and authorizes any major deviation from these agreed quarterly plans. It is the authority that signs off the completion of each quarterly plan as well as authorizes the start of the next quarterly plan. It ensures that required resources are committed and arbitrates on any conflicts within the project or negotiates a solution to any problems between the projects and external bodies. Finally, it approves the appointment and responsibilities of the Project Coordinator and any delegation of its Project Assurance responsibilities.

241. In addition to the three parties above, government membership of the PB may include representatives from the line ministries responsible and their respective state agencies. Non-state stakeholders may also be represented on the PB, namely from the private sector, academic and research institutions, NGOs, and CSOs. Additional members of the PB are reviewed and recommended for approval during the project appraisal committee (PAC) meeting. The PB will meet at least two (2) times per year. This group contains at least the following representatives:

- **Senior Beneficiary:** MOE will represent the project ownership and chair the PB.
- **Senior Supplier:** UNDP will represent the interests of the parties, which provide funding and/or technical expertise to the project.
- **Executive:** MOE will represent the interests of managing the project. Its primary function within the *Project Board* is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of implementing the project.

242. The Project Assurance role supports the Project Board Executive by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. The Project Manager and Project Assurance roles should never be held by the same individual for the same project. This will be the responsibility of the Head of the Environment and Energy Unit (EEU) of UNDP Cambodia and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor.

243. **National Project Director (NPD):** The *NPD* has the authority to supervise and provide overall operational management and guidance for the successful executions and implementation of the project within the constraints laid down by the Project Board as well as subcontract specific components of the project to specialized government agencies, research institutions, as well as qualified NGOs. The Implementing Partner appoints the *NPD*. He/she is responsible for financial management and disbursements with accountability to the government and UNDP. Prior to the approval of the project, the Project Developer from UNDP is responsible for project management functions during formulation until the National *Project Director* from the Implementing Partner is in place.

244. **National MEA Expert:** The National MEA Expert provides technical support on MEAs to PMU and the National Project Director (See Annex 13: ToR of the National MEA Expert).

245. **International CD Advisor:** The International CD Advisor provides capacity building support to the PMU and the National Project Director (See Annex 14: ToR of the International CD Advisor).

246. **Project Management Unit (PMU):** The *Executive* will provide an office. It will be located at GSSD/MOE. The PMU will be administered by a full-time *Project Coordinator* and supported by a full-time *Administrative Officer*, Finance Officer, Secretary, and support staff.

247. **Project Coordinator:** The *Project Coordinator* is in charge of running the project on a day-to-day basis (also see paragraphs 199 and 200 above) on behalf of the *NPD* that is day-to-day management and decision-making for the project with approval from *NPD*. The *Project Coordinator*'s prime responsibility is to ensure that the project produces the results (outputs) specified in the project document, to the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and cost. The *Implementing Partner* appoints the *Project Coordinator*, who should be different from the *Implementing Partner*'s representative in the Board (*NPD*).

248. **Project Administrative Officer:** The role provides project administration, management and technical support to the *Project Coordinator* as required by the needs of the individual project.

249. **Project Finance Officer:** He/she is to provide financial arrangements and management and technical support to the *Project Coordinator* and duties as required by the *PMU*.

250. **Project support staff:** Their roles to provide non-technical support and assistance for the day-to-day operation and management of the project. They also perform other duties as required by *PMU*.

251. **Technical Team:** This team will be formed of technical experts and will support the *NDP and/or PMU* by providing technical support to the implementation of this project. The team should include experts representing of each of the Rio Conventions as well as representatives of stakeholder groups.

252. **Technical Support/Consultants/cies:** Responsible for undertaking specific activities for project components as needed. The terms of reference of (i) the National MEA Expert and (ii) the International CD Advisor and supporting the PMU and the National Project Director are described in Annexes 13 and 14.

253. **Capacity Development Activities:** The project will take an adaptive collaborative management approach to implementation. That is, UNDP and GSSD/MOE will manage project activities in order that stakeholders are involved early and throughout project implementation, providing regular input of the performance of project activities. This will help signal unforeseen risks and contribute to the timely modification and realignment of activities within the boundaries of the project's goal and objectives.

254. **Stakeholder Engagement:** Project activities will be implemented through the necessary engagement of Stakeholders where needed.

255. **GEF Visibility:** Visibility of GEF financial support will be ensured by using the global GEF branding in all electronic and printed materials. The GEF logo will appear on all relevant project publications, including amongst others, project hardware and other purchases with GEF funds. Any citation in publications regarding projects funded by GEF will acknowledge the GEF. Logos of the Implementing Agencies and the Executing Agency will also appear on all publications. Where other agencies and project partners have provided support (through co-financing) their logos may also appear on project publications. Full compliance will be made with the GEF’s Communication and Visibility Guidelines²².

256.

F. LEGAL CONTEXT

257. This document together with the CPAP signed by the Government and UNDP which is incorporated by reference constitute together a Project Document as referred to in the SBAA and all CPAP provisions apply to this document.

258. Consistent with the Article III of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, the responsibility for the safety and security of the implementing partner and its personnel and property, and of UNDP’s property in the implementing partner’s custody, rests with the implementing partner.

259. The implementing partner shall:

- a) Put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;
- b) Assume all risks and liabilities related to the implementing partner’s security, and the full implementation of the security plan.

260. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary and with approval from the Project Board. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of this agreement.

261. The implementing partner agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267/1267ListEng.htm>. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.

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²² See http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/C.40.08_Branding_the_GEF%20final_0.pdf.

PART II: ANNEXES

- ANNEX 1: LIST OF KEY PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS & DELIVERY**
- Annex 2: AGENDA AND MINUTES OF THE INCEPTION WORKSHOP**
- ANNEX 3: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT MONITORING SCORECARD**
- ANNEX 4: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK**
- ANNEX 5: TARGETED OUTPUTS FOR YEAR 1 WITH BASELINES, RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**
- ANNEX 6: PROVISIONAL WORK PLAN**
- ANNEX 6.1: TIMELINE FOR EACH ACTIVITY PLANNED TO ACHIEVE THE PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES**
- ANNEX 7: TERMS OF REFERENCES**
- ANNEX 8: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REVIEW CRITERIA**
- ANNEX 9: PPG STATUS REPORT**
- ANNEX 10: LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNDP AND GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA FOR THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES**
- ANNEX 11: GENDER MAINSTREAMING WORK PLAN**
- ANNEX 12: COMMUNICATION STRATEGY FOR THE THREE RIO CONVENTIONS PROJECT**
- ANNEX 13: TERMS OF REFERENCE OF NATIONAL MEA EXPERT**
- ANNEX 14: TERMS OF REFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL CD ADVISER**

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Annex 1: Key Project Achievements and Delivery (October 2015-June 2016)

Some key achievements of the Project Implementation (October 2015-June 2016)

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No.	Key achievement and delivery	Done	In Progress	Remarks
1.	Prepare and facilitate establishment of Project Board	✓		
2.	Facilitate and recruit PMU support staff (Secretary, Driver and Cleaner)	✓		
3.	Coordinate the Budget Revision G00 and G01 and FACEs, Q4 2015 and Q1 and Q2, 2016	✓		
4.	Facilitate the recruitment of National and international consultants for project start-up activities	✓		
5.	Initiate and facilitate the bidding and purchases of office supplies	✓		
6.	Support and facilitate the independent project auditing	✓		
7.	Support the first meeting of the Project Board	✓		
8.	Coordinate and attend “Youth and Biodiversity” training workshop	✓		
9.	Conduct series of meetings with UNDP and the PC on project implementation and financial matters	✓		
10.	Conduct consultation meetings with focal representatives of each Rio convention on project implementation and collection of recommendations for effective	✓		
11.	Carry out series of communications to facilitate the work of national and international consultants via meetings, telephones, sky etc.	✓		
12.	Attend international Day of Biodiversity	✓		
13.	Prepare and conduct the Inception Workshop	✓		
14.	Prepare Project Implementation Report for Q4, 2015	✓		
15.	Prepare Project Implementation Report for Q1, 2016	✓		
16.	Assist and facilitate revised Project Documents	✓		Subject to approval in the next board meeting
17.	Facilitate the development of Multi-Year Workplan	✓		Subject to approval in the next board meeting
18.	Coordinate the development of AWP 2016	✓		Subject to approval in the next board meeting
19.	Coordinate the development of communication Strategy	✓		Subject to approval in the next board meeting
20.	Coordinate the development of gender mainstreaming	✓		Subject to approval in the next board meeting
21.	Coordinate and prepare the Inception Workshop	✓		
22.	Coordinate the development the draft of Inception Report		90%	Final review by partners and will be approved in the next board meeting
23.	Initiate and prepare ToR of MEA Expert		95%	Revision to reflect the comments from UNDP

Commented [EH25]: Please confirm from whether funded from non-GEF resources. Please be also advised that no vehicles can be purchased from GEF budget for CCCD projects.

Commented [RN26R25]: Nith – needs to explain.

Commented [EH27]: Missing words

Commented [RN28R27]: Will complete this sentence – Nith

Commented [EH29]: Please share with us

Commented [RN30R29]: Will share the project report.

Commented [EH31]: As above. There is only one valid version of the ProDoc sent in Dec 2014. No new versions are to be created or signed.

Commented [RN32R31]: Noted.

Commented [EH33]: Since it's almost end of 2016, You should also prepare plan for 2017.

Commented [RN34R33]: Will add the plan for 2017 – Nith

Commented [EH35]: Needs revision.

Commented [RN36R35]: Noted, and updated.

UNDP/GEF project “Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the 3 Rio Conventions”

24.	Initiate and prepare ToR of CD Advisor		90%	Revision to reflect the comments from UNDP
25.	Maintain effective communications with project partners and stakeholders to disseminate project results		On-going	
26.	Prepare the Second Board Meeting		75%	It is scheduled in week 4 of June or week 1 of July subject to available time of project board members and chair of the Board

Annex 2: Agenda and Minutes of the Inception Workshop

(workshop held on 26 May 2016 at Tonle Bassac 2 Restaurant, Phnom Penh, Cambodia)

Time	Agenda item	Presenter and/or remarks
07:30 – 8:20	Registration of participants	- Project Team
08:20 – 08:30	National Anthem	Plenary Session
08:30 – 09:00	1. Workshop opening and introductions	
	- Welcome remarks	- Mr. Enrico Gaveglia, UNDP Country Director, a.i.c
	- Opening speech	- H.E. YIN Kimsean, Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment
09:00 – 09:10	2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work	- H.E. Dr. Tin Ponlok, Chair of Project Board, and Secretary General of GSSD
	3. Validation of the Project Documents	
09:10 – 09:25	3.1 Brief introduction of the ProDoc	- Ms. Somaly Chan, National Project Director, Deputy Secretary General of GSSD
09:25 – 09:45	3.2 Review and finalization of the terms of reference for positions in the Project Management Unit	- Ms. Somaly Chan
09:45 – 10:10	3.3 Review of the list of UNDP country support services to the project	- Dr. K.J Mulongoy, International Consultant
10:10 – 10:30	3.4 Expected outcomes and outputs and planned activities	- Dr. CHHINH Nyda, National Consultant
10:30 – 10:50	Coffee/tea break	
10:50 – 11:10	3.5 Review of the three-year work plan	- Dr. K.J Mulongoy, International Consultant
11:10 – 12:00	3.6 Review and finalization of the 2015-2016 detailed Work Plan	- Dr. K.J Mulongoy, International Consultant
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch break	
13:30 – 13:50	3.7 Review and updating of the Project Result Resource Framework	- Dr. K.J Mulongoy, International Consultant
13:50 – 14:10	3.8 Review of the project monitoring and evaluation plan	- Dr. K.J Mulongoy, International Consultant
14:10 – 14:25	3.9 Review of the Gender Mainstreaming Work Plan	- Ms. KEN Bopreang, Deputy Director of Department of Biodiversity
14:25 – 14:55	- Coffee/tea break	
14:55 – 15:15	3.10 Review of the Project Communication Strategy	- Mr. MENG Monyrak, Director of Department of Biodiversity
15:15 – 15:30	4 Ways forward for Project Implementation	- CHHIN Nith, Project Coordinator

15:30 - 15:45	5 Wrap-up and closure of the meeting	- Ms. Somaly Chan
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Minutes of Inception Workshop

The morning sessions of the workshop were chaired by H.E. Dr. Tin Ponlok, Chair of the Project Board and Secretary General of the General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development (GSSD) and the afternoon sessions by Ms. Somaly Chan, the National Project Director and GSSD Deputy Secretary General.

Agenda item 1: Workshop opening and introductions

Under this agenda item, statements were made by Mr. Enrico Gaveglia, UNDP Country Director, a.i.c and H.E. YIN Kimsean, Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment who opened the workshop.

In his welcome address, Mr. Gaveglia recalled the main objective of the project to support the implementation of the three Rio Conventions, of which Cambodia is a Party, and the main objective of the Inception Workshop, to enhance the shared understanding of the project goals and agree on the project three-year work plan as well as the detailed plans for the first year. Building on three fundamental project success principles, namely participation, collaboration and effective management, he drew the attention of the workshop to the types of support UNDP can provide to ensure the project’s smooth implementation, including through structured oversight monitoring and evaluation, communication, reporting, and rapid mobilization of international knowledge and experiences from relevant countries and mobilization of funds in the context of UNDP Country Office support to the Royal Government of Cambodia.

Speaking on behalf of H.E. SAY Samal, Minister of Environment and Chairman of the Council on Sustainable Development, H.E. YIN Kimsean set the project in the context of the MOE strategic goals, which are fundamental basis for action linking in a balanced manner conservation of natural resources and sustainable development. Recalling the expected outcomes of the project and the goals of the Inception Workshop, he invited all the participants to become familiar with the project work plans and get engaged in its implementation first by providing comments and suggestions during this planning phase and later on by actively participating in the project.

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

H.E. Dr. TIN Ponlok recalled the outcomes and outputs of the project, and introduced the agenda that was accepted without modification.

Agenda item 3: Validation of the Project Documents

Under this agenda item, presentations were made covering items 3.1 to 3.4. This was followed by a question-and-answer session during which participants provided suggestions for improving the project.

“Brief introduction of the Project Document” and “Review and finalization of the terms of reference for positions in the Project Management Unit”

Ms. Somaly Chan made a general presentation on the Project, including the project objectives, outcomes, outputs, organization structure, actors and budget. She also reviewed the terms of reference of the positions in the Project Management Unit (PMU) and informed the meeting on suggestion to change the Executive Agency name from “MoE” to “GSSD/MoE”, and the position of “Administrative Assistant” has changed to “Administrative Officer”. The Chair added that (i) information s lacking in some areas for decision-making e.g. regarding climate change vulnerability and thus generation of information/data is an important aspect of the project, and (ii) regarding TORs, some additional TORs will be developed to ensure that the PMU delivers effectively its work, which is critical to the success of the project.

Review of the list of UNDP country support services to the project

Dr. Jo Mulongoy, International Consultant, described the types and modalities of services that UNDP can provide to the project, based on the letter of agreement signed in 2014 by the UNDP Country Office and NCSD/MoE. The Chair completed the presentation by indicating that guidelines for the UNDP services have to be updated bearing in mind that Cambodia is preparing to become a National Implementing Agency.

Expected outcomes and outputs and planned activities, and review of the three-year work plan

Dr. Chhinh Nyda, Local Consultant, described the project two outcomes, 8 outputs and main activities. The International Consultant follow up on this presentation to describe the project three-year work plan (from **October 2015 to September 2018**). He indicated how by using the GEF Theory of Change process it was possible to identify the full sequence of activities leading to each output, and how outputs led to the outcomes. He also noted the additional tasks to be performed during the project period, including staff recruitment and partnership building, progress monitoring and evaluation and implementation of the communication strategy. Before opening the question-and-answer (Q&A) session, the Chair noted the needs for funds, capacities, partnership building and information sharing for a successful implementation of the project.

Comments, Question and answer session:

Building on the role of UNDP as senior supplier, in project assurance, the UNDP Country Director indicated that UNDP services were at two levels: management (e.g., procurement, personnel recruitment) and policy side. UNDP is also assisting by echoing the project results. Noting that the budget was well organized regarding the deliverables, he emphasized the importance of a strong and effective Project Management Unit (PMU), and that of the monitoring and evaluation, gender mainstreaming and communication components of the project. Expressing appreciation of UNDP support, H.E. Dr. Tin Ponlok assured that the project would maintain close dialogue and consultations with UNDP to avoid, among others, misunderstanding each other.

Following an intervention by the International Consultant, the project is a good model to show the world but lots of commitments need to be made, especially the involvement and participation from the concerned people and institutions to the project. It was generally agreed that the involvement of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MOEYS) was key to the success of the project.

Dr. Heng Chanthoeun of the Department of Climate Change enquired about the structure of the project clearing house mechanism (CHM), whether a distinct CHM for each of the three Rio Conventions or a single structure that would serve as one stop portal for information relating to the three Rio Conventions. The prospective single shared website should be standardized for information and knowledge collection and dissemination for wider, convenient audience. He also added that NCSA should be used as the baseline for the project to generate, compile, access and use information and knowledge.

Mr. MEAS Pyseth, UNCCD Focal Point, MAFF noted that, following a request from MOEYS, established a working group for the integration of information from UNCCD in education curriculums. Based on the request, MOE should work with MOEYS to further integrate biodiversity and climate change in education curriculums using the Project mechanism to realize this intention. With this concept, H.E. Tin Ponlok also confirmed that the climate change department has some extents of working with this MOEYS. Therefore, the Project Management should be look the possible way to intergrade the 3 Rio conventions at one time for the development of education curriculums.

Commented [EH37]: Please bear in mind that any DPCs charged to GEF funds must be in line with GEF specific policy, which is different from the one applied to UNDP non-GEF projects. Please refer to POPPs to ensure compliance.

Commented [RN38R37]: Noted.

Commented [EH39]: Project Closed Date is Jan 2018.

Commented [RN40R39]: Noted and adjusted. Nith

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Mr. Chhum Sovanny from UNDP supported many points made in previous interventions regarding for example the role of PMU and the importance of gender mainstreaming. He emphasized the need to develop clear terms of reference for the CD International Advisor and the National MEA Expert who will be supporting the Project Manager. The TORs will be prepared in line with the work plan.

Review of the first year work plan, and review and updating of the Project Result Resource Framework and review of the project monitoring and evaluation plan

The International Consultant presented the first-year work plan (from October 2015 to September 2016). He covered, for each activity to be carried out in the first year, the baseline, the expected output for the full activity throughout the project, the targets for the first year (i.e. at the end of September 2016), the risk and assumptions. The monitoring and evaluation plan described by the International Consultant included the day-to-day, quarterly, annual, mid-term, and final monitoring and evaluation, taking into account the “Project Result Resource Framework” as well as the country’s capacity score card. The presentation on the “Project Result Resource Framework” highlighted for each target the baselines, targets, indicators of progress, means of verification as well as risks and assumptions. Participants were invited to become more familiar with the project objectives and activities, own the work plan and become fully engaged in the project implementation. Commenting on the presentation, Ms. Somaly Chan, who chaired the afternoon part of the workshop, drew the attention of the meeting that the work plan presented was a proposal and needed validation by the participants.

Mr. Chhum Sovanny from UNDP informed the meeting that the UNDP Country Office (UNDP CO) developed a standard M&E Framework for the 2016-2018 programme cycle. The format specifies what will be monitored and evaluated, how and by whom. It should be considered de facto as the M&E action plan. The Country Office developed also Standard Operating Procedures for programme and project monitoring and assurance. Sufficient budget should be allocated to these activities. These documents will have to be taken into consideration in the TORs of reference of members of the Technical Team that will be supporting the Project Manager, and procedures will have to be taught to the PMU and other people participating in the project. [In relation to the GEF guidelines on APR/PIR](#), Mr. Chhum Sovanny noted that we needed to hear from GEF or make a request to GEF. Following his recommendation regarding the frequency of quarterly reports and mid-term reports, it was agreed that they would depend on the needs and recommendation by the Project Board, bearing in mind that this project was relatively small and on a relatively short period of time; and that the project might not need that many reports also considering that the project started late. The project will work closely with the UNDP CO to develop TORs and for monitoring activities.

The **Review of the Gender Mainstreaming Work Plan and that of the Project Communication Strategy** were presented successively by Ms KEN Bopreang, Deputy Director of the Department of Biodiversity and Mr. MENG Monyrak, Director of the same Department. In her comments, the Chair of the afternoon sessions, Ms. Somaly Chan, reiterated the importance of women in the projects. She highlighted the fact that, although gender does not mean necessarily women, the proportion of women was higher in the PMU as an indication that the project is giving strong priority to gender mainstreaming. In the same line, she recognized the engagement of MOWA and for guidance in mainstreaming gender in all the project activities. She also noted implementation of the communication strategy as an important ingredient for the project success.

Mr. Meas Pyseth, UNCCD Focal Point from MAFF drew attention to the fact that UNCCD is generally considered as a Convention for Africa. However, ignoring land degradation in Cambodia combined to drought caused by disturbances in climate can lead to serious desertification in Cambodia is land degradation is ignored now.

Mr. Chhum Sovanny recommended that for efficiency and effectiveness the communication strategy be linked to or merge with other relevant strategies, in particular the Climate Change Alliance communication

Commented [EH41]: As explained previously, CCCD projects are no longer required to complete APR/PIR. They will prepare annual progress reports based on UNDP format.

Commented [RN42R41]: Noted and will take action to adjust.
- Nith

strategy. In doing so, we will increase the chances of mobilizing funds for implementing the communication strategy for the three Rio Conventions

To Mr. Ngeht Sokla of the Pannasastra University of Cambodia inquiry about the possible role of students in the project, it was stressed that students were expected to play a key role in particular in generating the needed information through their research and as present and future users of that information. However, it was stressed that students and academia in general needed to be informed about their role and others’ needs for information.

Agenda item 4: Ways forward for Project Implementation

Mr. CHHIN Nith, the Project Coordinator, listed the activities that follow the Inception Workshop. The priorities include the Inception Report, the recruitment of international and national consultants for the project in consultation with UNDP for some of them. ~~(for monitoring and evaluation, and for capacity development)~~, Board Meeting to review and approve the annual work plan, technical team meeting and development of the ToRs or LoA for each Rio representative.

Mr. Chhum Sovanny of UNDP emphasized the need for developing the TORs for certain positions before submitting the Inception Report to the Project Board. It was noted that the International Consultant would help on this. Mr Chhum also drew attention to the scores of Cambodia regarding the level of national capacities and gender in the Country. Ms. Somaly request UNDP to provide criteria for re assessing score for both issues.

Agenda item 5: Wrap-up and closure of the meeting

After the customary exchange of courtesies with emphasis on thanking all the participants for achieving so much in a participatory and comprehensive manner and in a so short period of time, Ms. Somaly Chan closed the meeting with thanks to national & international consultants, speakers, and all participants for their active participant and inputs to the successful of this meeting.

Commented [EH43]: This is at Mid-term and at the End of Project life.

Commented [RN44R43]: Noted, adjusted. Nith

Annex 3: Capacity Development Monitoring Scorecard

Project/Programme Name: Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Three Rio Conventions

Project/Programme Cycle Phase: Project preparation (PPG) Date: May 2014

Commented [EH45]: You may want to consider updating Scorecards given it was done 2,5 years ago

Commented [RN46R45]: Will review and update if needed – Nith

Capacity Result / Indicator	Staged Indicators	Rating	Score	Comments	Next Steps	Outcome Contribution
CR 1: Capacities for engagement						
Indicator 1 – Degree of legitimacy/mandate of lead environmental organizations	Institutional responsibilities for environmental management are not clearly defined	0	2	The institutional mandates of lead organizations are partially recognized. However, lack of coordination among these lead organizations is a recognized problem in Cambodia.	The project will review these mandates and the capacity of these institutions to coordinate environmental activities including the implementation of the Rio Convention obligations. Then, recommendations will be made to improve the coordination at the national level. By the end of the project, Cambodia will have improved capacities to coordinate environmental management in a way that will create synergies in the national implementation of Rio Conventions	1. Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions; and 2. Improved use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions
	Institutional responsibilities for environmental management are identified	1				
	Authority and legitimacy of all lead organizations responsible for environmental management are partially recognized by stakeholders	2				
	Authority and legitimacy of all lead organizations responsible for environmental management recognized by stakeholders	3				
Indicator 2 – Existence of operational co-management mechanisms	No co-management mechanisms are in place	0	1	Not all sectors are equal. Co-management mechanisms exist in the biodiversity area but are limited in other areas.	Through project activities, the coordination to manage natural resources will be improved and will provide a better framework for the development of such co-management mechanisms. The CDC will timely engage representatives of the line	1, 2
	Some co-management mechanisms are in place and operational	1				
	Some co-management mechanisms are formally established through agreements, MOUs, etc.	2				

Capacity Result / Indicator	Staged Indicators	Rating	Score	Comments	Next Steps	Outcome Contribution
	Comprehensive co-management mechanisms are formally established and are operational/functional	3			ministries to be on the course of the benefits and priority activities	
Indicator 3 – Existence of cooperation with stakeholder groups	Identification of stakeholders and their participation/involvement in decision-making is poor	0	1	The participation of stakeholders in decision-making regarding the management of the environment is happening in Cambodia but this participation is limited and not coordinated across focal areas.	Through the collaborative approach used by the project and the engagement of stakeholders in the implementation of the project, it is anticipated that the cooperation among stakeholders should increase, including a greater collaboration among government and non-government organizations. The project will engage through a learning-by-doing process, key decision-making champions and other multi-stakeholders to collaborate and negotiate on an integrated, well-coordinated and coherent approach to deliver environmental information as well as global environmental benefits through improved interpretation, planning, and decision-making on environmental and sectoral policies, plans, reports and programmes derived from the Rio Conventions perspective. Stakeholders will also participate in training workshops and national dialogues.	1, 2
	Stakeholders are identified but their participation in decision-making is limited	1				
	Stakeholders are identified and regular consultations mechanisms are established	2				
	Stakeholders are identified and they actively contribute to established participative decision-making processes	3				
CR 2: Capacities to generate, access and use information and knowledge						
Indicator 4 – Degree of environmental	Stakeholders are not aware about national and global environmental	0	1	Cambodians have a certain level of awareness on national and global environment issues.	The project will interact with many layers of the society during the	1, 2

Capacity Result / Indicator	Staged Indicators	Rating	Score	Comments	Next Steps	Outcome Contribution
awareness of stakeholders	issues and their related possible solutions (MEAs)			However, the limited coordination of actors limits the participation of stakeholders in identifying and implementing solutions.	various surveys of information management systems, institutions generating information and stakeholder platforms, their assessment (including through consultation workshops and dialogues) and the testing of best options for enhanced access, generation and use of information of relevance to the Rio Conventions	
	Stakeholders are aware about national and global environmental issues but not about the possible solutions (MEAs)	1				
	Stakeholders are aware about national and global environmental issues and the possible solutions but do not know how to participate	2				
	Stakeholders are aware about national and global environmental issues and are actively participating in the implementation of related solutions	3				
Indicator 5 – Access and sharing of environmental information by stakeholders	The environmental information needs are not identified and the information management infrastructure is inadequate	0	2	Environmental information in Cambodia is gathered by many institutions in different types and formats. The MEAs clearing-house mechanisms do not contain all the relevant information gathered by those institutions. Access to these mechanisms needs improvement and data and information need to be standardized to facilitate access and exchange. Convention-related information is complex, and requires being adapted to different audiences. Information exchange between institutions does not always take place.	With the project support existing environmental management information systems will be reviewed and solutions identified to enhance their coordination and synergy. Then a common clearinghouse mechanism will be developed to facilitate access to information, relating to the three Rio Conventions. Training and information workshops are an essential component of the project through which the project will raise awareness of a wide range of people on complex issues relating to land degradation/drought/desertification, biodiversity and its ecosystem	1, 2
	The environmental information needs are identified but the information management infrastructure is inadequate	1				
	The environmental information is partially available and shared among stakeholders but is not covering all focal areas and/or the information management infrastructure to manage and give information access to the public is limited	2				
	Comprehensive environmental information is available and shared	3				

Capacity Result / Indicator	Staged Indicators	Rating	Score	Comments	Next Steps	Outcome Contribution
	through an adequate information management infrastructure				services, and climate change with the related mitigation and adaptation measures.	
Indicator 6 – Existence of environmental education programmes	No environmental education programmes are in place	0	1	Some environmental education activities were implemented, often supported by externally funded projects. However, no national environmental education programme is in place in Cambodia.		1, 2
	Environmental education programmes are partially developed and partially delivered	1				
	Environmental education programmes are fully developed but partially delivered	2				
	Comprehensive environmental education programmes exist and are being delivered	3				
Indicator 6bis – Amount of information and data generated on biodiversity, climate change and land degradation/ drought/ desertification including biological/ecological, socioeconomic information and traditional knowledge, practices and know-how	No structure in place to generate or collect information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions	0	1	Some departments in universities and NGOs carry out research on plants, animal and microorganisms, and on ecology, climatic factors and climate impact, and on ecosystem degradation and restoration, including on relevant traditional knowledge. But in general, limited environmental research is being done in Cambodia, due mostly to lack of resources but also lack of strategies to development research programme.	The project will encourage and facilitate the coordination and synergy among research institutions dealing with biodiversity, climate change and land degradation/ drought/ desertification	1
	Some structures are in place to generate or collect information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions	1				
	A wide range of structures are in place to generate or collect information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions	2				
	A comprehensive set of structures in place to generate and collect all kinds of information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions	3				

Capacity Result / Indicator	Staged Indicators	Rating	Score	Comments	Next Steps	Outcome Contribution
Indicator 7 – Extent of the linkage between environmental research/science and policy development	No linkage exists between environmental policy development and science/research strategies and programmes	0	1	The limited environmental research being carried out in Cambodia has little relevance to the policy questions that need to be addressed.	The project will encourage research and other academic institutions to play a key role given their comparative advantage in identifying empirically valid best practice data, including metrics and methodologies.	1, 2
	Research needs for environmental policy development are identified but are not translated into relevant research strategies and programmes	1				
	Relevant research strategies and programmes for environmental policy development exist but the research information is not responding fully to the policy research needs	2				
	Relevant research results are available for environmental policy development	3				
Indicator 8 – Extent of inclusion/use of traditional knowledge in environmental decision-making	Traditional knowledge is ignored and not taken into account into relevant participative decision-making processes	0	1	Traditional knowledge is recognized but is not collected and used in decisions related to the management of natural resources.	As part of improving the knowledge on the environment in Cambodia, appropriate traditional knowledge will be collected, stored and made available.	1. Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions.
	Traditional knowledge is identified and recognized as important but is not collected and used in relevant participative decision-making processes	1				
	Traditional knowledge is collected but is not used systematically into relevant participative decision-making processes	2				
	Traditional knowledge is collected, used and shared for effective	3				

Capacity Result / Indicator	Staged Indicators	Rating	Score	Comments	Next Steps	Outcome Contribution
	participative decision-making processes					
CR 3: Capacities for strategy, policy and legislation development						
Indicator 9 – Extent of the environmental planning and strategy development process	The environmental planning and strategy development process is not coordinated and does not produce adequate environmental plans and strategies	0	2	There are environmental plans and strategies in place in Cambodia but they lack sufficient funding and a good inter-sectorial coordination mechanism to facilitate their implementation.		No direct contribution from the project to improve this capacity.
	The environmental planning and strategy development process does produce adequate environmental plans and strategies but there are not implemented/used	1				
	Adequate environmental plans and strategies are produced but there are only partially implemented because of funding constraints and/or other problems	2				
	The environmental planning and strategy development process is well coordinated by the lead environmental organizations and produces the required environmental plans and strategies; which are being implemented	3				
Indicator 9bis. Extent of gender mainstreaming planning and implementation	Gender issues are not mainstreamed in policies and in processes for accessing, generating and using information of relevance to the Rio Conventions	0	1	There is no gender mainstreaming plans for accessing, generating and using information of relevance to the Rio Conventions but some plans are being implemented in the context of other processes e.g., sustainable forest management	A gender mainstreaming plan will be developed in the context of this project	1, 2
	Some plans exist to mainstream gender issues in policies and in	1				

Capacity Result / Indicator	Staged Indicators	Rating	Score	Comments	Next Steps	Outcome Contribution
	processes for accessing, generating and using information of relevance to the Rio Conventions but they are not implemented					
	Gender mainstreaming plans exist but they are applied only in a few sectors	2				
	Gender mainstreaming plans exist and they are applied widely	3				
Indicator 10 – Existence of an adequate environmental policy and regulatory frameworks	The environmental policy and regulatory frameworks are insufficient; they do not provide an enabling environment	0	2	There are environmental legislation and policies in place in Cambodia (e.g. environmental impact assessment) but they need to be fully implemented including as part of the implementation of MEA obligations, particularly the Rio Convention obligations.	The Nagoya Protocol needs to be taken into consideration when posting some information relating to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge	1, 2
	Some relevant environmental policies and laws exist but few are implemented and enforced	1				
	Adequate environmental policy and legislation frameworks exist but there are problems in implementing and enforcing them	2				
	Adequate policy and legislation frameworks are implemented and provide an adequate enabling environment; a compliance and enforcement mechanism is established and functions	3				
Indicator 11 – Adequacy of the environmental information available for decision-making	The availability of environmental information for decision-making is lacking	0	1	Environmental information exists with limited access, its quality is uneven and does not respond to the reporting requirements of the three Rio Conventions.	With the project support existing environmental management information systems will be reviewed, including the indicators being monitored. These systems	1, 2
	Some environmental information exists but it is not sufficient to	1				

Capacity Result / Indicator	Staged Indicators	Rating	Score	Comments	Next Steps	Outcome Contribution
	support environmental decision-making processes				will be then harmonized and a clearinghouse mechanism common to the three Rio Conventions developed to give friendly and facilitated access to this information. This information will also be used in negotiations in international and regional forums and in applying tools like impact assessment and scenarios development and modelling.	
	Relevant environmental information is made available to environmental decision-makers but the process to update this information is not functioning properly	2				
	Political and administrative decision-makers obtain and use updated environmental information to make environmental decisions	3				
CR 4: Capacities for management and implementation						
Indicator 12 – Existence and mobilization of resources	The environmental organizations do not have adequate resources for their programmes and projects and the requirements have not been assessed	0	2	There are not enough financial resources to support the environmental governance framework in place in Cambodia, and human capacities need strengthening as noted in the NCSA report. Additionally, environment is not a top priority of the government, which renders allocation of national budget to this area more difficult.	The project will pilot the development of innovative tools for decision-making using economic valuation of natural resources, environmental impact assessment, and scenarios and modelling. The project will also strengthen human capacity in environmental information generation and management	1, 2
	The resource requirements are known but are not being addressed	1				
	The funding sources for these resource requirements are partially identified and the resource requirements are partially addressed	2				
	Adequate resources are mobilized and available for the functioning of the lead environmental organizations	3				
Indicator 13 – Availability of required technical	The necessary required skills and technology are not available and the needs are not identified	0	2	Consideration of environmental issues in sectoral planning and programming is not systematic and rarely carried out. Some	The project will support an extensive programme of training, and information generation,	1, 2???

Capacity Result / Indicator	Staged Indicators	Rating	Score	Comments	Next Steps	Outcome Contribution
skills and technology transfer	The required skills and technologies needs are identified as well as their sources	1		training is provided to government of Cambodia staff, but none on integration of Rio Convention provisions into sectoral planning and programming	dissemination and use to ensure an effective involvement of concerned stakeholders in the implementation of the three Rio Conventions.	
	The required skills and technologies are obtained but their access depend on foreign sources	2				
	The required skills and technologies are available and there is a national-based mechanism for updating the required skills and for upgrading the technologies	3				
CR 5: Capacities to monitor and evaluate						
Indicator 14 – Adequacy of the project/programme monitoring process	Irregular project monitoring is being done without an adequate monitoring framework detailing what and how to monitor the particular project or programme	0	1	Limited monitoring of projects and programmes is happening besides monitoring mandated on donor funded projects and programmes. This information is not really communicated/collected into the national body of knowledge on environment.	The project will set up a mechanism for monitoring and evaluation, building on existing bodies such as the CDC. Progress of all the activities under the two project outcomes will be continuously monitored and progress assessed to decide on how to proceed, using the adaptive approach	1, 2
	An adequate resource monitoring framework is in place but project monitoring is irregularly conducted	1				
	Regular participative monitoring of results in being conducted but this information is only partially used by the project/programme implementation team	2				
	Monitoring information is produced timely and accurately and is used by the implementation team to learn and possibly to change the course of action	3				

Capacity Result / Indicator	Staged Indicators	Rating	Score	Comments	Next Steps	Outcome Contribution
Indicator 15 – Adequacy of the project/programme monitoring and evaluation process	None or ineffective evaluations are being conducted without an adequate evaluation plan; including the necessary resources	0	1	Adequate evaluation plan and evaluation results are partially used because of insufficient resources. The collection of this information into the national body of knowledge on environment is limited.		1, 2.
	An adequate evaluation plan is in place but evaluation activities are irregularly conducted	1				
	Evaluations are being conducted as per an adequate evaluation plan but the evaluation results are only partially used by the project/programme implementation team	2				
	Effective evaluations are conducted timely and accurately and are used by the implementation team and the Agencies and GEF Staff to correct the course of action if needed and to learn for further planning activities	3				
	Total Score:		18/45			

Annex 4: Project Results Framework

<p>This project will contribute to achieving the following Country Programme Outcome as defined in UNDAF:</p> <p>UNDAF Outcome: I. Economic Growth and Sustainable Development; and V. Governance</p> <p>UNDAF Country Programme Outcome I.2 and V.3: (I.2) National institutions and sub-national authorities and private sector are better able to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources (fisheries, forestry, mangrove, land, and protected areas), cleaner technologies and responsiveness to climate change; and (V.3) enhanced capacities for collection, access and utilization of disaggregated information (gender, age, target populations, region) at national and sub-national levels to develop and monitor policies and plans that are responsive to the needs of the people and incorporate priority population, poverty and development linkages.</p>
<p>UNDAF Outcome Indicators:</p> <p>Outcome I: Number of national and sectoral plans and strategies which explicitly refer to climate change;</p> <p>Outcome V: Implementation by the Government of recommendations formulated by treaty bodies in individual complaints submitted to them by Cambodian nationals; National dialogue mechanism established between Government and civil society for enhanced dialogue and cooperation including data disaggregated by province and sex; Disaggregated data and information used to monitor NSDP, CMDGs, sectoral and subnational plans; Increased coverage by the media of MDGs, extractive industries, climate change and land rights issues.</p>
<p>Primary applicable Key Environment and Sustainable Development Key Result Area:</p>
<p>Applicable GEF Strategic Focal Area Objectives:</p> <p>CD-2: Generate, access and use of information and knowledge.</p> <p>CD-4: Strengthen capacities to implement and manage global convention guidelines.</p>
<p>Applicable GEF Outcome Indicators:</p> <p>CD-2: Institutions and stakeholders trained how to use different tools available to manage information; Stakeholders are better informed via workshops and trainings about global challenges and local actions required; Ability of stakeholders to diagnose, understand and transform information and knowledge into local actions increased and retained; Knowledge platform established to share lessons learned among CBOs and CSOs.</p> <p>CD-4: Institutional capacities for management of environment strengthened; Standards developed and adopted; Management capacities for implementation of convention guidelines and Reporting enhanced; Capacities of CSOs and CBOs as SGP partners, strengthened; Sustainable financing mechanisms developed.</p>

Objectives and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Targets End of Project	Source of verification	Risks and Assumptions
<p>Objective: To enhance implementation of the three Rio Conventions in a more effective, coherent and efficient way through the harmonization of existing environmental management information systems and improving coordination, networking and exchanges among stakeholder platforms, and thus by supporting the generation and improving access and use by all stakeholders, in particular decision-makers, of information related to the three Conventions in Cambodia.</p>	<p>1. Key environmental management information systems are harmonized with facilitated access and covering areas related to the Rio Conventions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity of the main stakeholders for accessing environmental information from various existing systems is limited and dispersed over many organizations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental knowledge related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia is comprehensive, easily accessible and used more in decision-making. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference to the new harmonized systems in project documents; national strategies, programmes and plans; national assessments State of the environment reports and communications/national reports sent to Conventions Information products such as newsletters, flyers, articles, etc. Policies referring to this new environmental information 	<p>Risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political will to provide GSSD/MOE with the necessary resources to sustain project achievements. New information is not used and stays stored in computers at MOE <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOE will support GSSD/MOE and provide it with necessary resources Better environmental information is readily available and actively utilized and used
	<p>2. Quality of monitoring reports and communications to measure implementation progress of the Rio Conventions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current reports are produced by sector, with limited data, weak analysis, weak trend analysis, and there are not fully responding to international requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports present adequate disaggregated data at sub-national level, are informative and present environmental trends over time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOE reports Environmental reports such as the State of Environment and Communications to Conventions 	<p>Risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications and national reports are not submitted on time <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications and national reports are submitted on time and include information from the harmonized systems.
	<p>3. Capacity development scorecard rating</p>	<p>Capacity for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement: 4 of 9 Generate, access and use information and knowledge: 5 of 15 Policy and legislation development: 4 of 9 Management and implementation: 3 of 6 	<p>Capacity for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement: 7 of 9 Generate, access and use information and knowledge: 10 of 15 Policy and legislation development: 5 of 9 Management and implementation: 5 of 6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mid-term review and final evaluation reports, including an updated CD scorecard Annual PIRs Capacity assessment reports 	<p>Risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project activities and resources do not translate in increasing the capacity of GSSD/MOE to provide better environmental information. <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project is effective in developing the capacity in the area of environmental information management.

Objectives and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Targets End of Project	Source of verification	Risks and Assumptions
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and evaluate: 2 of 6 (Total score: 18/45) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and evaluate: 4 of 6 (Total targeted score: 31/45) 		
OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED ACCESS AND GENERATION OF INFORMATION RELATED TO THE THREE RIO CONVENTIONS					
Output 1.1: An efficient and effective information management system covering the three Rio Conventions.	4. A system and a data architecture to harmonize key environmental information systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing systems and data architectures are not communicating efficiently and do not provide good availability to environmental knowledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental information systems are harmonized using internationally recognized standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical reports Database(s) PIRs Web pages 	<p>Risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of relevant expertise in local market may result in delay of required outputs and distortion of targeted deadlines <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of project activities and recruitment of relevant national expertise is monitored and actions will be identified if the lack of expertise is affecting the timely implementation of the project
Output 1.2: A common clearinghouse mechanism for the three Rio Conventions.	5. A developed clearinghouse mechanism in place at MOE and covering all environmental areas related to the Rio Conventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited mechanisms in place to access, share and exchange environmental information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated access to relevant data, reports, research, plans and documents available on the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Database(s) Reports Websites 	<p>Risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New information is not used and stays stored in computers at MOE and MAFF Members of MOE and MAFF have difficulty agreeing on which Ministry should host the common clearing-house mechanism <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOE will support GSSD and provide it with necessary resources to develop this mechanism and facilitate public access
Output 1.3: Generation of information related to the	6. Multi-stakeholder, multi-disciplinary,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few publications, mostly focusing on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publications 	<p>Risk:</p>

Objectives and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Targets End of Project	Source of verification	Risks and Assumptions
Rio Conventions enhanced qualitatively and quantitatively, coherent and better coordinated for complementarity, synergy and efficiency	multiple-authored articles published in scientific journals, conference proceedings and reports	individual conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased number of high-quality publications of relevance to 2 or the 3 Rio Conventions and produced efficiently through multiple-authored efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference papers Annual reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The research community and other knowledge holders do not find incentives to share their findings Lack of a science- policy interface, resulting in fact that language of scientific findings is not understandable by potential users <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> .
Output 1.4: Existing stakeholder platforms strengthened and better coordinated in order to facilitate access and exchange of information, and increase stakeholder networking and engagement in Convention related dialogues and processes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders engagement in Rio Conventions related dialogues An operational inter-sectorial coordination mechanism that builds on existing coordination instruments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current engagement is sector-based and mostly focusing on climate change Few sector-based coordination mechanisms exist but none to coordinate across the three Rio Conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A platform to exchange environmental information related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions. An increase of 50% of stakeholders’ engagement in related dialogues An operational inter-sectorial coordination mechanism in place to coordinate the implementation of MEAs in Cambodia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information exchange system Meetings minutes Paper presented Policy paper on coordination Formal approval (ministerial order?) of this new coordination mechanism. 	<p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder platforms are not willing to lose their individuality in favor of the crosscutting platform, and no interest from Stakeholders to increase crosscutting dialogues on the implementation of the Rio Conventions. <i>Political</i> - delays due to ministerial reforms. Operational - Irregular frequency of meetings for relevant bodies, unclear approval mechanism for an inter-sectorial coordination body, unwillingness to participate in the inter-sectorial coordination body. <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Stakeholders involved in implementing the Rio Conventions in Cambodia are demanding for greater exchange of environmental information and to better engage in crosscutting dialogues Supporting mechanisms are in-place

Objectives and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Targets End of Project	Source of verification	Risks and Assumptions
OUTCOME 2: IMPROVED USE OF INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE RELATED TO THE RIO CONVENTIONS					
Output 2.1: Enhanced capacity in using tools for decision- and policy-making	9. Models to implement environmental economic valuation, impact assessments and scenarios and projections in Cambodia 10. Use of environmental economic valuation, impact assessments and scenarios and projections in environmental decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental economic valuation, impact assessments and scenarios and projections as policy instruments are not used widely in Cambodia Environmental economic valuation, impact assessments and scenarios and projections are not used widely in decision-making in Cambodia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strategy on how to implement environmental economic valuation, impact assessments and scenarios and projections as policy instruments in Cambodia 3-4 policies, programmes or plans are developed using environmental economic valuation, impact assessments and scenarios and projections, respectively. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government strategy Policy paper(s) Policy, programme and plan documents 	<p>Risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No interest from decision-makers to use economic valuation, EIA and scenarios as well as modeling as tools to support decision-making <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The benefit of using better economic valuation, impact assessments and scenarios and projections will encourage decision-makers to use these tools.
Output 2.2: Institutional and individual capacities to implement the three Rio Conventions in a more coordinated and synergistic manner strengthened using the new reporting guide, and the environmental knowledge as well as the improved information mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1	11. Number of individuals and institutions using the new CHM and participating in the implementation of the other Rio Conventions when they belong institutionally one of the three conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals and institutions focusing or limiting their activities to one of the three conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals and institutions taking part in 2 or the 3 Rio Conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publications, Research and projects 	<p>Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government staff and institutional capacity is not fully available for implementation of the conventions obligations due to other tasks and lack of sufficient national monetary incentives <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> : Government staff will be engaged in line with their official functions and TORs, to minimize extra project-related tasks. Non-monetary incentives will be promoted
Output 2.3: Capacity of existing institutions and individuals to advance	12. Negotiation capacity of Cambodia at COP meetings and in other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited COP negotiations skills and knowledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiations at 2-3 COP meetings and in other regional or global 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country position papers Policy papers COPs reports 	<p>Risk</p>

Objectives and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Targets End of Project	Source of verification	Risks and Assumptions
Cambodian national interests on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought matters and their interlinkages in regional and global networks and forums strengthened.	regional or global forums		forums with position papers for Cambodia		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited progress on all the other outputs resulting in delays in strengthening institutional and individual capacities to advance Cambodian national interests in regional and global networks and forums <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project will be on schedule. Key stakeholders will be involved early and throughout project execution as partners
Output 2.4: A coherent and coordinated reporting process for the three Rio Conventions.	13. Quality, quantity and timeliness of reports submitted to conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports are sector-based, are not submitted on time and do not contain much primary collected data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National communications/ reports are submitted on time and contain primary data provided by the refined and integrated system(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National communications and reports 	<p>Risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delays in formalizing the common reporting guide Limited capacity from outcome 1 and output 2.1 to 2.3 Communications and national reports are not submitted on time The government does not fulfill its international obligations; including those from the 3 Rio Conventions <p>Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government continues to fulfill its international commitments Communications and national reports are submitted on time and include information from the harmonized systems

Annex 5: Targeted outputs for Year 1 with baselines, risks and assumptions

Main activities	Expected outputs	Baseline	Target for year 1	Risk	Assumption
Output 1.1: An efficient and effective information management system covering the three Rio Conventions					
1.1.1: Conduct an inventory of existing information management systems of relevance to the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Comprehensive list of information management systems and how they work ▪ List of national, regional and international institutions using the systems to manage information about Cambodia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: Apart from UN-CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD CHM, little is known 	At least 75% of achievement	Delays in finding the right person (man or woman) for the study	Assumption: A candidate is found during the Inception workshop
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rules and protocols/procedures for accessing relevant traditional knowledge 		100% achievement		
1.1.2: Assess these systems to identify overlaps and gaps in fulfilling the coherent and integrated implementation and reporting needs of the three Rio Conventions, and evaluate the complementarity and synergies of these systems as well as their effectiveness and efficiency in generating and facilitating access and use of information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SWOT analysis (including effectiveness and efficiency) of all the information management systems identified under activity 1.1.1 ▪ Identify overlaps and gaps in fulfilling the coherent and integrated implementation and reporting needs of the three Rio Conventions ▪ Describe complementarity and synergies of the systems 	Existing systems are not communicating efficiently	At least 50% of information management systems surveyed are studied and experience is gained	Delays in finding experts (man or woman) for the study and triangulation procedure	A consultant is considered to assist
Output 1.2: A common clearinghouse mechanism for the three Rio Conventions					
1.2.1: Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the UN-CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC clearing-house mechanisms (CHMs) in fulfilling the	SWOT analysis for UN-CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC CHMs completed	UN-CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD CHM not interoperable, not interactive, no Khmer translation, not needs-driven and not updated regularly; not structurally	SWOT analysis for UN-CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC CHMs completed	Delays in finding the right persons (men or women) for the study	Candidates are found during the Inception workshop and the idea of establishing an ad-hoc or

Main activities	Expected outputs	Baseline	Target for year 1	Risk	Assumption
needs of the three Rio Conventions as well as the opportunities and constraints that they experience		decentralized and little structure to promote scientific and technical cooperation; limited information stored. Few thematic websites e.g. REDD+			informal advisory committee is agreed. The Committee will adopt criteria for desired common CHM
1.2.2: Select one of the existing clearing-house mechanisms and identify ways and means to expand its role to address the needs of the three Rio Conventions. Alternatively, establish a new clearing-house mechanism that will respond to the needs of the three Rio Conventions, and that will replace or will be linked to (i.e. interoperable with) the existing CHMs, if necessary.	One of the 2 options (i) expand role of selected CHM or (ii) establish new common one with desired characteristics) is selected	Existing systems are not efficient to work commonly for the Rio Conventions	Agree on one of the two options and start implementing that option	Delays in finding experts (man or woman) for the work and triangulation procedure	A consultant is considered to assist
Output 1.3: Generation of information related to the Rio Conventions enhanced qualitatively and quantitatively, coherent and better coordinated for complementarity, synergy and efficiency					
1.3.1: Survey organs/bodies/institutions that generate data/information of relevance to Cambodia on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought.	Comprehensive list of institutions in and outside Cambodia that generate or hold data/information of relevance to Cambodia and the 3 Rio Conventions, not only academic and research institutions but also local communities, NGOs and the private sector	Existing institutions producing information /data of relevance to the Rio Conventions are not linked to the Conventions or focus only on one of the 3 conventions.	At least 75 % of the institutions in Cambodia are surveyed	Delays in finding the right person (man or woman) for the study	Candidates are found during the Inception workshop
Output 1.4: Existing stakeholder platforms strengthened and better coordinated in order to facilitate access and exchange of information, and increase stakeholder networking and engagement in Convention related dialogues and processes					

Main activities	Expected outputs	Baseline	Target for year 1	Risk	Assumption
1.4.1: Survey the platforms involved in the implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions, including in particular the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD), and describe their structures, roles and achievements with regard to access, generation and use of information on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought.	SWOT analysis of existing stakeholder platforms regarding their role for dialogues on climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation and drought, and description of their structures and functions	Existing platforms focus on one of the 3 conventions	SWOT analysis of at least 75% of stakeholder platforms completed, as well as a description of their structures and functions	Delays in finding the right person (man or woman) for the study	Candidates are found during the Inception workshop
1.4.2: Identify ways and means and implement them to strengthen these existing stakeholder platforms with regard in particular to their role as platform for dialogues on climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation and drought.	Ways and means for strengthening the role of existing stakeholder platforms to promote dialogues between the Rio Conventions are identified and implemented	Existing stakeholder platforms are not efficient to work commonly for or strengthen engagement in the implementation of the Rio Conventions	Ways and means for strengthening the dialogue/coordination role of stakeholder platforms are identified; the best ways and means are agreed, and a few platforms are identified for use in the pilot phase.	Idea of inter-sectoral coordination is not understood and no incentive for it	This project explains well the need for interlinking implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions
Output 2.1: Enhanced capacity in using tools for decision- and policy-making					
2.1.1: Review ongoing work on selected tools ²³ , including their best practices at the local, regional, and international levels	Work on (i) economic valuation of ecosystem services, (ii) impact assessment, and (iii) scenario analysis and modelling is reviewed with highlights on best practices and benefits, and application in Cambodia	The tools in reference are not widely used in Cambodia (except maybe impact assessment)	40 to 50% of ongoing work (including all work done in Cambodia) on (i) economic valuation of ecosystem services, (ii) impact assessment, and (iii) scenario analysis	No interest from decision and policy-makers in the tools and lack of expertise in the country	The project highlight clearly the benefits from using these tools. International and local consultants are available for the study

²³ The selected tools are: (i) economic valuation of ecosystem services, (ii) impact assessment, and (iii) scenario analysis and modelling

Main activities	Expected outputs	Baseline	Target for year 1	Risk	Assumption
			and modelling are reviewed, and best practices identified and described at local, regional, and international levels		
2.1.2: Develop training and awareness-raising materials including manuals for training workshops targeting different categories of audiences	Training manuals and awareness-raising materials are developed targeting decision- and policy-makers in Cambodia and are widely used in the country	No training manuals and awareness-raising materials for Cambodia	Compile training manuals and awareness-raising materials existing in the region and at the international level on (i) economic valuation of ecosystem services, (ii) impact assessment, and (iii) scenario analysis and modelling. Establish collaboration with universities and research institutions	Limited expertise in the country	International consultants are available and the project train national trainers
Output 2.2: Institutional and individual capacities to implement the three Rio Conventions in a more coordinated and synergistic manner strengthened using the new reporting guide, and the environmental knowledge as well as the improved information mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1					
2.2.1: Review and update the institutional and individual capacity needs identified in the NCSA report, for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions, with a particular focus on information generation, access and use.	NCSA institutional and individual capacity needs are reviewed and updated	NCSA findings	Complete the review and start updating NCSA institutional and individual capacity needs using Annex 1 to the ProDoc (Capacity Development Monitoring Scorecard)	Delays in finding the right persons for the study	Candidates are found during the Inception workshop
2.2.2: Building on the Cambodia NCSA Action	Ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities to address	NCSA recommendations	List of ways and means for strengthening institutional and	Idea of inter-sectoral coordination is not understood	This project explains well the need for interlinking

Main activities	Expected outputs	Baseline	Target for year 1	Risk	Assumption
Plan ²⁴ , identify ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for the generation, access and use of information and tools needed for the effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions.	the 3 Rio Conventions are identified		individual capacities is developed.	and no incentive for it	implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions
2.2.3: Apply and assess the identified ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacity needs for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions in a pilot project	Through a pilot project, selected individuals and institutions have been trained to coordinate their activities relating to the Rio Conventions and to synergize their work on the Rio Conventions for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio	Individuals and Institutions focus on distinct conventions	Selected individuals and institutions are included in a pilot project.	People are comfortable in their old ways and not ready to be active in areas related to the other conventions	This project explains the benefits from synergizing in the implementation of the three Rio Conventions
Output 2.3: Capacity of existing institutions and individuals to advance Cambodian national interests on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought matters and their interlinkages in regional and global networks and forums strengthened.					
2.3.1: Review obligations from the three Rio Conventions and related decisions of their respective Conference of the Parties, and how these obligations have been and are being implemented in Cambodia and through the regional programmes and agreements	Obligations and COP decisions under the Rio Conventions and their implementation are fully reviewed and are continuously reviewed	The respective CHM contain reports on obligations and COP decisions under the Rio Conventions and their implementation. Some synthesis of the obligations and COP decisions were developed by the Liaison Group on the Rio Conventions and UNEP	Obligations and COP decisions under the Rio Conventions and their implementation are fully reviewed and are continuously reviewed	N/A	N/A
2.3.2: Assess how institutions/organizations	Ways and means that Cambodia’s positions and priorities are advanced in global,	Cambodia’s positions and priorities have not been presented in a systematic	Review has been done on how Cambodia’s positions and priorities	People who participated in previous	Reports of meetings are available,

²⁴ “Thematic Assessments and Action Plan for the Three Conventions: UN-CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD - To Contribute to the Poverty Alleviation. Ministry of Environment, Phnom Penh February 2007”

Main activities	Expected outputs	Baseline	Target for year 1	Risk	Assumption
engaged in the implementation of the three Rio Conventions and related agreements including MOE and MAFF are advancing Cambodia’s positions and priorities in global, regional and subregional forums, programmes and initiatives.	regional and subregional meetings are documented	manner in global, regional and sub-regional meetings	were presented and taken into consideration in meetings in the past five years i.e. since 2010	meetings are no longer available	providing some details about Cambodia interventions in meetings
2.3.4 Carry out preparatory sessions for forthcoming meetings under the three Rio Conventions	Documentation is available for the preparation for COP 13 meeting of the UN-CBD, and the next UNCCD and UNFCCC COP meetings taking into account the provisions from the other Rio Conventions	Preparation for COP meetings was done essentially for UNFCCC	Documentation is available for the preparation for COP 13 meeting of the UN-CBD, and the next UNCCD and UNFCCC COP meetings	Nobody is willing to prepare meeting documents taking into account the other Rio Conventions	This project explains well the need for interlinking implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions and preparing for the respective conventions
Output 2.4: A coherent and coordinated reporting process for the three Rio Conventions					
2.4.1: Review reporting requirements of the three Rio Conventions and identify commonalities and differences in the processes and the themes to be addressed	Draft Guidelines for national reporting on the 3 Rio Conventions or the most recent ones if guidelines for future reporting are not yet available are compiled and commonalities identified	The 3 Rio conventions have their respective reporting guides	Draft Guidelines for national reporting on the 3 Rio Conventions or the most recent ones if guidelines for future reporting are not yet available are compiled and commonalities identified	Each of the Rio Conventions constituency is comfortable using their respective reporting guide	The project explains clearly the benefit to use a concerted reporting guide for the 3 Rio Conventions
2.4.2: Design a reporting guide that addresses in a more efficient and effective way the reporting needs of the three Rio Conventions taking advantage of the improved mechanisms being	Common reporting guide is developed	The 3 Rio conventions have their respective reporting guides	First draft of the common reporting guide is developed	Each of the Rio Conventions constituency is comfortable using their respective reporting guide	The project explains clearly the benefit to use a concerted reporting guide for the 3 Rio Conventions

UNDP/GEF project “Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the 3 Rio Conventions”

Main activities	Expected outputs	Baseline	Target for year 1	Risk	Assumption
set in place under outcome 1 for improved data generation and facilitated access to information and knowledge of relevance to the three conventions					

Annex 6: Provisional Work Plan

Annex 6.1: Timeline for each activity planned to achieve the project outputs and outcomes

Expected project output	Key activity	Chart field		2015	2016				2017				2018			Total
		Account	Description	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Output 1.1: An efficient and effective information management system covering the three Rio Conventions	Activity 1.1.1: Conduct¹ an inventory of existing information management systems of relevance to the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia															
	Activity 1.1.2: Assess these systems to identify overlaps and gaps in fulfilling the coherent and integrated implementation and reporting needs of the three Rio Conventions, and evaluate the complementarity and synergies of these systems as well as their effectiveness and efficiency in generating and facilitating access and use of information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia															
	Activity 1.1.3: Select the most appropriate systems and identify ways and means to upgrade them , as needed, so as to optimize their effectiveness and efficiency. Alternatively,															

Expected project output	Key activity	Chart field		2015	2016				2017				2018			Total
		Account	Description	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
	design one or a few information management systems having the desired characteristics, building on the most appropriate systems															
	Activity 1.1.4: Test the information management systems selected or designed under activity 1.1.3 for their suitability to all three Rio Conventions, and their effectiveness and efficiency in generating, disseminating and facilitating access and use of relevant information and tools, in communicating key messages, and catalyzing integrated, coordinated and coherent reporting on the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia															
Output 1.2: A common clearinghouse mechanism for the three Rio Conventions	Activity 1.2.1: Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the UN-CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC clearing-house mechanisms (CHMs) in fulfilling the needs of the three Rio Conventions as well as the opportunities and constraints that they experience															

Expected project output	Key activity	Chart field		2015	2016				2017				2018			Total
		Account	Description	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
	Activity 1.2.2: Select one of the existing clearing-house mechanisms and identify ways and means to expand its role to address the needs of the three Rio Conventions. Alternatively, establish a new clearing-house mechanism that will respond to the needs of the three Rio Conventions, and that will replace or will be linked to (i.e. interoperable with) the existing CHMs															
	Activity 1.2.3: Apply the most appropriate ways and means to enable the “Rio Conventions’ clearing-house mechanism” to address in a synergistic and coordinated manner the needs of the three Rio Conventions.															
	Activity 1.2.4: Monitor the performance of the ‘common’ clearing-house mechanism , adjust its effectiveness and efficiency as experience is gained, and enhance awareness about this clearing-house															

Expected project output	Key activity	Chart field		2015	2016				2017				2018			Total
		Account	Description	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
	mechanism and its usefulness															
Output 1.3: Generation of information related to the Rio Conventions enhanced qualitatively and quantitatively, coherent and better coordinated for complementarity, synergy and efficiency	Activity 1.3.1 Survey organs/bodies/institutions that generate data/information of relevance to Cambodia on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought															
	Activity 1.3.2: Assess the qualitative and quantitative effectiveness of these institutions/organs/entities, their strengths and weaknesses, their opportunities and constraints															
	Activity 1.3.3: Identify ways and means to address the weaknesses and constraints of these organs/institutions while reinforcing the strengths and taking advantage of the opportunities															
	Activity 1.3.4: Implement the identified/selected ways and means to enhance generation of data/information and adjust															

Expected project output	Key activity	Chart field		2015	2016				2017				2018			Total
		Account	Description	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
	the measures taken on the basis of experience gained															
Output 1.4: Existing stakeholder platforms strengthened and better coordinated in order to facilitate access and exchange of information, and increase stakeholder networking and engagement in Convention related dialogues and processes	Activity 1.4.1: Survey the platforms involved in the implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions , including in particular the National Council for Sustainable Development, and describe their structures, roles and achievements with regard to access, generation and use of information on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought															
	Activity 1.4.2: Identify ways and means and test them in a pilot project to strengthen these existing stakeholder platforms with regard in particular to their role as platform for dialogues on climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation and drought															
	Activity 1.4.3: Implement the best ways and means for enhancing coordination and promoting synergies among the stakeholder															

Expected project output	Key activity	Chart field		2015	2016				2017				2018			Total
		Account	Description	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
	platforms and adjust the measures taken on the basis of experience gained															
Output 2.1: Enhanced capacity in using tools for decision- and policy-making	Activity 2.1.1: Review ongoing work on selected tools² , including their best practices at the local and international levels															
	Activity 2.1.2: Develop training and awareness-raising materials including manuals for training workshops targeting different categories of audiences															
	Activity 2.1.3: Organize pilot training and awareness-raising activities															
	Activity 2.1.4: Replicate and up-scale the training, awareness-raising and related activities across the country , and assess the success of these activities															
Output 2.2: Institutional and individual capacities to implement the three Rio Conventions in a more coordinated	Activity 2.2.1: Review and update the institutional and individual capacity needs identified in the NCSA report , for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation															

Expected project output	Key activity	Chart field		2015	2016				2017				2018			Total	
		Account	Description	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3		
<p>and synergistic manner strengthened using the new reporting guide, and the environmental knowledge as well as the improved information mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1</p>	of the three Rio Conventions, with a particular focus on information generation, access and use																
	Activity 2.2.2: Building on the Cambodia NCSA Action Plan ³ , identify ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for the generation, access and use of information and tools needed for the effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions																
	Activity 2.2.3: Apply and assess the identified ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions in a pilot project																
	Activity 2.2.4: Select the most suitable ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for an effective,																

Expected project output	Key activity	Chart field		2015	2016				2017				2018			Total
		Account	Description	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
	efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions; apply them across the country , building on the experience gained in the pilot project; monitor the results and effect adjustments as needed															
Output 2.3: Capacity of existing institutions and individuals to advance Cambodian national interests on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought matters and their interlinkages in regional and global networks and forums strengthened	Activity 2.3.1: Review obligations from the three Rio Conventions and related decisions of their respective Conference of the Parties , and how these obligations have been and are being implemented in Cambodia and through the regional programmes and agreements															
	Activity 2.3.2: Assess how institutions/ organizations engaged in the implementation of the three Rio Conventions and related agreements including MOE and MAFF are advancing Cambodia’s positions and priorities in global, regional and subregional forums, programmes and initiatives															

Expected project output	Key activity	Chart field		2015	2016				2017				2018			Total
		Account	Description	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
	Activity 2.3.3: Design and implement a training programme on the three Rio Conventions and their processes (meetings of the respective Conference of the Parties and their subsidiary or ad hoc bodies) as well as ways through which Cambodia can address the obligations in related multilateral initiatives and programmes, taking into account the country’s priorities and positions															
	Activity 2.3.4: Carry out preparatory sessions for forthcoming meetings under the three Rio Conventions															
Output 2.4: A coherent and coordinated reporting process for the three Rio Conventions	Activity 2.4.1: Review reporting requirements of the three Rio Conventions and identify commonalities and differences in the processes and the themes to be addressed															
	Activity 2.4.2: Design a reporting guide that addresses in a more efficient and effective way the reporting needs of the three															

Expected project output	Key activity	Chart field		2015	2016				2017				2018			Total
		Account	Description	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
	Rio Conventions taking advantage of the improved mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1 for improved data generation and facilitated access to information and knowledge of relevance to the three conventions															
	Activity 2.4.3: Implement and formalize this reporting guide within the mandated institutions															
	Activity 2.4.4: Design and deliver training to staff involved in the new reporting guide															
	Activity 2.4.5: Produce the first national reports under this new reporting guide															

Annex 7: Terms of References

The following Terms of Reference outlines the general responsibilities to be carried out by consultants contracted under the project.

Background

Cambodia assessed its own capacities and capacity development needs to address the requirements of the three conventions through the NCSA process conducted from 2005 to 2006. It focused on issues and concerns within its jurisdiction to address Cambodia’s obligations under the three conventions. It was a national assessment of Cambodian capacities undertaken by the government of Cambodia and done by Cambodians. The assessment was cross-cutting across the three Rio Conventions (climate change, biodiversity and land degradation) and was conducted at 3 levels: i) systemic capacity; ii) institutional capacity; and iii) individual capacity.

This extensive assessment identified thematic environmental issues. These thematic issues were then reviewed together across the three thematic areas and crosscutting capacity constraints were identified as well as ways to address these constraints and effectively promote linkages and synergies across the conventions and meet their respective requirements obligated by the Parties. Five main crosscutting capacity issues were identified and the project will particularly address the management of environmental information and the access and use of this information for improving policy and decision-making.

Project Goal and Objectives

The goal of this project is to improve the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia through the development of national capacities to better coordinate and generate better information related to the implementation of these Conventions. The proposed project will develop crosscutting capacity to respond to the needs of the three conventions; particularly the reporting requirements. During the project implementation, the coordination and information generation capacities of the focal points established by the government will be enhanced.

The project’s objective is to improve access to environmental information related to the Rio Conventions through the harmonization of existing environmental management information systems and improving coordination of the implementation of these conventions in Cambodia. The harmonization of these existing systems will be translated into better access to information related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia. It will include the decision-making process to meet Rio Convention objectives, which will be greatly improved by having better access to more complete and relevant information. It will also include innovation to set up a network of enhanced information exchange, dialogue and cooperation between the state agencies and other civil society stakeholders.

Project Strategy

The expected achievements of this project are a set of improved capacities to meet and sustain Rio Convention objectives. This project will have strengthened and helped institutionalize commitments under the Rio Conventions by harmonizing, better coordinating the existing environmental management information systems in Cambodia, by improving the use of this environmental knowledge for better decision-making, by improving the coordination, coherence and synergy in the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia. It will also strengthen the capacity of Cambodia to report on the MEAs implementation in Cambodia.

Project Outcomes and Components

The implementation of the project will achieve two expected outcomes:

Under the first outcome, the project will support the development of national capacities to effectively and efficiently standardize environmental information that is generated on the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia, and facilitate access to this information. In parallel to this, the project will support the strengthening of Cambodia’s capacity to better engage stakeholders and better coordinate the implementation of the Rio Conventions in the country.

Under the second outcome, project resources will be used to improve the use of environmental information for the development of innovative tools supporting decision-making processes related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions. Project support will also include activities to develop the capacity in using this environmental knowledge of national institutions involved in international negotiations at Conventions COPs as well as using this knowledge to implement the Rio Conventions in a more synergistic and efficient manner, and produce national reports meeting Conventions reporting requirements.

Responsibilities

1. Project Board (PB)

The Project Board is the group responsible for making by consensus management decisions for a project when guidance is required by the Project Coordinator (PC), including approval of project plans and revisions. In order to ensure UNDP ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance to standards²⁵ that shall ensure best value to money, fairness, integrity transparency and effective international competition. In case a consensus cannot be reached, final decision shall rest with the UNDP Programme Manager (i.e. the Country Director).

Project reviews by the Project Board are made at designated decision points during the running of a project, or as necessary when raised by the Project Manager. The Project Board is consulted by the Project Coordinator for decisions when project tolerances have been exceeded.

Based on the approved annual work plan (AWP), the Project Board may review and approve project quarterly plans when required and authorize any major deviation from these agreed quarterly plans. It is the authority that signs off the completion of each quarterly plan as well as authorizes the start of the next quarterly plan. It ensures that required resources are committed and arbitrates on any conflicts within the project or negotiates a solution to any problems between the project and external bodies.

Specific responsibilities of the Project Board:

²⁵*UNDP Financial Rules and Regulations*: Chapter E, Regulation 16.05: a) The administration by executing entities or, under the harmonized operational modalities, implementing partners, of resources obtained from or through UNDP shall be carried out under their respective financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures only to the extent that they do not contravene the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP. b) Where the financial governance of an executing entity or, under the harmonized operational modalities, implementing partner, does not provide the required guidance to ensure best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition that of UNDP shall apply.

The Project Board has the responsibility to define for the Project Manager the specific project tolerances within which the Project Manager can operate without intervention from the Project Board. For example, if the Project Board sets a budget tolerance of 10%, the Project Manager can expend up to 10% beyond the approved project budget amount without requiring a revision from the Project Board.

Running a project:

- Review and appraise detailed Project Plan and AWP, including Atlas reports covering activity definition, quality criteria, issue log, risk log and the monitoring and communication plan
- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints
- Address project issues as raised by the National Project Director
- Provide guidance and agree on possible countermeasures/management actions to address specific risks
- Agree on Project Manager’s tolerances in the Annual Work Plan and quarterly plans when required
- Conduct regular meetings to review the Project Quarterly Progress Report and provide direction and recommendations to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans
- Review Combined Delivery Reports (CDR) prior to certification by the Implementing Partner
- Review each completed project stage and approve progress to the next
- Appraise the Project Annual Progress Report, make recommendations for the next AWP, and inform the Outcome Board about the results of the review
- Provide ad-hoc direction and advice for exception situations when tolerances are exceeded
- Assess and decide on project changes through revisions

Closing the project

- Assure that all Project deliverables have been produced satisfactorily
- Review and approve the final project report, including lessons learnt
- Make recommendations for follow on actions to be submitted to the Outcome Board
- Commission project evaluation
- Notify operational completion of the project to the Project Board

2. National Project Director

The National Project Director (NPD) supports the project and acts as a focal point on the part of the Government. This responsibility normally entails ensuring effective communication between partners and monitoring of progress towards expected results.

The National Project Director is the party that represents the Government’s *ownership* and *authority* over the project, *responsibility* for achieving project objectives and the *accountability* to the Government and UNDP for the use of project resources.

In consultation with UNDP, the Ministry of Environment, as the concerned ministry, will designate the NPD for this project. The NPD will be supported by a full-time Project Coordinator (PC).

Duties and Responsibilities of the NPD

The NPD will have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Assume overall responsibility for the successful execution and implementation of the project, accountability to the Government and UNDP for the proper and effective use of project resources)
- b. Serve as a focal point for the coordination of projects with other Government agencies, UNDP and outside implementing agencies;
- c. Ensure that all Government inputs committed to the project are made available;

- d. Supervise the work of the Project Coordinator and ensure that the Project Coordinator is empowered to effectively manage the project and other project staff to perform their duties effectively;
- e. Select and arrange, in close collaboration with UNDP, for the appointment of the Project Coordinator (in cases where the PC has not yet been appointed);
- f. Supervise the preparation of project work plans, updating, clearance and approval, in consultation with UNDP and other stakeholders and ensure the timely request of inputs according to the project work plans; and
- g. Represent the Government institution (national counterpart) at the tripartite review project meetings, and other stakeholder meetings.

Remuneration and entitlements:

The National Project Director may not receive monetary compensation from project funds for the discharge of his/her functions.

3. Project Coordinator

The individual contracted as the Project Coordinator will be recruited to coordinate the implementation of the project. 50% of his/her time will be spent on overseeing the implementation of the project and 50% on managing capacity development activities undertaken under the two expected outcomes. The Project Coordinator will also be responsible to monitor and evaluate the progress made by the project. The main tasks for this position include:

- Oversee the day-to-day monitoring of project implementation
- In consultation with stakeholders, recommend modifications to project management to maintain project’s cost-effectiveness, timeliness, and quality project deliverables (adaptive collaborative management) to be approved by the Project Board
- Prepare all required progress and management reports, e.g., APR/PIR and project initiation report
- Support all meetings of the Project Board
- Maintain effective communication with project partners and stakeholders to dissemination project results, as well as to facilitate input from stakeholder representatives as project partners
- Support the independent terminal evaluation
- Ensure full compliance with the UNDP and GEF branding policy

4. Administrative Officer

The Administrative Officer will support the Project Coordinator in carrying out his/her duties, which will include:

- a. Organizational and logistical issues related to project execution and as per UNDP guidelines and procedures
- b. Record keeping of project documents, including financial in accordance with audit requirements
- c. Ensure all logistical arrangements are carried out smoothly
- d. Assist Project Coordinator in preparing and updating project work plans in collaboration with the UNDP Country Office
- e. Facilitate timely preparation and submission of financial reports and settlement of advances, including progress reports and other substantial reports
- f. Report to the Project Coordinator and UNDP Programme Officer on a regular basis
- g. Identification and resolution of logistical and organizational problems, under the guidance of the Project Coordinator

The Project Assistant will have at least five (5) years’ experience in supporting the implementation of UNDP implemented projects, with preference in environment and natural resource management project.

5. Project Finance Officer

The Finance Officer will ensure timely project delivery, transparent reporting and record keeping, as well as compliance with Operations Manual for the Secretariat of the National Climate Change Committee.

The Finance & Operations Officer will work closely with the UNDP CO, which will provide direct support to project implementation. Responsibilities include to:

Work-planning & Budgeting

- Research and prepare for the National Project Director and the Project Coordinator on cost/time estimates to support project activities, ensuring efficiency and cost-effectiveness
- Regular review of the overall project balance ensuring that ultimately cumulative expenditure is within the overall project budget
- Prepare of annual budgets to support the planned activities, ensuring that budgeted amounts and expected disbursement schedules are reasonable, and remaining funds are sufficient
- Draft procurement/recruitment plan to support agreed workplan
- Inform the National Project Director and Project Coordinator of financial issues affecting project delivery, propose budget revisions/adjustments as necessary

Project Delivery & Reporting

- Execute procurement and recruitment plan, ensuring transparency, cost-effectiveness/efficiency, and compliance with Operations Manual for the Secretariat of the National Climate Change Committee
- Manage payroll and cash reserves of the project
- Prepare quarterly expenditure report, and request cash advance from UNDP (i.e. Fund Authorization and Certificate of Expenditure (FACE))
- Manage financial and administrative aspects of project assets, maintain registers for inventory of non-expendable equipment and ensure that the equipment is safe and in proper working condition, providing regular updates to inform further implementation (e.g. next phase of station installation)
- Prepare financial/operational progress reports for project team, PB, or other meetings
- Identify reporting challenges and make adjustments to internal reporting procedure as necessary to address problems (if any), ensure that the minimum reporting requirements are met
- Ensure documentation and records are up-to-date and complete, meeting audit standards
- Support the regular monitoring, as well as evaluation and audit processes by providing reports, supporting documentation and other information as needed
- Provide information as needed for other purposes or ad hoc requests (e.g. UNDP or donor request, publications, communication materials, etc...)

Annex 8: Environmental and Social Review Criteria

Annex A.1: Environmental and Social Screening Checklist

- Do all outputs and activities described in the Project Document fall within the following categories? –
- Procurement (in which case UNDP’s Procurement Ethics and Environmental Procurement Guide need to be complied with)
 - Report preparation
 - Training
 - Event/workshop/meeting/conference (refer to Green Meeting Guide)
 - Communication and dissemination of results

Select answer below and follow instructions:

- NO → Continue to Question 3 –
- YES → No further environmental and social review required. Complete Annex A.2, selecting Category 1, and submit the completed template (Annex A) to the PAC.

Annex A.2: Environmental And Social Screening Summary

Name of Proposed Project: Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Three Rio Conventions.

A. Environmental and Social Screening Outcome

Select from the following: –

- Category 1. No further action is needed
- Category 2. Further review and management is needed. There are possible environmental and social benefits, impacts, and/or risks associated with the project (or specific project component), but these are predominantly indirect or very long-term and so extremely difficult or impossible to directly identify and assess.
- Category 3. Further review and management is needed, and it is possible to identify these with a reasonable degree of certainty. If Category 3, select one or more of the following sub-categories:
 - Category 3a: Impacts and risks are limited in scale and can be identified with a reasonable degree of certainty and can often be handled through application of standard best practice, but require some minimal or targeted further review and assessment to identify and evaluate whether there is a need for a full environmental and social assessment (in which case the project would move to Category 3b). –
 - Category 3b: Impacts and risks may well be significant, and so full environmental and social assessment is required. In these cases, a scoping exercise will need to be conducted to identify the level and approach of assessment that is most appropriate.

B. Environmental and Social Issues: Not applicable.

C. Next Steps: Not applicable.

D. Sign Off

Project Manager	Sovanny Chhum		Date	26/8/2014
PAC	Napoleon Navarro		Date	
Programme Manager	Setsuko Yamazaki		Date	

Annex 9: PPG Status Report

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	2013 Expenses	2014					2013-2014				
		Budget	Amount Spend	Commitment	Total	Balance	Total budget	Amount Spend	Commitment	Total	Balance
Act 1: Stakeholder workshop	19.20	11,980.80	11,980.80		11,980.80	-	12,000.00	12,000.00	-	12,000.00	-
Act 2: Baseline study and strategy development - part A – Improved access and generate of information related to the three Rio Conventions	63.50	11,936.50	4,062.50	6,500.00	10,562.50	1,374.00	12,000.00	4,126.00	6,500.00	10,626.00	1,374.00
Act 3. Baseline study and strategy development—Part B—Improved use of information related to the Rio Conventions		12,000.00	3,793.56	5,687.50	9,481.06	2,518.94	12,000.00	3,793.56	5,687.50	9,481.06	2,518.94
Act 4. Secure government commitment		13,000.00	13,000.00		13,000.00	-	13,000.00	13,000.00	-	13,000.00	-
Act 5. Explore co-financing opportunities					-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Act 6. Develop M &E Plan		13,000.00		13,000.00	13,000.00	-	13,000.00	-	13,000.00	13,000.00	-
Act 7. Develop Sustainability Plan					-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Act 8. Validation workshop		17,000.00		17,000.00	17,000.00	-	17,000.00	-	17,000.00	17,000.00	-
Act9. Stakeholder meeting		7,000.00		7,000.00	7,000.00	-	7,000.00	-	7,000.00	7,000.00	-
Act 10. Project management		9,000.00	3,419.20	5,600.00	9,019.20	19.20	9,000.00	3,419.20	5,600.00	9,019.20	(19.20)

UNDP/GEF project “Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the 3 Rio Conventions”

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	2013 Expenses	2014					2013-2014				
		Budget	Amount Spend	Commitment	Total	Balance	Total budget	Amount Spend	Commitment	Total	Balance
	82.70	94,917.30	36,256.06	54,787.50	91,043.56	3,873.74	95,000.00	36,338.76	54,787.50	91,126.26	3,873.74

Annex 10: Letter of agreement between UNDP and Government of Cambodia for the provision of support services

Project Title “*Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Three Rio Conventions*”

Project Number 5222

Excellency,

1. Reference is made to consultations between officials of the Government of *Cambodia* (hereinafter referred to as “the Government”) and officials of UNDP with respect to the provision of support services by the UNDP country office for nationally managed programmes and projects. UNDP and the Government hereby agree that the UNDP country office may provide such support services at the request of the Government through its institution designated in the relevant programme support document or project document, as described below.

2. The UNDP country office may provide support services for assistance with reporting requirements and direct payment. In providing such support services, the UNDP country office shall ensure that the capacity of the Government-designated institution is strengthened to enable it to carry out such activities directly. The costs incurred by the UNDP country office in providing such support services shall be recovered from the administrative budget of the office.

3. The UNDP country office may provide, at the request of the designated institution, the following support services for the activities of the programme/project:

- (a) Identification and/or recruitment of project and programme personnel;
- (b) Identification and facilitation of training activities;
- (c) Procurement of goods and services;

4. The procurement of goods and services and the recruitment of project and programme personnel by the UNDP country office shall be in accordance with the UNDP regulations, rules, policies and procedures. Support services described in paragraph 3 above shall be detailed in an annex to the programme support document or project document, in the form provided in the Attachment hereto. If the requirements for support services by the country office change during the life of a programme or project, the annex to the programme support document or project document is revised with the mutual agreement of the UNDP resident representative and the designated institution.

5. The relevant provisions of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Authorities of the Government of *Cambodia* and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), signed by the Parties on May 5, 1987 (the “SBAA”) including the provisions on liability and privileges and immunities, shall apply to the provision of such support services. The Government shall retain overall

responsibility for the nationally managed programme or project through its designated institution. The responsibility of the UNDP country office for the provision of the support services described herein shall be limited to the provision of such support services detailed in the annex to the programme support document or project document.

6. Any claim or dispute arising under or in connection with the provision of support services by the UNDP country office in accordance with this letter shall be handled pursuant to the relevant provisions of the SBAA.

7. The manner and method of cost-recovery by the UNDP country office in providing the support services described in paragraph 3 above shall be specified in the annex to the programme support document or project document.

8. The UNDP country office shall submit progress reports on the support services provided and shall report on the costs reimbursed in providing such services, as may be required.

9. Any modification of the present arrangements shall be effected by mutual written agreement of the parties hereto.

10. If you are in agreement with the provisions set forth above, please sign and return to this office two signed copies of this letter. Upon your signature, this letter shall constitute an agreement between your Government and UNDP on the terms and conditions for the provision of support services by the UNDP country office for nationally managed programmes and projects.

Yours sincerely,

Signed on behalf of UNDP

Ms. Setsuko Yamazaki

Country Director

Date:

For the Government of **Cambodia**

H.E. Say Sam Al, Minister

Ministry of Environment

Date:

Attachment: Description of UNDP Country Office Support Services

1. Reference is made to consultations between the Ministry of Environment, the institution designated by the Government of **Cambodia**, and officials of UNDP with respect to the provision of support services by the UNDP country office for the nationally managed programme or project “*Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Three Rio Conventions*”, project number 5222.
2. In accordance with the provisions of the letter of agreement signed and the programme support document (*Project Document*), the UNDP country office shall provide support services for the Programme as described below.
3. Support services to be provided:

Support services	Schedule for the provision of the support services	Cost to UNDP of providing such support services (where appropriate)	Amount and method of reimbursement of UNDP (where appropriate)
1. Support MOE in the identification and/or recruitment of project personnel * Project Coordinator * Finance Officer	August 2014 – July 2017 August 2014 – July 2017	As per the UPL: US\$ 1,420 per case, including recurring cost after hire (i.e. payments)	Should be approved by the Project Board; then UNDP will directly charge the project upon receipt of request of services from the Implementing Partner/Project Board
2. Procurement of goods: * Data show * PCs * Printers	Nov. 2014 – April 2016	As per the UPL: US\$ 1,000 for each purchasing process	As above
3. Procurement of Services Contractual services for companies	Ongoing throughout implementation when applicable	As per the UPL: US\$ 1,237 each hiring process	As above
4. Payment Process	Ongoing throughout implementation when applicable	As per the UPL: US\$ 41 for each	As above
5. Staff HR & Benefits Administration & Management	Ongoing throughout implementation when applicable	N/A	N/A
6. Recurrent personnel management services: Staff Payroll & Banking Administration & Management	Ongoing throughout implementation when applicable	N/A	N/A

7. Ticket request (booking, purchase)	Ongoing throughout implementation when applicable	As per the UPL: US\$ 164.04 for each	As above
8. F10 settlement	Ongoing throughout implementation when applicable	As per the UPL: US\$ 31.62 for each	As above
9. Support Implementing Partner in conducting workshops and training events	Ongoing throughout implementation when applicable	As per the UPL: US\$116 per day (for preparation and during workshop)	As above
Total:		\$34,000 (Up to \$19,000 from GEF grant)	

4. Description of functions and responsibilities of the parties involved:

UNDP will conduct the full process while the role of the Implementing Partner (IP) will be as follows:

- The Implementing Partner will send a timetable for services requested annually/ updated quarterly
- The Implementing Partner will send the request to UNDP for the services enclosing the specifications or Terms of Reference required
- For the hiring staff process: the IP representatives will be on the interview panel,
- For Hiring CV: the IP representatives will be on the interview panel, or participate in CV review in case an interview is not scheduled

Annex 11: Gender Mainstreaming Work Plan

The main goal of the three Rio Conventions project is to improve information management systems and related human capacities needed to meet and sustain a well-coordinated and synergistic implementation of the Rio Conventions. The project will achieve this goal by supporting mechanisms that generate information of relevance to the three Conventions, by improving access to and promoting the use of this information for better decision-making and reporting. Various studies, publications and decisions of the governing bodies of the three Rio Conventions indicate that the integration of gender into actions against biodiversity loss, climate change impacts, desertification/drought and land degradation will maximize the results of interventions and resources spent, and will hopefully lead to gender-sensitive policymaking with optimal outcomes.

Women, who are the major users and managers of biodiversity in Cambodia, carry a disproportionate burden of climate change and other pressures impacting on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Women in Cambodia have gathered a great deal of knowledge and know-how for natural resources conservation and management that allow them to cope with pressures on the country’s natural resources. However, women tend to be underrepresented in national and local-level decision-making on sustainable development including environmental issues. As a result, their ability to contribute and implement their solutions are severely limited, and their specific needs and situations are often overlooked in decision-making processes about resource management and response to climate related pressures and land degradation.

In order to ensure that gender issues are addressed from the inception of the project and monitored throughout the project life, UNDP developed a gender marker checklist contained in Appendix 1. This checklist as well as gender strategies or action plans used in other natural-resource based projects, such as the projects on NAPA, SFM and REDD+, were taken into consideration to develop this work plan on mainstreaming of gender issues in the three Rio Conventions project. This work plan on gender mainstreaming is to be used as part of the project design, implementation and evaluation.

Gender mainstreaming was defined by the United Nations Economic and Social Council in 1997 as “a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated.” As such, gender responsive policies and programmes recognize and address gender as an important variable that must be explicitly designed and budgeted for, implemented, monitored and evaluated.

Mainstreaming gender into access, generation and use of information for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and fight against desertification/drought and addressing land degradation requires that the capacity of women, who are usually under-represented in policy-making decisions and are more vulnerable to environmental pressures on natural resources, is enhanced, and that data and information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions are collected in a way that takes into consideration women’s specific needs and situations so that those needs and specific situations can be addressed adequately. It appears therefore that gender mainstreaming can help improve the efficiency, efficacy and long-term sustainability of the implementation of the three Rio Conventions.

As such, during the project inception and the full project implementation,

- (a) gender disaggregated data and gender statistic related to environmental issues will be collected;
- (b) steps will be taken to ensure that women participation accounts for at least 40% in all studies, group consultations, training and capacity building programmes;
- (c) sufficient resources will be allocated for the proposed gender activities;
- (d) members of the Project Management Unit will be trained to have the needed knowledge and expertise around gender issues. Training will be necessary because programme staff and policy makers usually lack the evidence base from which to understand the gendered dimensions of resource use, needs,

access and knowledge. Establishing this evidence base through the collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data will help ensure the accuracy of problem definition and eventually uncover new opportunities for implementing the Rio Conventions; and

(e) a PMU staff will be appointed to supervise and attend to the consideration of gender aspects.

Appendix 2 presents possible gender-related activities for each of the main actions identified under the project outputs and outcomes.

Appendix 1: GENDER MARKER CHECKLIST (UNDP)

Project Stage	Question	Analysis (Yes/No)	Evidence	Areas to be improved	Timeframe
Planning Stage	Does the output rationale and strategies address a clearly defined gender issue or issues, including consideration of the different situations and needs faced by women and men?	Yes	This is a UNDP/GEF Project Preparation Grant (PPG) stage and the main output of the PPG is to develop a full Project Document for submission to the GEF Sec. Gender issue was mainstreamed into the ProDoc to ensure different roles of women and men in the full project implementation.		
	Do the output use and/or collect sex disaggregated data and gender statistics?	No		Sex disaggregated data and gender statistic related to environmental issues will be collected and reported during the full project implementation	2016-2017
	Are the outcomes, outputs indicators, targets gender responsive?	No			During the full project implementation, the project will take steps to ensure that women account for at least 40% of all training and capacity building in the project. Moreover, the project will strengthen data management – gender segregation of data collection and data management will be introduced as a basis for

				ensuring long-term gender benefits	
	Have adequate resources been allocated for the proposed gender activities? (vis-à-vis % of total budget)	Yes	To some extent	To be determined during the project inception phase	Q4 2015
	Have women’s/gender focused organizations or women’s/gender units within larger institutions been consulted and /or included amongst the stakeholders /implementing partners?	Yes	The Ministry of Women’s Affairs will participate in the Project Document validation workshop. In addition, Ministry of Women’s Affairs will sit on the project board to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical inputs and supports necessary and relevant from the perspective of gender equality and outreach activities • Provide advice and guide linkages to any existing gender policy through the project’s implementation 		
	Do key staff members have knowledge/expertise around gender issues?	Yes	The Project Development Team is aware of gender issue and ensure that gender is reflected in the full Project Document		

Implementation Stage/Upon Completion	Have adequate resources been expended for gender focused activities or for gender mainstreaming? (vis-à-vis % of total budget)	No		To be determined during the inception phase	Q4 2015
	Has the project demonstrated concrete results towards the achievement of gender equality? (This question will help to score an output at the interim stage, when the coding is being reviewed on an annual basis.)	No		The project will ensure that collecting data will be gender disaggregated and that reporting environment information will also be gender disaggregated. This approach will facilitate a focus on gender-based environmental issues and gender-based solutions.	2017

Appendix 2

GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES PLANNED IN THE THREE RIO CONVENTIONS PROJECT

Output	Main Activity	Gender consideration/plans	Indicators
<i>Outcome 1: Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions</i>			
Output 1.1: An efficient and effective information management system covering the three Rio Conventions	1.1.1: Conduct an inventory of existing information management systems of relevance to the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia.	Particular attention will be made to include systems that include the knowledge held by women who, because of their activities, are interacting more closely with biodiversity and affected by pressures on biodiversity, and who have thus accumulated and managing a lot of knowledge and information on climate change, biodiversity, desertification/land degradation and drought in Cambodia. Some of these systems have been considered under other projects such as the “Forest Carbon Partnership Facility REDD+ Readiness Project”, “Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management and Bio-Energy Markets to Promote Environmental Sustainability and to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Cambodia” (PIMS No. 4136) or “Promoting Climate-Resilient Water Management and Agricultural Practices in Rural Cambodia”	Number of systems managing traditional and citizen’s knowledge of relevance to the three Rio Conventions and covering a large number of women’s activities
	1.1.2: Assess these systems to identify overlaps and gaps in fulfilling the coherent and integrated implementation and reporting needs of the three Rio Conventions, and evaluate the complementarity and synergies of these systems as well as their effectiveness and efficiency in generating and facilitating access and use of information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The NCSA procedure (desktop assessment, interviews and focused group discussions, and stakeholders’ workshops and validation) must include women, so far usually excluded, in sufficient numbers. ▪ Assessment of effectiveness and efficiency in generating and facilitating access and use of relevant information should take 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentages/proportion of women or their representatives participating in desktop assessment, interviews and focused group discussions, and stakeholders’ workshops and validation ▪ Numbers of women, particularly in rural areas, who have access to and use relevant information, and

Output	Main Activity	Gender consideration/plans	Indicators
	<p>1.1.3: Select the most appropriate systems and identify ways and means to upgrade them as needed to optimize their effectiveness and efficiency. Alternatively, design one or a few information management systems with the desired characteristics, building on the most appropriate systems,</p>	<p>into account the different situations and needs faced by women and men.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Optimization of the effectiveness and efficiency of systems will take into consideration women’s requirements ▪ Introduction of gender segregation of data collection and data management will be a basis for ensuring long-term gender benefits ▪ Training programmes to build human capacities for the use of upgraded systems should include a significant proportion of women 	<p>numbers of women contributing relevant knowledge and data</p> <p>Numbers of women accessing the upgraded systems of information management</p>
	<p>1.1.4: Test the information management systems selected or designed under activity 1.1.3 for their suitability to all three Rio Conventions, and their effectiveness and efficiency in generating, disseminating and facilitating access and use of relevant information and tools, in communicating key messages, and catalyzing integrated, coordinated and coherent reporting on the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia.</p>	<p>The testing of the information management systems will involve women and take into consideration the indicators listed above</p>	<p>Indicators listed above</p>
<p>Output 1.2: A common clearinghouse mechanism for the three Rio Conventions</p>	<p>1.2.1 Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the UN-CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC clearing-house mechanisms (CHMs) in fulfilling the needs of the three Rio Conventions as well as the opportunities and constraints that they experience</p>	<p>The gendered needs of the three Rio Conventions have already been described within each of these conventions. The exercise is yet to be done in Cambodia taking into account women’s situations and needs identified through some projects such as on REDD+, NAPA and SFM. Assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the UN-CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC clearing-house</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The gendered needs of stakeholders in the implementation of the three Rio Conventions ▪ Percentages/proportion of women or their representatives participating in desktop assessment, interviews and focused group discussions, and stakeholders’ workshops and validation

Output	Main Activity	Gender consideration/plans	Indicators
		mechanisms in fulfilling the needs of the three Rio Conventions will take into account the different situations and needs of men and women.	
	1.2.2 Select one of the existing clearing-house mechanisms and identify ways and means to expand its role to address the needs of the three Rio Conventions. Alternatively, establish a new clearing-house mechanism that will respond to the needs of the three Rio Conventions, and that will replace or will be linked to (i.e. interoperable with) the existing CHMs, if necessary.	If an ad-hoc or informal advisory committee is established, its composition will be gender-balanced	Occurrence of gender disaggregated data in the selected CHM
	1.2.3 Apply the most appropriate ways and means to enable the “Rio Conventions’ clearing-house mechanism” to address in a synergistic and coordinated manner the needs of the three Rio Conventions	Application of the most appropriate ways and means will require a team of experienced IT managers and information managers. Efforts will have to be made to include women in the team	Number of women among the IT managers and information managers
	1.2.4 Monitor the performance of the ‘common’ clearing-house mechanism, adjust its effectiveness and efficiency as experience is gained, and enhance awareness about this clearing-house mechanism and its usefulness.	Awareness-raising regarding the Rio Conventions common CHM will ensure that it also targets women, in particular in rural areas	Number of women included in awareness-raising programmes regarding the common CHM Number of women accessing the CHM.
Output 1.3: Generation of information related to the Rio Conventions enhanced qualitatively and quantitatively, coherent and better coordinated for complementarity, synergy and efficiency	1.3.1 Survey organs/ bodies/ institutions that generate data/ information of relevance to Cambodia on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought		
	1.3.2 Assess the qualitative and quantitative effectiveness of these organs/entities, their strengths and weaknesses, their opportunities and constraints	Assessment of the effectiveness of organs/entities that generate information and data as well as their improvement (see actions 1.3.3 and 1.3.4) will also consider whether data are gender disaggregated and how they are collected	

Output	Main Activity	Gender consideration/plans	Indicators
	1.3.3 Identify ways and means to address the weaknesses and constraints of these organs/institutions while reinforcing the strengths and taking advantage of the opportunities	In addition to the points made under 1.3.2 above, women will be included in desktop studies, interviews and group discussions, and stakeholders’ workshops and validation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numbers of women (or expressed as percent) participating in desktop studies, interviews and group discussions, and stakeholders’ workshops and validation. ▪ More gender disaggregated data
	1.3.4 Implement the identified/selected ways and means to enhance generation of data/information and adjust the measures taken on the basis of experience gained	Same as 1.3.3 above	Same as 1.3.3 above
Output 1.4: Existing stakeholder platforms strengthened and better coordinated in order to facilitate access and exchange of information, and increase stakeholder networking and engagement in Convention related dialogues and processes	1.4.1 Survey the platforms involved in the implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions, including in particular the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD), and describe their structures, roles and achievements with regard to access, generation and use of information on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought.	Gender aspects will be included in the survey of the platforms involved in the implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions	Proportion of women in the platforms
	1.4.2 Identify ways and means and implement them to strengthen these existing stakeholder platforms with regard in particular to their role as platform for dialogues on climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation and drought.	Integration of women in the existing stakeholder platforms	Proportion of women in the platforms
	1.4.3 Identify ways and means and implement them so as to enhance coordination and promote synergies among these platforms, including by identifying or, as appropriate, establishing a crosscutting (i.e. interagency, inter-departmental, inter-sectorial, inter-disciplinary) platform with clear and manageable terms of reference and		

Output	Main Activity	Gender consideration/plans	Indicators
	formalizing it through a Ministry/Cabinet approval?		
<i>Outcome 2: Improved use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions</i>			
Output 2.1: Enhanced capacity in using tools for decision- and policy-making	2.1.1 Review ongoing work on selected tools ²⁶ , including their best practices at the local, regional, and international levels	The three tools considered in this project have to take into account the special situations and needs of men and women and should be collecting gender disaggregated data Participants in the review should include men and women	Amount of gender disaggregated data in the review Percentage of men and women participating in the review
	2.1.2 Develop training and awareness-raising materials including manuals for training workshops targeting different categories of audiences	The different situations of men and women are taken into account in the training and awareness-raising materials Participants in the development of the training and awareness-raising materials should include men and women	Interest and subsequent participation of women in training workshops and awareness raising programmes are increased
	2.1.3 Organize pilot training and awareness-raising activities including international days on environment and biodiversity	Same as for 2.1.2 above	Same as for 2.1.2 above
	2.1.4 Replicate and up-scale the training, awareness-raising and related activities across the country, and assess the success of these activities	Same as for 2.1.2 above	Same as for 2.1.2 above
Output 2.2: Institutional and individual capacities to implement the three Rio Conventions in a more coordinated and synergistic manner strengthened using the new reporting guide, and the	2.2.1 Review and update the institutional and individual capacity needs identified in the NCSA report, for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions, with a particular focus on information generation, access and use.	Gender disaggregated data should be collected and the different situations and needs of men and women taken into account	

²⁶ The selected tools are: (i) economic valuation of ecosystem services, (ii) impact assessment, and (iii) scenario analysis and modelling

Output	Main Activity	Gender consideration/plans	Indicators
environmental knowledge as well as the improved information mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1	2.2.2 Building on the Cambodia NCSA Action Plan ²⁷ , identify ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for the generation, access and use of information and tools needed for the effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions	Capacity building programmes will take into account gender balance, paying particular attention to women in rural areas	Amount of gender disaggregated data in the review Percentage of men and women participating in the review
	2.2.3 Apply and assess the identified ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacity needs for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions in a pilot project	Same as for activity 2.2.2 above	Same as for activity 2.2.2 above
	2.2.4 Select the most suitable ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions; apply them across the country, building on the experience gained in the pilot project; monitor the results and effect adjustments as needed	Same as for activity 2.2.2 above	Same as for activity 2.2.2 above
Output 2.3: Capacity of existing institutions and individuals to advance Cambodian national interests on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought matters and their interlinkages in regional and global networks and forums strengthened.	2.3.1 Review obligations from the three Rio Conventions and related decisions of their respective Conference of the Parties, and how these obligations have been and are being implemented in Cambodia and through the regional programmes and agreements	Review whether gender disaggregated data as well as the specific situations and needs of men and women are taken into account	Amount of gender disaggregated data
	2.3.2 Assess how institutions/organizations engaged in the implementation of the three Rio Conventions and related agreements including MOE and MAFF are advancing Cambodia’s positions and priorities in	Assess how gender disaggregated data as well as the specific situations and needs of men and women are taken into account	Amount of gender disaggregated data

²⁷ “Thematic Assessments and Action Plan for the Three Conventions: UN-CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD - To Contribute to the Poverty Alleviation. Ministry of Environment, Phnom Penh February 2007”

Output	Main Activity	Gender consideration/plans	Indicators
	global, regional and subregional forums, programmes and initiatives		
	2.3.3 Design a training programme on the three Rio Conventions and their processes (meetings of the respective Conference of the Parties and their subsidiary or ad hoc bodies) as well as ways through which Cambodia can address the obligations in related multilateral initiatives and programmes, taking into account the country’s priorities and positions		
	2.3.4 Carry out preparatory sessions for forthcoming meetings under the three Rio Conventions	Include women in preparatory sessions	Percentage of men and women participating in preparatory sessions
Output 2.4: A coherent and coordinated reporting process for the three Rio Conventions	2.4.1 Review reporting requirements of the three Rio Conventions and identify commonalities and differences in the processes and the themes to be addressed		
	2.4.2 Design a reporting guide that addresses in a more efficient and effective way the reporting needs of the three Rio Conventions taking advantage of the improved mechanisms being set in place under outcome 1 for improved data generation and facilitated access to information and knowledge of relevance to the three conventions	Take into account gender disaggregated data as well as the specific situations and needs of men and women	Amount of gender disaggregated data
	2.4.3: Implement/formalize this reporting guide within the mandated institutions		
	2.4.4: Design and deliver training to staff involved in the new reporting guide.	Include women in training programmes	Percentage of trained men and women participating in reporting
	2.4.5: Produce the first national reports under this new reporting guide		

Annex 12: Communication Strategy for the Three Rio Conventions project

Purpose

The objective of the three Rio Conventions (United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity – UN-CBD, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification – UNCCD, and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate change - UNFCCC) project is to improve the generation of, access to and use of environmental information related to biodiversity, climate change, desertification/land degradation and drought through the harmonization of existing environmental management information systems and improving coordination and synergy in the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia. Harmonization of these existing systems will be translated into better decision-making and more effective and efficient implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia.

The success of this project will greatly depend on the engagement of all stakeholders. Holders and generators of information of relevance to the three Rio Conventions should be made aware of the importance of their role and the needs of the users. Users should be made aware of the available information while information managers at the science/knowledge and policy/decision-making interface and supporters of the project should be motivated and encouraged by the project’s expected achievements and benefits.

The purpose of this communication strategy is to reach out to all the actual and potential users (in particular decision-makers at all levels of the society), holders (including local communities as well as indigenous ethnic minorities) and generators of information relating to biodiversity, climate change, land degradation and desertification/drought of relevance to Cambodia as well as all the people managing that information at the interface between users, holders and generators of that information and knowledge. Establishing an effective communication strategy will ensure that the relevant stakeholders are aware of and up-to-date regarding the objectives, modalities and mainly the outputs of the three Rio Conventions project.

In order to meet this goal, it will be strategically necessary to assess the existing ways and means of communicating relevant information, their effectiveness and gaps, to find out how to improve these ways and means as necessary, and to put in place mechanisms that will ensure a successful implementation of the strategy.

This strategy is part of the communication strategies of the three Rio Conventions as reflected for example in the 2015 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan under Theme 20 “Awareness, Education, and Research Coordination and Development” and Theme 24 “Clearing-House Mechanism for Technical and Scientific Cooperation, Knowledge Sharing and Information Exchange.”

Implementation of this strategy will ensure (i) the visibility of GEF financial support by using the global GEF branding in all electronic and printed materials, and (ii) full compliance with UNDP’s Branding Guidelines.

The strategy consists of four strategic objectives and 18 key actions.

Strategic Objective 1: Assess current ways and means of communication on biodiversity, land degradation, drought/desertification and climate change, including how communication is being done regarding the three Rio Conventions project.

The project will achieve this objective through the following key actions:

1. Review tools and infrastructure used for communicating environmental information in the country and assess any gaps in the tools and infrastructure.
2. Review messages used to convey information and data on biodiversity, land degradation, drought/desertification and climate change.
3. Assess the effectiveness of the tools and messages used in communicating information including related human, financial and institutional capacities.
4. Assess whether the tools and messages convey information and data on biodiversity, land degradation, drought/desertification and climate change in a coherent and synergistic manner.

5. Assess more specifically ways and means that are being used to inform about the three Rio Conventions project, its objectives and rationale, its design, implementation and achievements.

Strategic Objective 2: Enhance the effectiveness in communicating information on biodiversity, climate change, land degradation and desertification/drought paying particular attention to highlighting the linkages between them.

The project will achieve this objective through the following key actions:

Effective messages

1. Develop and disseminate key messages customized to targeted audiences:
 - (a) Revisit and promote key messages already developed in national reports under each of the three Rio Conventions; in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan as well as the Cambodia’s National Biodiversity Status Report Update; in national communications on climate change, the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) and the UNFCCC National Adaptation Plan, and UNCCD National Action Programme; in relevant publications by Cambodian scientists and local communities as well as indigenous ethnic minorities;
 - (b) Revisit and customize key messages developed in regional reports and global assessments such as the UNEP Global Environment Outlook, the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, the UN-CBD Global Biodiversity Outlook, The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) reports, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) assessments, as well as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reports on land degradation, forest assessment and states of the world’s plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture.
 - (c) Set in place mechanisms that will synthesize relevant data, information and case studies and translate findings in languages understandable to different categories of target audiences.

Effective communication tools

2. Set in place mechanisms that enhance dialogue with and reaching stakeholders including users, holders and generators of information on the three Rio Conventions and people at the interface:
 - (a) Strengthen relationships with the media by:
 - (i) Identifying relevant media organizations including general and specialized media;
 - (ii) Establishing and maintaining media contact lists;
 - (iii) Fostering good working relationships between holders and generators of information with the media and dissemination of messages through, for example, direct contacts via face-to-face meetings, telephone communication or e-mail correspondence, and the sponsoring of Annual Media Awards;
 - (iv) Working with the advertising community to increase their awareness and seek their support for spreading the messages on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/drought and land degradation;
 - (b) Encourage the production of stories for children and awareness-raising in general and publish essentially through newspapers/magazines, radio, television and videos;
 - (c) Develop educational videos/materials and kits for media, stakeholders and education curricula;
 - (d) Promote the participation of relevant actors in national advisory bodies, including, as appropriate, representatives of the media, education, business sector, youth, women’s associations (?), science community, local communities and indigenous ethnic minorities;
 - (e) Organize campaigns to reach out to target audiences;
 - (f) Use social media such as Facebook, tweeter, and online forums.

Opportunities

3. Take more advantage of the special events relating to each of the three Rio Conventions to enhance awareness throughout the country about biodiversity and related ecosystem services, climate change as well as adaptation and mitigation measures, and land degradation and desertification/drought. Particular effort will be made to highlight the interlinkages among these items through messages like the following: climate change exacerbates the pressures on biodiversity and factors leading to land degradation and desertification; biodiversity conservation contributes to adaptation to climate change and can be part of climate change mitigation measures; and ecosystem restoration is part of the measures used to combat desertification. The special events include:
 - (a) Annual celebration of the National Biodiversity Day, the International Wetland Day, the World Water Day, the National Fish Day and the National Tree Planting Day;
 - (b) Organization of contests, including poster contests, media awards in relation with the national environmental days, and “a day with” the media, parliamentarians, farmers, industries, schools etc.;
 - (c) Organization of exhibitions, videos, documentaries, songs, plays, sign boards, slogans, press kits and press releases and other relevant communication tools for the special events of relevance to the three Rio Conventions;

Strategic Objective 3: Enhance the effectiveness in communicating on the three Rio Conventions project.

The project will achieve this objective through the following specific actions in addition to the key actions under the other Strategic Objectives, particularly Strategic Objective 2:

1. Commit a staff to deal with and coordinate communication on the three Rio Conventions project;
2. Develop a mailing list of stakeholders (holders, generators, users and managers of relevant information, relevant media and supporters of the project), including their email addresses and other means of contact as appropriate;
3. Produce and disseminate, by addressing to all stakeholders on the mailing list, a quarterly newsletter to report on progress, achievements and plans in the implementation of the three Rio Convention project. The newsletter will also serve as a forum for the stakeholders, a platform for dialogues on climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation and drought, a tool for supporting networking and a means for disseminating messages regarding the three Rio Conventions and their interlinkages;
4. Produce and disseminate an annual report and the final report on the three Rio Conventions project, with executive summaries and messages targeting specific audiences;
5. Participate and disseminate information on the three Rio Conventions project in relevant meetings and events in the country and elsewhere to inform, interact with and enhance the engagement of as many stakeholders as possible.
6. Develop a specific page informing about progress in implementing the three Rio Conventions project on the Rio Conventions’ common clearing-house mechanism under development (with illustrated links, thus very visible) and on each of the Rio Conventions’ clearing-house mechanism.
7. Develop PowerPoint presentations introducing (i) the whole project, (ii) the outcomes and (iii) the expected outputs and their benefits for the users and the country in general, and post them on the Rio Conventions webpages for wide use
8. Establish an official Facebook; and obtain official Twitter accounts and Google Alerts for Media Publication and codes for other social media

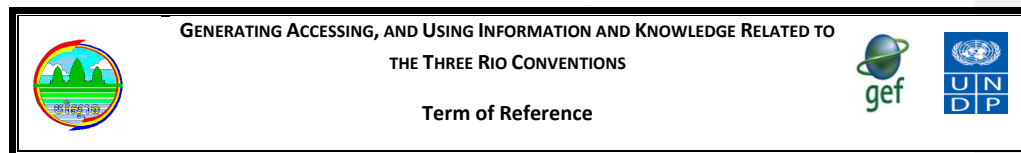
Strategic Objective 4: Enhance enabling environment in particular human capacities and financial resources for enhanced communication on matters relating to the three Rio Conventions.

The project will achieve this objective through the following key actions:

UNDP/GEF project “*Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the 3 Rio Conventions*”

1. Build or, as appropriate, strengthen capacity on how to use (headline) indicators, and how to synthesize and present data (graphics, tables, texts with executive summaries etc.) for different target audiences.
2. Mobilize the needed financial resources needed to produce the various communication products listed in the activities above.

Annex 13: Terms of Reference of National MEA Expert



**TERMS OF REFERENCE
Individual Contractor**

Assignment Information

Assignment Title:	National Three Rio Conventions Project Expert
Project:	Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Rio Conventions
Post Level:	Specialist
Contract Type:	Individual Contractor (IC)
Duty Station:	Home/Phnom Penh/GSSD
Expected Place of Travel:	Phnom Penh, Field Visit
Contract Duration:	65 days, and from 4th week of July to 3rd week of December 2016

Commented [EH47]: Is recruitment process completed?

Project Description

The Generating, Accessing and Using Information related to the 3 Rio Conventions project is in line with the GEF-5 CCCD Programme Frameworks two (2) and four (4), which calls for countries to generate, access and use information and knowledge and to strengthen capacities to implement and manage global convention guidelines. It is also aligned with the first objective of GEF6 that is to integrate global environmental needs into management information systems (MIS). It is a direct response to national priorities identified through the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) conducted in 2005-2006 and that is part of the institutional strengthening underway at MOE and MAFF. Through a learning-by-doing process, this project will harmonize existing environmental information systems, integrating internationally accepted measurement standards and methodologies, as well as develop a more consistent reporting on the global environment. Under the first outcome, the project will support the development of national capacities to effectively and efficiently standardize environment-related information that is generated on the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia, and give open-access to this information. In parallel to this, the project will support the strengthening of Cambodia’s capacity to better engage stakeholders and better coordinate the implementation of the Rio Conventions

in the country. Under the second outcome, project resources will be used to improve the use of environment-related information for the development of innovative tools supporting decision-making processes related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions. The project support will also include activities to develop the capacity in using this environment-related knowledge of national institutions involved in international negotiations at Conventions COPs, as well as using this knowledge to produce national reports meeting Conventions reporting obligations.

The project’s objective is to improve access to environmental information related to the Rio Conventions through the harmonization of existing environmental management information systems and improving coordination of the implementation of these conventions in Cambodia. The harmonization of these existing systems will be translated into better access to information related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia.

The project is delineated into two main components as follows:

Component 1: Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions

Component 2: Improved use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions

Scope of Work

A Technical Expert on MEA (TE-MEA) will be nationally recruited based on an open and competitive process. The TE-MEA will be hired to provide technical guidance with a focus on access to environmental information related to the Rio Conventions (UN-CBD, UNFCCC, & UNCCD), as well as to support the Project Director, Project Management Unit (PMU), and National Focal Points of the three Rio Conventions in the effective implementation of this project. The TE-MEA will report to the Project Director and Project Assurance, UNDP and will participate in the meetings of the Project Board (PB) as a resource person as necessary.

The main expected outputs of the assignment are:

- An efficient and effective information management system and a common clearinghouse mechanism either covering the three Rio Conventions or individual CHM developed, strengthen, and operated;
- Generation, assessing and using of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions enhanced qualitatively and quantitatively;
- Existing stakeholder platforms strengthened and better coordinated in order to facilitate access and exchange of information, and increase stakeholder networking and engagement in Convention related dialogues and processes; and
- Institutional and individual capacities to implement the three Rio Conventions strengthened using the new reporting guide, as well as to advance Cambodian national

interests on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought matters and their interlinkages in regional and global networks and forums;

The tasks and responsibilities of the TE-MEA will be as follows

1. Conduct an inventory of existing information management systems of relevance to the three Rio Conventions in Cambodia;
2. Assess these systems to identify overlaps and gaps in fulfilling the coherent and integrated implementation and reporting needs of the three Rio Conventions, and evaluate the complementarity and synergies of these systems as well as their effectiveness and efficiency in generating and facilitating access and use of information of;
3. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the UN-CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC clearing-house mechanisms (CHMs) in fulfilling the needs of the three Rio Conventions as well as the opportunities and constraints that they experience;
4. Select one of the existing clearing-house mechanisms and identify ways and means to expand its role to address the needs of the three Rio Conventions. Alternatively, establish a new clearing-house mechanism that will respond to the needs of the three Rio Conventions, and that will replace or will be linked to (i.e. interoperable with) the existing CHMs;
5. Survey organs/bodies/ institutions that generate data/ information of relevance to Cambodia on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought;
6. Assess the qualitative and quantitative effectiveness of these institutions/organs/entities, their strengths and weaknesses, their opportunities and constraints;
7. Survey the platforms involved in the implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions, including in particular the National Council for Sustainable Development, and describe their structures, roles and achievements with regard to access, generation and use of information on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought;
8. Identify ways and means and test them in a pilot project to strengthen these existing stakeholder platforms with regard in particular to their role as platform for dialogues on climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation and drought;
9. Assist CDA to identify the institutional and individual capacity needs with reviewing & updating the needs identified in the NCSA report, for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions, with a particular focus on information generation, access and use;
10. Assist CDA to develop Capacity Development/Building Action Plan, using NCSA Action Plan as reference, identify ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for the generation, access and use of information and tools needed for the effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions;

11. Support CDA to access, review and analyze documents, especially draft COP document present in pre-COP meetings and build capacity of Cambodian delegates to negotiate and take advantage from the respective COPs and Ad-Hoc meetings;
12. Assess the identified ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions in a pilot project;
13. Analyze obligations from the three Rio Conventions and related decisions of their respective Conference of the Parties, and how these obligations have been and are being implemented in Cambodia and through cooperation with the regional programmes and agreements; and
14. Analyze how institutions/organizations engaged in the implementation of the three Rio Conventions and related agreements including GSSD/MoE and MAFF are advancing Cambodia’s positions and priorities in global, regional and subregional forums, programmes and initiatives;

Expected Outputs and Deliverables

No.	Deliverables/Outputs Based on above tasks and responsibilities	Estimated Duration to Complete	Target Due Dates
1.	Deliverable 1: - Conduct surveys of existing information management system related to the 3 Rio conventions in Cambodia and recommend the best option for CHM for Cambodia	15	30 August 2016
2.	Deliverable 2: - Conduct surveys on organs/bodies that generate data/information concerning the 3 Rio conventions in Cambodia - Conduct survey of the platforms involved in the implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions and select the best one for their testing and improving	25	18 October 2016
3.	Deliverable 3: - Update capacity needs identified in NCSA report and identify the approaches to upgrade the capacity for 3 Rio Conventions-related generation, access and use of information;	25	20 December 2016

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess how the institutions/organizations are advancing Cambodia’s positions and priorities in global, regional and subregional forums, programmes and initiatives 		
Total # of Days:		65	

Duration of the Work

The duration of assignment is 65 days over the course of 6 months, starting from the fourth week of July 2016 to third week of December 2016.

The TE-MEA is expected to spend the total 65 working days to deliver the outputs stated in this assignment. The TE-MEA should cover all the related costs while working in Cambodia, except for local travels for stakeholder consultations in the country.

This initial contract is for 2016 and subject to renewal based on satisfactory performance and delivery of outputs as per the approved work plan.

Duty Station

The TE-MEA will work from home and/or be based in Department of Biodiversity, General Secretariat of National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment. Hired project vehicle will be provided to support the TE-MEA during the data collection and meeting with stakeholders in Phnom Penh.

Minimum Qualifications of the Individual Contractor

Education:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An advanced University education (MS or PhD) with expertise in the area of natural resource management, biodiversity management, agriculture, land management/use, climate change, rural development, forestry, environmental management, information technology, and project management
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Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 5 years of professional experience in the domain of environment, biodiversity, natural resources, rural development, land management/use, agriculture, climate change of which at least two years on implementation/knowledge of 3 Rio Conventions; • Demonstrated experience in project development, implementation and management, preferably synergy projects and Rio Conventions projects
Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong skills in policy development including strategic and action plan development; • Strong skills in accessing, generating, and using of information and knowledge related to 3 Rio Conventions; • Ability to effectively coordinate a large; multidisciplinary team of experts and consultants; • Excellent team work; • Ability to solve conflict and problem resolution; • Be an effective negotiator with excellent oral and presentation skills; • Excellent computer applications; • Previous experience with GEF projects is an added plus; • Experience of working and collaborating with government officials is an asset; • Experience in working as a team, and in particular experience in, and knowledge of elaborate on specific policy and technical issues of Multi Environmental Agreement (MEA) is an asset; • Experience and knowledge of Information Technology is an added plus;
Language Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent spoken and written English

Criteria for Evaluation of Level of Technical Compliance of Individual Contractor

Technical Evaluation Criteria	Obtainable Score
At least 5 years of professional experience in the domain of environment, biodiversity, natural resources, rural development, land management/use, agriculture, climate change of which at least two years on implementation/knowledge of 3 Rio Conventions	30

Demonstrated experience in project development, implementation and management, preferably synergy projects and Rio Conventions projects	25
Strong skills in project assessment, evaluation, management, and monitoring related to accessing, generating, and using of information and knowledge related to 3 Rio Conventions;	25
Experience of working and collaborating with government officials in Cambodia and excellent team work	20
Total Obtainable Score:	100

Payment Milestones

The TE-MEA will be paid on a lump sum basis under the following installments:

N	Outputs/Deliveries	Payment Schedule	Payment Amount
1	Upon submission of work plans		20%
2	Upon satisfactory completion of Deliverable 1	5 th week of August 2016	30%
3	Upon satisfactory completion of Deliverable 2	3 rd week of October 2016	30%
4	Upon satisfactory completion of Deliverable 3	3 rd week of December 2016	20%

Interested individuals should submit CV and Cover Letter no later than 19 July 2016 (at 5:00PM) to the Rio Convention Project, GSSD/MoE: Third Floor Room 308, Morodok Techo Building (Lot 503) Tonle Bassac, Chamkarmorn, Phnom Penh, Cambodia and/or email to: keosamnang.tiep@gmail.com. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interview.

Approved by:

Prepared by:

Meng Monyrak

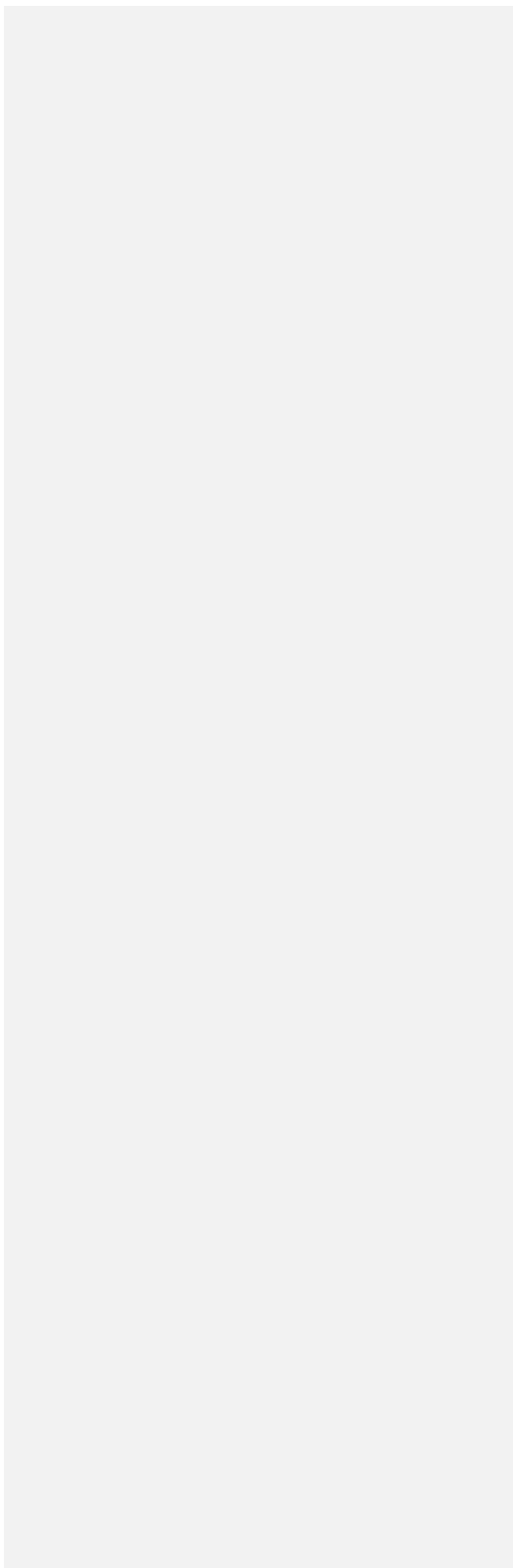
O.I.C National Project Director

Date: _____

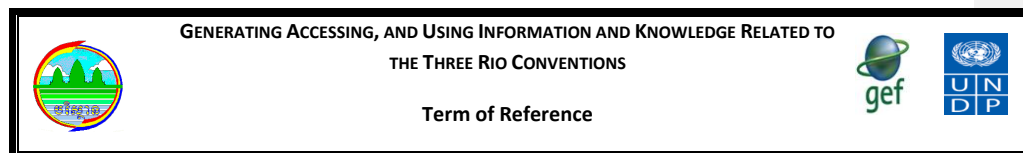
Chhin Nith

Project Coordinator

Date: _____



Annex 14: Terms of Reference for International CD Adviser



**TERMS OF REFERENCE
Individual Contractor**

Assignment Information

Assignment Title:	Capacity Development Advisor (CDA)
Project:	Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Rio Conventions
Post Level:	Advisor
Contract Type:	Individual Contractor (IC)
Duty Station:	Home/Phnom Penh/GSSD, MoE
Expected Place of Travel:	Phnom Penh, Field Visit
Contract Duration:	45 days from 4th week of July to 3rd week of December 2016

Commented [EH48]: Same as above, is advisor on board? And could you confirm who was selected?

Project Description

The Generating, Accessing and Using Information related to the 3 Rio Conventions project is in line with the GEF-5 CCCD Programme Frameworks two (2) and four (4), which calls for countries to generate, access and use information and knowledge and to strengthen capacities to implement and manage global convention guidelines. It is also aligned with the first objective of GEF6 that is to integrate global environmental needs into management information systems (MIS). It is a direct response to national priorities identified through the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) conducted in 2005-2006 and that is part of the institutional strengthening underway at MOE and MAFF. Through a learning-by-doing process, this project will harmonize existing environmental information systems, integrating internationally accepted measurement standards and methodologies, as well as develop a more consistent reporting on the global environment. Under the first outcome, the project will support the development of national capacities to effectively and efficiently standardize environment-related information that is generated on the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia, and give open-access to this information. In parallel to this, the project will support the strengthening of Cambodia’s capacity to better engage stakeholders and better coordinate the implementation of the Rio Conventions

in the country. Under the second outcome, project resources will be used to improve the use of environment-related information for the development of innovative tools supporting decision-making processes related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions. The project support will also include activities to develop the capacity in using this environment-related knowledge of national institutions involved in international negotiations at Conventions COPs, as well as using this knowledge to produce national reports meeting Conventions reporting obligations.

The project’s objective is to improve access to environmental information related to the Rio Conventions through the harmonization of existing environmental management information systems and improving coordination of the implementation of these conventions in Cambodia. The harmonization of these existing systems will be translated into better access to information related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions in Cambodia.

The project is delineated into two main components as follows:

Component 1: Improved access and generation of information related to the three Rio Conventions

Component 2: Improved use of information and knowledge related to the Rio Conventions

Scope of Work

The CDA will be internationally recruited based on an open and competitive process. CDA will be hired to provide technical and policy guidance with a focus on capacity development to access, generate and use of environmental information related to the Rio Conventions (UN-CBD, UNFCCC, & UNCCD), as well as to support and build capacity Project Management Unit (PMU), and National Focal Points of the three Rio Conventions in the effective implementation of this project. The CDA will report to the Project Director and Project Assurance UNDP and will participate in the meetings of the Project Board (PB) as a resource person as necessary

The main expected outputs of the assignment are:

- Capacity Development Action Plan for effective implementation of three Rio Conventions developed and implemented;
- Capacity of responsible institutions and individuals, especially to advance Cambodian national interests on biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation and drought matters and their interlinkages in regional and global networks and forums developed and strengthened;
- Capacity in using information/data access tools for decision- and policy-making enhanced;

- Educational and awareness raising materials including visual aid and media materials/document developed and widely distributed; and
- Reports of review & analysis in relation with COP decisions, and Rio conventions papers prepared for each respective COP and Ad-Hoc meeting;

Duties and Responsibilities

The tasks and responsibilities of the CDA will be as follows:

- Identify the institutional and individual capacity needs with reviewing & updating the needs identified in the NCSA report, for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions, with a particular focus on information generation, access and use;
- Develop Capacity Development/Building Action Plan, using NCSA Action Plan as reference, identify ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for the generation, access and use of information and tools needed for the effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions;
- Apply and assess the identified ways and means for strengthening institutional and individual capacities for an effective, efficient and well-coordinated implementation of the three Rio Conventions in a pilot project
- Review obligations from the three Rio Conventions and related decisions of their respective Conference of the Parties, and how these obligations have been and are being implemented in Cambodia and through cooperation with the regional programmes and agreements;
- Access, review and analyze documents, especially draft COP documents present in pre-COP meetings and build capacity of Cambodian delegates to negotiate and take advantage from the respective COPs and Ad-Hoc meetings;
- Assess how institutions/organizations engaged in the implementation of the three Rio Conventions and related agreements including GSSD, MOE and MAFF are advancing Cambodia’s positions and priorities in global, regional and subregional forums, programmes and initiatives;
- Conduct stocktaking of the capacity development initiatives, as needed;
- Design and develop capacity building initiatives/plan/activities, training and awareness raising program/activities for effective implementation of Rio Conventions;
- Provide policy advice and strategic and technical guidance to support the design of the strategies and technical issues concerning capacity development, training module, institutional strengthening, and strategies to promote knowledge development and generation information related to Rio Conventions and its implementation;
- Identify, codify and disseminate best practices and lessons learned to build capacity and knowledge related to Rio Conventions; and
- Assist MEA Expert and build capacity NPC and CPFs, as needed, to review Project Implementation, prepare technical reports, and quarterly financial reports;

Expected Outputs and Deliverables

No.	Deliverables/Outputs	Estimated Duration to Complete	Target Due Dates
1.	Deliverable 1: Action plan on capacity development and conduction of capacity development training sessions;	15	30 August 2016
2.	Deliverable 2: Development and distributions of educational and awareness materials	15	18 October 2016
3.	Deliverable 3: Reports of review & analysis in relation with COP decisions, and Rio conventions papers	15	20 December 2016
Total # of Days:		45	

Duration of the Work

The duration of assignment is 45 days over the course of 6 months, starting from 4th week of July 2016 to 3rd week of December 2016.

The CDA is expected to spend the total 45 working days to deliver the outputs stated in this assignment. The CDA should cover all the related costs while working in Cambodia except for local travels for stakeholder consultations in Phnom Penh is needs subject to project rule and regulation.

Renewal: The initial contract is for 2016 and may be renewed based on satisfactory performance and delivery of outputs as per the approved work plan.

Duty Station

The CDA will work from home and/or be based in Department of Biodiversity, General Secretariat of National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment. Hired project vehicle will be provided to support the CDA during the data collection and meeting with stakeholders in Phnom Penh.

Payment Milestones

The CDA will be paid on a lump sum basis under the following installments:

N	Outputs/Deliveries	Payment Schedule	Payment Amount
1	Upon submission of work plans		20%
2	Upon satisfactory completion of Deliverable 1	5 th week of August 2016	30%
3	Upon satisfactory completion of Deliverable 2	3 rd week of October 2016	30%
4	Upon satisfactory completion of Deliverable 3	3 rd week of December 2016	20%

Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An advanced University education (MS or PhD) with expertise in the area of natural resource management, biodiversity management, agriculture, forestry, climate change, environmental management, capacity development, and project management
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 7 years of professional experience in the domain of environment, biodiversity, natural resources, agriculture, land management/use, climate change, capacity development, communication professional, of which at least 4 years on implementation/knowledge of 3 Rio Conventions; Demonstrated experience in project development, and implementation and management, project policy development, capacity development, communication professional preferably synergy projects and Rio Conventions projects

Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong skills in policy and strategy development, capacity strategy development, communication strategy development, project strategy and action plan development, monitoring and evaluation; • Strong skills in project assessment, evaluation, management, and monitoring related to accessing, generating, and using of information and knowledge related to 3 Rio Conventions; • Good communication skills; • Strong skills in institutional analysis; • Strong skills in report writing, strategy formulation, policy guidance advice, ToR and contractual development; • Be an effective negotiator with excellent oral and presentation skills; • Ability to effectively coordinate a large; multidisciplinary team of experts and consultants; • Excellent computer application skills; • Previous experience with GEF projects is an added plus; • Experience of working and collaborating with the government officials is an asset; • Experience in working as a team, and in particular experience in, and knowledge of elaborate on specific policy and technical issues of Multi Environmental Agreement (MEA) is an asset; • Experience in working in Southeast Asia, and in particular experience in, and knowledge of Cambodia is an asset
Language Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent spoken and written English • Knowledge of Khmer is an advantage

Criteria for Evaluation of Level of Technical Compliance of Individual Contractor

Technical Evaluation Criteria	Obtainable Score
At least 7 years of professional experience in the domain of environment, biodiversity, natural resources, agriculture, land management/use, climate change, capacity development, communication professional, of which at least 4 years on implementation/knowledge of 3 Rio Conventions	30
Demonstrated experience in project development, implementation and management, capacity development, communication professional preferably	25

UNDP/GEF project “Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the 3 Rio Conventions”

synergy projects and Rio Conventions projects and effective negotiation and computer application	
Strong skills in project assessment, evaluation, management, and monitoring related to accessing, generating, and using of information and knowledge related to 3 Rio Convention	25
Experience of working and collaborating with governments in Southeast Asia, and particular in Cambodia	20
Total Obtainable Score:	100

Interested individuals should submit CV and Cover Letter no later than 19 July 2016 (at 5:00PM) to the Rio Convention Project, GSSD/MoE: Third Floor Room 308, Morodok Techo Building (Lot 503) Tonle Bassac, Chamkarmorn, Phnom Penh, Cambodia and/or email to: keosamnang.tiep@gmail.com. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interview.

Approved by:

Prepared by:

Meng Monyrack

Chhin Nith

O.I.C National Project Director

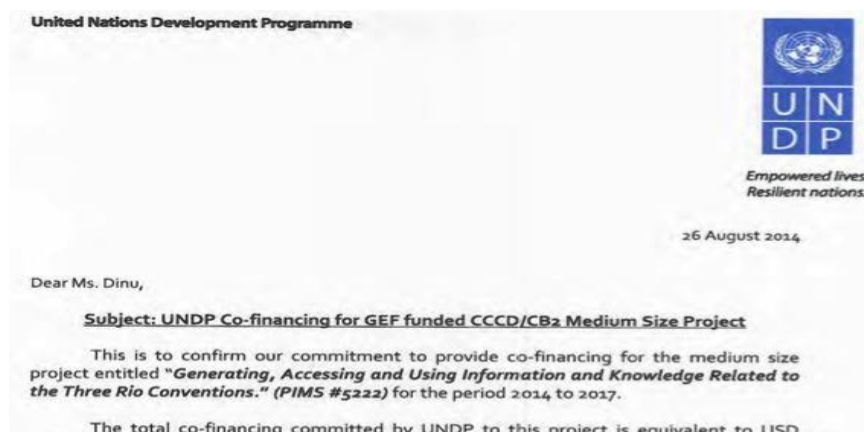
Project Coordinator

Date: _____

Date: _____

PART III: Co-Financing Letter

Annex A Co-Financing Letters



¹ In bold letters, I have the text of the activity in the final document i.e. short versions of the activity text

² The selected tools are: (i) economic valuation of ecosystem services, (ii) impact assessment, and (iii) scenario analysis and modelling

³ “Thematic Assessments and Action Plan for the Three Conventions: UN-CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD - To Contribute to the Poverty Alleviation. Ministry of Environment, Phnom Penh February 2007”