Experiences, Challenges and Opportunities

Ministry of Environment, Cambodia

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Summary of Climate Finance Readiness in Cambodia

• Priority areas on CC Adaptation:
  – Included in the National Strategic Development Plan 2014-2018 and the Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan 2014-23. Some key areas included below:
    • Climate-resilient agriculture and irrigation (high degree of dependency on agriculture: 80% of the population): floods, drought, rising temperatures
    • Climate-resilient infrastructures (esp. roads)
    • Disaster management
    • Climate-sensitive diseases (water-borne, vector-borne)
    • Adaptation to sea level rise in the coastal zone
Summary of Climate Finance Readiness in Cambodia

- Some existing projects and programmes being implemented in country and by whom:
  - SPCR (through ADB): 96 MUSD (agriculture, roads, water). Climate-proofing existing ADB projects. Through concerned ministries
  - USAID programmes: adaptation in agriculture (50 MUSD +), forestry (20 MUSD +). Through US contractors
  - IFAD (climate resilient agriculture), through Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
  - Adaptation Fund: 5 MUSD for protected area management. MoE
  - Coastal zone programme (LDCF/UNEP and CCCA). Total 4MUSD, MoE
  - Disaster management (JICA, ADB)
  - Community-based adaptation (UNDP, Sweden, NGOs)
  - Others
NIE Selection and Institutional Gaps

- Political support for Direct Access at the highest levels (Prime Minister)
- The National Climate Change Committee is considered as potential NIE, based on analysis done in partnership with UNEP
- Rural Development Bank and Ministry of Economy and Finance also considered, but lack of climate change expertise + some elements of fiduciary standards
- NCCC also has some gaps, but possibility to adopt an autonomous institution status, which makes it easier to make the required adjustments. Has a track record allocating and supervising CC funds.
Example of Institutional Gap

• Competence to deal with financial mismanagement and other forms of malpractice
  – Procedures in place at the project and institutional level, but need to strengthen linkages with the internal audit/inspectorate of Ministry of Environment, with clear audit plans and records
  – Need to improve public information on various levels to raise complaints (management, inspectorate, and finally Anti-Corruption Unit/National Audit Authority)
  – National level institutions still developing their own capacities, National Audit Authority audits not publicly released
  – Proposed way forward: strengthen procedures/planning for internal audits, information on complaints procedure on website, supplement national audit system with external audits where required
  – Timeline: MoE and NCCC currently undergoing institutional reform, expected to be completed by end 2014. This is when accreditation request can be put together
  – Regional support from UNEP + at country level through CCCA/UNDP.