



CAMBODIA

Building Capacities to Integrate Water Resources Planning in Agricultural Development

LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND	
LDCF grant	\$2,145,000
Cofinancing	\$2,340,350
NAPA completion	March 2007
PIF clearance	December 2007
CEO approval	April 2009
Implementation start and completion	July 2009–June 2013
GEF Agency	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Other executing partners	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology

The LDCF project in Cambodia increases the adaptive capacity of key stakeholders in water resource management to address the impacts of climate change. The project focuses on the water resource needs of the agriculture sector. The project identifies, prioritizes, and drives the policy reforms necessary to overcome constraints to the design, planning, and implementation of technically and economically feasible measures on adaptation to climate change in the agricultural sector.

Interventions supported by this project focus on the needs of the poor agricultural communities that are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate

change. The project builds the capacity of selected local communities to adapt to changes in water and land resources resulting from climate change. Part of this process includes improved capacity to conserve and manage fish stocks as an element of integrated rural livelihood development through integrated packages of small rural livelihood interventions. Complementing this capacity development process, which occurs at the national level, the project also builds the capacity of selected local communities to adapt to changes in water and land resources resulting from climate change in order to promote sustainable agricultural development.



Project Activities and Expected Impacts

The objective of this project is to enhance adaptive capacity, at the national, institutional, and local levels, to climate change–induced changes in water resources availability for the agricultural sector in Cambodia. The project assists in the development of capacity in the area of development planning and selection of local adaptation options appropriate to address the climate change risks in the water resources sector.

Capacity within local institutions to manage agricultural water resources in a changing climate is increased through Commune Council Plans and budgets addressing inherent climate risks in target districts, training engineers in climate-resilient irrigation design, instituting conflict resolution measures in areas prone to climate-induced water shortages, and establishing a community-based climate information system on floods and drought events.

Locally appropriate adaptation options are demonstrated to reduce exposure to climate-induced risks through improving rainwater harvesting facilities in 20 target villages, demonstrating resilient farming methods to climate-induced changes in rainfall intensity and distribution, as well as resilient design and management of reservoirs, irrigation canals, ponds, and dykes.

Lessons learned in project pilot sites will be replicated in other vulnerable areas of Cambodia. To support this, the project designs and

implements public awareness and environmental education programs on climate risk reduction, establishes learning networks for climate-resilient farming practices, extends the Service Centre for Farmer Water-Use Committees (FWUC) with climate change learning capability, disseminates project lessons through TV and radio, and generates modifications to national policies on climate change adaptation as lessons are derived from the project activities.

Synergies and Coordination

NGOs and Executive Committees of the two pilot provinces play a leading implementing role together with the two lead project ministries. The Ministry of Environment (MOE), which has the mandate over climate change matters, sits also on the Project Board, adopting lessons learned from the project to prepare for modifications to national climate-related policies. These management arrangements support the strengthening of institutions responsible for climate change adaptation issues, specifically as related to agricultural water management. Coordination with other agencies further enhances the dissemination of learning on adaptation. The project collaborates also with other key development partners such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the French Agency for Development (AFD), the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), and others to support a coherent and synergetic approach to climate change adaptation in Cambodia.

For More Information

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