LINKING POLICY AND PRACTICE FOR ACCELERATING MDG1
PROJECT #00077102

PURPOSE OF PROJECT
The Linking Policy and Practice for Accelerating MDG1 (LPP) project aims to support policy dialogue on key priorities of the Royal Government of Cambodia’s Rectangular Strategy and National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP). The project will provide evidence-based policy options for inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth; support human capital development and institutional capacity development in selected sectors such as extractive industries and social protection; and the scaling up of effective anti-poverty practice. Building on the successes of the Insights for Action Initiative (2005-2010), the LPP’s work priorities and outputs will continue to be determined through regular close consultations with the Government and other stakeholders whilst adapting and addressing critical and emerging issues for Cambodia.

MAIN ACTIVITIES
The LPP project focuses its work in four main areas; socio-economic growth and economic governance, human capital development, extractive industries (mining and oil and gas sectors), and the scaling up of practices to improve the incomes of those in the poorest provinces. In its efforts to achieve its aims, the project will undertake the following activities:

- Support the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) to identify evidence based policy options to ensure that growth is more diversified, inclusive and resilient while progressing towards middle income country status. The project will also support policy analysis and advice on issues identified by the RGC.
- Support the elaboration of human capital development strategies that will help generate the skills the private sector needs and promote more employment opportunities for Cambodians, particularly the youth.
- Support the design of policies, laws and strategic framework and tools as well as institutional development necessary for specific sectors such as extractive industries and social protection which have the potential to support and contribute to poverty reduction.
- Provide knowledge and capacity development tools for extractive industries, emphasising effective stakeholder engagement, transparency and responsible development.
- Support the RGC to put in place systems and human capacities to monitor and evaluate the impact of the National Social Protection Strategy and thus better target social protection schemes, addressing the needs of vulnerable populations.
- Support the RGC to assess the micro-insurance sector market potential in reducing vulnerabilities of low income communities and in supporting the implementation of the National Social Protection Strategy.
- Support the identification, the documentation and the scaling-up of successful anti-poverty models with demonstrable and sustainable impact that possess the potential to be expanded and integrated into national programmes to support the acceleration of progress towards CMDG 1 with a particular focus on rural areas.
EXPECTED KEY RESULTS

- Policy advice provided and public/policy dialogues held on inclusive growth and resilient development. Policy options widely disseminated through various policy dialogues and fora.
- Support provided to human capital development and institutional capacity development in selected sectors of importance for inclusive growth and resilient development.
- Mineral and oil and gas policies which meet international governance standards, contribute to the responsible development of the extractive industries sectors, and ensure benefits extend to all Cambodians.
- Comprehensive documentation and effective scaling up of local poverty reduction practices in areas of community-based income generation and inclusive finance, promoting sustainable livelihoods.

BACKGROUND

Cambodia’s remarkable growth performance is more likely to be sustainable if it broadens its focus on additional promising sectors and emphasises the sustainable development of natural resources. In order to reach middle income country status while ensuring that progress towards poverty reduction are sustained, it has been recognised that Cambodia needs to ensure that its medium-term growth strategy and interventions are more inclusive, more sustainable and with stronger institutions.

The UNDP Country Programme Action Plan (2011–2015) adopts an integrated poverty reduction approach in order to accelerate progress towards CMDG1. Addressing growth, poverty and equity requires acting simultaneously at the policy and macroeconomic levels and through direct interventions focused on the poorest populations. The acceleration path for CMDG 1 requires a combination of policy, sector strategies and local level initiatives.

During 2005 and 2010, the Insights for Action initiative (IFA) undertook research to catalyse and facilitate policy dialogue on key development issues. IFA’s research, including the UNDP Discussion Paper Series, Policy Briefs and the Cambodia Human Development Reports in 2007 and 2011, focused on providing policy options to improve economic governance, extractive industries and human development. The LPP project continues to work on these three sectors, with a tighter focus to gain greater impact, but retaining the flexibility to respond to emerging issues as requested by the Government.

FACTS AND FIGURES

DURATION
2011 – 2015

TOTAL BUDGET
US$20,379,281

CONTRIBUTING DONORS
Norad Oil for Development (NORAD): US$133,561.96
UNAIDS Regional: US$ 2,000.00

PROJECT PARTNERS
Implementing Agency: UNDP
Cooperating Agencies: Ministry of Planning (MOP); Ministry of Industry, Mines, and Energy (MIME); Supreme National Economic Council (SNEC); Cambodia National Petroleum Authority (CNPA); and the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD)

LOCATION
Phnom Penh

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOAL
Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMME
Outcome 1: By 2015 national and sub-national capacities strengthened to develop more diversified, sustainable and equitable economy.
Output 1.1: Evidence-based policy options provided, institutional capacities of select sectors strengthened, and local income generation schemes scaled-up for inclusive and equitable growth

UNDP THEMATIC AREA
Poverty Reduction

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