



Cambodia

ANNUAL REPORT 2009



Fostering voices, choices and sustainable futures

Foreword

As outgoing Country Director, I am very pleased to present our 2009 Annual Report, and to warmly welcome the new Country Director, Elena Tischenko, into her role. It has been an honour for me to serve the Country Office, and it is with great pride that I hand over to Ms Tischenko a programme that I believe to be focused and forward-looking.

This report outlines major achievements for 2009, but also examines some of the challenges we faced, such as the global economic crisis, whose impact was felt sharply in Cambodia last year.

In 2009, UNDP made substantial contributions to the country's development in four key areas: supporting local governance reforms; facilitating policy dialogue on economic governance and gender mainstreaming; strengthening aid effectiveness mechanisms; and supporting the Royal Government of Cambodia in articulating its response to climate change. These results would not have been possible without our strategic partnerships with SIDA, DFID, the EU, AusAID, CIDA and many others.

In local governance, a total of \$82 million was delivered by the Royal Government of Cambodia and donors through UNDP-supported government structures and systems to build infrastructure, improve health services and access to education, and raise awareness on the rights of women and children. Following the first-ever election of Provincial and District Councils in May, newly-elected district councillors, as well as provincial and district level staff, received training to help them carry out their new functions. Provincial and district forums organized by the National League of Commune/Sangkat allowed the Commune Councils to strengthen their relationships with line ministries and parliamentarians.

Partnering with the Supreme National Economic Council, UNDP helped to shape national policy on economic competitiveness and the impact of the economic downturn. Linking with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, we helped to mainstream gender into national and sectoral policies. As a result, a gender dimension has been integrated into the updated National Strategic Development Plan and the 10-year National Programme on Sub-national Democratic Development. A five-year gender equity strategy has also been produced by MoWA.

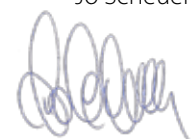
To improve aid effectiveness and promote a sense of national ownership, UNDP supported the Government in taking a programme based approach to gender mainstreaming, drafting partnership principles for climate change and trade, and developing a mine action strategy that will serve for all stakeholders. As well, the Official Development Assistance database, which tracks aid contributed to Cambodia, was expanded to include NGOs.

Recognizing climate change as an emerging area of focus, UNDP provided support to the Government to develop strategic, policy and aid effectiveness initiatives in this area. The Climate Change Department at the Ministry of Environment was able to complete baseline analytical work essential for the preparation of a national climate change strategy in 2010. At the policy level, climate change was systematically integrated into the revised National Strategic Development Plan. Notably, Cambodia held its First National Forum on Climate Change, which was opened by Prime Minister Hun Sen in October and attended by more than 350 policymakers, officials, foreign experts, development partners, members of civil society and students.

We have also contributed in many other areas of democratic governance, poverty reduction and environment and energy. These contributions are outlined in more detail in the following pages.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to the Royal Government of Cambodia, development partners, NGOs and all Cambodians for making my experience so enriching and rewarding.

Jo Scheuer



Cover photo: UNDP/Raseng Da

A Community Conversation addressing gender issues, including domestic violence, is conducted by three village facilitators in Poutrom Village in Senmonorom Town, Mondulkiri Province.

Country Director

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Cambodia at a Glance

Population 2008	13.4 million ¹
Annual population growth rate 1998-2008	1.54% ¹
Gross Domestic Product (est) 2009	US\$10.94 billion ²
GDP annual growth (est) 2009	0.1% ³
GDP per capita (est) 2009	US\$769 ²
Poverty (% of population below national poverty line) 2007	30.1% ⁴
Life expectancy at birth (men/women, est) 2008	60.5/64.3 ¹
Adult literacy rate (literacy among people aged 15 years and older, men/women) 2008	85.1%/70.9% ¹
Child mortality rate, under 5 years old (per 1,000 live births, est) 2008	90 ⁵
Children classified as malnourished according to weight for age 2008	28.8% ⁶
Maternal Mortality Ratio per 10,000 live births (est) 2008	461 ¹
Estimated adult HIV prevalence rate (aged 15-49, est) 2009	0.7% ⁷
Households having access to improved water sources (urban/rural) 2008	76%/41% ¹
Civilian casualties from landmines and unexploded ordnance (annual) 2009	244 ⁸
Official Development Assistance	US\$989.5 million ⁹

*est = estimate

¹ General Population Census of Cambodia 2008, National Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Planning: <http://www.nis.gov.kh/> ² Ministry of Economics and Finance: www.mef.gov.kh/macroeconomic.php
³ Speech by H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen, 17 March 2010: www.cnv.org/kh/ ⁴ Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey 2007: www.nis.gov.kh/index.php/statistics/surveys/csces ⁵ UNICEF: www.unicef.org/infobycountry/cambodia_statistics.html ⁶ Cambodia Anthropometrics Survey 2008, page 25 ⁷ National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STI Control, Ministry of Health (2007): Report of a Consensus Workshop: HIV Estimates and Projections for Cambodia 2006-2012 data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2008/cambodia_hiv_estimation_report_2006_en.pdf ⁸ Cambodian Mine/UXO Victim Information System Monthly Report February 2010 www.cmaa.gov.kh/ ⁹ Cambodia Aid Effectiveness Report 2010, page i

Cambodia Millennium Development Goals



1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger



2. Achieve universal nine-year basic education



3. Promote gender equality and empower women



4. Reduce child mortality



5. Improve maternal health



6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases



7. Ensure environmental sustainability



8. Develop a global partnership for development



9. De-mining, UXO and victim assistance

2009 Overview



UNDP supports Cambodia as it finds its own solutions to national and global development challenges. (UNDP / Isabelle Lesser)

UNDP Cambodia made key contributions to pro-poor development in 2009 by supporting democratic governance, poverty reduction and environmental sustainability. Highlights included helping to build an alliance to respond to climate change, encouraging responsive government through decentralization, and promoting parliamentarians' engagement with citizens. UNDP assisted the Government in playing its part in international efforts on demining, land degradation, chemicals management, ozone-depletion and aid effectiveness. It also underpinned efforts to develop trade and creative industries and promote alternative livelihoods that help preserve both biodiversity and vital natural resources. Its work ranged from providing policy advice to organizing community self-help groups that enable families to improve their lives.

In the area of democratic governance, policy inputs contributed to the drafting of the 10-year National Program for Sub-National Democratic Development, and thousands of officials and representatives received training to enable them to carry out their new functions. Forums organized by the local government association conveyed local concerns to the Government. Parliamentarians engaged with citizens

throughout the country and developed skills in exercising their representative, law-making and oversight functions. Balanced journalism encouraged debate on sensitive issues. Gender equality was incorporated into the decentralization programme and the revised National Strategic Development Plan. Alternative dispute resolution systems gave marginalized people greater access to justice.

To support poverty reduction, key industries with export potential were strengthened so that Cambodia can reap the benefits of its integration into the world trading system. UNDP and three other UN agencies helped to revive creative industries that will preserve Cambodia's cultural heritage. Analysis on key issues, including Cambodia's economic competitiveness and the local impact of the global financial crisis, contributed to informed debate. A study of progress toward the Cambodia Millennium Development Goals helped to identify gaps in the data, contributing to the Government's own assessment in 2010. Work on streamlining foreign assistance assisted development partners with harmonizing their aid. Demining released 7.81 sq km of land, benefiting more than 40,000 families.

The Government and donors formed an alliance with UNDP support to help Cambodia fight and adapt to climate change. Work continued on managing the land sustainably to stem desertification. At village level, efforts were made to halt deforestation, establish community fisheries, and protect mangroves and sea grass beds. Cambodia contributed to international efforts to protect the ozone layer and made recommendations for using chemicals in ways that minimize harmful effects. In biodiversity hotspots, UNDP worked to promote participatory land use planning, zonation and boundary marking. Villagers adopted livelihoods such as ecotourism that eased human pressure on natural resources.

How We Work

The United Nations Development Programme is one of 23 UN agencies, funds and programmes operating in Cambodia under the umbrella of the UN Resident Coordinator system, which works to ensure that UN activities complement each other and do not overlap. UNDP Cambodia concentrates on promoting democratic governance, directly reducing poverty, and managing the environment and energy for sustainable development. It works to protect human rights and empower women. A cross-cutting priority is capacity development, working to enhance the ability of individuals, organizations and societies to achieve their own development objectives.

UNDP works in partnership with the Royal Government of Cambodia, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, community-based organizations, multilateral aid agencies, bilateral donors and private firms. About 80 percent of its development assistance is implemented by national entities such as the Parliament, the Council for the Development of Cambodia and line ministries. At sub-national level UNDP works with line departments and provincial, municipal, district, and commune bodies. In some instances, UNDP implements projects directly.

Capacity development takes many forms: institutional reform, leadership development, education, training and learning, and accountability and voice mechanisms. UNDP advisors work with Cambodian counterparts to provide a combination of technical advice, conferences, study tours and formal training, as well as coaching and mentoring. The skills transferred may be as simple as organizing a meeting or as complex as managing a multi-million dollar budget over several years. Funds come from three main sources: UNDP's central budget (about \$9 million a year); major donors, usually national governments (\$25 to \$30 million a year); and funds specific to certain projects.

In 2009, UNDP Cambodia employed 353 personnel (core staff and project personnel) and contracted 164 consultants, of whom 30 percent were women. Core staff numbered 85 (49 men and 36 women.) As well, UNV volunteers acted as technical advisors and specialists in support of UNDP's programmes. As a knowledge-driven organization, UNDP is committed to continuous learning and career development. Staff are encouraged to use the online Learning Management System, which offers 3,000 courses on a wide range of topics in several languages. As well, UNDP hosts weekly learning sessions and supports many staff to study independently.

UNDP Cambodia's procurement spending in 2009 totalled \$8.1 million, an 8.1 percent increase over 2008. Engagement of professional services of experts and specialists to strengthen national capacities amounted to approximately \$2.1 million, or approximately 26 percent of total spending. UNDP also facilitated procurement on behalf of numerous UN agencies which enabled fellowships and participation in workshops abroad by 207 Cambodians.

Villagers in Choamsrey Village in the Northern Plains elect their Community Protected Area Committee. UNDP supports participatory land use planning to create livelihood security and preserve natural resources. (MoE / Sok Vuthin)



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Democratic Governance

The Challenge

Cambodia has traditionally been a hierarchical society and a highly centralized state, where the poor and other marginalized groups have little influence on decisions affecting their lives. It is now a young democracy still developing a culture of political pluralism. In the broader society, women, the poor and indigenous peoples face challenges to exercising their rights. The Government is committed to decentralization and deconcentration as cornerstones of pro-poor development, and has begun the huge task of devolving powers and functions to the provinces, districts and communes. Following the 2008 national elections, there appeared to be greater constraints on the space for civic debate. Laws on criminal defamation, disinformation and incitement were used more frequently, and issues with the voter registry and the electoral complaints and appeals process remained unresolved.

UNDP's Response

UNDP works to help democratic governance take root and to promote understanding of democratic rights and responsibilities. In 2009, it assisted the evolution of Cambodia's new system of sub-national government through advice on structures and processes, and through the development of skills and knowledge among officials. It supported the local government association and strengthened councillors' ability to implement local development projects in ways that respond to residents' needs. It also supported balanced journalism and encouraged civic engagement and public accountability. Parliamentarians came into direct contact with thousands of constituents, and gained expert knowledge of

Key Achievements in 2009

- The National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development approved 31 sub-decrees, ministerial circulars, guidelines, notices and decisions to start putting the 2008 law on sub-national administration into effect. Most of the 10-year National Program for Sub-national Democratic Development was drafted.
- The National League of Commune/Sangkat facilitated two regional, 11 provincial and 55 district forums, compiled local concerns and advocated for them at national level.
- Parliamentarians made 13 field trips to 17 provinces, held seven public forums, visited facilities such as health clinics and prisons, talked with citizens and worked with local officials to find solutions to local issues.
- Current affairs programme Equity Weekly produced 52 shows on sensitive issues for national television station TVK.
- Gender concerns were integrated into the National Strategic Development Plan Update (2009-2013).
- The proportion of government jobs held by women rose from 32 percent in 2008 to 34 percent in 2009.
- New alternative dispute resolution mechanisms were expanded and strengthened: 36 new Commune Dispute Resolution Committees were established, bringing the total to 56.
- 1,969 cases were brought to the CDRCs and Maisons de la Justice, of which 792 were successfully mediated.
- Peace Table forums helped resolve land disputes involving indigenous peoples.

the problems facing Cambodian society. Gender concerns were integrated into policies and reform programmes, and advocacy, research, advice and training helped to coordinate gender equality efforts. Marginalized people gained greater access to justice through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, allowing them to resolve issues including domestic violence and land disputes more effectively and at lower cost.

Opposite: University students discuss what makes democracy work during a visit to the National Assembly. (UNDP / Chansok Lay)

Stronger local government boosts responsiveness and accountability

"I have received new knowledge and learned skills that I can apply to my daily work and share with monitoring and evaluation focal points. Without skills and knowledge, our provincial staff cannot provide services to the local people as efficiently as we would like to see."

Ms Choup Khemnik, a training Champion in Monitoring and Evaluation of local government projects from Pailin Province

Roads and bridges give rural people better access to markets and services, improving livelihoods and reducing poverty. Investments are channelled through nationally adopted structures and systems.
(UNDP / Munthit Ker)

The Government has made decentralization and deconcentration of government powers a cornerstone of its development strategy. UNDP supports this policy as a means of promoting development, empowering the poor and making elected officials more accountable. The process crossed a watershed in 2008 with the passage of the Law on Administrative Management of the Capital, Province, Municipality, District and Khan, better known as the Organic Law, which envisions three levels of sub-national administration. This came into effect in 2009, when councillors in the 1,621 local government areas, known as communes in the countryside and sangkats in the cities, elected 193 Municipality/District/Khan Councils and 24 Province/Capital Councils.

In partnership with SIDA, DFID and the EU, UNDP works with 10 national ministries as well as elected councillors and appointed officials at province, district and commune level. The partners support the National Committee for Sub-national Democratic Development (NCDD) and the NCDD Secretariat, which are responsible for putting the Organic Law into effect. They assist government bodies in making the transition to the new system by supporting training in structures, systems, roles and responsibilities. In 2009, the NCDD Secretariat drafted the majority of the 10-year National Program for Sub-national Democratic Development and produced 31 sub-decrees, ministerial circulars (*prakas*), guidelines, notices and decisions to start implementing the Organic Law. The partners also helped sub-national councils

and officials to manage development projects in accordance with the rules of investment funds, in the process learning techniques of governance, oversight and transparency. Some \$82 million from the Government and development partners was channelled through UNDP-supported mechanisms for programme coordination, policy development and sub-national operations.

UNDP partners with the EU to support the National League of Commune/Sangkat, which works to develop local councils, strengthen them in their dealings with the Government, and promote knowledge sharing. The League has permanent seats on NCDD sub-committees, allowing it to advocate for local governance at national level. In 2009, the League organized forums in two regions, 11 provinces and 55 districts to bring local needs to the attention of national officials and allow councillors to develop a mutual support network. The Ministry of Interior and the League launched the Best Practice Award programme for Commune/Sangkat (C/S) Councils, which will recognize good practice in local government. League members travelled to Nepal and Indonesia to study local government associations and discuss service delivery issues.

UNDP worked with the Department of Local Administration's Office of Capacity Building and Training in the Ministry of Interior to design 36 training courses aimed at equipping councillors and officials to operate in the new system. The 8,644 sessions reached 313,753 course participants (188,020 men/125,733 women), making a total of 4,262,358 participant-days supported by UNDP. Some 86 percent of training events were delivered at commune level. Nearly 28 percent of the sessions focused on social issues, 17 percent on economic and agricultural topics, 11 percent on natural resource and environment management, 7 percent on administration and security, and 5 percent on gender mainstreaming. UNDP worked to ensure that investments in local infrastructure and services, ranging from roads, bridges and irrigation works to schools and skills training, were delivered through mechanisms that encourage



participation and promote accountability. A total of \$56 million was made available through four funds: the Commune/Sangkat Fund (\$49 million), the Provincial Investment Fund (\$2.4 million), the District Initiative (\$2.85 million) and the Inter-Commune Cooperation Fund (\$1.83 million). UNDP supported the administration of the funds and the implementation of projects through training on project manuals, financial procedures, feasibility studies, safeguard assurances, planning, procurement, accountability, monitoring and reporting. Bottlenecks were resolved and procedures streamlined, so funds were disbursed at higher rates than in previous years and more projects responded to local needs. The potential for UNDP support to improve the implementation of projects undertaken using the NCDD framework was shown by a comparison of 21 projects and facilities, which amounted to \$63 million worth of investments by the Government and 15 donors. Transfer and delivery rates for the projects fully assisted by UNDP were 35 percent higher than for projects receiving only partial support.

To promote aid effectiveness, UNDP supported the annual integration workshops held in all districts, which brought together C/S Councils and supporters including line departments of national ministries, international organizations and NGOs. In 2009, the workshops produced 42,136 one-year agreements between councils and supporters for projects to be carried out in 2010, promoting responsiveness and accountability on the part of supporters. From 2008 to 2009, the percentage of agreements directly corresponding to commune priorities rose from 35 percent to 46 percent, while implementation rose from 73 percent to 83 percent. UNDP supported the production of 193 District Data Books and 24 Province/Capital Data Books, which compiled data from many different sources, allowing better planning and management. It supported the upgrade of the Project Information Data Base for tracking C/S Fund projects and linked it with the C/S financial management system. Information technology capacity was established in all 193 districts/municipalities and 24 provinces/capital.



Basic facilities improve quality of life in former battlefield districts

In Battambang Province, where peace was not restored until the late 1990s, UNDP worked with the EU and the Government to build infrastructure and provide livelihoods training. The investments were made in four former battlefield districts using structures and systems adopted by the National Committee for Sub-national Democratic Development. Communities were involved in selecting sites and validating project processes, thus strengthening the sense of local ownership. The project constructed 81 km of laterite roads, 17 bridges, 128 culverts and one spillway, giving 24,945 families better access to schools, health centres and other services, and making it easier to take produce to market. In addition, 107 wells freed families from having to carry water from distant streams, which they had blamed for causing diseases. Management committees were formed comprising 808 people (566 men/242 women). Members of the well committees learned basic maintenance, hygiene and sanitation and went on to train another 2,113 villagers (895 men/1238 women). Ten new schools enabled class sizes to drop from 70 to 50 pupils. Some school committees began collections to cover maintenance costs and develop gardens. Two training centres were built and 42 women received training in tailoring and hair-dressing. It is hoped this will enable women to find work or start businesses locally, lessening their need to migrate to the cities and towns in search of work.

Wells improve health and save families hours of labour carrying water from distant streams. Water management committees learn well maintenance and train villagers in hygiene and sanitation.
(UNDP / Vannak Thou)

“We can move corn out of the field a lot more easily, and buyers can also bring their trucks in to collect the produce. We are able to sell at a better price. That is because there are better roads and bridges.”
Chou Savuth, 28, a corn farmer in Battambang Province



Traditional Authorities from indigenous groups in Mondulkiri meet parliamentarians and discuss the challenges they face, as well as their culture, livelihood system and traditional rules. (National Assembly)

Parliamentarians meet the people and develop new expertise

Key to good governance is the ability of the Parliament to represent the people, make laws, and oversee the executive branch of government. UNDP supports the National Assembly and the Senate in carrying out these functions, and assists the Secretariats General of the two houses and the Technical Coordination Secretariat (TCS) in delivering effective services. In 2009, parliamentarians went on field missions and held public forums, joined forums with Commune Councillors and engaged in youth outreach. They consulted on draft laws and shared the feedback through dialogues with the executive. They also gained knowledge and skills through seminars, workshops and briefings, and shared experiences with parliamentarians from other countries.

The 13 field missions took 109 parliamentarians (82 men/27 women) to 17 provinces to monitor the dissemination of laws, including those on HIV/AIDS, disabilities and domestic violence. The lawmakers held seven public forums on issues including land disputes and human trafficking, and visited prisons, drug rehabilitation houses and hostels for expectant mothers. They explored solutions and recommended corrective actions, including the creation of a women's development fund. A field trip to Mondulkiri Province helped parliamentarians to better understand indigenous peoples' cultures and livelihoods, and 24 indigenous leaders made a return visit, allowing

them to hold the parliamentarians accountable for actions promised. UNDP supported two regional forums on local governance organized by the National League of Commune/Sangkat. The forums, which brought local councillors together with 64 parliamentarians, identified challenges such as funding for commune activities and discrimination against women councillors. Draft laws on Inter-country Adoptions and the revised Penal Code were discussed in hearings attended by judges, lawyers and journalists, as well as representatives of embassies and civil society. A Women's Leadership Retreat supported by UNDP and the Inter-Parliamentary Union produced a provisional agreement to create a women parliamentarians group in the National Assembly. A Code of Conduct on ethical conduct for both Houses was drafted and remained under consultation. UNDP supported 13 seminars, workshops and breakfast briefings on critical issues. A seminar conducted in collaboration with the Australian Parliament enabled 86 parliamentarians to improve their understanding of oversight techniques. A one-day seminar on Democracy and Political Tolerance was organized with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. A Parliamentary Handbook on HIV/AIDS was developed in collaboration with stakeholders including UNAIDS, Family Health International, and the National AIDS Authority. Parliamentarians visited the Parliaments of Italy and Lao PDR, and the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Geneva, and joined a mission to study Italy's decentralization process.

In the secretariats, 68 staff (55 men/13 women) were trained in skills such as strategic management and communication through the mass media, and 28 staff (19 men/9 women) studied Khmer language shorthand. A UNV volunteer taught English to parliamentarians and staff who will manage the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly in 2011. The TCS convened the Parliamentary Steering Committee to play an oversight role on assistance. A newsletter, *Voice of Parliament*, highlighted activities related to lawmaking, representation and the balance of power.

"The visit has encouraged them to study harder for their future. Some of the students who just graduated from grade 12 are planning to apply for law school because they want to become members of Parliament."
Mr Cheng Sophanarum,
Principal of Kor High School in Kampong Cham Province

Responsive media and neutral forums make space for democratic debate

UNDP works to improve Cambodia's election processes and to create a neutral space for dialogue, to encourage civic engagement and public accountability, and to support balanced journalism. It works with the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Information, the National Election Committee (NEC), political parties, and civil society organizations. In 2009, the activities were funded by UNDP, the UN Democracy Fund, AusAID, CIDA, SIDA, the Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund, Irish Aid and Oxfam America.

UNDP and the national broadcaster, TVK, supported the production of Equity Weekly, which made 52 programmes on sensitive issues such as gambling and sand-dredging. Some issues were picked up by policymakers and corrective actions were taken. The media environment became more difficult, with the Government winning several lawsuits on the grounds of defamation and disinformation. The Minister of Information issued a letter assuring Equity Weekly guests that they would not be prosecuted for views expressed on the show. The Ministry of Information also created an Equity Bureau, demonstrating its dedication to Equity programming.

Efforts to improve the voter register and the election complaints and appeals process met with difficulties. The EU legal advisor, who leads the process in coordination with UNDP, recommended amendments to the election law, but the NEC emphasized that its role was to implement the law and that broader reform required involvement of other key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Interior (Mol). The NEC has been perceived as having limited institutional independence, since its members are nominated by Mol and approved by the National Assembly at the request of the Council of Ministers. After the 2008 National Assembly poll, a survey of 8,678 voters by an NGO, the Committee for Free and Fair Elections (COMFREL), with the consent of the Ministry of Interior, found that 21.4 percent of electors who did not vote could not find their names on the list or could not locate their polling station. Training and equipment support for the

Mol's national ID card programme was maintained, but efforts to create an interface between Mol's ID card database and the NEC's voter register did not proceed. Discussions on improving the registration system did not yield agreement, with the governing party citing international observer reports that described the 2008 poll as free and fair. The 2008 EU Election Observation Mission in Cambodia welcomed improvements, but also concluded that the elections fell short of a number of international standards. UNDP and its partners supported a meeting where the NEC provided an update on voter registration and participants from the governing party and four opposition parties were able to express their opinions.

Voter Benchmark workshops involving 1,410 people (898 men/512 women) were held in four provinces to make voters aware of the Government's political platform and strategies. A report detailing the benchmarks and commitments made by officials was later released. Twenty Local Public Forums involving 1,316 people (659 men/557 women) enabled voters to meet Commune Councillors, and 37 local observers (24 men/13 women) were selected to follow up on the councillors' commitments. COMFREL prepared personal profiles of National Assembly members and monitored field missions by parliamentarians, finding that 99 members of the National Assembly made 1,042 field trips in 2009.

Students at Build Bright University in Banteay Meanchey Province discuss issues raised in the Equity TV programmes, which are distributed on DVD to reach a broader audience. (UNDP / Greg Lavender)





Mrs Chhoy Kim Sore,
Director of the
Department of Planning
and Statistics in
the Ministry of Women's
Affairs, trains staff
of the National Institute
of Statistics on gender
and statistics.
(UNDP /
Patricia Alexander)

Policies and reforms promote gender equity, empower women

Cambodian women generally have lower status than men in the family and the economy and at all levels of society. They have poorer access to education and health care, and limited employment and business opportunities. They are also disproportionately affected by gender-based violence and human trafficking. UNDP works with the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) to strengthen the national capacity and response in promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment. UNDP provides advocacy, research, training, coaching, mentoring, and policy and technical advice to MoWA and line ministries. The partners work to integrate gender concerns into policies, reform programmes, budgeting, implementation and monitoring frameworks. They also support the development of income-generation opportunities and vocational and entrepreneurship skills for rural and poor women.

In 2009, a stronger commitment on gender equality was integrated into the National Strategic Development Plan Update (2009-2013). The NSDP Update includes gender equality strategies in sectors such as tourism, labour and agriculture, plus core targets and indicators related to gender equality, as well as sex-disaggregated data for monitoring and evaluation. Almost all line ministries have Gender Mainstreaming Action Groups, and 16 have developed Gender Mainstreaming Action Plans, which provide mechanisms for

implementing and monitoring the Government's policy commitments at the sector level. Gender equality considerations were incorporated into the activities and monitoring indicators of the draft National Program for Sub-national Democratic Development (2010-2019). The Ministerial Circular on the Provincial and District Women and Children's Consultative Committees was completed, as was the draft capacity development framework for women in decision-making roles at sub-national level. The Public Administration Reform process addressed gender issues as a result of cooperation with the Council of Administrative Reform. A manual, *Making Governance Gender Responsive*, was developed for capacity development of civil servants.

The proportion of government jobs held by women rose from 32 percent in 2008 to 34 percent in 2009, against the target of 35 percent by 2010 set in the Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan and the State Secretariat of Civil Service's 2008 guidelines. The Royal School of Administration incorporated gender equality in its curriculum, and gender training sessions at the School reached 300 officials and 50 students. UNDP supported MoWA in developing its third five-year strategic plan, *Nary Rattanak III (Women are Precious Gems 3)*. It also supported the Secretariat of the Technical Working Group on Gender (TWG-G), which brings together government, development partners and civil society. The TWG-G developed an action plan, joint monitoring indicators and regular reports to the Council for the Development of Cambodia for the Government Donor Consultative Committee. MoWA and the TWG-G secured the support of partners for a programme based approach to gender mainstreaming, which aims to harmonize development assistance around nationally owned priorities and plans, rather than through separate donor-led projects. The Women's Development Centre in Kampong Speu Province, an initiative supported by UNDP, MoWA and the International Trade Center, developed reports on the Market Opportunity Study on weaving cotton kramas (traditional scarves), making doormats from garment waste fabric, and producing palm sugar.

Alternative dispute resolution enables better access to justice

Cambodia is working to bridge the gap between the formal and informal justice systems and to strengthen mechanisms for alternative dispute resolution. In support of this strategy, UNDP works to make the justice system more effective, responsive and accessible to the most marginalized in society, especially the poor, women and indigenous peoples. The activities were conducted for four years in partnership with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and the Ministry of Interior (Mol), and in close cooperation with the Council for Legal and Judicial Reform, with funding from the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) and UNDP. Two alternative dispute resolution mechanisms were established in six provinces, and a village-based process was developed to empower communities to curb domestic violence. UNDP supported efforts to enable indigenous peoples to address challenges in their own communities and in relation to broader Cambodian society. It also worked with 47 members of Parliament to increase their awareness of indigenous peoples' rights and customary rules.

Parties to a dispute may now take the case to a Commune Dispute Resolution Committee (CDRC), comprising representatives working as volunteers, or to a district Maison de la Justice staffed by officers who provide free mediation services and basic legal information and advice. In 2009, UNDP established 36 new CDRCs and supported the existing 20 CDRCs and 20 Maisons. All 392 CDRC members and 60 Maison staff received training in alternative dispute resolution, fundamental rights and basic legal concepts. In all, 1,118 cases were submitted to the CDRCs and 851 to the Maisons. The most common causes of conflict were land disputes, debts, domestic violence, divorce, and defamation or insult. By the end of 2009, 792 of the cases had been mediated successfully, 846 were in process and 171 were awaiting the start of mediation. A local NGO, Legal Aid of Cambodia, held consultations with 105 women and accepted 122 legal aid cases. An international NGO, Insight



Collaborative, helped to prepare a mediation handbook. Four officials from MoJ and Mol made a study tour to Nepal to learn from its experiences in alternative dispute resolution.

To address domestic violence, 396 Community Conversations were held in 89 villages, and 36 new facilitators were trained, bringing the total to 267. A baseline survey in Rattanakiri and Mondulakiri Provinces assessed attitudes, perceptions and beliefs regarding domestic violence. A mid-term survey in three other provinces showed a broader understanding of what constitutes domestic violence, compared with the findings of the baseline study in those provinces. Virtually everyone who had attended a Community Conversation said they found it easier to discuss the problem. Drunkenness remained the most commonly cited contributory factor.

To strengthen access to justice for Cambodia's indigenous peoples, UNDP worked with traditional leaders and officials in 12 villages in Rattanakiri and Mondulakiri. Community Legal Education Center (CLEC) trained 72 Traditional Authorities and 60 women in alternative dispute resolution skills, human rights and relevant laws, particularly the land and forestry laws. Mediation meetings known as Peace Tables were conducted in partnership with the local authorities and CLEC. A 1,200 ha land concession was cancelled after a Peace Table found it overlapped local communities' spirit forests and cemeteries. With UNDP support, CLEC provided legal aid in two new cases in which members of indigenous groups had become involved in cases in provincial courts.

People in Somkanigh Village in Rattanakiri Province devise their own solutions to domestic violence during a Community Conversation. (UNDP / Sona Long)

"I just hope that one day we are able to eradicate this type of act once and for all." Mop Chhenh, 24, a Phnong woman in Mondulakiri Province, speaking after training in combatting domestic violence through Community Conversations



Poverty Reduction

The Challenge

Cambodia felt the impact of the global financial crisis more acutely than most countries in Asia, with GDP growth contracting by up to 2.5 percent in 2009. This was due to the high vulnerability of its economy, which is export-oriented and narrowly based. The downturn caused job losses and falls in incomes and remittances to rural areas, adversely affecting the 30 percent of the population who live below the national poverty line of US\$0.60 a day. It also increased the pressure placed on the environment by people who rely on natural resources for their livelihoods. Coming on top of high food and gasoline prices in 2008, the downturn reversed gains achieved in the past 10 years and strained Cambodia's ability to achieve its MDG of reducing poverty to 19.5 percent by 2015. It exacerbated socio-economic inequalities: Cambodia now has one of the highest disparities between rich and poor in Asia. Inequality increased not only between rural and urban areas, but also within rural areas. In response, the Government engaged with development partners to prepare a National Social Protection Strategy for the Poor and Vulnerable that will shield the rural poor from shocks, and focused on agricultural development as a source of sustainable growth and better livelihoods.

UNDP's Response

UNDP mounted an integrated response designed to boost returns on productive assets, increase awareness of economic conditions, ensure that revenues are used for pro-poor development, and support coordination of foreign aid. In 2009, it supported mine clearance that made more land available for agriculture, thereby reducing rural poverty. It supported efforts to diversify the economy by developing products and services that show export promise. It also contributed to

Key Achievements in 2009

- A Value Chain Information Unit was established within the Ministry of Commerce to maintain up-to-date information on 19 products targeted for trade promotion.
- A silk industry association set up an information network among spinners, weavers and traders, mapped weaving capacity and set up savings groups in weaver communities.
- A new programme of support for creative industries was set up jointly by UNESCO, ILO, FAO and UNDP to create new livelihood options for women and indigenous peoples and preserve Cambodia's cultural heritage.
- Original research contributed to the debate on the global economic downturn, Cambodia's competitive strengths in the world trading arena, and corporate social responsibility in the extractive industries.
- An analysis of progress toward the CMDGs showed that most progress had been achieved on demining, reducing child mortality, and fighting malaria, dengue fever and TB.
- The Government's aid effectiveness unit improved the database that tracks Official Development Assistance and launched an online database of NGO disbursements.
- The Cambodian Mine Action Centre released 7.81 sq km of land through clearance, working with UNDP-managed funds. Deminers destroyed 6,459 anti-personnel mines, 230 anti-tank mines and 39,726 pieces of unexploded ordnance.
- The Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority drew up a National Mine Action Strategy.

the commercialization of products and services in the cultural industries that have potential to reduce poverty among women and indigenous groups. To highlight the threat posed by the downturn, UNDP produced snapshot reports on the impact of the crisis. It supported research into Cambodia's competitiveness in world markets, and into policy options for ensuring that revenues from the petroleum and mining industries are used for the benefit of the nation as a whole. It also supported close monitoring of progress towards the Cambodia MDGs and supported coordination and tracking of foreign assistance.

Opposite: Fishing is a key source of food and income for rural Cambodian families. (UNDP / Arantxa Cedillo)



Cashew nuts are being targeted for development as an export product. New investments are planned in two provinces. (UNDP / Arantxa Cedillo)

Trade helps Cambodia to reap benefits from world economy

Cambodian exports have untapped potential to boost growth, create jobs and reduce poverty. To achieve this, Cambodia has adopted a Sector-Wide Approach to trade, known as the Trade SWAp, which aims to provide a common results framework for the implementation of the Cambodia Trade Development Strategy. UNDP's contribution is made through its partnership with the Ministry of Commerce (MoC). Together, they provide analytical foundations for policy recommendations, coordinate trade-related technical assistance, and develop knowledge and skills among producers, traders and officials. Activities include conducting value chain analyses, developing producer associations, strengthening product supply chains, forming linkages with buyers, and improving marketing. The partners aim to help Cambodia make the most of its World Trade Organization membership and the support it receives from the Enhanced Integrated Framework, a multi-donor, multi-agency initiative for Least Developed Countries.

Much of the work grows out of Cambodia's 2007 Trade Integration Strategy, which identified 19 priority products and sectors, including rice, cashew nuts, silk, cassava and fish. In 2009, the MoC worked to establish up-to-date value chain information on the 19 products. Cambodian rice millers began discussions with a Singapore-

based company specializing in supply chain management of agriculture products and food ingredients. The Cashew Nut Association of Kampong Thom Province set up links with the Dong Nai Province Cashew Nut Association in Vietnam, paving the way for investment in two provinces. A Longan Plantation Association was established in Pailin, near Thailand. The Kampong Khlaing Prahok Orb Association, established in a commune that produces Cambodia's most renowned *prahok*, or fermented fish paste, studied merchandising in Phnom Penh and supported its members in accessing credit and increasing production. Value chain analyses of cassava and rice were begun, including a literature review and field interviews with farmers, traders and processors in two provinces. MoC officials and members of a cassava producers association visited China to study cassava processing and marketing. Core trade issues were established through research by MoC in partnership with the Royal School of Administration, the Royal University of Law and Economics, and other regional networks. Officials from Bhutan made a study tour to learn from Cambodia's experience in mainstreaming trade in development. MoC officials joined the Second Regional Aid for Trade Review in Siem Reap and the Second Global Review in Geneva.

The Cambodian sector-wide silk strategy, which is being implemented by the International Trade Center with support from UNDP, assembled information about the state of the industry and helped the sector to represent its interests in a coordinated way. An assessment pinpointed improvements needed in the quantity and quality of mulberry leaves, the breeding and handling of silk worms, and techniques for spinning silk yarn. A survey established that production of Cambodia's premium silk, Khmer Golden Silk, is declining as farmers migrate for work or focus on crops that provide a quicker return. Khmer Silk Villages, an association of farmers and weavers, mapped weaving capacity, established a Silk Network to share information, began setting up savings groups in 29 communities.

"The fishermen and prahok makers will be able to get more money for their fish. Higher incomes will improve their living conditions."
Kampong Khlaing commune chief Tui Nheam, 59, commenting on the Kampong Khlaing Prahok Association

Creative industries support new livelihoods and preserve cultural heritage

The Creative Industries Support Programme aims to preserve and promote Cambodia's cultural heritage, resulting in better livelihoods among the poor in the most remote areas of four provinces, with a strong focus on women and indigenous peoples. This joint programme is funded by the UNDP-Spain Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund. It involves four UN agencies working in collaboration with ministries: UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts; ILO and the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy; FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; and UNDP and the Ministry of Commerce. The commercial promotion of cultural products and services is expected to increase capacity, employment opportunities and revenues among local communities.

Within the framework of the programme, UNDP focuses on enabling improved commercialization of cultural products and services from the grassroots level. It helps to identify cultural products and services that hold promise for improved commercialization and develops value chain analyses, promotes links between local producers and traders, encourages engagement between the private sector, public sector, and civil society organizations, and supports the promotion of cultural products at trade fairs. It also identifies challenges in the implementation of trade legislation and export procedures, supports producer groups in addressing bottlenecks and inefficiencies, and tries to ensure that market forces and appropriate regulations such as intellectual property rights help to strengthen fragile local systems. It works to embed competitiveness strategies within NGOs at provincial level, and provides training support to government counterparts and capacity building of local NGO partners in the field.

In 2009, UNDP and the programme partners identified a range of viable cultural products and services, focusing on those that are produced with significant involvement of women and indigenous minorities in four provinces:

Mondulkiri, Rattanakiri, Preah Vihear and Kampong Thom. UNDP conducted value chain analyses of promising products and services, and on the basis of the findings, four of the candidates were chosen for support: indigenous textile weaving, rattan/bamboo handicrafts, indigenous pottery, and resin collection for making varnish and paint.

Next, a range of potential market solutions and strategies that could be used to upgrade the value chains of the chosen products and services were identified. Consultations between producers and traders of cultural products and services, representatives of the Provincial Department of Commerce and local NGOs from all four provinces were conducted to assess challenges and identify stakeholders at grassroots level. The process of engaging these stakeholders contributed to building stronger relationships between the public sector, the private sector and civil society. During field trips to the four provinces, relationships were established with potential development partners, including national and local NGOs. UNDP also supported the promotion of selected products and the participation of local producers in the 4th Cambodia Import-Export and One Province, One Product Exhibition, where it worked through an NGO network and Provincial Departments of Commerce in supporting promotion and participation of the selected cultural products and producers in the event. Out of nine delegates who came from the four provinces, five were women.

"We are encouraged by the team and glad that they are buying the products from us. The new colour palettes are easy to understand and help us to put together better designs."

Chun Lee, master weaver, of Pu Les Village, Dak Dam Commune, Mondulkiri Province

A man from the Kuy indigenous group in Kampong Thom Province weaves a rattan basket. Creative industries have the potential to improve livelihoods for women and Cambodia's indigenous groups. (Creative Industries Support Programme)





Construction, a key enabling industry for exports, suffered during the global financial crisis, further demonstrating the need for the Cambodian economy to diversify. (UNDP / Isabelle Lesser)

Original research offers new policy options for economic success

UNDP partners with the Government and donors to produce and share research and policy briefs in areas that are crucial for inclusive and pro-poor development. In 2009, it focused on economic competitiveness, extractive industries, the global financial crisis and rural livelihoods. *Cambodian Country Competitiveness: Driving Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction* focused on agriculture, tourism, and garments/light manufacturing as key drivers of growth, and on the power of the construction industry and the information and communications technology industry to enable these export sectors to perform better. Published in cooperation with the Supreme National Economic Council (SNEC) and the Overseas Development Institute, the study was the main UN contribution to the Third Cambodia Economic Forum. It was also presented to more than 300 business people, parliamentarians, officials and students.

Corporate Social Responsibility in Cambodia: Issues and Challenges in Developing Cambodia's Extractive Industries gave an overview of best practices, challenges in addressing social concerns, and what can be done to ensure that the minerals and oil sectors afford the greatest benefits to all of Cambodian society. Four representatives of Cambodia participated in the second High Level

Meeting for Oil and Gas Producing Countries of the South in Nairobi, Kenya. *The Global Economic Downturn: Opportunity or Crisis?* recommended a nationally integrated social protection system, fiscal expansion with a focus on equitable access, and improved institutional capacity. It was presented at international forums in Beijing, Bangkok and Singapore and discussed at presentations with the Government, development partners and NGOs. Six editions of *Crisis Impact Watch* monitored the impact of the crisis, reporting that more than 50 garment factories closed down and 63,000 workers lost their jobs, with women the worst affected. Job losses expose them to increased risk of trafficking and HIV infection. Cambodia was one of 14 Asian countries chosen as case studies for *The Global Financial Crisis and the Asia-Pacific Region: A Synthesis Study Incorporating Evidence from Country Case Studies* by the UNDP Regional Centre for Asia Pacific.

Eight discussions were organized for parliamentarians and officials on issues including the financial crisis, oil and gas, and the *Cambodia Human Development Report 2007: Expanding Choices for Rural People*. The Ministry of Planning, with UNDP support, ran workshops on the report attended by more than 800 people in five provinces.

Scorecard measures progress toward Cambodia MDGs

In agreeing to the United Nations Millennium Declaration in 2000, world leaders committed their nations to a new global partnership to reduce extreme poverty and achieve major progress towards eight development targets by 2015. The targets, which became known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), are at the core of the development mandate of the UN system. Cambodia has adopted the eight goals and added a ninth – demining, clearance of unexploded ordnance and victim assistance – which is particularly relevant in a country still recovering from three decades of war. The nine Cambodia MDGs cover 25 overall targets and 106 specific targets. The CMDGs are also at the heart of Cambodia's development strategy, which is defined in the Government's Rectangular Strategy and set out with operational detail in its National Strategic Development Plan. The Government is preparing the *Cambodia 2010 Millennium Development Goal Report*, which will assess progress towards the nine goals.

The UN Country Team in Cambodia prepared its next UN Development Action Framework for the years 2011 to 2015. In the process, it worked to align UN programmes better with the CMDGs. In 2009, to support this effort, UNDP carried out an internal and interim assessment of progress made so far towards the goals and prepared a Working Paper with a summary of the most important findings. The research represented only an initial preparatory step towards the government report, and UNDP emphasized that data was still lacking in many areas. It also noted that there were inconsistencies in definitions between various time points and data sources. However, it expressed the hope that discussion of the Working Paper would help identify gaps and errors so that they could be corrected in the official Cambodia 2010 MDG Report.

UNDP is developing a 'scorecard' for each goal. First, it established a benchmark, or initial value, for each indicator using data from 2000 or close



to it, and compared it with the 2015 goal. The difference between the benchmark and the goal was designated the 'total distance' that needed to be travelled to achieve the goal. Next, a 'current value' was established using the most recent reliable data, allowing a measure of the distance travelled so far from the benchmark to the current value. This distance travelled so far, expressed as a percentage of the total distance, represents 'progress'. For example, the benchmark for the specific target for the infant mortality rate was 95 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1998. The goal is 50 per 1,000 births in 2015, giving a total distance of 45. The most recent data indicate that the infant mortality rate was 60 per 1,000 live births in 2008, so the current value is 95 less 60, or 35. Thus, the progress made so far is 35 / 45, or 79 percent.

The analysis found that the most progress has been achieved in CMDG4 (Child Mortality), CMDG9 (De-mining, UXO and Victim Assistance) and CMDG6 (HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Dengue Fever and TB). The analysis found that, with major changes and focused attention, it may be possible to achieve CMDG1 (Poverty and Hunger) and CMDG3 (Gender Equality). Even with drastic changes, it is unlikely that CMDG2 (Basic Nine-year Education), CMDG5 (Maternal Health) and CMDG7 (Environment) will be reached. As well, CMDG3 (Gender Equality) may fall 'off track' if the issue of domestic violence is not vigorously addressed.

Cambodia's child mortality rate has dropped dramatically, but needs to fall further to achieve its Millennium Development Goal by 2015. (UNDP / Sona Long)

"A simple CMDG scorecard is very useful and an essential part of the sub-national planning process. We are diffusing this information to all the corners of the country for reference."

H.E. Hou Taing Eng,
Secretary of State
at the Ministry of
Planning and Head
of the NCDD Sub-
National Planning
Committee

Government and partners work together for aid effectiveness

*Coordination and harmonization of donor efforts are key to achieving aid effectiveness.
(UNDP / Isabelle Lesser)*

Cambodia is highly dependent on external assistance, with a major share of its development budget supplied by donors. The aid is also highly fragmented, with relatively low coordination among development partners compared to other countries. UNDP partners with AusAID, CIDA, DFID and NZAid to support the Government in managing and coordinating this aid more effectively, promoting harmonized practices among donors, and sharing information about the development cooperation activities of national and international partners and civil society. UNDP supports the Cambodian Rehabilitation and Development Board at the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CRDB/CDC), the Government's focal point for mobilizing and coordinating official development assistance. The CRDB/CDC leads the policy dialogue on aid effectiveness, works with line ministries, government agencies, donors and NGOs, and contributes to forums including the OECD-Development Assistance Committee, which monitors progress in implementing the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.

In 2009, CRDB/CDC launched an online database of NGO disbursements, and improved the database that tracks Official Development Assistance. It demonstrated progress in its ability to collect and analyse relevant data, such as the Paris Declaration Survey. It led the Making Partnerships Effective in Cambodia Initiative, which addresses the partnership and behavioural aspects of aid management. For the second year, the CRDB/CDC hosted a peer learning exchange on aid management with colleagues from Lao PDR, Nepal, and East Timor. CRDB/CDC participated in the OECD-Development Assistance Committee partner caucus in Paris, and in the launch of Capacity Development for Development Effectiveness, a knowledge exchange facility for aid effectiveness practitioners in 21 countries. It formed a partnership with the Cooperation Committee for Cambodia, a civil society umbrella group that considers governance and aid



effectiveness issues, to strengthen the capacity of NGOs to coordinate their support and be accountable to citizens. CRDB/CDC supported line ministries and agencies developing their leadership of the 19 Technical Working Groups (TWGs) which bring together government bodies, development partners and civil society organizations in each sector. The TWG Network was used to help develop joint monitoring indicators for aid effectiveness in each sector and to compile them across all sectors. These medium-term indicators are used to agree on targets, to create consensus on activities, resources, timeframes and commitments, and to foster joint efforts to achieve priority development goals. The indicators were endorsed by the Government-Development Partners Cooperation Committee, to which the TWGs report on their activities. Key members of the TWGs were trained in Managing for Development Results, an internationally-endorsed strategy that focuses on using performance information to improve decision-making aimed at achieving the MDGs. The TWG Network was also helpful for strengthening cross-sectoral dialogue on the National Strategic Development Plan Update (2009-2013).

Demining removes the legacy of war, restoring land to rural families

After nearly three decades of conflict, almost 650 sq km of land in Cambodia remains severely affected by landmines and explosive remnants of war. In response, Cambodia has adopted a special ninth Millennium Development Goal to clear all affected land, reduce casualties and improve survivor assistance. In partnership with AusAID, CIDA and Adopt-a-Minefield, UNDP supports the Government oversight body, the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA), which leads the mine action agenda by developing policies, strategies, and standards, and monitors all demining activities. The partners also support demining work by the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC).

The CMAA led the formulation of Cambodia's request for a 10-year extension to its deadline under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty, and presented the request at the Second Review Conference of the treaty in Cartagena, Colombia. The extension gives Cambodia until 2019 to clear all known mined areas. In preparation for the request, the CMAA launched a baseline survey to determine the extent of the remaining contamination. The CMAA also drew up a National Mine Action Strategy which is aligned with the mine action goals of the Government's National Strategic Development Plan. This makes it easier for donors to align their support with Cambodia's mine action goals, thus promoting Cambodia's aid effectiveness principles. To celebrate the 10th anniversary of Cambodia signing the treaty, UNDP and AusAID commissioned a documentary and an art project on the impact of mine action. The works were shown in Cambodia and Cartagena.

The CMAA accredited a Royal Cambodian Armed Forces demining platoon as a mine clearance operator. Its Regulation and Monitoring Department trained two more Quality Assurance teams, bringing the total number of teams to six. Altogether, the teams conducted 1,447 field visits to activities being carried out by demining operators. The CMAA also revised or developed

four Cambodian Mine Action Standards, including one for land release that will allow the faster release of huge stretches of land by better concentrating clearance activities on suspect areas. Monitoring of how cleared land is used was decentralized to the Government's Mine Action Planning Units (MAPUs). Fifteen MAPU staff were trained and equipped to conduct monitoring of post-clearance land use, and were coached by CMAA Socio-Economic Teams while monitoring 468 sites. Gender considerations were integrated into most activities, including recruitments. UNDP served on the Gender Technical Reference Group for the formulation of the National Mine Action Strategy and the revision of the MAPU guidelines. Instructions for Village Mine Clearance Planning were made gender-sensitive to ensure that both women and men are involved in deciding which areas should be given priority. UNDP also supported the CMAA's attendance at the annual gender and mine action conference in Geneva. In 2009, working with UNDP-managed funds, CMAC cleared 7.81 sq km of land. Deminers found and destroyed 6,459 anti-personnel mines, 230 anti-tank mines and 39,726 pieces of unexploded ordnance. About 60 percent of the cleared land was used for agriculture and resettlement, 20 percent for road construction and 5 percent for irrigation. The clearance benefited 8,463 families directly and another 35,112 families indirectly.

"We firmly hope that you will remain with us on our road to overcome remaining challenges to make Cambodia a country free from the impact of landmines and ERW, where communities can walk through their land, children can play without fear, and development can take place at its optimal pace."
H.E. Prak Sokhonn,
Minister attached to the Prime Minister, Vice-President of the Cambodia Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority

7.81 sq km of land was cleared in 2009 with UNDP-managed funds. A baseline survey is establishing how much land remains contaminated.
(UNDP / Nathan Horton)





Environment and Energy

The Challenge

Cambodia's natural environment is the country's most fundamental asset, yet it is also yet one of its most fragile. About 85 percent of Cambodians live in rural areas, depending on farming, fishing and foraging. But population growth, plus uncertainty over land tenure and access to natural resources, have put severe strains on natural resources. Migration is resulting in the expansion of farmland into marginal areas, over-grazing and over-cutting of firewood. Land consolidation and clearing are alienating forest resources from traditional users, threatening both people's food security and many key species. Soil degradation has been exacerbated by centuries of rice cultivation and is now compounded by improper use of chemicals. Cambodia is also vulnerable to the possible effects of climate change, including more extreme droughts, floods and storms.

UNDP's Response

UNDP supports Cambodia's efforts to incorporate sustainability into policies and to help preserve the global environment by fighting climate change and desertification, properly managing chemicals, protecting the ozone layer, and supporting an integrated approach to biodiversity conservation of globally significant ecosystems and promotion of alternative livelihoods. In 2009, UNDP assisted efforts to predict the impact of climate change, and to work out how Cambodia can adapt to it and lessen its effects. It worked to halt land degradation and supported local projects to improve the lives of the rural poor and protect the land. UNDP underpinned Cambodia's work in piloting a new international strategy that promotes production and use of chemicals in

ways that minimize harmful effects and supported the withdrawal of ozone-damaging chemicals from use. UNDP promoted participatory land use planning and environmentally sustainable livelihoods in the Northern Plains and the Tonle Sap Lake. Equipment and training for wildlife monitoring helped to prevent illegal logging, fishing, hunting and firewood collection.

Key Achievements in 2009

- UNDP facilitated a global alliance on climate change between Cambodia, the EU and EU member states (SIDA and DANIDA), and to build consensus for a programme based approach to enhance aid effectiveness in response to climate change.
- Cambodia's First National Forum on Climate Change raised awareness on the issue, and the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance and Climate Change Trust Fund were established.
- A Greenhouse Gas Inventory 2000 set a baseline for measuring emissions by key sectors. A Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment projected impacts under various scenarios.
- Research on land degradation indicated that the main human cause is forest degradation and deforestation.
- Sound management of chemicals was integrated in the draft National Strategic Development Plan Update (2009-2013).
- 3.78 tonnes of ozone-depleting gas was recovered; 2,503 cars were retrofitted with air-conditioners using non-depleting gases.
- Community projects supported ecotourism, tree planting, alternative energy, sale of carbon credits, and preservation of mangroves and seagrass beds.
- Communities in the Northern Plains developed nature tourism, wildlife-friendly rice cultivation, sales of tree resin and incentive payments for protecting nests of endangered birds.
- Families in the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve used self-help groups to develop alternative livelihoods.
- UNDP mobilized resources to promote sustainable forest management in response to the national forestry programme.

*Opposite:
UNDP supports environmental schemes that preserve productive natural resources as a means of promoting food security and reducing poverty.
(UNDP / Arantxa Cedillo)*



Tree planting in the nearly deforested Prey Veng Province protects the soil and provides fuel for cooking, easing pressure on the land. (UNDP / Arantxa Cedillo)

New alliance positions Cambodia to respond to climate change

Climate change poses many challenges for Cambodia. The potential effects include more frequent floods and droughts, damage to fisheries, loss of water for irrigation, coastal erosion, sea water intrusion and a rise in cases of tropical diseases, with the rural poor likely to be hardest hit. In 2009, UNDP played a key role in facilitating a global alliance on climate change between Cambodia and the EU, and in building consensus for a programme based approach to climate change. The National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) held Cambodia's First National Forum on Climate Change to raise awareness. The forum produced a Statement of Cooperation which led to the establishment of the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance. As part of the Alliance, UNDP will administer the Climate Change Trust Fund, to which UNDP, the EU, DANIDA and SIDA made initial contributions. A substantial share of the fund will be used to strengthen the NCCC and the Climate Change Department in the Ministry of Environment, which acts as the NCCC secretariat.

UNDP partnered with the Global Environment Facility to support preparation of Cambodia's Second National Communication to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Key progress was made with the completion of the Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report for the year 2000, which provides a baseline for measuring Cambodia's emissions. The inventory found that the biggest contributors

to emissions in 2000 were land-use change and forestry (49 percent), agriculture (44 percent) and energy (7 percent). Progress was also made on the Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment, which covers trends in historical data, climate change scenarios and a model for generating daily climate data from monthly data. The possible impact on the Tonle Sap Lake was analysed, and a coastal zone analysis looked at the effects on infrastructure of high tides, extreme waves and a rise in sea levels. The assessment included a gender analysis. Bogor Agriculture University in Indonesia and Chulalongkorn University in Thailand provided inputs and methodologies. A delegation from Lao PDR shared lessons learned. A field survey in Prey Veng Province supported an economic analysis of the impact of climate hazards on agriculture. UNDP supported forums for Cambodia to discuss its position paper for presentation at the UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP-15) in Copenhagen and supported four members of the Cambodian delegation. It assisted the Ministry of Environment and the Secretariat of the UNFCCC in organizing an international workshop on Agriculture and Land Use Software and supported the integration of climate change responses into national policies. Implementation began of the first project under the 2006 National Adaptation Programme of Action to Climate Change. This project will focus on climate-resilient water management and agricultural practices.

"The First National Forum on Climate Change is a new turning point in the evolution of Cambodian society. This forum is truly significant and responds in a timely way to our needs of sharing information and experiences so that we can learn positive lessons from countries in the region."
H.E. Prime Minister
Hun Sen

Sound use of chemicals lessens threat to environment and health

The sound management of chemicals is an important aspect of efforts to protect the environment, promote human health and reduce global poverty. The international community in 2006 adopted the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, which aims to ensure that, by 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts. Cambodia is one of six countries implementing the pilot project on Sound Management of Chemicals, which is led jointly by UNDP and UNEP. Lessons learned will contribute to the international testing and revision of the *Draft UNDP Technical Guide for Mainstreaming the Sound Management of Chemicals in Millennium Development Goal-based Policies and Plans* and *Chemicals Management: The Why and How of Mainstreaming Gender in Chemicals Management*.

In 2009, with the support of the Swedish Chemicals Inspectorate (KemI) and in partnership with UNEP and the Ministry of Environment, UNDP helped Cambodia to assess its approach to managing chemicals, to identify and address gaps, and to begin incorporating priorities into development planning. A National Situation Report, Action Plan and Roadmap were finalized through the integration of analyses of chemicals management in the agriculture, industry and health sectors. Eleven policy priorities were identified, four of which focused on benefiting the health and welfare of women and children. An Economic Analysis Report was developed based on the Situation Report and additional field surveys. The Economic Analysis of Pesticide Use identified four priority actions, including stronger promotion of alternative farming methods. Sound management of chemicals was integrated into the draft of the National Strategic Development Plan Update (2009-2013), which proposed a unified Law on Chemicals Management. It also proposed that chemical and other hazardous wastes should be managed, monitored and controlled in a sound manner, and that information should be disseminated to encourage sound management throughout the chemicals' life cycle. One hundred officers of line agencies and local authorities came together to learn about sound management of chemicals, including disposal of chemical wastes.



Local moves support global action on ozone-depleting gases

Cambodia is committed to eliminating chlorofluorocarbon gases (CFCs), used mainly in refrigeration and air-conditioners, which damage the protective ozone layer around the earth's atmosphere. The work of removing CFCs from use and preventing consumption of new CFCs is carried out by the National Ozone Unit in the Ministry of Environment, as part of Cambodia's efforts under the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol to the convention. It is supported by UNDP, UNEP and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, which helps developing countries to fulfil their commitments under the treaty. Existing CFCs are being withdrawn from use, in particular through an incentive scheme that encourages car owners to retrofit their cars with air-conditioning systems that do not use CFCs. In 2009, 3.78 tonnes of CFC-12 were recovered from car air conditioners, non-CFC systems were retrofitted in 2,503 cars and 41 technicians received refresher training. Another seven garages received equipment for retrofitting and CFC recovery, bringing the number of qualified workshops to 23. The Cambodian Refrigeration Association was established to continue training technicians. Fifty-four officers from the Department of Public Works and Transportation and the Department of Environment were trained on implementing the Montreal Protocol, and 120 customs officers were trained in work at border checkpoints, including preventing illegal imports of cars with CFC systems.

Inappropriate use of chemicals in agriculture is a significant threat to human health. The principles of Sound Management of Chemicals have been integrated into national and sectoral policies. (UNDP / Arantxa Cedillo)

Community action promotes sustainable use of local resources

"The EU will assist countries most vulnerable to climate change, including Cambodia, to strengthen institutional capacity to be better prepared to the possible consequences of climate change."

Mr. Rafael Dochao Moreno, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Delegation of the European Commission to Cambodia

Solar power provides an alternative energy source, especially in the Cambodian countryside, where very few areas are electrified. (UNDP / Arantxa Cedillo)

Community-level projects that address global issues while supporting sustainable development are funded by the GEF Small Grants Programme, which UNDP manages on behalf of the Global Environment Facility. The projects focus on conserving biodiversity, mitigating and adapting to climate change, preventing land degradation and protecting international waters. The main beneficiaries are women and vulnerable indigenous communities, including fishing families and those who depend on harvesting forest resources, such as timber, resin and medicinal plants. The projects are managed through local NGOs or directly by community-based organizations, in close partnership with government agencies.

Between July 2008 and December 2009, 15 ongoing projects were supported and 13 new projects were granted funds totalling \$505,005. Recipients provided co-financing in cash or kind worth from 30 percent to 100 percent of the grant. Two projects focused on conserving Community Forestry Management Areas through participatory land use planning, under which communities agreed to stop expanding their farm land in return for receiving other benefits. In 60,477 ha of Oddar Meanchey Province, 12 communities were enabled to sell carbon credits, directly benefited 4,527 families, or nearly 20,000 individuals. In 2,774 ha of Rattanakiri Province, communities received an ecotourism licence to sell tickets to four

waterfalls, generating an average of \$400 a year for each of the 857 families involved. These comprised 4,350 people, most of whom belong to the Proav and Kring peoples.

In support of UNEP's South China Sea regional Strategic Action Plan, three projects were supported in Kampot and Koh Kong provinces. Illegal fishing was reduced by about 80 percent through community-based monitoring of illegal and devastating fishing, the adoption of a fishing ban season and the provision of alternative livelihoods to fishing villages. Marking boundaries of protected areas with poles and installing fish shelters inside the enclosures helped protect 752 ha of sea grass. Mangrove trees were planted in 65 ha of degraded areas, and 6,478 ha of existing mangroves were used sustainably by 2,435 community members. Water quality improved, fishery productivity rose, and households enjoyed an average rise in income of \$400 a year. More than 700 members and 34 leaders of community fisheries groups were trained in organizational management and mangrove conservation.

In a project focusing on community-based adaptation to climate change, eight villages in Takeo Province adopted strategies to improve rice yields. An irrigation system was rebuilt and is expected to boost yields by 30 percent on at least 630 ha of paddy land. Some 7,800 fast-growing local trees were planted on the irrigation earthworks and surrounding areas to fix nitrogen in the soil and add organic matter. The soil enrichment alone is expected to improve yields by 20 percent. More than half the 925 families planted high quality aromatic rice, which should triple their incomes.

Also in Takeo, farmers developed integrated commercial farming in an area where the quality of the land is being degraded by sandy runoff from a deforested hill. To counteract the loss of fertility, the farmers tried new techniques including compost-making, drip irrigation and the System of Rice Intensification, a method of transplanting rice seedlings that uses fewer seedlings and increases yields. At least 20 farms diversified their production to include poultry, pigs, fish, fruit trees and vegetables, while 15 chicken producer groups and 10 organic rice producer groups were set up, each involving about 10 families.





Sustainable land management provides key to fighting degradation

Land degradation in Cambodia has profound implications for development and poverty reduction. Depleted soils and degraded forests, combined with uncertainty over land tenure and access to natural resources, threaten food security and livelihoods. UNDP and the Global Environment Facility are working with the Government to address these challenges. As a signatory to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, Cambodia is preparing a National Action Programme (NAP), which is founded on a commitment to sustainable land management (SLM). This internationally recognized approach promotes the productive use of land and water while preserving biodiversity and ecological processes. The NAP will assess the extent and costs of degradation, draw lessons from efforts to improve land tenure and resource access, and establish investment programmes and a policy agenda to integrate SLM into agriculture and natural resources management.

UNDP is working with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) to complete the NAP, to support the development of knowledge, skills and institutional capacities for SLM, and to integrate the approach into national and sectoral policies and sub-national and landscape-level planning. In 2009, the UNDP Global Mechanism and the MAFF supported 80 government counterparts to understand the approach involved in developing the NAP. Foundational work for the

NAP included the start of a study of the costs of land degradation, which was launched with support from the Global Mechanism and the Stockholm Environment Institute. A separate analysis indicated that the main human causes of land degradation are forest degradation and deforestation and inappropriate agricultural practices. Forty examples of best practice in lowland agriculture, community forestry (flooded forests) and local government initiatives were identified for potential incorporation into the NAP. A guideline was drafted incorporating SLM into the Agro-Ecosystem Analysis tool for designing interventions by communes.

Policy recommendations were provided to the Technical Working Group on Agriculture and Water for incorporating SLM into the National Strategic Development Plan Update (2009-2013). To support the integration of the concept into local planning, orientation sessions were conducted for representatives of 18 communes in nine provinces. Training was provided for 691 participants from ministries, provincial departments, commune councils, NGOs and partner projects on topics including the causes of land degradation, strategies for integrating SLM into commune plans, GIS mapping, and effective methods for disseminating best practices. UNDP supported production of outreach materials and co-sponsored activities on World Day to Combat Desertification.

Sustainable Land Management policies aim to preserve and revive the productive capacity of the land, on which 85 percent of Cambodians rely for their livelihoods. (UNDP / Arantxa Cedillo)



Farmers in Tmatboey Village inside Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary receive a premium price for their Ibis Rice, which is grown without damaging wildlife habitats. Environmentally friendly livelihoods preserve wildlife and reduce rural poverty. (WCS / Ashish John)

New livelihoods raise incomes and preserve rare wildlife

The Northern Plains of Cambodia cover 3,601 sq km of forest, grasslands and seasonal wetlands that are of exceptional global importance for biodiversity conservation. The plains are either the last refuge, or home for a key population, of more than 40 species on the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species. Though sparsely settled, the plains are under pressure from the expansion of commercial and subsistence agriculture, illegal logging, land consolidation by powerful interests, professional and opportunistic wildlife hunting, and the collection of bird eggs and chicks. A particular challenge in 2009 was the deployment of several thousand soldiers in the area, entailing the construction of new roads, bases and houses and the proposed creation of land concessions.

UNDP and the Global Environment Facility work in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Environment and the Wildlife Conservation Society to alleviate this pressure and reduce rural poverty. The partners work at the landscape level to integrate biodiversity values into land-use planning, focusing on Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary, Preah Vihear Protected Forest and Cherndar, a logging concession under moratorium. Engaging with local communities and provincial and district authorities, they promote zonation of land for activities such as agriculture and community use. They also support boundary demarcation of the zones, monitoring of wildlife and forest cover, and community patrolling to complement con-

ventional law enforcement. With their livelihoods underpinned by secure access to resources, incentive schemes and new sources of income, communities can help to ensure that forests are used sustainably. In 2009, 11 communes incorporated nature tourism, community conservation and natural resource management into their development plans. Community land-use planning was implemented in four villages and is under way in another eight. Development plans were completed for 11 districts and Preah Vihear province as a whole, while demarcation of zones was partly completed in both conservation areas. Liaison with military commanders proved effective in controlling most problems linked to illegal activity by military personnel.

Wildlife-friendly rice, marketed as Ibis Rice, provided a new livelihood option. The rice is bought by agricultural cooperatives from farmers who have adhered to a land-use policy, then sold to international hotels and restaurants. In early 2009, 30 tonnes of rice were bought at a price roughly 25 percent higher than that paid for regular rice by local middlemen. The \$2,500 profit was distributed among 38 families (about 165 people). About 100 families benefited from sales of tree resin for paints and varnishes. Under the Bird Nest Protection Scheme, community members were paid to monitor nests and protect chicks until they fledge. This both removes the main risk to threatened species and provides an income for the poorest villagers. The scheme benefited 88 people in 21 villages, and resulted in an increase to 419 nests (producing 719 chicks) of nine key species, up from 219 nests (397 chicks) of eight species in 2005. The critically endangered Giant Ibis had a record year – 41 nests produced 58 chicks, or close to half the global population. The rising numbers of rare birds attracted bird-watchers. In Tmatboey, 99 tourists stayed at the award-winning guest house, generating income of more than \$12,000, while Dangphlat developed a successful 'vulture restaurant'. In Prey Veng village, sites for a hide and a safari camp were chosen, and tents and other equipment were purchased. Officials improved their skills in conservation management, law enforcement and GIS data collection. Solar power facilities at the two site headquarters boosted management autonomy and capacity. Training in natural resource management and planning was given to 754 people (428 men/326 women).

Lakeside communities work together to protect great natural resource

The Tonle Sap Lake and flood plain, encompassing almost 1.4 million ha, is a seasonal breeding, nursery and feeding ground for fish and large water birds and a last refuge for globally threatened species. Designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 1997, it is threatened by over-exploitation, encroachment, land clearing and invasion by exotic species. UNDP works to meet these challenges in partnership with the Cambodia National Mekong Committee; the Ministry of Environment; the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports; the Asian Development Bank; the Global Environment Facility; and UNV volunteers. UNDP focuses on helping communities to develop alternative livelihoods that reduce poverty and lift pressure on natural resources in three core areas – Prek Toal, Boeung Tonle Chhmar and Steung Sen. Other work involves developing systems and capacity for managing and monitoring biodiversity, and promoting awareness and outreach in the community.

In partnership with UNDP-funded initiatives and with the support of Cambodian national UNV volunteers, many families formed self-help groups and developed environmentally friendly livelihoods. Fish raised in cages supplemented fish caught in the lake, but floating vegetable gardens, mushroom-growing and ecotourism proved more difficult to sustain. The number of Community Savings Groups expanded from 12 groups with 318 member families to 15 groups with 401 families. Of these, 395 families borrowed money to buy fishing gear or start small businesses, such as processing fish, selling sugar cane juice, groceries or desserts, and raising fish, pigs or chickens. A steering committee was established to monitor, manage and guide the savings group committees. Three community committees for natural resource management and 13 committees for sustainable livelihoods were functioning. Workshops on the 2008 Protected Area Law, attended by 61 members of local authorities and commune councils (58 men/3 women), explored ways in which local government can support effective law enforcement and help manage conflicts between conservation authorities and resource users. Training on strategies for integrating gender equality into management plans was provided by the ILO. Courses on micro-businesses, such as produc-

ing hand-made hammocks and selling fish and groceries, attracted 108 participants (63 men/45 women). Fifty-one people (19 men/32 women) visited the ecotourism project in Chi Path village in the Cardamom Mountains, while 26 people visited Chamcar Bei in Kep to learn about community development from Bridges Across Borders South East Asia. Some villagers started handicrafts using water hyacinth and recycled plastic bags.

Rangers were enabled to fight illegal activities more effectively by boundary marking and training on how to identify species, read maps, use GPS devices and manage GIS data. Monitoring patrols were conducted for the equivalent of 667 days, allowing accurate counts of important species. Exchange visits allowed more than 40 rangers to study best practices in the Central Cardamom Protected Forest and the Aural Wildlife Sanctuary. As well, 41 staff and rangers visited Batom Sakor National Park and Peam Krasob to study park management, law enforcement and ecotourism management. The Community Mobile Outreach programme involved 1728 people (1514 men/214 women) in environmental awareness activities. Seven monks attended a workshop on Buddhism and environmental advocacy by the Association of Buddhists for the Environment. The Cambodian Red Cross trained 23 people on first aid topics including drowning and snake bite. Environmental education was integrated into the life skills programme in local schools. World and National Environment Day were celebrated at schools in the core areas. Children created their own slogans and picked up litter in school yards.

“We can turn the climate change crisis into a new opportunity for more sustainable development.”

H.E. Dr. Mok Mareth,
Senior Minister
and Minister of
Environment

Fuel-efficient cooking stoves burn less wood, so people living near the Tonle Sap Lake need to cut down fewer trees. The stoves ease pressure on wildlife habitats in conservation areas.
(UNDP / Isabelle Lesser)



Working Together

The United Nations Development Programme is the UN's global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experiences and resources to help people build a better life. It is on the ground in 166 countries, helping them to attract and use aid effectively, and supporting them as they find their own solutions to global and national development challenges. UNDP Cambodia works through partnerships with the Royal Government of Cambodia, civil society, community-based organizations, NGOs, private firms, bilateral donors and multilateral aid agencies. Partnerships with SIDA, DFID, the EU, AusAID, CIDA, the Global Environment Facility and AEICD, among many others, were crucial to the results achieved in 2009. UNDP partnered with the Parliament, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Planning, the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. It worked with the provincial governors, line departments of national ministries, and the Provincial Executive Committees. UNDP worked closely with the Supreme National Economic Council, the National Elec-

tion Committee, the Cambodia National Mekong Committee, the Cambodia National Petroleum Authority, the Cambodia Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority, the Cambodia Mine Action Centre, national station TVK, and the Cambodian Rehabilitation and Development Board of the Council for the Development of Cambodia. It also worked with the Wildlife Conservation Society, the Committee for Free and Fair Elections, the Community Legal Education Center, Legal Aid of Cambodia and many other local NGOs.

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme promotes volunteerism to support peace and development worldwide. Volunteerism can transform the pace and nature of development, and benefits both society at large and the individual volunteer. UNV contributes to peace and development by advocating for volunteerism globally, encouraging partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing volunteers. UNV began working in Cambodia in 1992, and since then more than 1200 volunteers have served with almost all UN agencies and many government bodies and NGOs.

In 2009, 35 international and 10 national UNV volunteers served in Cambodia across more than 25 sectors, ranging from HIV-AIDS and elections to mine clearance and information and communications technology for education. Nine Cambodian nationals were deployed as international UNV volunteers in UN peace-keeping and development missions in Africa and elsewhere in Asia. Between 2007 and 2009, thanks to the UNV Japanese Trust Fund, national UNV volunteers promoted alternative income-generating activities among communities in the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve. UNV is an active member of VolCam, a network of volunteer agencies operating in Cambodia. In 2009, UNV Cambodia was the lead agency in creating, together with VolCam, a new interactive website and a booklet for agencies and individuals to search for volunteer service opportunities in Cambodia (www.volcam.org).

National UNV volunteers help to celebrate World Environment Day on the Tonle Sap Lake, where they have been working to promote livelihoods that ease pressure on ecosystems in the biosphere reserve.
(UNV / Neissan Besharti)

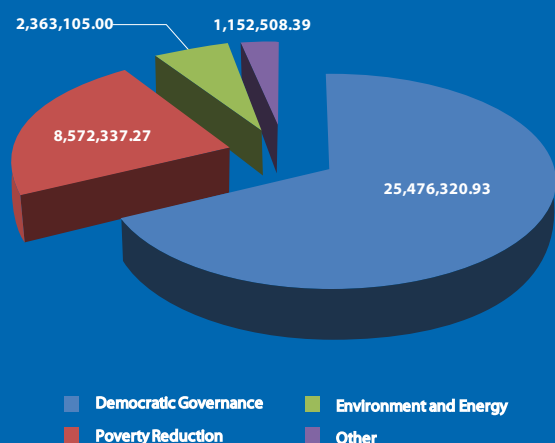


Donors

UNDP (Core funding)	9,202,788.63
SIDA / Sweden	7,888,437.89
DFID / United Kingdom	6,889,830.96
European Union	4,233,123.51
AusAID / Australia	4,185,575.10
CIDA / Canada	1,332,771.37
Global Environment Facility	982,105.53
AEICD / Spain	633,737.34
Country Co-Financing Cost Sharing	447,164.44
NZAid / New Zealand	444,673.99
AFD / France	233,281.48
Montreal Protocol	219,779.77
Swedish Chemicals Inspectorate (KemI)	177,325.31
UNDP/ITF Assistance to Least Developed Countries Window II	177,227.00
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs	167,436.28
UN Democracy Fund	120,051.73
UN Association of the United States	73,980.99
Irish Aid / Ireland	59,274.32
Norway	50,261.01
Oxfam America	38,331.04
UNAIDS	7,113.90
Total	37,564,271.59

Delivery US\$

Expenditure by Thematic Areas 2009



Abbreviations

AEICD	Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
CDC	Council for the Development of Cambodia
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CMAA	Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority
CMAC	Cambodian Mine Action Centre
CRDB	Cambodia Rehabilitation and Development Board
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Geographical Positioning System
ha	hectares
ILO	International Labour Organization
NCDD	National Committee for Sub-national Democratic Development
NEC	National Election Committee
NGO	non-governmental organization
NZAid	New Zealand Aid
Organic Law	Law on Administrative Management of the Capital, Province, Municipality, District and Khan
sq km	square kilometres
SNEC	Supreme National Economic Council
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
Trade SWAp	Sector-Wide Approach to Trade
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization



UNDP supports the development of a range of industries, such as silk production in Takeo. (UNDP/Arantxa Cedillo)



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