



Cambodia National Environment Strategy and Action Plan (NESAP)

2nd Meeting of the NESAP 2016-2023 Inter-Ministerial Task Force

Concept Note and Program

10 March 2016

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

National Environment Strategy and Action Plan (NESAP) is a political agenda and roadmap for ensuring effective environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources through an inclusive and participatory process. It is important not solely for the Ministry of Environment (MOE), instead it will guide efforts of a whole range of stakeholders including government ministries, private sector, civil society, and development organizations. NESAP's main objectives.

- (i) Assess the potential socioeconomic benefits of improved environmental sustainability.
- (ii) Review the current status of environment and natural resources in the country.
- (iii) Analyse key drivers of environment and natural resources change.
- (iv) Review the implementation performance of existing development strategies on environment, green growth, and sustainable development and identifying key lessons.
- (v) Identify and prioritizing policy mechanisms and tools, as well as financing options for incentivizing specific environment investments as well as environment mainstreaming in key economic and social sectors.
- (vi) Identify stakeholder roles to operationalize the NESAP.

NESAP is aligned with national Constitution (Article 59), national laws (i.e., Article 2, 3 and 4 of the Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management (1996)), strategies (i.e., Para 4 and Para 7.7 on page 4, and page 10 of the Rectangular Strategy, Phase III) and policies (i.e., Page 4 of the National Strategic Development Plan 2014-2018).

The Asian Development Bank's Greater Mekong Sub-region Environment Operations Center has pledged both financial and technical support throughout the formulation process of NESAP (ADB's GMS EOC's Letter dated 17 August 2015). The Royal Government of Cambodia (Letter No. 1069 SChNor.KS, dated September 17, 2015) has decided that (i) MoE leads the process for formulation of NESAP 2016-2023; (ii) the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD) to review and endorse draft NESAP 2016-2023 and then submit to the RGC for approval; and (iii) set-up Inter-Ministerial Task Force and cooperate with consultants and experts from all organizations and agencies.



The process of formulating the NESAP began in September 2015 and it is anticipated that the final NESAP will be endorsed by the NCSD and finally approved by the RGC before the end of 2016. The formulation of NESAP is in three stages: (i) inception phase; (ii) data collection and analysis; and (iii) draft and validation process. Stage 1 has completed, and main achievements include:

- (i) Conducted initial consultation with a full range of stakeholders at national and sub-national levels through the Inception Workshop and additional bilateral interviews;
- (ii) Conducted background research and literature review;
- (iii) Identified list of data needs for NESAP drafting;
- (iv) Established NESAP Inter-ministerial Task Force (a Decision No. 35 dated 15 December 2015);
- (v) Drafted and finalized NESAP Scoping and Inception Report;
- (vi) Conducted first meeting of NESAP Inter-ministerial Task Force on 15 December 2015 in Phnom Penh.

Objectives and Meeting Program

The Meeting is organized by the MoE with support from the ADB's GMS Environment Operations Center. Its main objective is to present, discuss and obtain comments on draft Chapter one (Brief introduction to NESAP) and Chapter two (State of Environment) of NESAP. In addition, two additional analytical inputs to be fed into the NESAP drafting will also be presented by national environmental economics and national environmental policy consultants. These two analytical studies will focus on assessing quantitative and qualitative economic and social benefits in transiting towards environmental sustainable growth and identifying a step-wise approach and a set of policy options in moving from environmental policy targets to specific implementation actions. A facilitated discussion will be followed to identify collectively a list of environmental priority issues to be addressed by NESAP and possible policy and financial options to realize the action plan. Key activities and expected outputs and outcomes are summarized in Table below.



Time	Session	Lead	Expected Outcomes
09.00 – 09.10	Opening and introduction to the objectives of the meeting	H.E.Sao Sopheap , Adviser and Cabinet Director, MOE	Endorse the meeting agenda
09.10 – 09.30	NESAP Progress and Immediate Steps	H.E. Khieu Borin , WG-CBP and NSU/CEP	Update Task Force members on progress made since previous meeting and present next steps
09.30 – 10.15	Introduction to overall NESAP structure and presentation on draft NESAP Chapter 1 and 2	Dr. Sokhem Pech , NESAP TA Team Leader	Present contents and key findings from Chapter 1 and 2
10.15 – 10.30	Coffee Break		
10.30 – 12.15	Plenary review of Chapter 1 and 2	H.E.Sao Sopheap , Adviser and Cabinet Director, MOE	Participants are invited to comment on Chapter 1 and 2, in particular on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data accuracy, presentation and gaps; - Key drivers of change; - Main environmental issues identified and additional issues to be included; - Missing contents.
12.15 – 13.30	Lunch break		
13.30 – 15.30	Facilitated discussion on priority environmental issues to be addressed by NESAP and policy / financing options to address them - link between SDGs and NESAP	H.E.Sao Sopheap , Adviser and Cabinet Director, MOE	Collect ideas and comments from TF members on priority environmental issues to be tackled by NESAP and potential policy tools and financing options to be utilized to meet NESAP goals - To inform discussion about how to monitor and evaluate NESAP
15.30 – 15.45	Coffee break		
15.45 – 16.15	Conclusion and next steps	H.E.Sao Sopheap	Consensus on the next steps in drafting the remaining chapters of NESAP and agreement on additional areas require TF members inputs and supports