

PROJECT IDEA NOTE 7

Sector	WATER RESOURCES
Subsector	Water for agriculture
Technology name	Small dams, small reservoirs and micro-catchments
Project name	Institutional capacity strengthening on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation for MoWRAM and MAFF at national level
Background	Climate stresses – flood, drought, and windstorms have considerable impacts on the water and agriculture sectors, but climate change related concerns are only briefly mentioned in national water and agriculture policy documents. Moreover, as indicated in the Strategy for Agriculture and Water, the lack of technical staff (meteorologists, hydrologists and water chemical engineers) is another challenge for the ministries in charge. With additional pressure from climate change impacts, inadequacies in institutional capacity and policy will only worsen if not urgently and properly addressed.
Purpose and objectives	<p>The purpose of this project is to strengthen the capacities of MAFF and MOWRAM on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation within the water and agriculture sectors, and mainstream climate considerations into water and agriculture policies and strategies, thus facilitating more climate-informed decisions-making and planning. Specific objectives of the project are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen the capacity of relevant MAFF and MOWRAM officials on climate change, impacts, vulnerability and adaptation in water and agriculture sectors, 2. Strengthen the capacity of relevant MAFF and MOWRAM officials on climate-informed planning and decision-making, and 3. Integrate climate change impacts and vulnerabilities, and appropriate adaptation options into water and agriculture policies and strategies.
Relationship to national sustainable development objectives	Agriculture remains the heart of Cambodian livelihoods and is significant in the country's economy, especially in rural areas. For these reasons, the Royal Government of Cambodia pays greater attention in developing agriculture as indicated in the highest level government policy, the Rectangular Strategy for growth, employment, equity and efficiency.
Project deliverables	Institutional capacity building should be designed on the basis of capacity gaps in implementing policy and strategy, thus capacity needs assessment must be undertaken to identify the gaps, motivators and incentives in improving efficiency of the capacity strengthening. In addition to

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	building capacity of the relevant officials of the target ministries, the project is expected to produce an additional annex to the current harmonized water and agriculture strategy 2009-13, discussing climate change impacts and vulnerabilities and appropriate adaptation options for this specific sector.
Project scope	MAFF and MOWRAM are the ministries in charge of implementing the harmonized water and agriculture strategy in addition to mandate specific policies and strategies. This project, thus, works directly with the Ministries (at national level) so that they are the main beneficiaries, receiving capacity building and closely working on mainstreaming climate change considerations.
Timeline	2 years
Budget/resource requirements	The project would require about US\$ 500,000 to cover administration costs, experts and logistics of the training. Funds should be allocated separately for the Ministry (for administration and logistics) and universities (training fees and technical support).
Measurement/Evaluation	The project outputs can be measured by the number of trainings and trainees participating in the trainings as well as their improved understanding. The quality of an additional annex to the current water and agriculture strategy is another indicator. The longer term project impacts can be demonstrated through the implementation of the new version of the strategy that includes climate change adaptation.
Challenges	The main anticipated challenge of this project is to select experienced motivators of staff and to provide incentives to turn knowledge into practical action for government institutions.
Responsibilities and Coordination	The project should be implemented by MAFF and MOWRAM themselves in cooperation with local universities with expertise in climate change and experience in capacity building. Technically, it may be more appropriate that the ministries take a coordination role, while the universities provide training and conduct capacity needs assessment and provide technical backup during the mainstreaming process. It is important that MAFF and MOWRAM key policy-makers and technical staff are actively involved not only in the mainstreaming process, but also in the capacity building activities.