

Cooperation Fund for the Water Sector

Pilot Demonstration Activity

Request Form

Activity Title: <i>Piloting River Basin Approach to IWRM in Eastern Cambodia.</i>	
Proposer (Name, Div/Dept): Mr. Watt Botkosol, Department of Planning, Cambodia National Mekong Committee and Officer-In-Charge of GWP Cambodia	
Request Date: 31 October 2007	
Country (DMC): Cambodia	Region: <i>Southeast Asia</i>
Activity Proposed Start Date: February 07	Activity Proposed Duration: 12 months.
Cost Estimate: US\$ 50,000	
Implementing Organization Contact: 1. H. E Mr. Sin Niny, Vice-Chairman of Cambodia National Mekong Committee 2. Mr. Watt Botkosol, Director of Planning Department, Cambodia National Mekong Committee and Global Water Partnership Cambodia Officer-In-Charge	
Consultant Identified? No	If so, Consultant(s) Contact: <u>see further discussion below in project description.</u>
ADB Activity Officer - name, position, division, telephone and e-mail:	<i>Ian Makin, Project Engineer (Water Resources), SEAE Asian Development Bank</i>

Short Description:

1. Cambodia is in the early stages of implementing a river basin management approach to its water resources planning and management. With assistance largely from ADB it has, over the last decade, developed a national water policy and a 'water resources strategy' to respond to the policy, although neither have, as yet been endorsed by government. A new Water Resources Law was passed by the National Assembly in May 2007. It specifies, amongst other things, that water resources will be planned and managed on a river basin basis and that river basin plans will be prepared on a participative basis at the regionalized level.
2. There is a degree of institutional confusion at present as to which agency should manage the basin planning process. Both Cambodia National Mekong Committee (CNMC) and Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MOWRAM) have mandates that provide responsibilities for river basin planning – CNMC where international issues are involved, and MOWRAM for national river basin/IWRM issues. CNMC has a proven, successful record of inter-agency collaboration and is presently the counterpart agency used by ADB for developing and implementing the Tonle Sap initiative, particularly that component that is developing a river basin organization - and a series of sub-basin/catchment bodies beneath it – for the area covered by the Tonle Sap catchment.
3. The Tonle Sap is a large river basin and includes parts of some 8 provinces and has a complex array of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) issues to address.

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Present skill levels in central and provincial agencies are very low regarding IWRM and there would be an advantage for overall national IWRM performance and capacity building, if a small pilot project to introduce IWRM at a basin scale could be implemented where there are only a few provinces involved and where the range of IWRM issues are either limited or lack complexity.

4. The Global Water Partnership (GWP) has sponsored Phase 1 of a Demonstration IWRM Project, proposed by GWP Cambodia, in May-June 2007, which established the **Functional Water Partnership** for four sub-basins of Prek Preah, Prek Krieng, Prek Kampi and Prek Te which cover part of Kratie Province in Cambodia. The Functional Water Partnership is a network of focal points for dialogue. The project aimed at describing the potential for an IWRM-based approach to water-related development at the river basin level, as well as the advantages of public participation.
5. The proposed PDA will expand this work. Hereby, it will
 - i) use a participative approach to develop and create provincial, district and below, as necessary, institutional arrangements that can consider IWRM issues in the sub-basins,
 - ii) develop community participation and awareness raising programs for district level and below to inform about the water related issues of the sub-basins and the importance of adopting a basin wide approach, iii) make preliminary assessments, with community input, of the resource issues and constraints and the problems experienced at local level.
 - iii) collate the resource development projects and priorities of district level administrations and have the pilot basin institutional arrangements debate these as a means of capacity building as part of the first stage of program/project development.

5. The PDA will contribute to the objectives of the Mekong Water Resources Partnership Programme (MWARP) of ADB and the World Bank in the key area of strengthening the Cambodian capacity in all aspects of IWRM – namely in this case in coordinating CNMC and MOWRAM to commence a river basin approach across two provinces and introducing a range of community participation and awareness raising approaches.

1. Background and Rational:

The institutional capacity and technical skills to develop participative approaches for IWRM are presently not high in Cambodia. A river basin organization approach is being developed for Tonle Sap under ADB support but this is a long and complex program and will involve some 8 provinces and it will be about 5 years before an effective set of Tonle Sap basin arrangements could be expected to operate.

There is a need to advance understanding of participative IWRM over a much shorter time frame to prepare CNMC and MOWRAM for the requirements of the new Water Law and also to begin to develop processes for multi-province/district coordination and consultation, as the government's policy is for water planning and implementation to be decentralized to these levels. Therefore a pilot project in a small river basin, or a number of adjacent sub-basins/catchments, that cover parts of say, two provinces, to develop options and approaches for developing river basin arrangements and then using a range of basin resource assessments and preliminary water development and protection scenarios to develop awareness and

capacity of these pilot arrangements, would be very desirable in preparing the responsible line agencies for the basin management requirements in the Water Law.

The sub-basins/catchments chosen for this pilot are located immediately south of the 3S basins for which ADB is soon to support a TA for developing strengthened institutional arrangements for transboundary sustainable development and ultimately to create a 'roadmap' of activities necessary to implement sustainable development in those basins. Options for use of the additional water that could be available to Cambodia from upper 3S basin development will not just be within the 3S basins. The Mekong flood plain below the 3S confluence offers potential as does the lower reaches of the 4 sub-basins nominated for this PDA project so piloting river basin management arrangements in these smaller sub-basins will directly assist the bigger 3S project as it progresses more to roadmap implementation in latter years.

Objectives:

The proposed PDA will support the CNMC/Department of Planning (host institution of Cambodia GWP at the moment) to introduce pilot river basin arrangement in a two province situation, to raise awareness and experience of the provincial and district administrations in participative IWRM, to also raise the awareness of CNMC in IWRM and to use preliminary resource assessments and simple scenario analyses to raise capacity and understanding within the three sub-basins.

The principal objectives of the PDA are:

- i) Develop, in conjunction with provincial and district administrations, appropriate river basin management institutional arrangements,
- ii) Undertake resource assessments and scenario analyses relating to medium to long term IWRM planning for the Prek Preah, Prek Krieng, Prek Kampi and Prek Te sub – basins and discuss and debate these with the basin institutional arrangements,
- iii) Raise awareness amongst the provincial and district administrations, and community/farmer/NGO stakeholders of the implications and benefits of good water governance and good IWRM practices and the benefits of inter-agency collaboration,
- iv) Guidance for future investments and development efforts relating to water management and service delivery.

Expected Outputs:

- i) a set of river basin institutional arrangements agreed upon by the stakeholders early on and piloted in the river basin, including operating guidelines,
- ii) awareness raised as to the key IWRM issues facing these stakeholders, and public participation modalities demonstrated
- iii) a preliminary assessment of relevant issues, opportunities, constraints and scenarios for development possibilities,
- iv) an agreed set of resource protection issues and action plan, including investment priorities.

2. Scope and location of Work / Description of Activities:

The project will be managed by Department of Planning of CNMC with input from other line ministries, particularly MOWRAM. A technical coordinator (Director of Planning Department of

CNMC) with his secretary will be the project administrative team. Local consultants will be involved, covering, as needed, water resource assessment, socio-economy, environmental aspects, agro-economy, tourism, community development, and GIS analysis. They will be engaged through CNMC contracts and will report to Mr. **Watt Botkosal**, Technical Coordinator. The principal activities will be,

- i) Develop options for coordinated river basin management across the two provinces, and various districts in the sub-basins, and debate these with line agencies and province/district administrations to determine an agreed institutional option to manage the project,
- ii) Determine and implement (on a pilot and demonstration basis) a community awareness program for IWRM issues and through this, establish and implement a model for public participation in the project at all levels of stakeholders,
- iii) Review existing water resource, socio-economic and environmental data and information for the sub-basins, determine gaps in information for IWRM requirements and assess the emerging water, social and environmental problems and the opportunities and threats relating to possible water development,
- iv) Prepare an inventory of existing water control structures and their current effectiveness, and of water use practices, in the sub-basins/catchments,
- v) Discuss and debate with the agreed institutional arrangements the resource issues, problems and opportunities and determine priority studies and investigations to further move toward developing an IWRM plan, or 'roadmap' for the sub-catchments,
- vi) Recommend at the end of the project appropriate on-going institutional arrangements that can be implemented to provide a continuing focus of good IWRM in the sub-catchments.

The project is based on using line agency staff and local consultants/experts where necessary to identify institutional options, and the water related resource assessment issues, and water development and protection opportunities and threats.

The project could receive a small amount of expert assistance at inception by an international water management and institutions expert that is to be engaged to lead the adjoining ADB TA for 'Se San, Sre Pok and Se Kong (3S) River Basins Development Study in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam'. This PDA project will be commenced at a time to coincide with the 3S study commencement (about February 07) so that the international expert will be available to assist with scoping out the details of the project plan. These consultant costs, amounting to about one week over the period of the project, could be covered by the 3S budget.

3. Implementation Schedule, Institutional Management Arrangements, and Proponent Qualifications:

The project will be implemented over a 12 months period. The project will be implemented by CNMC through Cambodian GWP in collaboration with other line agencies that are part of the emerging Cambodia GWP. Cambodia GWP response to the Global Water Partnership initiative to accelerate introduction of 'good IWRM'.

A similar application has been done in May-June 2007 by CNMC/Department of Planning (Secretariat of GWP Cambodia). CNMC is the mandated inter-ministerial agency for coordination of IWRM issues that have an international or transboundary nature. As the 4 sub-catchments of the project flow directly into the Mekong River – and as such any potential development can have international significance downstream - then CNMC is the appropriate body to commence participative river basin management in these catchments.

Measurable Performance Indicators:

- i) A set of agreed basin institutional arrangement with clear operating guidelines,
- ii) Awareness raising and participation processes in place and operational,
- iii) An agreed set of resource protection issues
- iv) An agreed action plan with investment priorities

4. Stakeholders Participation:

Once the provincial/district institutional options are discussed and agreed, the initial task will be to develop a clear project plan and an early priority will be to develop a community/ stakeholder participation plan, take this to various representative levels of stakeholders and obtain endorsement of the approach. Participation activities will be reported regularly to the peak level institutional arrangements.

5. Scope for Replication

A key outcome is to present the results of the project to the senior levels of the line agencies and obtain agreement to use to introduce the approach in other priority basins, to provide for strengthened integrated river basin management in Cambodia.

6. Cost Estimate

<u>Inputs / Expenditure category</u>	<u>Total Costs</u> (in US\$)
1. Civil works	0
2. <u>Equipment and Supplies:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- GPS: US\$400	400
3. <u>Training, workshops, seminars, public campaigns:</u> Workshops, meetings, seminars, in-country travel, preparation of briefing and public awareness material etc., <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 2 Workshops (around 5 participants from Phnom Penh and 25 participants from the study area): 2x US\$4000= US\$8,000- 3 Meetings (around 5 participants from Phnom Penh and 10 participants from the study area): : 3x US\$3500= US\$10,500- 8 Trips: 8x US\$1000= US\$8,000	26,500
4. <u>Specialists Services:</u> National experts, indicative allocation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Inventory of existing water control infrastructure to be conducted by water specialist: US\$ 3,000- Socio-economist 1 month: US\$1,500- Environmentalist 1 month: US\$ 1,500- Tourist infrastructure development specialist 1 month: US\$1,500- Water resource development specialist 2 months:USD1500x2= US\$3,000- Community development specialist 2 months: US\$3,000- Agro-economist 1 month: US\$1,500	18,000

- GIS expert 2 months: US\$3,000	
5. <u>Project Management:</u>	
- Secretary 12 months: US\$250x12= US\$3,000	3,000
6. <u>Other Inputs:</u>	0
7. <u>Contingencies (0-10% of total estimated grant fund):</u>	2,100
Use of Contingencies requires <u>prior</u> approval from ADB.	
Total PDA grant financed	US\$ <u>50,000</u>

In-kind from the Cambodia National Mekong Committee/Host institution of Cambodia GWP:

- Technical Coordinator
- Computer, Hardware, software
- Office Rental