River Basin Approach to Integrated Water Resources Management

This Pilot and Demonstration Activities (PDA) piloted a river basin approach to integrated water resources management in Eastern Cambodia by developing better institutional arrangements and improving capacity.

Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project site</th>
<th>Eastern Cambodia</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>US$ 50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Completed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approval date</td>
<td>June 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion date</td>
<td>December 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Basin</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADB officer</td>
<td>Ian Makin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partner</td>
<td>Cambodia National Mekong Committee and Global Water Partnership Cambodia</td>
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</tbody>
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Report card

Completed in December 2009, this PDA:

- Developed appropriate river basin management institutional arrangements in conjunction with provincial and district administrations
- Raised awareness among provincial and district administrations and community/farmer/NGO stakeholders of the implications and benefits of good water governance, good IWRM practices, and inter-agency collaboration
- Undertook resource assessments and scenario analyses relating to medium- to long-term IWRM planning for the 4Ps river basins within the context of institutional arrangements

Read the final report.

Description

Cambodia began implementing a river basin approach to its water resources planning and management after its Water Resources Law was passed in May 2007. Two agencies—the Cambodia National Mekong Committee (CNMC) and the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MOWRAM)—share the mandate for river basin planning and questions arise as to how they could manage the process together.
In May-June 2007, a "Functional Water Partnership," a network of focal points for dialogue for the four sub-basins of Prek Preah, Prek Krieng, Prek Kampi and Prek Te, was established through an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) demonstration project. The project aimed to describe the potential for an IWRM-based approach to water-related development at the river basin level, as well as the advantages of public participation.

This PDA built upon the IWRM achievements of the Functional Water Partnership network. It also strengthened Cambodia's IWRM capacity, particularly in establishing better coordination between CNMC and MOWRAM in formulating a river basin approach across two provinces and introducing a range of community participation and awareness-raising approaches.

**Expected outcomes**

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

**Related**

- ADB's Focus on Water
- Cambodia and ADB
- Pilot and Demonstration Activities in the Water Sector
- Final Report (December 2009)
- Midterm Report (March 2008)
- Inception Report (December 2007)
- Proposal (October 2007)

Sourced from https://www.adb.org/results/water-pda-river-basin-approach-integrated-water-resources-management