Cambodia: Upper Secondary Education Sector Development Program

Project Name: Upper Secondary Education Sector Development Program
Project Number: 47136-003
Country: Cambodia
Project Status: Active
Project Type / Modality of Assistance: Loan
Technical Assistance
Source of Funding / Amount:
- Loan 3426-CAM: Upper Secondary Education Sector Development Program (formerly Strengthening Secondary Education and Teaching of Math and Science) concessional ordinary capital resources lending / Asian Development Fund US$ 15.00 million
- Loan 3427-CAM: Upper Secondary Education Sector Development Program (formerly Strengthening Secondary Education and Teaching of Math and Science) concessional ordinary capital resources lending / Asian Development Fund US$ 30.00 million

Strategic Agendas:
Inclusive economic growth
Drivers of Change:
Governance and capacity development
Sector / Subsector:
Education - Education sector development - Secondary
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming:
Gender equity

Description:
The program is the response of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to the government's vision of improving the quality of its human resources to sustain Cambodia's economic development and enhance its competitiveness. This will be achieved by supporting sequenced reforms aimed at improving the effectiveness of upper secondary education (USE). The program will (i) support initiatives to improve access to, quality of, and relevance of USE; and (ii) strengthen institutional capacity for planning, management, and delivery of education. While the policy reforms will be applied nationwide, most of the project activities will be implemented in seven disadvantaged provinces.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy:
While there was substantial progress in increasing access to basic education over the last 10 years, significant challenges remain at the USE level. The USE gross enrollment rate declined from 32.9% (30.1% female) in SY2010/11 to 25.1% (26.0% female) in SY2015/16. This dismal performance is more particularly pronounced in disadvantaged provinces, with recorded average gross enrolment below 20% as of SY 2013/2014. Grade 12 dropout rates reached an all-time high of 45% (42% female) in SY 2015/16, an increase of 34.9 percentage points (32.2 percentage points for females) from SY 2011/12. Completion rates for USE remained low at 20% in SY 2014/15. Through the USESDP, ADB will help the government address the problems of low access, low quality and relevance of upper secondary education and the lack of institutional capacity to plan, deliver and manage education services. USESDP is aligned with ADB's country partnership strategy, 2014-2018 for Cambodia which in turn is in line with the governments priorities on expanding access to, and improving the relevance and quality of, secondary education.

Impact:
High-quality human resources developed (Education Strategic Plan, 2014-2018)

Project Outcome:

Description of Outcome: Effectiveness of the USE system improved

Progress Toward Outcome:
As of 30 June 2019:
a. 2018/19: GER of USE increased from 25.1% to 28.1% (female: increased from 26.0% to 31.2%)
b. 2018/19: Promotion rate from grade 10 to grade 11 increased from 82.2% to 84.7% (female: increased from 83.2% to 85.5%)
c. 2018/19: Promotion rate from grade 11 to grade 12 increased from 88.8% to 92.0% (female: increased from 89.0% to 93.4%)

Implementation Progress:

Description of Project Outputs:
Access to USE improved
Quality and relevance of USE improved
Institutional capacity for planning, management, and delivery of education strengthened
Program Loan completed
Program Loan completed
3c. 411 (F=45, 11%) received M&E training during 5 three-day training workshops.
91% of the target has been achieved.
- 3d. 570 people (F=106, 18.59%) trained to build EMS capacity
  - A manual on data management and data analysis was developed and finalized.
- The training on data management, data analysis and data use was conducted at school level in 8 provinces.
- EMS team conducted the follow up to target schools twice to monitor the implementation of training.
3e. INSET curriculum for the training of school principals and SBM Manual was integrated and harmonized among NIE, TTD and DGSE in Aug 2018.
This curriculum is to be reviewed, finalized and training is to be conducted by NIEI.
3f. DIT: Various pieces of equipment already supplied. Strategic Plan/roadmap for DIIT drafted. Staff training to commence from Q3 2019.
Two training courses on computer maintenance organized for SRGs.
DEA: In Q1 2019, SQL server was installed and tested and staff were trained to operate software. The Input Marks program was tested and internal IT staff at DEA was trained.
DoPo: Various pieces of equipment already supplied.
Staff to be trained to build the department’s capacity in policy formulation and policy monitoring and evaluation through 7 day training in mid-July 2019.
ERC: Journal: The articles from different authors were submitted to ERC to be published in CER special issue. Publication of journal (special issue) pending from 2018.
Policy Brief: A draft of policy brief on “What does PISA-D tell us about Education in Cambodia” was written.
Annual Research Forum: ERC plans to organize STEM forum and internal capacity building on policy research, after the submitted budget is approved.
PCU.
3g. 36 SRGs (75% of the target) and 181 networks schools (75% of the target) provided SIF (1st payment to 217 schools in March 2017, 2nd payment released in December 2018).
3h. FM manual (FMN) is being finalized; 1st draft of SFMM was completed at the end of Dec 2018, internally reviewed and discussed three times, and final review is scheduled on 3rd July 2019, after which it will be submitted to Project Director for final approval.
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1. 1,427 Grade 11 students (F=847, 60%), 1st Cohort received scholarships in Academic Year (AY) 2017-18.a 1,302 (F=769) continued to Gr 12.
1.572 Grade 11 students (F=945, 60.11%), 2nd Cohort, received scholarships in AY 2018-19.
1f. AY 2017/18: 389 (F=90, 23.4%) USE teachers of Math, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Earth Science, ICT and foreign languages in 10 disadvantaged provinces (Pailin no candidate) received hardship allowance.
AY 2018/19: 396 (F=90, 22.9% including one male ethnic minority) USE teachers from the same 10 disadvantage provinces (Pailin no candidate) received hardship allowance.
Total 785 USE teachers (F=180 females, 22.92%) received hardship allowance.
1g. 44 teacher housing units ready for contract signing.
In March 2019, 44 schools from 19 provinces was finalized; of these, 30 schools (68.18%) were selected from 7 disadvantaged provinces.
1h. 5 LSSs (2 schools in Rattanakiri, 1 school in Pailin, 1 school in Preah Vihear, and 1 school in Stung Treng province) to be upgraded to USS have already been contracted.
1i. Rehabilitation works of 11 USSs in disadvantaged provinces to be advertised for bidding in August 2019.
1j. 10 USSs 3 schools in Preah Vihear, 2 schools in Stung Treng, 2 schools in Koh Kong, 1 school in Otdar Meaneych, 1 school in Rattanakiri, and 1 school in Mondulkiri) selected from 6 disadvantage provinces contracted; 2-storied 10 classrooms, toilets block and submersible well pump to be built.
Program Loan completed.
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2g. Consultative workshop on the results of Grade 11 national assessment conducted in early May 2019.
2h. Grade 12 national exam results disseminated.
2i. 6,038 sets of textbooks of 12 subjects (1:1 student-textbook ratio) are being printed for delivery by mid-July.
2j. 1,909 sets of teacher guides of 11 subjects are being printed for delivery by mid-July.
2k. New curricular frameworks finalized and approved in July 2018 for 13 subjects, including Math, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Science and ICT, in Grades 10 to 12.
2l. The career guidance and counselling manual for USS was finalized and approved. The training will be undertaken by NIEI.
2m. 14 USSs are being upgraded to SRSs with the provision of SRCs in 18 provinces. Construction is ongoing in 2 phases.
2n. Various pieces of equipment already supplied.
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The project will include the construction of school buildings and/or classrooms and teacher housing. While environmental impacts are anticipated during construction, these are principally confined to noise, dust, and vibration, and safety of students and school and/or training center staff. Impacts will be minor, localized, temporary, and could adequately be addressed and covered in the civil works contract awards. The project is classified as category B for environment. An environmental assessment and review framework and an initial environmental examination have been prepared. The policy actions in the policy-based loan component will not have any potential environmental impacts.

The involuntary resettlement category is C. The program as a whole will not entail involuntary resettlement issues. The project activities, including construction of additional USS buildings and teacher housing, will not require land acquisition nor restrict access to lands and/or people’s livelihoods since school campuses occupy large tracts of land with adequate room for future expansion. Due diligence has confirmed that targeted project areas have land titles and/or certificates indicating ownership of land by the school or by the MoEYS. Based on an assessment of the policy actions, the policy-based loan component will not have any potential involuntary resettlement and indigenous peoples issues.

The project is classified as indigenous peoples category B. Ethnic minority students and staff make up a large percentage of the project’s target schools in at least five of the seven disadvantaged provinces. In accordance with ADB’s Safeguard Policy Statement (2009), measures to ensure that students, teachers, and school administrators in ethnic minority areas are included in the project design in lieu of preparing a separate ethnic group plan.

During Project Implementation

Various stakeholders including parents, community, teachers, students, school directors, and MoEYS officials and staff were consulted and engaged in the design of the program. Development partners supporting policy reforms and projects were also consulted to ensure complementarity of support.

Business Opportunities

All consultants will be recruited according to ADB’s Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). The terms of reference for all consulting services are detailed in Section D. An international consulting firm will be recruited to provide an estimated 203 person-months (41 international, 162 national) of project management services. The firm will be engaged using the quality- and cost-based selection (QCBS) method with a standard quality-cost ratio of 90:10. In addition, a suitable regional education institute (REI), will be engaged (QBS), to provide technical expertise and guidance to MoEYS in the implementation of project activities. Qualifications for selecting the REI include: (i) proven outstanding track record in teacher development, particularly on pedagogical innovation, content knowledge, classroom management, and research management skills; (ii) extensive experience in math and science curriculum and textbook development; (iii) several years of experience providing services that conform to both international as well as ASEAN standards; (iv) main country of operation consistently in the top five countries in international student tests; (v) geographic proximity to Cambodia; (vi) shared diplomatic and other on-going collaborations that will facilitate the cooperation based on equality, shared vision, and cultural and regional sensitivity; and (vii) English language as the main medium of communication/instruction.

Procurement

All procurement of goods and works will be undertaken in accordance with ADB’s Procurement Guidelines (2015, as amended from time to time). An 18-month procurement plan indicating threshold and review procedures, goods, works, and consulting service contract packages and national competitive procedures will be used for works valued below $100,000 but equal to $100,000 or above; and shopping procedures will be used for goods valued below $100,000. For works, ICB procedures will be used for works valued at $3,000,000 or above; NCB procedures will be used for works valued below $3,000,000 but equal to $100,000 or above; and shopping procedures will be used for goods valued below $100,000. An 18-month procurement plan indicating threshold and review procedures, goods, works, and consulting service contract packages and national competitive bidding guidelines is in Section C.

Responsibility ADB Officer: Lynnette Perez
Responsibility ADB Department: Southeast Asia Department
Responsibility ADB Division: Human and Social Development Division, SERD
Executing Agencies: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

Kingdom of Cambodia

Loan 3426-CAM

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<th>Loan Utilization</th>
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## Loan 3427-CAM

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### Financing Plan

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### Financing Plan/TA Utilization

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