PRESS TOUR NOTE

I. INTRODUCTION

The $67.18 million Flood Damage Emergency Reconstruction Project (FDERP), jointly financed by ADB ($55 million loan), the Government of Australia ($5.25 million grant), and the Royal Government of Cambodia ($6.93 million), is rehabilitating infrastructure damaged by the 2011 floods in six severely affected provinces, namely Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom, Prey Veng, and Siem Reap. The project will repair or rebuild 524 kilometers (km) of roads, six bridges, and 26 irrigation systems. The upgrades will help restore people’s livelihoods by increasing agricultural productivity and improving access to markets and social services. The implementation period is 3 years, ending in March 2015.

II. MEDIA TRIP

On 5 September 2012, ADB will organize a one-day press tour to Kampong Cham and Prey Veng provinces to inspect reconstruction activities and report on how the project has created resilience to floods, improved access to markets and social services, and restored people’s livelihoods by increasing agricultural productivity.

During the trip, journalists will see:

1. In Kampong Cham

   **Road KC1A**

   A 27-km rural road known as KC1A, which links Srey Santhor district to Koh Sotin district, is being reconstructed. The 6-meter wide road was built in 2003 and damaged by the 2011 floods.

   **Road and Bridge KC1B**

   A 6-km damaged rural road, known as KC1B, links Kandal province’s Khsach Kandal district to Meanchey commune of Kampong Cham province’s Srey Santhor district. The 6-meter wide road is being repaired, with a 45-meter long, 9-meter wide bridge in between.

   Both KC1A and KC1B go through seven communes—Meancehy, Prek Po, Phtes Kandal, Prek Dampoak, Svay Khsach Phnom, Rusei Srok, Prek Rumdeng—in Srey Sanhor district and another commune, Prek Tanong, in Koh Sotin district. Reconstruction of the roads and bridge will help more than 75,000 villagers in the eight communes improve their livelihoods, reduce traffic congestion, improve access to social services and markets, and increase economic activities.

2. In Prey Veng

   **Detour road/dyke**

   A bridge on road KC1A is under construction
A 2-km detour road/dyke is repaired to protect the city center of Prey Veng from the upcoming flood.

A 2-km detour road in Prey Veng municipality connects two sections of National Road No.11 and National Road No 8 to the city. It serves as a dyke to protect the city from inundation in the rainy season. During the 2011 floods, the detour road/dyke was severely damaged.

Many leaks were observed while flood levels were high, requiring full-time surveillance and rapid on-the-spot repairs to prevent piping failure. About 30,000 families in the city would be directly affected and all administration functions stopped if the dyke collapsed due to floods.

The dyke is being reconstructed to protect people from future flooding. Besides laying geotextiles in and on the embankment, replacing some culverts under the embankment, and grassing the slopes, the dyke surface has also been raised an extra 0.3 meter and widened to 11 meters, and will be paved.

Bridges

Two steel and wooden bridges—Krong Prey Veng (CW1) and Braray Lex (CW2)—along National Road 11 near the dyke in Prey Veng city are being replaced.

Prior to the flooding, Krong Prey Veng and Braray Lex bridges could accommodate only one lane of traffic. Both bridges were constructed in 1993 and severely damaged by floods in 2011. If they collapsed during the next rainy season, National Road No.11 would be cut off, leaving Prey Veng city isolated and leading to huge economic losses.

National Road No.11 connects two provinces Kampong Cham and Prey Veng—and links to National Road No.7 and National Road No.1, which in turn connects to the Viet Nam border. Moreover, the bridges can also serve as strong water gates for the dyke of Prey Veng city.

Both bridges are being rebuilt using piling foundations, reinforced concrete structures, and box beams set on crossheads, and with an abutment as a superstructure. They will have two lanes, measuring 13 meters wide and 67.8 meters long.
Toul Skea Canal

Toul Skea canal is located east of Prey Veng city and covers two communes, Ta Kor and Me Bon in Prey Veng Province’s Prey Veng district. It was constructed in 1977 during the Pol Pot regime using mobilized labor forces. It has water sources from the Kampong Sne reservoir.

During the 2011 floods, the canal was eroded and damaged. The rehabilitated canal is expected to provide sufficient water for irrigation during the dry season so farm production can increase from one to two crops. The canal is expected to cover some 1,500 hectares of rice fields in the rainy season and about 2,000 hectares in the dry season. A bridge link to the Prey Veng dyke is also being prepared to enhance connectivity.

Irrigation canal has been repaired under the project