

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION

A. Major Development Partners: Strategic Foci and Key Activities

1. In Cambodia, development partners are involved in natural resources management and the water sector, with an increasing focus on climate change adaptation and mitigation. Project and program landscapes are changing rapidly, with new initiatives and funding constantly emerging. In addition to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Australia, Belgium, Denmark, the European Union, France, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United States, the World Bank, and other development partners have active water sector projects and programs in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) (Table 1).

Table 1: Major Development Partners

Development Partner	Project Name	Duration	Amount
Projects in Cambodia			
ADB, AusAID, OFID, NDF	Water Resources Management Sector Development Program	2011–2016	\$54.1 million
ADB	Emergency Flood Rehabilitation Project, (rural infrastructure and irrigation and flood control)	2001-2003	\$10.8 million (irrigation and flood), \$6.4 million
ADB, AFD	Stung Chinit Irrigation and Rural Infrastructure	2001-2006	\$23.8 million
ADB/AFD	Northwest Irrigation Sector Project	2004-2010	\$22.6 million €4 million
ADB	Cambodia Flooding 2011: Humanitarian Assistance Project	2012	\$3 million
AFD	Rehabilitation of Prey Nup Polders	2002–2008	€3.8 million
India	Rehabilitation West Baray Irrigation Scheme	2005-2008	\$5.0 million
Japan	Project for the Rehabilitation of the Kandal Stung Irrigation System	2005-2008	¥1,740 million (grant)
Japan	Rehabilitation of small irrigation rehabilitation projects in Kampong Cham Takeo, Kandal, Pursat and Kratie	2008-2009	\$0.35 million
JICA	Rehabilitation of Small-scale Irrigation Systems in Kg. Cham (2), Takeo, Kandal, Pursat, and Kratie	2007-2011	\$0.6 million
Republic of Korea	Tamauk Irrigation Rehabilitation Project	2002-2004	\$1.9 million
Republic of Korea	Multi-purpose Water Resources Development, Krang Ponley	2004-2009	n.a
Republic of Korea	Multi-purpose Dam Development, Battambang	2006-2007	n.a
Republic of Korea	Krang Ponley Water Resources Development Project	2006-2010	\$27 million
Republic of Korea	Construction of Irrigation System in Bantheay District	2009-2010	\$2.5 million
Regional projects (including Cambodia)			
ADB, Government of the	Core Environment Program and Biodiversity Conservation Initiative in the Greater Mekong Subregion	2006–2008	\$36.1 million

Development Partner	Project Name	Duration	Amount
Netherlands, Government of Sweden			
Government of Sweden	Implementing the Greater Mekong Subregion Core Agriculture Support Program (Phase 2)	2012–2017	\$7.5 million
ADB, FAO, IFAD, PRC	Accelerating the Implementation of the Core Agriculture Support Program	2009–2012	\$3.1 million

ADB = Asian Development Bank, AFD = Agence Française de Développement, AusAID = Australian Agency for International Development, FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, IFAD = International Fund for Agricultural Development, Lao PDR = Lao People's Democratic Republic, NDF = Nordic Development Fund, OFID = OPEC Fund for International Development, PRC = People's Republic of China, UNDP = United Nations Development Programme.

Source: ADB.

B. Institutional Arrangements and Processes for Development Coordination

2. Water resources development and management in the Mekong River have been recognized as a critical regional issue since the formation of the Mekong River Committee (MRC) in 1957. The MRC was established following the signing of the Agreement on the Cooperation for the Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin—generally referred to as the 1995 Mekong Agreement—by the governments of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Thailand, and Viet Nam on 5 April 1995.¹ Since the 1995 agreement, member countries have signed sub-agreements on data and information sharing and exchange, and flood management and mitigation; and a formal agreement with the People's Republic of China on the exchange of hydrological and other data. The MRC aims to ensure reasonable and equitable use of the Mekong River system through a participatory process with national Mekong committees in each country to develop procedures for water utilization.

3. The project will share information and coordinate with the Mekong River Commission's Flood Management and Mitigation Programme (FMMP), which is supported by Germany through an project funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, is listed as an important regional partner in the PPCR project proposal. The FMMP has the goal to support the relevant line agencies of the four lower Mekong riparian countries in improving their flood forecasting and management capacities on the basis of regionally linked climate data and information systems. In its plan for 2013, FMMP is envisaging to make the enhanced flood forecasting system available to the national flood forecasting centres of the MRC member countries. In addition the MRC's Drought Management Programme (DMP) and the MRC's Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative (CCAI) are both planning to undertake studies related to climate change and drought in 2013.

C. Achievements and Issues

¹ MRC. 1995. *Agreement on the Cooperation for the Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin*. <http://www.mrcmekong.org/assets/Publications/agreements/agreement-Apr95.pdf>

4. In Cambodia, several development partners are providing external assistance for agriculture, rural development, and natural resources. The World Bank's involvement in agriculture and rural development has been closely linked to building the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries through its agricultural productivity improvement project, in cooperation with the International Fund for Agricultural Development. The European Union has facilitated rural development in six provinces around Phnom Penh through rice seed improvement, irrigation development, microfinance, and rural infrastructure development. It is engaged in small-scale food security projects in cooperation with local nongovernment organizations. In 2005, the European Union began a multicomponent program in northwestern Cambodia and provided a grant to the livestock subsector. The Australian Agency for International Development supports building the capacity at the Department of Agricultural Extension of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the Cambodia Agricultural Research and Development Institute; and it is also engaged in improving rice seed quality and post-harvest handling of rice through its Agricultural Quality Improvement Project.

D. Summary and Recommendations

5. Coordination will be encouraged with key development partners through constant dialogue, sharing of key findings of review missions, and consulting with development partners during the detailed design stage to ensure that the downstream impacts of the subprojects on water balance and water availability do not adversely affect the projects of other development partners. The implementation of the Water Resources Management Sector Development Program, which is cofinanced by ADB, the Australian Agency for International Development, the Nordic Development Fund, and the OPEC Fund for International Development, provides a useful forum for exchange and development coordination.