

August 8, 2012

**Comments from United Kingdom on the Approval by Mail: Cambodia:
Mainstreaming Climate Resilience into Development Planning (ADB) - Project
Number XPCRKH016A**

Dear CIF Admin Unit

Many thanks for circulating this. The UK is content to approve funding but would like to see the issues highlighted in the attached addressed in implementation.

Many thanks

Juliet Field
United Kingdom

UK comments on Cambodia PPCR project *Mainstreaming Climate Resilience into
Development Planning 8/8/2012*

1. The project largely consists of capacity development activities carried out by technical assistants, whose costs comprise 50% of the budget. It will be important that the support provided is sustainable and builds long term capacity in Government, and that the work on developing proposals for external funding is largely done by national staff and aligned to the highest national priorities more likely to be ultimately successful. To ensure this the monitoring and evaluation framework must include success criteria that reflect capacity development outcomes, i.e. staff demonstrating ability against identified measures, rather than activities such as number of workshops carried out. It would also be useful to include the number of successful NAPA project proposals *developed by national Government staff*.
2. On output 2 – feasibility studies for NAPA projects – some areas could be clarified further. The project should state how proposals for securing new external funding including from the Adaptation Fund will support the National Implementing Entity accreditation process; whether any of the Government agencies will be applying for accreditation on the basis of this support and how the project proposals will be coordinated with the NIE if and when there is one.
3. Clarity is needed on where the programme funding for the civil society component will come from, this project appears to be only for developing a mechanism for allocating grants, where will the grants themselves be funded from?
4. Good to see an emphasis in this proposal on the role of Cambodian CSOs and NGOs in community based adaptation, an area identified as a particular strength of the SPCR by the technical reviewer. This will need to be continually monitored to ensure successful.
5. The project approval request is strong on articulating coordination with the various entities in Government that are relevant. Feedback from the embassy is that it engages with the relevant Government stakeholders including the Sub National

Democratic Development Programme (decentralisation), the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance, as well as national planning processes. The challenge will be in implementation, particularly at local level where the sub national level offices have few resources.

6. We would appreciate seeing the final selection criteria for the NGO to manage the community adaptation component when these are determined.
7. It would be useful to clarify whether the 'advance payment facility' described under the implementation arrangements are to disburse this project funding or subsequent funds.
8. The monitoring framework overall is good, it includes baselines for some indicators, targets, assumptions and risks. However there are some gaps in the baselines which would be good to see completed early in implementation, including for the impact which refers to a 2012 baseline and so will need to be set soon. For the capacity development indicators it is not clear how these will be measured, for example under output 1 it says 'technical staff...acquire capacity to prepare adaptation plans' but does not state how this capacity will be assessed. Under output 2 it states a target of 'at least 2 NAPA projects...identified for support from global adaptation funds' – does this mean that these are actually funded, having been successful in applying, or simply that they are submitted and acknowledged?
9. Given the high proportion of the budget allocated to technical assistance, could the ADB provide further assurances and breakdowns on the fees and expenses paid, that these are good value for money and that there will be a plan in place to ensure this capacity is transitioned to national Government core staff?