Country National Report on Istanbul Program of Action
2011-2020
Royal Government of Cambodia

Phnom Penh, November 2019
# Table of Contents

## Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Development Planning Process to implement IPoA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment of progress and challenges in the implementation of the Istanbul Program of Action for LDCs for the Decade 2011-2020</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Productive Capacity:</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Trade</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Commodities</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Human and social development</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Multiple crises and other emerging challenges</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity building</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Good governance at all levels</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherence and linkages with the Post 2015 development agenda and other global processes</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusion and Toward the next LDC agenda</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistical Annex to Support Policy and planning preparation and Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I. Introduction

The Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 adopted by the Fourth UN Conference on Least Developed Countries in Turkey, May 2011 provides an opportunity for Cambodia to assess the progress towards creating an enabling environment for sustainable development, increasing productive capacities, diversifying the economy and building the necessary infrastructure so as to reduce vulnerabilities.

The country report provides a summary of the strategies, policies and national plans adopted, and the activities and actions undertaken by the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC), and the outcomes of such actions in implementing the IPoA that is structured around the eight development priorities set out in the Program of Action that include: 1) productive capacity; 2) agricultural, food security and rural development; 3) trade; 4) commodities; 5) human and social development; 6) multiple crises and other emerging challenges; 7) mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity-building; and 8) good government at all levels. In doing so, Cambodia is also taking into account the new emerging developmental challenges including the effects of the economic crisis and climate change, with a strong focus on structural transformation.

In 2015 Cambodia graduated from Low Income to Lower-Middle Income Country (MIC) status. While it remains a Least Developed Country (LDC), Cambodia is also expected to be qualified to begin the LDC gradation process in 2021. Building on this record of achievement, the RGC, while recognizing ongoing and emerging development challenges is ambitious for the future. Cambodia endorsed the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015 and has adopted its national framework of targets to 2030 the Cambodian SDGs (the CSDGs) during this year. In turn, the RGC’s Vision 2030 and Vision 2050 seek et the achievement of Upper Middle Income and High-Income status respectively. These longer-term planning instruments are brought together with the fourth phase of the RGC’s Rectangular Strategy (RS IV), and operationalized through the NSDP. This transformation process will take into account the IPoA, UN Agenda 2030 and other international and regional initiatives which will be integrated into the national policies, programs and plans.

In order to achieve this objective, Cambodia needs to Creating more jobs, in terms of both quality and quantity aspects, for the citizens of Cambodia, especially for the youth through skill training, provision of job market information, improvement in working condition and promotion of business and investment inside and outside the country; Achieving the poverty reduction target of below 10%, preventing the return of poverty by focusing on enhancing market participation2, implementing social protection policy, lowering burden of daily life along with the provision of quality public services, and reducing social gap; Further strengthening the capacity and governance of public institutions, at both national and sub-national levels, to ensure
effectiveness and efficiency of public services delivery aimed at serving the people better as well as improving business and investment environment.

II. National Development Planning Process to implement IPoA

Cambodia has been implementing IPoA through its national planning system and policies. These planning system and policies are in line with the National Vision of becoming “a prosperous middle income nation by 2030” and "higher income country in 2050". The Rectangular Strategy (RS) Phase III and IV and the National Strategic Development Plans (NSDP) 2014-2018 and 2019-2023 were developed through a comprehensive consultative process with closely cooperation with Line Ministries and Agencies (LMs/LAs) and other stakeholders i.g Development Partners (DPs), Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Civil Societies, Private Sectors, Research Institutes, Academia. This strategy and policy are the overall guide for Cambodia’s socioeconomic development.

The RSs III encompass four key elements of i) sustainable growth that is inclusive, equitable and resilient through economic diversification, ii) creating additional jobs for the youth and unemployed, iii) commitment to reduce poverty by 1% every year while placing high agenda on environmental sustainability for future generations, and iv) building institutional capacity and furthering good governance. The RS-IV is the agenda of the RGC of Cambodia's development for the sixth legislature of the National Assembly, highlighting and sharpening prioritized policies to overcome current conditions.

The RS-IV outlines the four strategic goals outlined by the following trends in employment growth, equity and efficiency: (1) Ensuring sustainable economic growth of around 7% per annum which is resilient to crises through diversifying into new growth sources to widen the growth base and enhance competitiveness while maintaining the macro-economic stability through containing the inflation, ensuring the stable exchange rate for Riel, increasing the international reserve on regular basis and managing public debt vigilantly, (2) Creating more jobs, in terms of both quality and quantity aspects, for the citizens of Cambodia, especially for the youth through skill training, provision of job market information, improvement in working condition and promotion of business and investment inside and outside the country, (3) Creating more jobs, in terms of both quality and quantity aspects, for the citizens of Cambodia, especially for the youth through skill training, provision of job market information, improvement in working condition and promotion of business and investment inside and outside the country, (4) Achieving the poverty reduction target of below 10%, preventing the return of poverty by focusing on enhancing market participation2, implementing social protection policy, lowering burden of daily life along with the provision of quality public services, and reducing social gap and (5) Further strengthening the capacity and governance of public institutions, at both national and sub-
national levels, to ensure effectiveness and efficiency of public services delivery aimed at serving the people better as well as improving business and investment environment.

The NSDP 2014-2018 mention about the strategic priorities of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) and global and international agenda, including the list of activities, program and projects that all relevant to Line Ministries /Line Agencies (LMS/LAs) and institutions must implement in the Sixth fifth Legislature of the National Assembly. For the NSDP 2019-2023 also briefly outlines strategic priorities, including the list of activities, programs and projects that all relevant ministries and institutions must implement in the Sixth Legislature of the National Assembly.

In the last decades of good governance and development, Cambodia has contributed to results bringing about annual GDP to US$24,374 million or equivalent to Riels 98,786 billion in 2018. Over the years, the country has experienced progress with GDP per capita touching US$1,138 in 2014 to $1,548 in 2018. The annual GDP growth rate for the last 5 years achieve at 7%. The sectoral growth rate in agriculture is slow down from 4.2% in 2014 to 1.6% in 2018 while the industry sectors is increased more than 2 points from 9.9% in 2014 to 12.3% in 2018 and the service sector growth is remained between 6.8% and 6.3% from 2014 to 2018. The total Cambodian population is 15.3 million according to population census 2019, that amount is excluded more than 1 million Cambodian workers are working in abroad. The average life expectancy at birth is 69 years with the population growth rate 1.4%.

Microfinance sector development

The Cambodian microfinance sector (MFIs) has continued to grow remarkably and sustainably in the form of scope and scale of operations with profitability, and actively provided the mobile banking and fund transfer services.

The total assets of MFIs had grown in an annual average rate of 33.3% over the period 2014-2018, surged from 9.94 trillion Riels (14.7% of GDP) in 2014 to 25.38 trillion Riels (25.7% of GDP) in September 2018. This sector provided loans to its clients at the annual average growth rate of 34.5% during the same period, reaching 20.62 trillion Riels (20.8% of GDP) in September 2018 from 8.22 trillion Riels (12.2% of GDP) in 2014 and also collected the deposit at the annual average growth rate of 46.7% from 3.62 trillion Riels (5.4% of GDP) in 2014 to 10.33 trillion (10.4% of GDP) in September 2018.

During 2014-2018 the balance of payment of Cambodia shows that the surplus on 5.4% on average of GDP although the deficit of current account had increased in 2018. In 2018, the balance payment of Cambodia has a surplus of 1,570 million US dollars or equals to 6.5% of GDP and will continue to increase the gross international reserve of the country.
During 2014-2018, current account in Cambodia has a deficit of 8.9% on average of GDP and will continue to 11.5% of GDP in 2018, mainly due to trade deficit. The increasing imported raw material for export production is a main factor that creates the trade deficit. In other words, the local demands on some products such as constructions equipment and tools, vehicles and food as well as the increase of crude oil on the international market can also be the main factor that encourages the import growth to increase. The Garment sector in Cambodia still plays a big role in promoting the economic growth because the total export of clothing and footwear accounted for 73% in 2014 and the same in 2018.

The current annual savings rate is around 25% of GDP. During the last five years, the RGC will try to maintain an annual savings rate of 30%. The key is the effort to bring people who have kept their assets in the form of gold, cash or other assets into the banking system as they are not yet using the banking system. In addition, NBC will make efforts to promote easier access to financial services for Cambodians working abroad to remit income to family members who reside in Cambodia.

In relation to the IPoA’s target of 7.0 % per annum, Cambodia achieved annual average growth 7.0% in the period of 2014 and 2018 will growth at 7.5%. GDP per capita has remarkably increased from 253 USD in 1998 to $1,548 in 2018. As the result, poverty rate was reduced from 47.8% in 2007 to 13.5% in 2014, which Cambodia achieving CMDGs poverty reduction target well before the end of 2015, and continue to decline to lower than 10% in 2018 with Gini Coefficient falling from 0.34 in 2009 to 0.28 in 2016, indicating that Cambodia has become one of the most equal countries in Southeast Asia.

**Banking development**

The total assets of banking institutions grew approximately 22.5% annually during 2014-2018, up from 66.3 trillion Riels in 2014 (98.3% of GDP) to 140 trillion Riels (141.5% of GDP) by October 2018. The deposit from customers also grew approximately 24.1% annually during the last 5 years with the increase from 39.7 trillion riels in 2014 (59.1% of GDP) to 86.6 trillion riels (87.5% of GDP) in October 2018. However, the credit to private sectors by banking institutions surged around 22.6% annually during the same period, reaching 78.2 trillion Riels (79.9% of GDP) in October 2018 from 38.01 trillion Riels (56.7% of GDP) in 2014.

The sector has grown rapidly and remarkably in the form of numbers of operators and scale and scope of Cambodia banking operations. In the meantime, the NBC has been continuing to strengthen the onsite and off-site supervision for the banking and financial institutions with great caution and attention such as (i) the analysis, monitoring and assessment of the institution business activities via supervision system, (ii) the periodic off-site surveillance system (iii) the use of CAMELS methodology based on risk base and forward looking to evaluate the soundness and safty of the entire banking system.
Financial and capital condition, asset quality, business performance, liquidity, governance and the enforcement of laws and regulations of the banking and financial institutions have been improved after the National Bank of Cambodia issued new prakas such as: (i) prakas on liquidity risk management framework for banks and other financial institutions (ii) prakas on minimum registered capital of banking and financial institutions, (iii) prakas on capital buffer in banking and financial institutions, (iv) prakas on credit risk grading and impairment provisioning, (v) prakas on auditing of banking and financial institutions. In the meantime, the National Bank of Cambodia has continued cooperating with other supervisory colleges that have established their branches and subsidiaries in Cambodia to strengthen cooperations by sharing information and any systematic risks and concerns in order to jointly solve the possible crisis and to prevent cross border systematic risks.

Moreover, to maintain the public's confidence in banking and financial sector, the National Bank of Cambodia has issued a prakas on auditing companies for banking and financial institutions and has urged the financial and banking institutions to pay more attention to the compliance with the Basel Core Principles the compliance, the preparations of financial statements in accordance with international financial reporting standards (IFRS), the implementation of consumer protection policies; and the compliance with the foreign account tax compliance act (FATCA).

NBC has made a number of important achievements including the establishment of an early warning system and a financial stability unit. NBC has also studied the risk analysis and conducted stress-testing exercises based on the IMF Financial Sector Assessment Program.

NBC is preparing a number of Prakas related to liquidity risk management for the banks and financial institutions and strengthened its role as the final borrower through the implementation of Prakas on liquidity provision for banks and financial institutions to be protected in advance for the systematic risks.

NBC, MEF, and SECC have established a working group to formulate a crisis management mechanism for Cambodia's financial sector.

Those achievements were made since the NBC officially launched the Fast Payment System, aiming at promoting the use of local currency “Riel” and electronic payments more effectively and at modernizing Cambodian payment system. In addition, the NBC launched the Central Shared Switch system to facilitate the inter-bank settlement through debit cards/ATMs and POS in order to increase the efficiency of payment service and to reduce cash circulation in market. Recently, the NBC has been developing the Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) to smooth the large value transaction payments.

**Microfinance sector development**
The Cambodian microfinance sector (MFIs) has continued to grow remarkably and sustainably in the form of scope and scale of operations with profitability, and actively provided the mobile banking and fund transfer services.

The total assets of MFIs had grown in an annual average rate of 33.3% over the period 2014-2018, surged from 9.94 trillion Riel (14.7% of GDP) in 2014 to 25.38 trillion Riels (25.7% of GDP) in September 2018. This sector provided loans to its clients at the annual average growth rate of 34.5% during the same period, reaching 20.62 trillion Riels (20.8% of GDP) in September 2018 from 8.22 trillion Riels (12.2% of GDP) in 2014 and also collected the deposit at the annual average growth rate of 46.7% from 3.62 trillion Riels (5.4% of GDP) in 2014 to 10.33 trillion (10.4% of GDP) in September 2018.

As of mid-2015, all the institutions have completed and submitted reports on the risk assessments of Anti Money Landering (AML) threats and Criminal Financing Terrorissm (CFT).

In 2015, the Steering Committee for Microfinance identified the sector’s challenges and took some policy and problem-solving measures for NBC and microfinance operators to monitor and implement.

**Challenges**

**Banking sector**

Despite banking sector have developed and progressed the banking sector still faces a number of challenges as follows:

- High dollarization has caused the loss of seigniorage and constrains on the wider use of market-based instruments in implementing monetary policy tools as well as reducing the flexibility that the RGC has to act in a crisis, should one occur.
- Cambodia does not have a clear institutional framework and mechanism to ensure the financial stability. The obtaining of a comprehensive, timely and accurate data is limit to monitor efficiently the risks on financial stability.
- The proportion of riels in terms of deposits and circulation is low compared to that of US dollars. Some government transactions remain in US dollars and many sellers, especially in the urban areas, advertise goods for sale in US dollars only.
- The NBC remains committed to risk-based and forward-looking supervision as demonstrated by the recent issuance by NBC of the Prakas on the implementation of Risk-Based and Forward-looking Supervision. In achieving this goal, NBC faces the challenges of inadequate specialization in terms of risk-based and forward-looking supervision, and information technology. Likewise, laws and regulations are required to be regularly monitored in order to catch up with the market progress.

**Microfinance sector**

- Limited public knowledge about the microfinance sector, misunderstanding that microfinance institutions are state-owned or nonprofit organizations, leading to a lack of prudent consideration of interest rate, payment capacity, and the improper use of microfinance services;
- The high interest rate offered by microfinance institutions, a result of the high cost of funding and operations;
• Lack of information technology system and human resources to implement CIFRS; and uncertainty of tax base calculation for provisioning and transferring retained earnings to registered capital.

III. Assessment of progress and challenges in the implementation of the Istanbul Program of Action for LDCs for the Decade 2011-2020

A. Productive Capacity:

Capacity building is the top priority of Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) that focus on strengthening the quality of education, especially, in secondary school and higher education that in line with the goals and targets of the IPoA. In an effort to accelerate and sustain economic growth, diversify the economy and reduce poverty, investments have targeted towards growth sectors of agriculture, energy, science and technology, and infrastructure particularly transport infrastructure. There is also emphasis on enhancing human development in the sectors of water and sanitation, education and health through skills development, improving labour quality productivity, increasing access to quality health and higher and tertiary education. There has been emphasis on creating a dynamic, competitive, stable and predictable environment in which the private sector can make efficient investment decisions as well as attract investment to areas with comparative advantage. Because of the important role investment plays in introducing capital, advanced technology and managerial expertise; increasing government revenue; creating jobs and expanding the trade volume, investment promotion has been made an important component of Cambodia’s agro-industrial policy. With the efforts and participation from the LMs and LAs, the following achievements have been made:

Infrastructure: Infrastructure development remains one of Government’s priority areas as stipulated in the RS Phase III and IV and NSDP 2014-2018 and NSDP 2019-2023. The objective of government is to promote further development of all modes of transport infrastructure as well as urban infrastructure supported with a vibrant, safe and efficient logistics system aimed at contributing to the enhancement of national competitiveness and people’s welfare. Signification progress has been made in rehabilitation and construction of physical infrastructure of national roads network, railways, sports, and main airports for a strategic transportation network connecting all parts of the country and with neighbouring countries.

National road: Up to 2014, the1-Digit National Roads there are 9 lanes, the total length is 2.243,56 km and 2-Digit National Roads there are 46 lanes the total length is 3.378,76 km. The total National Roads is 5.622,32 km with constructed DBST 4.389,12 km (i.e.78.07%) of the total National Roads. For the 3-and-4 Digit Provincial Roads there are 279 lanes the total length is 6.617,58 km with constructed DBST 1.207,16 km. In summary the total length of national and provincial roads is 12.239,9 km with constructed DBST is 5.596,28 km (i.e.45,72%). On the other hand, the main roads and bridges are under rehabilitated and constructed to link from Phnom Penh Municipality to provinces and connected to the main corridors between neighboring countries. The government also:

• Rehabilitated and constructed road infrastructure such as national roads Grade 1, national roads Grade 2, provincial roads, 4-lane national roads, or big bridges.
• Road infrastructure funded by international cooperation financing and to be completed in the fifth mandate (2014-2018).
• Completed the Master Plan for Highway Development and Road Network Planning in the Kingdom of Cambodia.
• The process of highway construction of Phnom Penh - Preah Sihanouk Province, 190 km and completed the feasibility study, finding the highway budget sources Phnom Penh - Bavet and Phnom Penh - Siem Reap.

Railway:
• The south section (Phnom Penh-Preah Sihanouk), already restored and constructed (financed by ADB, Australian Grant Aid, Ofid Organization, Malaysia, and the RGC’s counterparts) is currently transporting cargo and tourist passengers.
• The northern section (Phnom Penh-Poipet), restored and constructed, (national budget), is currently in the process of transporting passengers and connecting railroads of Cambodia-Thailand.
• Built and operated railroads from Phnom Penh's main terminal to Phnom Penh International Airport for passengers.
• Preparing to sign the agreement on border crossings through Cambodia-Thailand railway.
• Studying the feasibility of building an automation train system and the possibility of constructing a tramway in Phnom Penh.
• Completed the Master Plan for Railway Development in the Kingdom of Cambodia, which is a technical assistance from the Republic of Korea.

Waterway and Port:
• Implemented to duty to experiment the construction and public works in compliance with the technical standards to ensure all physical infrastructure have good quality and long-term use.
• Completed a 240m container terminal at 11.5m depth and expanded an additional 160m container terminal.
• Completed the development of a 330 meter, 13.5-meter-deep multi-purpose terminal and a base serving logistics for oil exploration with 200 square meters, a depth of 7.5 meters and restored ship parkings the a depth of 12 meters.
• Registered to sell security in the Cambodia Securities Exchange in 2017, having become a public enterprise in form of a state-owned company that has publicly issued the securities.
• Constructed the new LM17 container terminal, 25km from Phnom Penh, with the capacity to handle 300,000TEUs per year.
• Registered to sell securities in Cambodia Securities Exchange in December 2015.
• Promoted the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle by encouraging people to use buses, trains, bicycles, and walking.
• Developed guidelines on "Road Development", focusing on environmental considerations and increasing capacity to review environmental impact assessment reports in the public works.
• Prepared a guide on Green Infrastructure with the Climate Change Resilience Project.
• Encouraged to use renewable energy such as solar LED, for street lighting
• Promoted all types of public transport in the city i.e. train, buses, passenger boats and AGT building study
• Developed a master plan on logistics, considering green logistics and fuel saving, is collaborating with GIZ on the project on energy efficiency and climate change mitigation in transport.
• Developing a waste water treatment system in the city

Challenges in waterway and Port
• The annual budget investment provided on water resources and meteorology management and development still limited.
• The budget for maintaining the irrigation infrastructure, hydrological and meteorological forecast system still limited.
• Farmer participation in management, construction, usage, and maintenance of the irrigation and drainage system, flood control, and still limited.
• Need for weather resistant technological implementation in the irrigation system plan.
Inter-sectorial Integrated Water Resource Management including the need for river basin strengthening due to the increase of pressure on water resource derived from development such as increase in agricultural sector, urbanization and industrialization and power production.

Air transportation services: Air transportation actively contribution for long and short term effort with the other sectors to enhance economic, trade and tourism created business opportunity and to improve livelihood of the people. There are several key achievements in air transport as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airlines</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flights</td>
<td>60,935</td>
<td>65,622</td>
<td>69,041</td>
<td>84,671</td>
<td>99,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Passengers</td>
<td>5,467,591</td>
<td>6,042,484</td>
<td>6,624,816</td>
<td>8,237,405</td>
<td>10,013,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cargoes</td>
<td>32,849 tons</td>
<td>37,150 tons</td>
<td>46,462 tons</td>
<td>63,949 tons</td>
<td>73,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fly Over</td>
<td>41,160</td>
<td>46,933</td>
<td>55,075</td>
<td>58,737</td>
<td>67,151</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The SSA has modernized the use of satellite routing systems (PBNs) at three international airports, reducing the timeframe and cost of flight through Japanese Government’s capacity-building technical assistance via Japan International Cooperation (JICA). There are 48 airlines operating, including 9 domestic airlines and 39 international airlines. The way forward to sustain and further progress in physical Infrastructures need further improvement and construction.

Energy and electricity network: Cambodia’s objective is further to expand the electricity supply coverage, lower the tariff and strengthen institutional mechanisms and management capacity, lower the tariff and strengthen institutional mechanisms and management capacity. As a result significant progress has been made in increasing the available supply electricity and the expansion of the electricity network. To guide the development of the energy sector the Ministry of Mine and Energy has continued the implementation of Energy Sector Development Plan, 2005-2024. Meanwhile, Rural Electrification Master Plan focusing on the use of renewable energy is also being implemented. Some major improvements are as below:
• The development of electricity generation increased from 1,088 MW in 2013 to 2,650 MW in 2018, of which domestic sources increased from 685 MW to 2,207 MW, making
electricity import decline from 56.3% to 14.55%. By 2018, coal-fired power sources accounted for 35%, hydropower 49% and power imports about 15% and 33 sub-terminals covering 20 capital and provinces.

- Currently, 349 areas across the country are receiving safe and reliable electricity, and only 10 areas haven’t been connected to the national network.
- The RGC has implemented a plan to lower electricity tariffs and electricity tariff gaps supplied by the national network for 2015-2020 and implemented a plan to add housing favors and generate different rates of electricity for day and night
- In technical cooperation with the International Nuclear Energy Agency and Vietnam, focusing on laws and regulations, safety of substances and sources of radiation in health, agriculture, water resources, energy development plans, environment, industry, conservation of cultural heritage and human resource development and the creation of nuclear and radiation regulator structures.

**Major challenges in energy and electricity:**

- Lack of legal documents for the management of water supply sector
- Limited counterpart budget for the development of clean water
- Limited human resources at the national and sub-national level, requiring to establish a training center for clean water technical skills in the future.
- The data provided by the water supply service providers is not accurate
- The capacity for self-management of the public water supply authorities is limited

**Information, Communication and Technology (ICT):** In the area of ICT, Cambodia is striving to improve the legislative environment with a view to extending ICT infrastructure and services to the largely un-served, peri-urban and rural areas.

Cambodia’s strategic objective is to promote the development of modern and high quality information and communication technology by strengthening the regularly framework, building institutional capacity, modernizing technical equipment base, fostering competition, strengthening the efficient use of IT system and e-Government, and building and enhancing the efficiency of the back born infrastructure of the information and communication technology sector. Cambodia’s Information and communication technology sector includes postal services, telephones and communications, and mass media.

**Postal services:** As of the end of 2018, the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication granted licenses for international fast delivery services to 34 companies (2013 only 21 companies) to improve customer access to services as well as to the implementation of post sector open policy. Obviously, based on the results of the Cambodia Autonomous Post Enterprise, the postage use rate reached 0.0903%, below the target of 0.12% in 1 person per year. Domestic and international post service absorbs about 95% of the nationwide service.

**Indicator on user rate**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rate of service user (1peron/year)</td>
<td>0.0926</td>
<td>0.0903</td>
<td>0.1007</td>
<td>0.0915</td>
<td>0.0903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rate of service per square km per office</td>
<td>3,352</td>
<td>3,352</td>
<td>3,352</td>
<td>3,352.5</td>
<td>3,352.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Telecommunication sector

The rate of fixed and mobile phone users have not yet reached the target. As of the end of 2018, the number of mobile subscribers has reached 19,315,892, equal to 118.90 in 100 people, of which 11,559,300 have been connected to mobile internet, equal to 71.15 per 100 people and fixed phone numbers are 131,582, equal to 0.81 per 100 people, of which on 171,953 have been connected to fixed internet, equal to 1.06 per 100 people, are relatively low. Fast speed connections or broadband connections are at the lowest level of 150,730 networks, equal to 0.938 networks per 100 people, and slow speed or neroband have only 2,618 networks, equal to 0.016 networks per 100 people across the country, compared with the ASEAN countries and the world.

Up to the first semester of 2018, the development and investment of fiber optic infrastructure has a total length of 43,410 kilometers. These backbone structures are connected to Vietnam, Lao PDR and Thailand. It also launched an international fiber-optic network via an optical cable below the seabed. In addition to improving service quality, the ministry has urged mobile companies to expand their network to rural areas by installing phone antennas and microwave with 11,091 poles.

Data on telecommunication service uses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Total number of phones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Fixed phones</td>
<td>20,451,982</td>
<td>20,850,543</td>
<td>19,915,503</td>
<td>18,572,973</td>
<td>19,315,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Mobile phones</td>
<td>361,056</td>
<td>265,387</td>
<td>227,261</td>
<td>132,911</td>
<td>131,582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Total internet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Fixed internet</td>
<td>4,957,449</td>
<td>6,710,624</td>
<td>8,000,834</td>
<td>10,703,056</td>
<td>11,559,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Mobile internet</td>
<td>68,496</td>
<td>85,384</td>
<td>98,298</td>
<td>138,672</td>
<td>171,953</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MPTC

Rate of phone and internet user

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rate of total phone user</td>
<td>per 100 persons</td>
<td>134.69</td>
<td>135.35</td>
<td>127.45</td>
<td>117.19</td>
<td>118.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Fixed phones</td>
<td>per 100 persons</td>
<td>2.38</td>
<td>1.66</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>0.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Mobile phones</td>
<td>per 100 persons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rate of total internet user</td>
<td>per 100 persons</td>
<td>32.65</td>
<td>43.56</td>
<td>51.20</td>
<td>67.53</td>
<td>71.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Fixed internet</td>
<td>per 100 persons</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.63</td>
<td>0.87</td>
<td>1.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Mobile internet</td>
<td>per 100 persons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MPTC

Information Communication and Technology

- Integrated the former National Authority for Information Communication and Technology Development (NiDA) to the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication.
Mainstreamed awareness and promoting the use of ICT for the development of rural communities, especially for vulnerable people such as disabled persons, women, children, elderly, etc.

Prepared the Best Women’s Award in technology in 3 topics: (1) Best Women Entrepreneurs in Technology, (2) Female Engineers Success in ICT Skill, (3) Women Participating in Promoting Use of Technologies for social or community development.

Cooperated with relevant ministries, agencies and units in formulating the Policy on Development of ICT 2020

Cooperated with relevant ministries, institutions, units and Korea International Cooperation Agency, preparing Master Plan of ICT 2020

Building capacity in posts, telecommunication and ICT:

- Provided Bachelor Degree in Post, Telecommunication, ICT, and civil servants from 24 provinces/cities and 25 ministries and agencies.
- Mainstreamed awareness and promoting the use of ICT for the development of rural communities, especially for vulnerable people such as disabled persons, women, children, elderly, and ethnic people through volunteers, students and local authorities.

Challenges

- Lack of common technical framework and ICT mechanism
- The software quality of the software is limited and duplicated

Resource mobilization and coordination for promoting science and technology remain a challenge.

Mass media:

About 88% of population can access information, educational programs and entertainment programs, broadcasted on radio and television and social media.

### Access to public information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Number of population listening to radio, watching TVs</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Magazines, leaflets, and newspapers</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Information

Science, technology and innovation

The National Council for Science and Technology was established and the General Secretariat of the National Council for Science and Technology stationed at the Ministry of Planning in 2015 to support the transformation into a more diversified economy through the promotion of science and technology innovations at ministries, agencies and the private sector. In the initial stage, the Secretariat prepared a National Master Plan on Science and Technology for orientation of this work into the NSDP. The achievements are:
• Disseminated the National Master Plan on Science and Technology 2014-2020.
• Developed a legal framework for the foundation of the development of science and technology.
• Approved the figures for the two indicators for the purpose of Goal 9 of the Cambodia’s Sustainable Development Goals.
• Developed a database of research and development for 2015, to formulate policies, plans and decisions for the development of science and technology to sustain the growth of socio-economic development.
• Developed a National Classification of Science and Technology 2017 to agree in documentation and preparation of indicators for monitoring and evaluation, management, policy formulation and implementation planning.

Challenges

• Not full implementation of (1) determination of Technology as the National Priority 6 for 2017-2020, (2) increasing public investment in R&D by establishing National Research and Development Fund and (3) prioritization in receiving assistance and international cooperation.
• Not full implementation of the agreement with the Briefing Paper and Recommendations of the 3rd meeting of National Council for Science and Technology in 2018.
• The main challenge is the lack of understanding leading to the disagreement for implementation at the technical level.

Private sector development: From 2014, the Royal Government of Cambodia has launched a deep reform agenda to improve the business and investment environment, in particular to accelerate the provision of business services and further open market negotiations for Cambodian goods. Through this in-depth reform, the Ministry of Commerce has achieved remarkable progress as follows:

Reform

• Enhanced the delegation of public services to sub-national level in accordance with Sub-Decree “Sub-National Democratic Reform Policies”;
• Delegated to the Capital City, Provincial, Municipal, District and Khan administrations: 1) Authorization role, 2) Permission to issue Certificate of Origin (C/O) Form D on agricultural products at the Provincial Departments of Commerce located along the border and Special Economic Zones, 3) Price tag on goods, 4) Do listing of goods price and 5) Business of precious metals as of all kinds of jewelry;
• Has been developing human resources and structure, financial management, decentralization, services on export-import and related trade promotion services in order to ensure speedy and efficient work for the public and the necessary needs in line with the development context in the region, greater subregion and the world;

Business service provision

• Business Registration: (1) Has been implementing business registration through automation system, (2) issued Prakas on management and issuing permission for Businesses, recognizing legal representative for business registration transaction, and creating management and evaluation legal representative committee;

• Intellectual Property Rights: (1) Registered as a member of international trademark, the Lisbon Agreement on name of Origin of Goods and Geographical Indication, and
International Geographical Indication Network Organization, (2) issued statements on exclusive goods, trademark protection, international trademark registration, protection of geographical indication goods, online trademark registration, draft Prakas on establishment of council of complaints and procedures for dispute resolution, and listing of licenses and franchises;

- **Export-Import:** (1) Has been issuing certificate of origin, export-import licenses and export-import of unprocessed gemstones, (2) cooperated to connect the automation system of certificate of origin (C/O Form D) into the ASYCUDA system of national single system platform, and is trying to connect with the ASEAN member states in order to reach the real implementation, and (3) has been registering ask for export permits under generalized system preferential of trade;

**Business promotion**

- Has been promoting agricultural and agro-industry products, promoting the uses of Khmer products in place of imported products and lead to export to international market;
- Has been campaigning to purchase Khmer products throughout the country by organizing in several cities and provinces in Cambodia, and participating in annual international exhibitions in the bilateral, regional and global framework;
- Approved by the Royal Government on the sub-decree on organizing and functioning of the Halal Products Control Committee of Cambodia, and has developed a policy of developing a pepper product, Cambodian agro-business development policy, and contributing to establishment of industrial development policy 2015-2025 and the development of business and investment environment;
- Has been maintaining and expanding the strategic inventory of reserved foods for victim intervention and market research;
- Trade facilitating on Cambodian agro-products for faster exports with reduced cost;
- Has been promoting the development of private sector institutions through the establishment of chambers of commerce, business associations throughout the country;
- Has been promoting for the price tag in national currency in businesses nationwide to ensure price transparency and protect consumer interests;
- Has been creating legal documents and trade-related laws to ensure accuration and effectiveness in carrying out business operations;
- Has been developing the ability to publish statistical information and business information through business newsletter, and information technology.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Import</td>
<td>RIELS-BIL</td>
<td>76,818</td>
<td>43,316</td>
<td>50,175</td>
<td>51,870</td>
<td>52,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>USD-MIL</td>
<td>19,024</td>
<td>10,669</td>
<td>12,371</td>
<td>12,824</td>
<td>12,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Export</td>
<td>RIELS-BIL</td>
<td>43,140</td>
<td>34,682</td>
<td>40,855</td>
<td>38,980</td>
<td>39,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>USD-MIL</td>
<td>10,683</td>
<td>8,542</td>
<td>10,073</td>
<td>9,637</td>
<td>9,687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Export of Clothes</td>
<td>RIELS-BIL</td>
<td>21,576</td>
<td>23,147</td>
<td>26,879</td>
<td>22,831</td>
<td>26,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Indicator</td>
<td>Unit</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>------------</td>
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<td>------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Usd-mil</td>
<td>5,343</td>
<td>5,701</td>
<td>6,627</td>
<td>5,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Business Registration</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>- Company</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>3,850</td>
<td>4,417</td>
<td>3,161</td>
<td>5,781</td>
<td>11,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>- Sole Proprietorship</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>874</td>
<td>1,430</td>
<td>853</td>
<td>1,488</td>
<td>3,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>- Domestic Branch</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>- Foreign Company (Representative Office and Branch of Foreign Company)</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Trademark Registration</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>4,557</td>
<td>4,157</td>
<td>4,326</td>
<td>3,847</td>
<td>3,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Number of factory registered for Generalised System of Preferential (GSP)</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>1,077</td>
<td>1,182</td>
<td>1,271</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>1,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Number of workers (male-female) working in factory registered for GSP</td>
<td>Person</td>
<td>793,745</td>
<td>871,668</td>
<td>884,489</td>
<td>963,330</td>
<td>988,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Total Salary</td>
<td>USD-Mil</td>
<td>1,192</td>
<td>1,412</td>
<td>1,766</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>2,194</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Challenges
- The process of using automation system of business registration, trademark registration and issuing certificate of origin have not been smooth yet. Public service users in the trade sector have not yet fully utilized the automation system;
- Possibilities of performance and awareness to the public, especially business people, on the status and context of regional and global trade activities are limited.

B. Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development:

**Agriculture sector**: Agriculture sector is a key foundation for growth of the economy and rural economy, equity and food security. The agriculture sector set in RS of the RG (Angle 1 of Rectangle 4 of RS-IV "Promotion of Agriculture Sector and Rural Development").

**Improve agricultural productivity and diversification**: The Ministry has recently introduced the Policy on Agricultural Extention in Cambodia to ensure that farmers and their communities are able to acquire a better agricultural knowledge/skill and technology. In addition, after the RGC introduced the Policy on the Promotion of Rice Production and Milled Rice Export, there is an increase in number of milled rice export to international market approximately 67% in the period of 5 years from 2014 to 2018 and the milled rice, Pka Romduol, was recognized as the highest rice quality in the world.

The transformation of extensive development into intensive development has become one of the major prior policy agendas. The expansion and strengthen of the support services including research and dissemination modern technology in all sub-sectors based on the potential on geographical zone, the distribution of seed, fertilizers, agricultural materials, and the provision
of rural credit, have been taken into serious consideration and set as priority by the government in order to elevate agricultural productivity in the respond to the market demand focusing quantity, quality, safety and international standard

**Land reform:** Land registration has risen from 15% in 2000 to 28% in 2011 and achieved 58% in 2015 meeting CMDG targets ahead of time. Currently, the number of land titling is recorded at roughly 4,052,805. Until the end of 2018, the result achieved 73.25% of the total 7 million land titles, exceeding the 3.25% plan, including real estate registration of indigenous communities, achieving 24 communities equivalent to 684 titles. Solved 8,353 complaints of land disputes, 8,352 cases were settled, 3,967 cases were completed with 21,002 families on 6,320 hectares. Launched a QR Code editor on a new model of real estate ownership and downloadable information on smartphones. Establishment of Geodetic Benchmarks have as follows: 7 of the Zero Order points, 155 of the First Order points, 496 of the Second Order points, 1383 of the Third Order points and 835 Levelling Benchmarks. Produced an Otophoto map to support the real estate registraion, achieving 13,004 pieces

From the implementation until 2018, all social land concession programs have provided land to a total of 78,545 families (140,765.47 hectares) and constructed 6,699 houses for the people and decided to give a total of over 1.2 million hectares of land (710,000 land plots) to approximately 400,000 families through the implementation of old policies, new activities in the land sector.

**Mine actions**, having five pillars, i.e. education about mine and ERW, mine and ERW clearance, victim assistance, supporting the fighting with the use of mines against humans, and destruction of the warehouse of mines against humans have made a remarkable progress.

**Indicators of Mine Action Sector 2014-2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Indicators</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of casualties caused by landmines and ERW (killed and injured)</td>
<td>Person (target)</td>
<td>151*</td>
<td>136*</td>
<td>122*</td>
<td>110*</td>
<td>99*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Person (achieved)</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>30*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of casualties caused by mine and ERW tampering (killed and injured)</td>
<td>Person (target)</td>
<td>99*</td>
<td>86*</td>
<td>73*</td>
<td>60*</td>
<td>48*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Person (achieved)</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>28*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landmine and ERW contaminated land cleared/released (based on information from the Baseline Survey)</td>
<td>Ha (target)</td>
<td>8,708*</td>
<td>9,143*</td>
<td>9,600*</td>
<td>10,08140*</td>
<td>11,113*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ha (achieved)</td>
<td>18,417</td>
<td>18,530</td>
<td>13,228</td>
<td>14,672</td>
<td>3,852*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** (*) The estimate and ERW

**Challenges**
• Land size suspected to remain contaminated by Mine/ERW until the end of 2018: 1,729 square kilometers

• Donors funding to mine actions in Cambodia has decreased since Cambodia becomes the lower middle-income country and the need for the RGC to provide funding for humanitarian mine action.

**Fishing reforms:** Fish has been considered as an essential daily food source for Cambodian because it is an important protein source which account for 81% of total protein source of Cambodian food consumption. Fishery sub sector has also contributed to the creation of employment for about 6 million Cambodian to increase their income contributing to poverty alleviation and national economic development.

So far, the MAFF has achieved the following:

**Fisheries community development:** by 2018 Fisheries Administration has coordinated to create totally 516 fishery communities (CFI) in provinces. These communities consist of totally 147,518 families, equal to 332,168 members and they comprise of 475 of fresh water fisheries communities and 41 of marine fisheries communities. Within the present territories of fisheries communities, there are 496 conservation areas being created in which 4,988 pillars and 242 banners were set up to determine their conservation areas for protection and management purposes.

**Fisheries Conservation:** Conservation has been seriously taken into account to sustainably maintain fishing yields. After the abolition of commerical fishing areas in 2012, the new 50 conservation areas have been established with the size of 97.58 hectares. There are totally 644 conservation areas including the areas of fisheries communities, the endangered fish species preservation zones, marine protection areas. Since 2013, there have been 161 of 8 meter pillars, 72 of 12 meter pillars, 25 floating patrolling stations, 8 concrete stations, 4 main stations (ferries).

**Illegal Fishing Crackdown:** Fisheries Administration has implemented in all aspects fully complying with fisheries law and relevant legal documents particularly the Government’s regulation no 01 and has achieved magnificent results to sustainably retain fish resources and food security for communities. The above achievement has been made thanks to the strong collaboration between local authorities at all level, relevant authorities, and local communities. As results, there is a decline in the number of illegal fishing from 3,686 in 2014 to 2,650 in 2018.

**Aquaculture Development:** The RGC’s main policies in retaining food security and reduce the pressure on fisheries resources in natural water territory, aquaculture development have carried out in every aspects and places and the fish habitats in fisheries communities has also been established to enable the increase in aquaculture yield by 20% annually. The major aquaculture development consists of fish or prawn farming which has a double increase in yields to 250,206 tons in 2018 from 120,005 tons in 2014. Crocodile farming has doubly rised from 215 thousand heads in 2014 to 420 thousand heads in 2018 and The implementation of fish fingerling hatching activities has rised from 120 million heads in 2014 to 215 million head in 2018.

**Forestry Reform:** The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery (MAFF) has focused mainly on the implementation of forest sub-sector reform. Over the last five years, the MAFF has focused on the implementation of many activities such as forestry laws implementation enforcement, community forestry accomplishment and capacity building, the strict implementation of forestry crime crackdown and control, the nursery at the broadcasting
stations, the reforestation of the forest restoration area and the various locations which meet the RGC’s strategic goals in reforming the forestry sector.

### Achievements on key forestry-related outputs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reforestation (ha)</td>
<td>17,932</td>
<td>5,893</td>
<td>53,992</td>
<td>251,084</td>
<td>26,799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber export (m³)</td>
<td>39,743</td>
<td>75,292</td>
<td>21,655</td>
<td>15,868</td>
<td>9,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber import (m³)</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>1,574</td>
<td>1,429</td>
<td>5,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Crime Crackdown (Case)</td>
<td>1,523</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>2,189</td>
<td>1,490</td>
<td>1,428</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MAFF

### Food Security:

In Cambodia, one in three children under five are stunted, one in four are underweight and one in ten children are wasted.1 Recent calculations of the economic burden estimate that malnutrition costs the country nearly $400 million in GDP annually. The RGC of Cambodia (RGC), including CARD, has made a commitment to address food security and nutrition (FSN) and to eliminate food insecurity and hunger. Guided by the highest levels of RGC and with support from development partners, such commitment called for evidence-based, cross-sectoral approaches and solutions that also require robust coordination at both national and sub-national level.

2.157 In line with its mandate, CARD led development of the planning framework and coordination mechanisms for FSN. In addressing food security, there has been marked improvement in food availability; improvement of water supplies and sanitation has exceeded planning targets and continues strongly; health services, regulation and education are improving to plan; and there has been improved coordination of responses to shocks. The contributions of the development partners alongside the work of the concerned government ministries and departments, have been critical in maintaining the pace of these improvements and sustaining then over time.

2.158 The core achievements of CARD for cross-sectoral coordination of relevant line ministries and partners include:

- **The NSFSN 2014-2018** has provided strategic guidance for both sectoral and cross sectoral actions supporting FSN.
- **Awareness raising of the important of nutrition via establishment of the** National Nutrition Day on 6 November every year and the National Workshops on Nutrition.
- **Training** is an important role for CARD and the FSN Trainer Pool has continued to serve a vital role in the delivery of training and in the facilitation of cross-sectoral coordination, whilst at the same time committing to ongoing professional development.
- **Disaster preparedness** has improved through coordination of Humanitarian Respond Forum (HRF) and NCDM and annual conduct of CamRex, with extension to some sub-national exercises.
- **Information systems and research** to provide an evidence base for decision-making for FSN has been very productive, with numerous studies conducted by or disseminated by CARD and partners.
- **Advocacy** for additional public funding for FSN, including for MoH and MoP for nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions, for the treatment of acute malnutrition and salt iodization, ironic fish and soy sauce and rice micronutrient fortification.

### Challenges

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The main challenges now facing FSN in Cambodia include:

- The effective operation of FSN information systems is a major constraint for planning, coordination and decision making.
- Dealing with a rapidly changing landscape for development on many fronts, including socio-economic trends, institutions, infrastructure, climate change and the condition of natural resources.
- There are ongoing challenges for ensuring food safety, water quality, curbing open defecation and improving sanitation around farm homesteads.
- Access remains an issue for FSN, as does dietary diversity for pregnant women and children under five.
- The adoption of good feeding practices for small children under two years is also challenging due to social and cultural influences, including irresponsible marketing of breast milk substitutes.
- Enforcement of the regulations for breastmilk substitutes and food fortification is a continuing battle. Fortification efforts face many challenges including the institutional arrangements, food standards, quality assurance and enforcement of legislation.
- Maintaining sectoral commitments for FSN and meeting cross sectoral challenges requires increased public funding for the future and creative means are required for securing private sector investments to support FSN.
- Overweight and obesity issues are a growing concern, especially for women of reproductive age.

There is an ongoing need for the promotion of more diversified agricultural production system and for the evolution of nutrition-sensitive food systems. The protection of the natural resource base (especially water and soil) is a critical challenge for agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

Rural development:

Rural development is a major crosscutting sector covering rural infrastructure, primary health care, agriculture, rural water supply and sanitation, and rural credit since poverty rate is high among the poor living in rural areas. Cambodia has adopted a multi-pronged approach to foster rural development and empower local communities to plan and manage development. Decentralization of public services and provision rural credit households and small businesses are two of examples of Cambodia's efforts.

Rural development is a priority sector among the other priority sectors of Cambodia under the Public Finance Management Reform Program (PFMRP) for budget allocation and timely disbursements.

Institutional and human resource capacity development have been progressing through the development of policy and regulatory framework under the following regulations: i) Policy 1: Ensure that the standards of living in rural areas are promoted and that the rural-urban gap narrows, nearing equality by 2025; ii) Policy 2: Promote rural economic growth through integrated rural development with participation from both national and international communities.

Major achievements in rural development include:

The rural infrastructure development has achieved the following:

Indicators measuring progress 2014-2018
Cambodia: National Report of IPoA for LDCs 2011-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rehabilitation and construction of rural roads – out of total 40,000 km</td>
<td>28,600</td>
<td>28,030</td>
<td>29,450</td>
<td>28,284.5</td>
<td>30,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rural road covered with double bituminous surface treatment (DBST) or concrete</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>20.58</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>69.23</td>
<td>1,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Periodic maintenance</td>
<td>2,900</td>
<td>818.65</td>
<td>2,900</td>
<td>820.66</td>
<td>2,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Inventory of roads, rural road maps and instalment of traffic signs</td>
<td>40,692.8</td>
<td>33,962.1</td>
<td>40,692.8</td>
<td>48,296.3</td>
<td>40,692.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Clean water supply development**

The implementation of clean water supply has achieved the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Planned/Achieved</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of rural population access to improved drinking water</td>
<td>planned (%)</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>achieved (%)</td>
<td>46.6</td>
<td>50.3</td>
<td>53.9</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Rural sanitation**

Rural sanitation has achieved the following results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>% of rural population access to sustainable improved sanitation</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>53.7</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Challenges**

Climate change affects the sustainability of rural infrastructure projects, and the migration of rural people has led to a shortage of labor force in rural areas. Increase in the overloaded vehicles and the over speed limit driving make rural roads vulnerable to damage and traffic accidents, and there is no participation in the maintenance of rural roads from the community level and road users. There is limited awareness of rural sanitation and participation in maintenance of community water wells and ponds.

**C. Trade:**

From 2014, the Royal Government of Cambodia has launched a deep reform agenda to improve the business and investment environment, in particular to accelerate the provision of business services and further open market negotiations for Cambodian goods. Through this in-depth reform, the Ministry of Commerce has achieved remarkable progress as follows:

Reform
- Enhanced the delegation of public services to sub-national level in accordance with Sub-Decree “Sub-National Democratic Reform Policies”;
- Delegated to the Capital City, Provincial, Municipal, District and Khan administrations: 1) Authorization role, 2) Permission to issue Certificate of Origin (C/O) Form D on agricultural products at the Provincial Departments of Commerce located along the border and Special Economic Zones, 3) Price tag on goods, 4) Do listing of goods price and 5) Business of precious metals as of all kinds of jewelry;
- Has been developing human resources and structure, financial management, decentralization, services on export-import and related trade promotion services in order to ensure speedy and efficient work for the public and the necessary needs in line with the development context in the region, greater subregion and the world;

**Business service provision**

- **Business Registration:** (1) Has been implementing business registration through automation system, (2) issued Prakas on management and issuing permission for Businesses, recognizing legal representative for business registration transaction, and creating management and evaluation legal representative committee;
- **Intellectual Property Rights:** (1) Registered as a member of international trademark, the Lisbon Agreement on name of Origin of Goods and Geographical Indication, and International Geographical Indication Network Organization, (2) issued statements on exclusive goods, trademark protection, international trademark registration, protection of geographical indication goods, online trademark registration, draft Prakas on establishment of council of complaints and procedures for dispute resolution, and listing of licenses and franchises;
- **Export-Import:** (1) Has been issuing certificate of origin, export-import licenses and export-import of unprocessed gemstones, (2) cooperated to connect the automation system of certificate of origin (C/O Form D) into the ASYCUDA system of national single system platform, and is trying to connect with the ASEAN member states in order to reach the real implementation, and 3) has been registering ask for export permits under generalized system preferential of trade;

**Business promotion**

- Has been promoting agricultural and agro-industry products, promoting the uses of Khmer products in place of imported products and lead to export to international market;
- Has been campaigning to purchase Khmer products throughout the country by organizing in several cities and provinces in Cambodia, and participating in annual international exhibitions in the bilateral, regional and global framework;
- Approved by the Royal Government on the sub-decree on organizing and functioning of the Halal Products Control Committee of Cambodia, and has developed a policy of developing a pepper product, Cambodian agro-business development policy, and contributing to establishment of industrial development policy 2015-2025 and the development of business and investment environment;
- Has been maintaining and expanding the strategic inventory of reserved foods for victim intervention and market research;
- Trade facilitating on Cambodian agro-products for faster exports with reduced cost;
• Has been promoting the development of private sector institutions through the establishment of chambers of commerce, business associations throughout the country;
• Has been promoting for the price tag in national currency in businesses nationwide to ensure price transparency and protect consumer interests;
• Has been creating legal documents and trade-related laws to ensure accuracy and effectiveness in carrying out business operations;
• Has been developing the ability to publish statistical information and business information through business newsletter, and information technology.

Integration of regional and global trade

• As a member of ASEAN, Cambodia has made a significant contribution to achieving regional economic integration in the framework of the “ASEAN Economic Community” which has four main characteristics: (1) one market and production base, (2) a highly competitive special economic zone (3) a region with equitable economic development and (4) a region with a complete integration into the global economy. In particular, in order to contribute to boosting economic integration to the "single market", in general, Cambodia has worked closely with other member countries to implement four basic principles: (1) removal of customs clearance and non-tariff barriers for special goods and services, (2) removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers for all goods and services; (3) the Joint Policy on Customs for External Imports and (4) the free flow of labor and capital, in particular, Cambodia has been working to improve its One Window Service to be able to integrate into an ASEAN single window in order to ensure trade facilitation for the "ASEAN Economic Community". However, both Cambodia and other ASEAN members need to do more work within the framework of the "ASEAN Economic Community";
• Opened 5 Cambodia Business Centers in the People's Republic of China (Beijing, Shanghai, Haiyan, Guangzhou, and Xi'an);
• Opened the Permanent Mission of Cambodia to the World Trade Organization, Geneva, Switzerland;
• Concluded negotiations with the Vietnamese side in the signing of Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Commerce of Cambodia and the Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade on the construction of the Cambodian Border Market (Psar Da) in Memot, Tbong Khmum and trade facilitation between the two ministries;
• Strengthen trading partners and find overseas markets to attract foreign investors and businesses in Cambodia
• Cooperated with Center of ASEAN – Japan, ASEAN-China, ASEAN - Korea, ASEAN - Indonesia, ASEAN – USA, ASEAN - Russia, ASEAN - Hong Kong in order to strengthen trade and investment partnership, and to promote of Cambodian Products in Foreign Markets;
• As of the end of 2015, ASEAN has become the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and has made progress on ASEAN tariff liberalization, trade facilitation through the issuance of Self Certificate of origin (SC) in ASEAN, issuance of certificate (Form D) through electronic, ASEAN Trade Repository (ATR) ASEAN Solutions for Investment, Services and Trade (ASSIST), ASEAN Single Window (ASW), Standards, and Compliance. Achieved the One ASEAN Declaration, Vientiane Declaration on Approval of Workplan for Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), Vientiane Declaration on ASEAN Connectivity in 2025 and is still
negotiating on bilateral and regional integration, and has also been actively negotiating the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership framework (RCEP), which has 16 partner countries, whose members have vowed to end this agreement by 2019;

- Has been cooperating with Europe, Middle-East, Africa, Timor-Leste and other countries in the America to expand markets for the Cambodian products;
- Prepared a 2nd Trade Policy Review (TPR), which was submitted to the WTO in late 2017
- Implemented the Trade Development Support Program (TDSP), which contributed to development policies and deepening trade reforms focusing on trade facilitation reforms, boosting foreign direct investment (FDI) and increasing revenue from customs payment;
- Implemented the 1st step of Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF Tier 1) and Cambodia Export Diversification and Expansion Programme 1 (CEDEP 1), which has made it possible to manage and implement trade support program, develop Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS), mainstream trade sector, prepare policies as well as strategies on trade, enhance recognition of quality rice production, promote the participation of women in the trade sector, and promote silk products and create jobs in this sector;
- Has been implementing the Cambodia Trade Integration Strategy Update (CTISU) and the Trade SWAp Road Map 2019 – 2023;
- Has been implementing the Accelerating Inclusive Markets for Smallholders (AIMS): The project covers 17 provinces and five types of products: fragrant rice, vegetables, chicken, cassava, and silk
- Inspection of export-import of goods at border gate, airport, dry port, river-sea port, special economic zone, warehousing, include the monitoring and inspection of domestic market in order to prevent import-export and trafficking of goods which is not accordance with technical regulations;
- Cooperating in the bilateral, multilateral framework on strengthening the quality and safety of products and trade policies in goal at promoting and protect the reputation of Cambodian products in international markets.

### Key indicators in trade sector 2014-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Import</td>
<td>Riels-bil</td>
<td>76,818</td>
<td>43,316</td>
<td>50,175</td>
<td>51,870</td>
<td>52,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Usd-mil</td>
<td>19,024</td>
<td>10,669</td>
<td>12,371</td>
<td>12,824</td>
<td>12,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Export</td>
<td>Riels-bil</td>
<td>43,140</td>
<td>34,682</td>
<td>40,855</td>
<td>38,980</td>
<td>39,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Usd-mil</td>
<td>10,683</td>
<td>8,542</td>
<td>10,073</td>
<td>9,637</td>
<td>9,687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Export of Clothes</td>
<td>Riels-bil</td>
<td>21,576</td>
<td>23,147</td>
<td>26,879</td>
<td>22,831</td>
<td>26,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Usd-mil</td>
<td>5,343</td>
<td>5,701</td>
<td>6,627</td>
<td>5,642</td>
<td>6,474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Business Registration</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>- Company</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,850</td>
<td>4,417</td>
<td>3,161</td>
<td>5,781</td>
<td>11,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>- Sole Proprietorship</td>
<td></td>
<td>874</td>
<td>1,430</td>
<td>853</td>
<td>1,488</td>
<td>3,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>- Domestic Branch</td>
<td></td>
<td>505</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Cambodia: National Report of IPoA for LDCs 2011-2020

### Challenges
- The process of using automation system of business registration, trademark registration and issuing certificate of origin have not been smooth yet. Public service users in the trade sector have not yet fully utilized the automation system;
- Possibilities of performance and awareness to the public, especially business people, on the status and context of regional and global trade activities are limited.

### D. Commodities:

Rice crop was cultivated on over 3.05 million hectare land in 2014 and increase to 3.34 million hectares in 2018 (2.74 million hectares of rainy season paddy and 0.59 million hectares of dry season paddy). Paddy was harvested from 3.25 million hectares (2.65 million hectares of rainy season paddy and 0.59 million hectares of dry season paddy).

Average paddy yield, both dry season and rainy season paddy, increased from 3.079 tons/hectare in 2014 to 3.353 tons/hectare in 2018. The yield of rainy season paddy was approximately 3.094 tons/hectare, and the yield of dry season paddy was 4.512 tons/hectare. The rice yield increased from 9.32 tons in 2014 to 10.89 tons in 2018 (rainy season price production about 8.212 million tons and dry season rice production about 2.678 million tons. In 2018, rice surplus was 5.836 tons, equal to 3.735 million tons of milled rice.

### Rice Production 2014-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rice Production</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultivated land (million hectare)</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>3.12</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>3.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvested land (million hectare)</td>
<td>3.03</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yield (tons)</td>
<td>9.32</td>
<td>9.33</td>
<td>9.95</td>
<td>10.52</td>
<td>10.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average yield (tons/hectare)</td>
<td>3.07</td>
<td>3.08</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>3.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MAFF

Subsidiary and Industrial Crop Production
The land size for subsidiary and industrial crops has increased from 953,597 hectare in 2014 to approximately 1,091 million hectare in 2018 (an average increase of approximately 3.03% during the last five years and 3.42% compared to 2017). The amount of subsidiary and short-term industrial crops production has increased from 14.7 million tons in 2014 to approximately 16.6 million tons in 2018 (an average increase of 10.52% during the last five years and 1.41% compared to the previous year).

**Agricultural Product Export (Commercialization)**

Export of agriculture products has a positive trend and rapidly increased during the last five years increasing from 3,445,132 tons in 2014 to 4,233,532 tons in 2018. Export growth has increased to 22.8% compared to 2014, but slight decrease in 2018 compared to 2017. The main agricultural exports were 626,225 tons of milled rice, cassava products (cassava slice, fresh cassava, cassava powder), totaling more than 2.6 million tonnes, 101,973 tons of cashew, 204,184 tons of red corn, 102,457 tons of fresh mangoes, and 32,821 tons of bananas. Rice exports have increased annually over the last five years. Specifically, the rice export in 2018 was 626,225 tons, increased 61.7% compared to 2014 (387,061 tons), but slightly decreased by 1.5% compared to 2017 (635,267 tons). In 2018, there was 78.82% fragrant rice, 16.93% long grain white rice, and 4.25% long grain rice to 61 countries and 87 exporters.

**Agriculture Cooperatives**

The establishment and registration of the agricultural cooperatives from 2005 to 2018, there are a total of 1,166 farming communities with a total of 130,59 members (80,439 women, or 62%) with shareholder value of 37,297 million riels and total capital of 69,077 million riels. In addition to the agricultural cooperatives, the Ministry has also promoted and registered eight agricultural communities nationwide, with 97 members of the agricultural cooperatives and a total capital of over 413 million riels.

**Research and Development of Agriculture in Cambodia**

During the last five years, the Cambodian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) has conducted an average of 90 experiments in 536 sites and 9 surveys of 3,755 farmers, as well as other research activities have been achieved

**Rubber Development**

The total area of rubber in Cambodia increased from 357.8 thousand ha in 2014 to 436.7 thousand ha in 2018 (an increase of 32.7%), in which the agro-industry rubber land (the land of the former rubber plantations, the state rubber area, the Cambodian Rubber Research Institute, and the Economic Land Concession Company) accounted for 64.22% and the family rubber accounted for 35.78%. Family rubber area increased from 140.35 thousand hectares in 2014 to 161,103 thousand ha in 2018 (an increase of about 13% between 2014 and 2018). The agro-industry rubber land has also seen significant growth, rising from 217,463 thousand hectares in 2014 to 275,579 thousand ha in 2018 (up 21% from 2014 to 2018).

**Rubber production 2014-2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rubber production</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Over the past five years, rubber product has a double increase in its quantity from 100 thousand tons, equal 154,132,389 USD in 2014 to 217 thousand tons, equal 286,944,529 USD in 2018.

**E. Human and social development:**

Cambodia considers human resources development as key to socio-economic, political and cultural development and recognizes the importance of quality human capital. However, the low quality of human capital remains a concern and is perpetuated by scarcity of manpower and limited access to education, health and other social.

The Education Strategic Plan 2014-2018 highlights the important work phases of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MOEYS) in the implementation of the Education, Youth and Sports reforms in Cambodia in line with the RGC’s reforms of during the fifth mandate.

Additionally, the existing supply of skills does not adequately meet the demand in the labour market. In addressing these challenges, there has been increased investment in the areas of education, health, youth development, water and sanitation, gender and social protection sectors.

**Education and training:** Cambodia has achieved impressive literacy rates for children between ages 15 years and over recorded at 82.5% in 2018. Gender disparities or differentiation gaps between girls and boys are almost non-existent. For example, gender parity index of new net admission rate and net enrollment rate in the primary school level during the last four years has attained a 1:1 ratio, clearly demonstrating equal opportunities to both female and male students. Such achievements have resulted from MOEYS’s policies on promoting female enrolment through free breakfast, free education, constructing schools close to the people’s homes and building separate toilets for girls. Government’s financial support and continued activities entailing expansion and strengthening the functions of Community Education Centers have also greatly contributed to such achievements.

**Early childhood education:** The number of kindergartens increased from 5,625 of school year 2013-2014 to 7,587 of school year 2017-2018 (4,900 state kindergartens, 456 private kindergartens and 2,955 community-based kindergartens.). In the school year 2017-2018, the number of children received education services was 431,510 (girl: 218,488, equal to 50.63%).

**Primary education:** State primary schools increased from 6,993 of school years 2013-2014 to 7,189 of school years 2017-2018. The net enrollment rate at primary education reached 97.8% of the school year 2017-2018, the completion rate was 82.7%. The Policy on Child-Friendly Schools has been successfully implemented to provide all children with access to quality education through at least basic education and provide breakfast and scholarship for poor students and provide transportation to teams providing additional training and monitoring at municipality, district/Khan has increased the enrollment rate and stability of education.

### Table 1: Rubber Yield and Harvested Area (2011-2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultivated area (ha)</td>
<td>357.8</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>432.7</td>
<td>436.3</td>
<td>436.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvested area (ha)</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>111.2</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>170.2</td>
<td>234.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber yield (tons)</td>
<td>97.1</td>
<td>126.9</td>
<td>145.2</td>
<td>193.3</td>
<td>220</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MAFF
Education and and technical education: Over the past 5 years, the gross enrollment rate at lower and upper secondary education has grown from 53.3% and 26% in the school year 2013-2014 to 59.2% (54.6%) and 28.5 % (Target 27.7) in the school year 2017-2018, and the completion rate increased from 39.2% in the school year 2013-2014 to 46.5% in the school year 2017-2018 (44.6% target). The ministry has adopted a Policy on New Generation Schools and five new generation schools are in operation.

Higher education: Higher education institutions are under the control of 16 ministries and institutions. Higher education institutions under the management of the MOEYS is 73, (state: 13 and private: 60). 38 higher education institutions provide post-graduate education services.

Progress of the reform implementation
The MOEYS launched eight sector reforms in 2014 and expanded to 15 points from 2015-2018 on the basis of the five pillars: (1) implementing the Teacher Policy Action Plan; (2) reviewing the curriculum and basic study book and improving the study environment; (3) implementation inspection; (4) enhancing the assessment of study such as the national, regional, and international assessment; and (5) reform of higher education.

- Reform 1: Public Financial Management
- Reform 2: Teacher deployment
- Reform 3: Reform of the teacher training centers
- Reform 4: Pomoting teacher's qualifications
- Reform 5: Inspection
- Reform 6: Assessment of study results
- Reform 7: Reform of the exam at upper secondary school
- Reform 8: Reform of the curriculum and basic books
- Reform 9: Construction of the school buildings and repairing
- Reform 10: Assessment of the higher education institutions
- Reform 11: Promoting sports
- Reform 12: Implementing the action plan of the youth policy
- Reform 13: Technical education
- Reform 14: Establishment of new generation schools
- Reform 15: Preparing career path and principal training

Key indicators and targets in education, youths and sports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Percentage of five year old children in all aspects of ECE</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>56.5</td>
<td>59.9</td>
<td>61.4</td>
<td>64.1</td>
<td>66.4</td>
<td>68.5</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Number of primary schools (grade 1-6)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>6,910</td>
<td>6,993</td>
<td>7,051</td>
<td>7,085</td>
<td>7,144</td>
<td>7,189</td>
<td>7,606</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net Enrolment Rate in Primary Education
<p>| | | | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>98.2</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>98.4</td>
<td>97.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>97.4</td>
<td>97.7</td>
<td>97.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>98.5</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>99.3</td>
<td>98.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>89.8</td>
<td>83.6</td>
<td>82.9</td>
<td>83.3</td>
<td>81.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>98.6</td>
<td>98.4</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>96.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gross Enrolment Rate in Primary Education**

<p>| | | | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>121.1</td>
<td>119.2</td>
<td>115.3</td>
<td>114.9</td>
<td>113.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>123.1</td>
<td>120.8</td>
<td>116.1</td>
<td>115.4</td>
<td>114.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>117.5</td>
<td>114.4</td>
<td>114.3</td>
<td>112.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Completion Rate in Primary Education**

<p>| | | | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>91.5</td>
<td>88.9</td>
<td>84.1</td>
<td>80.6</td>
<td>79.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>91.9</td>
<td>87.7</td>
<td>81.8</td>
<td>82.5</td>
<td>76.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>90.2</td>
<td>86.6</td>
<td>83.9</td>
<td>83.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Number of Lower secondary schools</td>
<td>number</td>
<td>1,622</td>
<td>1,659</td>
<td>1,674</td>
<td>1,684</td>
<td>1,699</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gross Enrolment Rate in Lower Secondary Education**

<p>| | | | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>56.5</td>
<td>53.3</td>
<td>55.1</td>
<td>56.5</td>
<td>57.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>56.2</td>
<td>52.1</td>
<td>53.3</td>
<td>53.8</td>
<td>54.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>56.7</td>
<td>54.5</td>
<td>56.2</td>
<td>59.4</td>
<td>61.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>78.4</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>58.3</td>
<td>59.2</td>
<td>57.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>52.6</td>
<td>51.7</td>
<td>52.1</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>60.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Completion Rate in Lower Secondary Education**

<p>| | | | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>39.1</td>
<td>40.3</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>44.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>38.23</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>37.3</td>
<td>39.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>41.2</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Number of Upper secondary schools</td>
<td>number</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>486</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gross Enrolment Rate in Upper Secondary Education**

<p>| | | | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>251.1</td>
<td>26.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>31.9</td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Challenges
Beside the above achievements, there are still challenges in the development of education, youths and sports as follows:

- **Early childhood education**: Early childhood enrollment in rural areas, vulnerable children and children with low socio-economic status have not yet been met. Early childhood education services do not meet the minimum standards such as qualifications for early childhood educators and lack of early childhood educators.

- **Primary education**: Keeping students in school and completing their study need to be improved, especially for disadvantaged children. The proportion of children who have the basic skills of reading, writing, and thinking remains gap.

- **Secondary education and technical education**: Dropout at lower and upper secondary education is still high. The lack of school facilities is a factor contributing to the overall dropout rate as well as the lack of teachers, especially the lack of specialized teachers in subjects such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics, ICT, and foreign languages. The gap between the skills offered to students in general education schools and technical education does not meet the labor market demands.

- **Higher Education**: Inequality in student study from low-income households. Studies on science, technology, engineering, creativitive art, and math are still low. Lack of means to encourage research activities in higher education institutions.

- **Informal education**: Lack of skills and limited resources for Community Learning Centers.

- **Youth development**: Soft training programs, entrepreneurship training, technical skills training, lack of resources, adequate facilities to support. Human resources and youth management centers with limited coverage of the country. Children’s council and youth council are not yet functioning properly and lack support from stakeholders. Implementation of the strategic plan to expand Scout members is not yet completed as the plan.

**Physical education and sport**: The infrastructure of the sport is limited. Capacity of physical education and sports, players, coaches and referees are still limited. Lack of resources for implementing the master plan to host the 32nd Southeast Asian Games in 2023

**Way forward to sustain and further progress in education and training**:

- Ensure by 2030 all children, especially the children facing difficult circumstances and minority children complete the nine-year basic quality education free of any charges/fees.

- Reduce gender gap in primary and secondary school level contributing to gender equality in education by ensuring the female students acquire quality education at par with their male counter parts through targeted interventions.

- Improve all aspects of quality education enabling students receive excellent grades recognized at international standards, especially in subjects entailing literature, mathematics, and life skills.
Subsequently, expand coverage of nutrition program at primary school levels, promote foreign language teaching for primary school levels starting grade four, disseminate the policy on life skill and full-life study and promote teacher development through distance education program amongst other methods.

- Need to put in place adequate school infrastructure and community learning centers for children located in remote areas.
- Ensure that the learning needs of the youths and adults be addressed through providing equal opportunities to participate in appropriate study programs and life skill training programs.
- Incorporate a multilingual action plan encouraging children from ethnic minority groups to enroll in schools and learning their mother tongue in public schools with government support through specialized teachers, training materials, and other teaching methods.
- Improve the internal effectiveness of basic education by reducing the repetition rate at the first level of primary education level, and minimize high dropout rate at primary and secondary school level. Targeted financial support needed for lower secondary school in terms of increasing access and overall education quality.
- Update academic curriculum and textbooks to meet standards at both local and national levels.
- Strengthen and improve activities and programs of non-formal education.
- Greater administrative delegation required to the capital, provinces, municipalities, districts, Khans to manage the life skill education services and enhance the management and leadership of community study centers.
- Disseminate work orientation and agricultural product markets to communities and provide specific skills in response to labor market.

Population and primary health:

People's health was promoted better by expanding coverage of health care services and improving service quality and increasing the prevention of financial risks of access to health care services. Especially, economic growth and declining poverty have played a role in increasing living standards and improving the quality of life of the people. In fact, the average life expectancy of Cambodians of both sexes has increased from 61.9 years in 2000 to 68.7 years in 2015 (66.7 years for males and 70.7 years for females).

The health of Cambodian people has been enhanced and shown by the progress of improving key health outcomes, especially reducing maternal and infant mortality rates and reducing sickness and death from communicable and non-communicable diseases and the facing of the people with risk factor of the disease.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maternal mortality ratio (100,000 live births)</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neonatal mortality rate (1,000 live births)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant mortality rate (1,000 live births)</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 5 mortality rate (1,000 live births)</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stunting among children aged under five</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trend in reduction of sickness and death rate and risk factors of communicable and non-communicable diseases and public health issues 2014-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Number of new HIV infection per 1000 uninfected population* | - | 0.05 | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.03
Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population* | - | 380 | 345 | 326 | -
Tuberculosis death rate (100,000 population) *** | 58 | 55 | 20 | 19 | -
Malaria incidence per 1,000 population | 1.64 | 2.26 | 1.50 | 2.96 | 4.0\(^\circ\)
Malaria mortality rate reported by public health facility per 100,000 population | 0.07 | 0.08 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.00
Prevalence of adult 25-64 years-old having Hypertension* | 11.2% a (2010) | 14.5% b | - | -
Prevalence of adult 25-64 years-old having Diabetes | 2.9% c (2010) | 1.5% d | - | -
Prevalence of Tobacco use among male (M)& female (F) adults | 21.8% e age > 15 years | 6.3% e (2010) | 21.8% f age 13-15 years | 2.4% f | -
Prevalence of alcohol use among male & female adult | 53.5% g (2010) | 45.5% h | - | -

\(\ast\) Data started the recording in 2015 and *** Results 2018 will be released in late 2019

Access to services and coverage was marked by progress due to increased trends in access to reproductive health, maternal and child health, nutrition, prevention services, treatment of communicable non-communicable, chronic diseases, and other public health problems as shown in the following table.

Financial risk prevention for access to health services aims to remove financial barriers from access to health care and to protect people, especially the poor and vulnerable people, from falling into poverty as a result of the cost of health care through social health protection mechanisms such as the policy on exempted payment on health service as the priority for the general people, equity fund program, alternate payment, and reproductive health cards for poor people, Social Security Fund for health care, voluntary community health insurance. The Equity Fund program has rapidly grown from 66% of total health facilities in 2014 to 98% by the end of 2017 and 100% in the first quarter of 2018. Up to the end of 2018, Equity Funds (poor people, non-workers, members of councils/communes/Sangkat, village officials, national sport players, mine operators, tricycle workers) and Social Security Schemes in health care (employees of the economy in the public official system, former officials, and veterans) can reach more than 30% of the total Cambodian population.

The effectiveness of the expansion of the above-mentioned social health protection coverage along with the expansion of service coverage and improving quality of health services and regulating the health market has reduced the financial burden on the health service of the general population. This progress is confirmed by the trend of declining proportion of the number of households facing health problems from 8.8% in 2009 to 3.7% in 2016. The proportion of the number of families who became poor after spending on health care from 5.7% in 2009 to 1.6% in 2016, and the family’s pocket spending on healthcare (at public and private health services)
are at a high level of 60.4% in 2016, which could be a poverty trap, although it has declined from 62.3% in 2014.

**Increasing health service delivery**

Access to services and coverage was marked by progress due to increased trends in access to reproductive health, maternal and child health, nutrition, prevention services, treatment of communicable non-communicable, chronic diseases, and other public health problems as shown in the following table.

### Indicator trend of the use of health service 2014-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OPD consultations (new cases only) per person per year</td>
<td>0.59</td>
<td>0.61</td>
<td>0.63</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bed occupancy rate (%)</td>
<td>95.2</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>93.9</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>100.5</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital mortality rate (%)</td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>0.98</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>0.87</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraceptive prevalence (modern methods) (%)</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of births delivery at health facilities</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80.35</td>
<td>80.52</td>
<td>85.37</td>
<td>84.05</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caesarean section rate (% of live births)</td>
<td>5.37</td>
<td>5.26</td>
<td>5.35</td>
<td>5.83</td>
<td>6.77</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of pregnant women who received ANC consultation by health personnel</td>
<td>66.4</td>
<td>71.5</td>
<td>72.2</td>
<td>76.8</td>
<td>77.2</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of post-partum women who received PNC consultation by health personnel</td>
<td>56.4</td>
<td>68.2</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>68.4</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of infant who were breastfed within 1 hour of birth (as percentage of live births) *</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>64.6</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of pregnant women received folic acid 90 tablets</td>
<td>86.1</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of post-partum women received folic acid 42 tablets</td>
<td>82.4</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>74.3</td>
<td>78.3</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of children 12-59 months received Mebendazole during the last 6 months (Round 2)</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>93.1</td>
<td>81.7</td>
<td>78.2</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of children 12-59 months received Mebendazole during the last 6 months</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>88.4</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT-HepB-Hib 3 coverage rate (%)</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>100.1</td>
<td>97.6</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coverage rate of measles vaccination at 9th month</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPD consultation (new cases) per children under 5 per year</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>1.52</td>
<td>1.64</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2 Results from the data analysis in Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey 2009 to 2016, WHO
3 Achievement report in health sector in 2014 and 2017, MOH
% of people with HIV treated with ART tested with viral load suppression during the past 12 months *  | - | 84 | 64 | 80.78 | 84.63 | 88

Percentage of adult peoples aged above 14 year-olds living with HIV on ART *  | - | 79 | 76.5 | 85 | - | -

Percentage of children aged 0-14 year-olds living with HIV on ART *  | - | 92 | 90 | 97 | - | -

Number of people with HIV (adults and children) receiving ART**  | - | - | - | - | 59,526

TB treatment success rate (%)  | 90 | 93 | 90 | 93 | 93 | >90

TB case detected ***  | 12,250 | 35,638 | 33,736 | 34,467 | - | 35,000

Percentage of adults aged 25-64 with hypertension received treatment *  | - | 29 | 30 | 33.8 | 30 | 55

Percentage of adults aged 25-64 with diabetes received treatment *  | - | 17 | 20.4 | 36.5 | 32 | 45

Percentage of women aged 30-49 years screened for cervical cancer *  | - | 1.18 | 2.62 | 1.81 | 0.26 | 6

Number and percentage of adult population with depression received treatment *  | - | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1.71 | 30

Number and percentage of people with drug used received treatment *  | - | 22 (1,300) | 28 (3,110) | 30.11 (8,096) | 100 | 60

Cataract surgical rate per 1,000,000 population per year  | 1,801 | 1,500 | 2,109 | 1,954 | 2,286 | 2,000

* Data started recording in 2015
** Data started recording in 2018
*** Results in 2018 will be in late 2019

Key factors that contribute to achieving progress in improving access to services and coverage include (1) large investment in expansion of infrastructure of health facilities, human resources, pharmaceutical equipment supply, medical tools; (2) expanding coverage of social health protection projects, especially the equity fund program; (3) expansion of the road network, especially in rural areas; (4) increasing of the household spending capacity on health care; and (5) increased health recurrent expenditure of the national budget on health.

Data on health facilities 2014-2018*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public health facility</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of hospitals</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of health centers *</td>
<td>1,105</td>
<td>1,141</td>
<td>1,165</td>
<td>1,190</td>
<td>1,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of health posts</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,308</td>
<td>1,321</td>
<td>1,372</td>
<td>1,426</td>
<td>1,457</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Health Achievement Report 2018, MOH
Data on public health staff 2014-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of staff</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctors, specialized doctors</td>
<td>2,347</td>
<td>2,346</td>
<td>3,129</td>
<td>3,130</td>
<td>3,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate doctors</td>
<td>906</td>
<td>863</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacists</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentists</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor midwife</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>89</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate midwife</td>
<td>2,963</td>
<td>3,130</td>
<td>4,022</td>
<td>4,178</td>
<td>4,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary midwife</td>
<td>2,327</td>
<td>2,282</td>
<td>2,364</td>
<td>2,320</td>
<td>2,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor nurses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>116</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate nurses</td>
<td>5,700</td>
<td>5,745</td>
<td>7,897</td>
<td>7,850</td>
<td>7,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary nurses</td>
<td>3,299</td>
<td>3,173</td>
<td>3,198</td>
<td>3,060</td>
<td>2,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate lab technicians</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>833</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other staffs</td>
<td>2,179</td>
<td>2,134</td>
<td>1,633</td>
<td>1,744</td>
<td>1,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>20,974</td>
<td>20,954</td>
<td>25,382</td>
<td>25,459</td>
<td>25,438</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trend in national budget expenditure in health 2014-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public health sector</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recurrent expenditure</td>
<td>825,199.9</td>
<td>959,769.6</td>
<td>1,050,177.6</td>
<td>1,177,419.0</td>
<td>1,378,106.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of the expenditure compared with the approved budget</td>
<td>84.4</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td>98.0</td>
<td>98.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Central

| Recurrent expenditure | 550,138.1 | 643,545.0 | 653,198.9 | 679,835.7 | 825,738.2 |
| % of the expenditure compared with the approved budget | 79.7 | 89.5 | 93.8 | 95.0 | 100.7 |

Capital and provinces

| Recurrent expenditure | 275,061.8 | 316,224.7 | 396,978.7 | 497,583.3 | 552,367.9 |
| % of the expenditure compared with the approved budget | 95.6 | 104.1 | 95.8 | 102.3 | 96.3 |

Quality of Services: The overall quality of public health services has been improved steadily due to improved quality of structure and technical quality (procedures for providing care services). This progress has contributed to the decline in maternal and infant mortality and child mortality and the burden of communicable diseases. However, the quality of the service is not yet fully satisfied with the needs and expectations of the users due to the resource constraints.

Effectiveness: Fast and consistent economic growth has enabled the RGC to increase national budget expenditure on health as aid funding declines. The ongoing Public Financial Management Reform has provided opportunities for the MOH to improve the cost effectiveness. The effectiveness and responsiveness of public health providers has been promoted through a mechanism that combines the delivery of services to financial resources such as incentives for midwife, service delivery packages, and special agencies.

Equity: Access to health services and in health financing has been continuously promoted as a result of using resources that are targeted towards primary health care delivery in rural areas and the expansion of health services.

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6 Health Achievement Report 2018, MOH
of the coverage of equity fund, along with more health financing interventions. It is noted that finding health care is becoming more equitable, and the attitudes of people seeking health care are also improved, especially among lowest-income people.

Way forward to sustain and further progress in population and primary health:

- Expand quality HIV testing services (including counseling) to all health facilities, using HIV finger-prick test; ensure availability of HIV test kits and transmission prevention knowledge, make affordable condoms and syringes and mosquito nets readily available.
- Provide supplies and equipment for a variety of laboratory diagnostic, monitoring and quality assurance / control procedures including facilities that provide ART services.
- Promote community participation in Community-based Directly Observed Treatment.
- Improve public and private partnership in combating tuberculosis and manage multi-drug-resistant while improving clinical capacity for diagnosis and treatment.
- Implement National Strategic Plan on Malaria Elimination.
- Promote effective leadership, management and coordination in response to AIDS, TB and Malaria and enforce dissemination and implementation of policies on AIDS, TB and Malaria.
- Build capacity of all health professionals while strengthen the national and sub-national monitoring and evaluation systems.
- Discourage traditional treatment and practices while creating awareness on the dangers of using unsterilized needles or sharp objects.
- Educate the understanding and consequences of drug use and jointly used syringes and encourage the regular health checkup for the groups working at entertainment places.

Population Policy:

In the mandate of the NSDP 2014-2018, the General Secretariat of Population and Development of the Ministry of Planning has coordinated and collaborated with relevant ministries and agencies. That policy aims to induce changes in population trends so as to bring the size, composition and distribution of population in line with the needs of sustainable development and poverty reduction. The priority issues are to support all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and to have access to information, education, services and means to do so.

Youth unemployment is complex and caused by a range of factors including low employment opportunities, lack of appropriate skills, lack of access to finance and ineffective youth empowerment strategies. Given the magnitude and complexity of youth unemployment problem, there is need to create linkages between sector programmes and youth development initiatives.

There several initiatives that are being undertaken in order to create employment opportunities for the youth which include expanding secondary and education facilities to create a stream of skills training institutions that support practical work related skills; reforming the trades training syllabi to take into account modern technological developments and relevance to industry; teaching of science and mathematics in secondary and tertiary education in line with the
provisions of the RS Phase III, NSDP and curriculum framework under the Education Sector; and reviewing the National Employment and Labour Market Policy and align it to the Industrialization and Job Creation Strategy. The policy has made the following key achievements:

- Developed National Population Policy (NPP) 2016-2030, approved by the cabinet and promulgated officially for relevant officials at the sub-national levels and university students.
- Prepared training manual on National Population and Demography Policy Module 1 and trained the officials in the provincial planning departments in 25 capital and provinces.

Challenges

- Limited institutional capacity to integrate population and demographic dynamics issues into sectoral development plans.
- Limited understanding of population issues and development at both national and sub-national levels.
- The research study of the population issues with Cambodia Sustainable Development Goals is limited.
- Limited financial and human resources to continue the implementation of the National Action Plan of the National Population Policy.

Shelter:

In Cambodia, the poor in general and the extreme poor in particular depend heavily on common property resources such as fishery and forestry resources as a vital income source, as a safety net in the face of adverse shocks, and as an important source of nutrient. Unsustainable exploitation of these resources are also, therefore, a major source of vulnerability of the poor with adverse implications on poverty reduction in the country.

For Cambodia, the goal in preservation, conservation and sustainable use of all natural resources, including its bio-diversity, is not only to conserve Cambodia’s unique natural heritage but also to reduce vulnerability, enhance environmental sustainability and contribute to sustainable economic growth, poverty reduction and improvement in the lives of rural communities.

As a member of United Nations, Cambodia has adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and localized into national level. The result of localization, RGC prepare and adopted Cambodian Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs) in which Goals 1 and goal 2 focusing on reduce poverty in all forms and all levels and eliminate hunger of population. The goal 10 related to reduce inequality among the population. So that the Goals highlight the importance of sensitization and advocacy activities for which greater reliance is paid on local communities, their traditional knowledge and practices, and on effective participation of the civil society. The achieving these goals will reach the common principle of United Nations as well Cambodian Government on "No one left behind".
Water and sanitation:
Safe water and sanitation is another important target set under CMDG 7 and CSDG 6. Urban water supply as one of the targets recorded coverage at 81% in 2011 exceeding set targets ahead of time while rural water supply has met the target and in 2017 reach to 83.5%. Sanitation targets in urban areas surpassed 2015 targets and recorded 90% in 2017 versus the target set at 74%.

Gender equality and empowerment of women:

the RGC has paid the much attention to promoting gender equality and empowering women in all sectors and at all levels, especially through in-depth mainstreaming into the NSDP 2014-2018, incorporating specific indicators for monitoring the implementation. Partnership and support from relevant ministries, agencies, and partners have contributed to gender equality in the key policies and reform programs, gender mainstreaming strategic plans of the ministries and agencies were developed and updated. The 28 ministries and agencies have received the national budget and partnership budgets for the implementation of their sector's gender roles. At the same time, the RGC has also focused on empowering women and protecting the following key issues:

Women’s Economic Empowerment

The report of the Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey show that the proportion of women working in major sectors such as agriculture, industry and services has grown although not reaching the target set 50%.

The roles of women in the economy were promoted through social protection programs, vocational trainings, agricultural and rural development, entrepreneurship development, land reform, etc. Efforts to provide women's economic opportunities at the Women Development Center in 14 provinces, Cambodia Women Entrepreneurs Association and Cambodian Business Women Federation are working to help develop careers, seeking for markets to sell the products, promoting entrepreneurship, leadership and strengthening the voice of women entrepreneurs in the economy. 34 Cambodian women entrepreneurs received award winners of ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Award.

Although a lot of efforts made, there are a few challenges as follows:

- Most women are working in the informal economy and in low-income industries.
- Capacity, skills and access to opportunities for resource management (time and information technology of the women are limited.
- Women's products have not yet responded to the domestic and international markets.

Legal protection for women and girls, crippled women and vulnerable groups

The Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey 2014 showed that the proportion of women and girls aged 15 and older who had experienced physical, sexual, or mental abuse of their current or former partners over the last 12 months was 30.8%.

- The proportion of women aged 20-24 who were married or living together before the age 18 years was 1.9%.
The Cambodia Working Group on Anti-Human Trafficking in GMS signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Combating Human Trafficking (Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam) and signed a third Joint Statement on Commitment to combating human trafficking. The International Cooperation Committee of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking is created and led by the MOWA.

- The crippled women officials of the MOWA and the relevant ministries were trained and developed built capacity on the promotion of the protection of persons with disabilities in response to gender and the Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the national and international levels.

**Women in Public Sector and Politics**

**Women in legislature:** The women members of the legislature bodies continues to grow after one mandate to another. In 1993, female parliamentarians were 5% and increased to 20% in 2018. In 1999, the number of female senators was 14% and increased to 19.35% in 2018.

**Women as the government member:** In 1993, there were no women ministers and secretaries, except two under secretary of states. In 2018, there are 1 female Deputy Prime Ministers (10%), 3 female ministers (10.34%), 45 the Secretary of States (18%), and 69 Under Secretary of States (15.33%).

**Women in public administration:** In the public service sector, the number of women increased steadily from 35% in 2012 to 41% in 2017. This result is based on the implementation of the MCS's guidance to recruit new civil servants (20% to 50% women) and the Royal Decree on the extension of the retirement age of female civil servants to the age of 60 and based on volunteering.

**Women in management at sub-national level:** Women as the provincial governors was 4%, as the deputy capital/provincial governors: 17.33%, 7 municipal, district/Khan governors, equal to 3.55%, 185 deputy municipal, district/Khan governors, equal to 26%, female commune chiefs increased from 42 in 2002 to 130 in 2018, and 235 commune clerks.

**Gender and Health**

Results of the Cambodia Health and Demographic Survey of 2014 and the Health Achievement Report of 2016 show as follows:

- Maternal mortality, infant mortality, and Under 5 mortality rate decrease.
- The percentage of pregnant women receiving ANC at least 2 times has steadily increased.
- Despite the above achievements, women and girls' health issues still need to be addressed, especially in remote areas, expanding information on the importance of health, sanitation and nutrition for women and children

**Challenges**

- Parent awareness of the importance of girls' education is limited, especially in remote areas.
- The participation of the women and girls in the education sector such as science, technology, engineering, creativities arts, and mathematics is limited.

**Way forward** to sustain and further progress in gender equality and empowerment of
**women:**

Cambodia made a strong commitment to achieve gender parity in the national development plans. In order to see it through, the government must continue to empower women in public administration, politics and in institutions of higher decision making as set out in Rectangular Strategy and NSDP. It must follow through the Neary Ratanak IV Strategic Plan through strengthening the capacities, opportunities, wage or non-wage employment, while increasing number of women in public administration and politics.

Support girl’s attendance through scholarships and other forms of support to increase girl literacy to main gender parity.

Preferential government policy support towards girls in schools. For example, gender-sensitive infrastructure like toilets for girls, increase number of dormitories for girls and increase facilities beyond primary school levels.

Support and empower women through entrepreneurship facilitated by micro-credit, group savings, and cooperatives and exploring ventures into handicrafts and other community based economic activities.

Gender-responsive budgeting should be introduced in the future five-year plans setting goals and achievable targets and milestones. Strengthen and promote institutional and legal framework towards curtailing domestic violence, child trafficking and drugs

**Social protection:**

The RGC has made good progress in strengthening social protection systems and has made it an integrated, consistent and efficient system that covers the public and private sectors, including the clear roles of policy preparation, laws and execution. Some achievements on social safety are as follows:

The MEF, with inputs from relevant ministries and agencies, and the CARD, guided the development of the National Policy on Social Protection Framework 2016-2025, which has two main components: social assistance and social insurance. The development partners collaborated with the CARD and the SNAs in the pilot project support, which will provide lessons and experiences for the preparation of the income support components of social assistance in the National Policy on Social Protection Framework.

The IDPoor achieved the coverage of all rural areas. Since 2015, the MOP has full ownership in the financial sector for rural area coverage. The Urban IDPoor Mechanism has included a score of criteria of vulnerability such as health, disability, education and debt, and this rating is also applied with rural areas.

There is good progress in developing the institutional framework for child welfare support, including the Juvenile Criminal Justice Reform Plan 2013. Survey on violence against children was published in 2014. The Cambodia National Council for Children has reported progress on the implementation of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child on behalf of Cambodia as a signatory.
The MEF continues to manage the reserve food system to support emergencies in times of natural disasters or severe weather events. The Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSVY) achieved the following achievements:

Priority 1: Enhancing social welfare and family affairs

- Developed and implemented emergency programs in collaboration with the Cambodian Red Cross and other organizations to help the helpless persons, the victims of natural disasters and the other disasters in the last 5 years, with approximately 373,952 families have been rescued, reduced the difficult conditions for the rehabilitation. Disseminated, educated and mainstreamed the safe migration to local authorities and 526,575 people.
- Developed and implemented programs on family development, encouraged good family planning and prevented domestic violence by organizing national and international day on family on 15 May each year. Promoted gender equality at the national and sub-national level and the roles of women in decision-making through the dissemination of the Gender Perspective and the CEDAW to the focal points at the national and sub-national level and the dissemination of awareness on preventing domestic violence to the communities.
- Developed and implemented the minimum standards for the care of victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation in the centers and Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit on the implementation of policies and standards on the rights protection of the victims by human trafficking at national and sub-national level, aims to combat human trafficking crimes and rescue victims. Meanwhile, the construction of Poipet Transit Center for receiving victims from the Thai authorities.

Achievements on enhancing social welfare and family affairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Victims and vulnerable people receiving emergency assistance (families)</td>
<td>32,212</td>
<td>178,538</td>
<td>43,580</td>
<td>62,476</td>
<td>57,146</td>
<td>373,952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Homeless people receiving resolution service on prevention and protection (persons)</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>2,437</td>
<td>884</td>
<td>1,727</td>
<td>2,041</td>
<td>7,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Homeless people integrated into the families and the communities (person)</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>2,437</td>
<td>884</td>
<td>1,244</td>
<td>2,524</td>
<td>7,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>People living with HIV/AIDS and affected by HIV and other communicable diseases in communities receiving support, care and counseling services (persons)</td>
<td>2,264</td>
<td>6,748</td>
<td>3,724</td>
<td>2,758</td>
<td>4,285</td>
<td>19,779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Victims of human trafficking integrated into families and communities (persons)</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Victims of human trafficking receiving counseling and rehabilitation services (persons)</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>598</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>848</td>
<td>2,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MOSVY

Challenges
• The coverage of the National Social Assistance Program is not yet comprehensive and fully covered causing some groups not to receive the protection.
• The Management System of the ID and the general civil status, the Poor and Vulnerable ID Management System and the registration system of the operators are not linked, leading to overlapping identities and registrations, and also offers overlapping benefits.
• Understanding on the social protection system such as the benefits and obligations of the participation of people in each scheme or program is limited. Strengthening the capacity of officials should also be improved according to the situation and needs.
• While the quality of health services has been strengthened, nutrition promotion for pregnant women and children is still not strong. Pregnant women and children under five years from poor families are more likely to experience malnutrition due to the lack of financial resources and information needed to access health care and nutrition as well as clean water and sanitation.
• Strengthening the Family Development Program is limited by the lack of mechanisms of the participation of all stakeholders.

Priority 2: Enhancing child welfare and youth rehabilitation

• Encouraged and promoted the implementation of the child rights through strengthening the capacity of civil servants and non-governmental organizations and disseminating the child rights widely.
• Prepared a report on the status of the child rights implementation annually and prepared a report to respond to the questionnaire of the UN Committee on the children’s participation in armed conflicts and child trafficking; child pornography and reports responding to the UN General Assembly resolution on protecting children from threatening. Developed and disseminated the implementation of the National Action Plan for Child Development 2016-2018 and prepared the 4th, 5th and 6th National Report on the Implementation of the Convention on the Child Rights.
• Implemented the alternative child care policy and minimum child care standards in collaboration with national organizations. Trained on children’s safety qualifications to technical staffs and organization’s staffs.
• To strengthen the efficiency and quality of the child care center management and community child management, the RGC has issued three sub-decrees. The MOSVY has issued a Prakas on the Conditions and Form of Request for Permit Creating Child Care Facilities. Inspected the child care centers to prevent child abuse and closure of child care centers that do not comply with the policy and minimum standards for alternative child care.
• Implementing the Inter-Country Adoption Law, the MOSVY established a number of legal mechanisms and regulations and signed an agreement on the limitation of the number of agencies with inter-country adoptions with Italy, Spain and Malta.
• Launched and enforced the Law on Juvenile Justice, and disseminated to concerned ministries and agencies at national and sub-national level. The RGC issued a sub-decree on the organization and functioning of the Youth Rehabilitation Center and the establishment of the National Center for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts at Keo Phos, Preah Sihanouk Province, and the Prakas on the Construction of Youth.
Rehabilitation Centers, Prakas on the Preparation and Operation Offices of Youth Rehabilitation Centers, Inter-Ministerial Prakas on Terms and Conditions on Procedures and Forms for the Establishment of Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers for Drug Addicts, and Guideline on Treatment and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts.

- Educated children, youths to prevent inactive issues in society, contribute to promoting morality, ethics and protecting the rights of children and the violating victims. Cooperated with the MOI, international non-governmental organizations, providing non-formal education and vocational training to the juvenile children violating the laws and and children with mothers in prisons.

Achievements on the promotion of child welfare and youth rehabilitation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Orphans and victim children integrated into families and communities (persons)</td>
<td>721</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>3,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Number of children receiving community-based care (persons)</td>
<td>41,194</td>
<td>42,785</td>
<td>9,608</td>
<td>9,608</td>
<td>10,748</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Number of orphans and victim children living in child care centers (persons)</td>
<td>11,411</td>
<td>11,171</td>
<td>16,579</td>
<td>16,579</td>
<td>7,639</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Juvenile children violating the laws integrated into families and communities (persons)</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Victims of drug use integrated into families and communities (persons)</td>
<td>1,855</td>
<td>2,009</td>
<td>2,851</td>
<td>6,722</td>
<td>7,677</td>
<td>21,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Victims of drug use receiving rehabilitation services (person)</td>
<td>2,875</td>
<td>3,386</td>
<td>5,203</td>
<td>10,178</td>
<td>8,097</td>
<td>29,739</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MOSVY

Challenges

- In Cambodia there is no specific data on orphans, vulnerable children and children with disabilities, but the National Strategic Plan on Orphans, Vulnerable Children and Children with Disabilities estimates that approximately 14% of the total children are vulnerable.
- Inter-census data for Cambodian Population Census in 2013 has a low number of children with disabilities because they did not collect specific data from the data collection agencies. On the other hand, children with disabilities are vulnerable groups and have limited access to social services, some of them facing discrimination and some cases of violence from their families.

Priority 3: Enhancing welfare for people with disability

- Implemented the Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Implemented the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Disabled People Decade in Asia and the Pacific 2013-2022, the Incheon Strategy "Making the Right Become True" in addition to the existing regulations by preparing the first national report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
• To officially launched the implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Disability 2014-2018 through this plan, the MOSVY has prepared a mid-term evaluation report 2015 and a draft final report 2014-2018.

• Organized Cambodia People with Disabilities Day and International People with Disabilities Day, Deaf Day, Autism and Down Syndrome Day for the disabled people at national and sub-national level.

• Established a Working Group on Disability Action in 19 ministries, agencies and 25 Capital/Provincial Disability Action Councils, and trained on the mainstreaming the awareness on the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, People with Disabilities Decade in Asia and the Pacific 2012-2022, the Incheon Strategy “Make the Right Become True” and the National Disability Strategic Plan to members and officials of the Secretariat General and the working groups in ministries and agencies and the capital/provinces.

• The RGC issued a sub-decree on providing awards to persons with disabilities winners in the skill competitions, the Spespal Olympic games, and sponsorship for coaches and alternate coaches.

• Encouraged the ministries and agencies to recruit people with disability at the rate of 2%.

• Issued a Prakas and disseminated the introduction of the guideline on Disability Inspection Procedure of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Achievements on promoting welfare for people with disabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Persons with disabilities received vocational training for (persons)</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>1,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Community poor people with disabilities receiving policy subsidy (persons)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3,133</td>
<td>6,658</td>
<td>8,658</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Persons with disabilities receiving physical rehabilitation services (persons)</td>
<td>25,485</td>
<td>27,175</td>
<td>30,249</td>
<td>26,325</td>
<td>25,864</td>
<td>135,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Persons with disabilities receiving medical rehabilitation services (persons)</td>
<td>35,291</td>
<td>53,673</td>
<td>27,254</td>
<td>82,596</td>
<td>56,112</td>
<td>254,926</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MOSVY

Challenges

• Persons with disabilities, especially the poor people with disabilities, always face social discrimination and suffer from physical and financial difficulties that prevent them from receiving health services and education as well as vocational training. This leads to the inability of disabled people to contribute to increasing productivity in the economy or benefiting from these economic factors.

• The mechanism of identification of people with disabilities is still inadequate, leading to some people with disabilities not benefiting from the RGC’s policies of and development partners.

• Most labor rehabilitation centers are financed by development partners, so when development partners reduce or stop support, the centers face financial problems. The
quality of restoration of labor is still limited, which requires further strengthening of the expertise to accelerate the treatment of persons with disabilities with the standard assistive equipment for the abnormality of the disabled.

- The recruitment of persons with disabilities for work has not been implemented for the private sector. The Disability Rights Administration, an important mechanism in the preparation of regulations, procedures, and guidelines for implementing this task, is facing a severe shortage of means and resources for implementing its programs.
- The support scheme for the people with disabilities in the communities operates in only 5 provinces because of the limited identification of poor people with disabilities all over the country because of the limited budget allocations, capacity of sub-national officials, resources, and technology.
- The trainings have not been done comprehensively yet.
- There is limited awareness and access to information about physical rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities, even though there is public dissemination.

**Priority 4: Enhancing elderly welfare**

- Prepared the Action Plan 2018-2020 of the National Ageing Policy
- Constructed the National Center for Veterans Protection in Phnom Penh and launched in 2018; meanwhile, the Ministry has issued a Prakas on the organization and functions of the National Center for Veterans Protection in Phnom Penh and is drafting the Sub-decree on Social Protection for the poor helpless elderly.
- Organized Cambodia Ageing Day and International Ageing Day on 01 October each year to promote the dignity and integrity of the elderly.
- Encouraged and supported CSOs, the private sector and individuals to set up an elderly nursing center, building homes for the poor helpless elderly, and providing financial support to the poor helpless elderly.
- The ministry has created an association of the elderly and is setting up an elderly fund to sustain protection for the elderly.

**Achievements on enhancing the elderly welfare**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Association of the elderly established</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>1,242</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1,646</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(associations)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MOSVY

**Challenges**

However, we still face some challenges that need to be addressed such as an increase in the number of the elderly aged more than 60. In 2013, the elderly population is 8% (of the total population: 15 million), 7.2% in 2015 (15.7 million), and is projected to rise to 11% (18 million) in 2030. According to the IDPoor Information System in 2016, there are 232,311 poor elderly people in the total population, of whom 98,165 are elderly and 98,165 elderly people are in Poor 1 and 134,146 elderly people are in Poor 2.

**Priority 5: Enhancing former civil servants**

- To support the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) for Civil Servants, the RGC has paid 18% of contributions and the civil servants pay 6% of the monthly salary, but currently, the RGC is responsible for a portion of the contribution instead of the civil servants. Along
with the full support of the National Social Security Fund for Civil Servants, the RGC has also focused on adjusting the social security system in order to meet the economic growth and the affordability of the national budget.

- The NSSF for Civil Servants established its office at the capital/provinces to implement and resolve directly the issues with the successors. The RGC has issued a circular on the revision of the procedure for the retirement of the civil servants to ensure effective retirement and pensions.
- As early as 2018, the NSSF for the Civil Servants cooperated with the NSSF to provide health care services to the retirees and invalid civil servants, who are being offered health care services in health facilities that have signed a contract with the NSSF from January 2018.
- In the 5 years of 2014-2018, the RGC has raised the average retirement pension for unemployed and unqualified people every year, with a growth rate of around 42%. To ensure the timely payment, the RGC has issued a circular on the procedures for opening social security fund to the beneficiaries and the veterans and the families of the veterans.

Achievements on the enhancing former civil servants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
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<th>2015</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Retirees and unqualified individuals receiving pensions (persons)</td>
<td>47,375</td>
<td>49,709</td>
<td>52,012</td>
<td>53,785</td>
<td>56,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Retirees (persons)</td>
<td>44,469</td>
<td>46,856</td>
<td>49,392</td>
<td>51,345</td>
<td>54,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Invalid civil servants (persons)</td>
<td>2,906</td>
<td>2,853</td>
<td>2,620</td>
<td>2,440</td>
<td>2,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>People in burden (persons)</td>
<td>42,046</td>
<td>37,728</td>
<td>40,423</td>
<td>42,926</td>
<td>44,033</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MOSVY

Challenges

- The NSSF encounters many challenges that need to be addressed in a relatively short, medium and long-term framework with flexibility and accountability. These issues include (1) pension systems are facing an inconsistency of the pension between the retirees and invalid civil servants who retired before 2015 and after 2015 as a result of rising pension levels and modification of the new basic salary; (2) the three benefits are work dangers, the maternity leaves and death for civil servants have not yet been implemented, and these three benefits are provided by the ministries and agencies; and (3) there is no funding available to support the NSSF process beside the state support.
- So far, the total coverage of pension payments to retirees and invalid civil servants meets the actual cost of the year. The RGC issued Sub-decree No. 73 dated on April 29, 2011 on the determination of the contribution rate for social security support for civil servants, which required civil servants to contribute 6% and the RGC to contribute 18%. However, the collection at this rate has not been implemented yet. Thus, the RGC continues to cover the support of former civil servants and people in burden. The increasing of the annual salary can be considered jointly with the implementation of this collection.

Priority 6: Enhancing the veterans

- The Ministry has paid attention to the situation of veterans by adjusting the social security system to the veterans since 2014 and adjusted to increase monthly allowance to the parents or guardians of the dead soldiers.
• Adjusted the basic salary and food allowance for persons with disabilities, retirees, and the invalid who were transferred to the MOSVY before and after 2007 to have the balance. At the same time, veterans and families have been able to easily access ATM card, transfer withdrawal of social security system in case of serious diseases or business in 25 capital and provinces.
• Implemented the policy on identifying the retired armed forces, losing their work ability, the disabled, and the families of the the dead soldiers.
• Cooperated with the Cambodian Veterans Association to organize the 21st Anniversary of Veterans Day each year at the national and sub-national level.
• The RGC provided 4,000 million riels per year to the Cambodian Veterans Association to donate to members of the Cambodian Veterans Association who have passed away since 2016.
• Organized and implemented a manual on data collection on living conditions and needs of veterans and families, together with the establishment of a database to keep track of the status and needs of veterans and families.

Table 2.47: Achievements on enhancing the veterans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Veterans and families receiving the schemes (persons)</td>
<td>87,484</td>
<td>87,248</td>
<td>86,931</td>
<td>86,517</td>
<td>88,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Retirees (persons)</td>
<td>23,888</td>
<td>25,078</td>
<td>25,643</td>
<td>26,479</td>
<td>27,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The invalid (persons)</td>
<td>1,674</td>
<td>1,639</td>
<td>1,618</td>
<td>1,583</td>
<td>1,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The disabled (persons)</td>
<td>26,962</td>
<td>26,286</td>
<td>25,977</td>
<td>26,501</td>
<td>27,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sacrifice (persons)</td>
<td>29,943</td>
<td>28,537</td>
<td>27,587</td>
<td>25,645</td>
<td>25,732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Death (persons)</td>
<td>5,017</td>
<td>5,708</td>
<td>6,106</td>
<td>6,309</td>
<td>6,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The member of Cambodia Veteran Association received dead fund from CVA (corpses)</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>3,055</td>
<td>1,129</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>2,696</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MOSVY

Challenges

• The veteran sector still faces major challenges i.e. the monthly social security fund gap between the retirees before 2015, between the disabled before 2015 and the pension benefits for civil servants, police and soldiers is not consistent with the benefits defined by separate laws and regulations.
• In addition to the social security system provided by the RGC, veterans and families are supported by the Veterans Association of Cambodia and generous donors, but not 100%. The National Veteran Fund contains information only for the purpose of social security fund, which provide different benefits to veterans and families. The MOSVY does not have information on the status of the living conditions and needs of veterans and families of veterans, which are important inputs in response to the preparation of the development projects to improve the living conditions of veterans and families in a decent live.
• There is a huge need for social land concessions, but there is limited response.

Priority 7: Establishing social security fund for general people
The Ministry has been studying documents to develop a comprehensive social security system for the general people.

**Priority 8: Enhancing institutional capacity and strengthening partnership**

- Strengthened and expanded the activities of National Institute of Social Affairs to build human resource for the public sector, private sector, national and international NGOs related to social affairs.
- Inspected and audited to review the functions, roles, dispute resolution, national budget expenditure, state property management at the capital and provincial Department of Social Affairs and Youth Rehabilitation in order to promote accountability, transparency, effectiveness of social services delivery to all kinds of the victims and vulnerable groups.
- Implemented a public financial management reform program by executing fair and timely management of all items with responsibility, efficiency, transparency and accountability.
- Encouraged and cooperated with national and international NGOs and development partners in the spirit of solidarity and mobilized resources, including financial and technical resources, to serve the needs of all types of victims and vulnerable groups in society. At the same time, the MOSVY also closely cooperated both within the ASEAN Framework for Social Welfare and Development, including the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Eliminating Violence Against Women and the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Eliminating Violence Against Children, Guidance on Gender in Solving Women in Human Trafficking, Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the elderly people to "empower the elderly people in the region" to develop an action plan to implement the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection.

**Achievements on strengthening institutional capacity and strengthening partnership**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Number of students enrolling in year 1</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Number of students studying Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>503</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Number of students completing Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Number of trainees completing the certificate</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MOSVY

**Challenges**

- There is no overall database of the ministry's leading the preparation of the action plan not inclusive, comprehensive and responsive to the real situations.
- The budget allocated to the ministry increases year-on-year, but most of that budget is spent on officials' salary and pensions.
- Funds that support the inspection and audit work cannot respond to the actual size of the work, leading to the implementation of the management of officials and staff, the use of budget, and the management of the state property inventory, and are used on the wrong target and with little efficiency.
- The National Institute of Social Affairs has not achieved its targets due to lack of means of wide dissemination to students. The attitude of the students does not value the social
skills that the institute is currently providing trainings, and the reputation of the National Institute of Social Affairs has not yet been recognized and supported by students and guardians.

F. Multiple crises and other emerging challenges

With regards to climate change and risk reduction, a number of measures have been undertaken to mainstream climate change adaptive measures in infrastructure, agriculture, energy, water and sanitation, transport and communications. Improvement of the country’s early warning systems is one of the key measures the country is undertaking to increase risk preparedness.

Climate change and environmental sustainability:

Despite Cambodia’s effort to protect the environment in terms of forest cover and biodiversity, sustainability efforts are yet to gather momentum. Evaluated national forest cover resources in 2016 with results showing that Cambodia has a total of 8,742,401 ha, equal to 48.14%, with an average annual change rate of 0.67%. According to estimates over the next two years, the forest cover loss rate will be further mitigated.

Through the forest cover area, the protected areas are continuously increased from 23 sites to 53, including the of Biodiversity Conservation Corridor (the northeast Biodiversity Conservation Corridor, the north Conservation Corridor, the Biodiversity Conservation Corridor of the Cardamom Mountains). At present, the total surface area of the protected area system is over 7.4 million ha, equal to 41% of the entire country land. In addition, the MOE has prepared a number of necessary documents, especially the National Strategic Plan for the Management of the Protected Areas 2017-2031, and the National REDD+ Strategy 2017-2026, which is important to mobilize funds from other sources for managing, preserving and conserving sustainable forest resources in Cambodia. In fact, three REDD+ projects are at the "Keo Seima" wildlife sanctuary, "Prey Lang" wildlife sanctuary and "Tatai" sildlife sanctuary and the Southern Cardamom Mountains National Park and has been cooperating the development of technical procedures for validity valuation between the General Department of Nature Conservation and Protection and some core partners.

At the same time, to implement the Decentralization and Deconcentration Policy, the MOE has been delegating the functions of the administration for Nature Conservation and Protection to the capital and provincial Departments of the Environment on the implementation of the management of protected areas and the implementation of REDD + activities at the subnational level, which is the MOE’s in-depth reform on the protection and conservation of natural resources management and sustainable biodiversity in accordance with the the RGC’s policy and the various conventions and agreements.

Development of green economy, science and technology

With the ministry’s efforts and close collaboration with relevant ministries and agencies, the following achievements have been made:

Green economy

- Prepared strategic plans, action plans, guidelines, national reports and mechanisms related to climate change, biodiversity management and biosafety, green development, and scientific and technological researches.
Established the National Council for Sustainable Development and the General Secretariat to promote sustainable development in order to ensure the balance between economic, social and cultural development in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Science and technology

Coordinated the development and implementation of the Nuclear Energy Utilization program for the purposes of peace, renewable energy, clean energy, biomass, energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emission reduction.

Collaborated with development partners in formulating proposals to mobilize budget for implementation of climate change programs, management of biodiversity resources and biosafety, sustainable city, sustainable energy, and scientific and technological researches.

Responses to climate change

The RGC has increased its budget allocations for the implementation of the Cambodia climate change projects and programs.

Developed Cambodia's policy and position for negotiating and implementing the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and on Biodiversity and multilateral and bilateral agreements at national, regional and international levels.

Biodiversity and Biosafety

Studied and evaluated the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and plant species, which are rare, vulnerable and nearly extinct, and studied the feasibility of creating national parks and gardens.

Community development, econtourism development and heritage area management

The MOE has achieved the following key achievements on community development and management:

- Prepared, revised and published the guidelines for the preparation of the Protected Areas Community to be distributed to the Department of Environment, Protected Areas Community Committees, and development partners for official use for the preparation and strengthening of community capacities in the protected areas of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

- Prepared guidelines and community coordination mechanisms with institutions and stakeholders to compile the Protected Areas Community to have the management structures at national and sub-national level in order to enhance the effectiveness of protection and management of protected areas.

- Drafted guidelines on procedures for the preparation of eco-tourism communities in the protected areas communities and prepared guidance for owners of eco-tourism investment projects to comply with legal procedures.

- Educated, disseminated and raised awareness on eco-tourism and natural resources conservation.

- Studied to develop proposals and created maps for the creation of a natural heritage site "Phnom Tbeng", in Preah Vihear and "Phnom Yat" in Pailin.

- Studied and prepared data of 155 ancient sites and 350 poles to mark the protection boundary of three ancient protected areas in the "Phnom Kulen National Park" and the study of 86 ancient sites at the "Kulen Promtep" wildlife sanctuary in Preah Vihear and found fossils there.
• Participated in the protection and preservation of the "Yaknaing" temple at Virak Chey National Park, Ratanak Kiri and the Historic Village of "Choeung Ek" round village to be sustainable in collaboration with Department of Culture and Fine Arts.

Challenges

• Necessary policies and laws to ensure the sustainability of natural resources and the environment are not sufficient for the current and future needs.
• Institutional capacity and expertise in coordinating and aligning the implementation of policies, legal documents, strategic plans and action plans is not yet efficient and effective.
• Public private understanding and participation in sustainable development is not yet comprehensive.
• Cooperation and financing from development partners haven’t yet met with the needs of the policies and strategic plans which have been implementing.
• Mainstreaming the basic principles of sustainable development, including climate change, green economy, biodiversity, science and technology into the sectoral action plans is not complete yet.
• The legal documents on environmental protection are not adequate.
• Lack of equipment, materials, and means for waste treatment with environmental safety.
• The capacity of sub-national administrations to manage waste at urban areas, municipalities and districts is limited
• There is limited awareness and involvement of the public and stakeholders on environmental protection.
• Resolving land use conflicts in and around the protected areas is not fully settled.

Disaster Management

The National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) has made the following achievements:
• Developed a Roadmap for dissemination and implementation of the disaster management law in Cambodia the disaggregated disaster loss and damage data (2005-2017) in Cambodia had been analysed and generated;
• Established the Platforms for Real-time Information Systems (PRISM) streamlines data management, reporting, flow and analysis for the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) and Provincial Committees for Disaster Management (PCDM) for real time information decision making
• Law on Disaster Management and Established and implemented the rapid onset disaster Early Warning System “EWS 1294” in 11 provinces across Cambodia
• Updated and promulgated the National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction 2014-2018
• Established Cambodia Disaster Loss and Damage Database (CamDi)
• Established the coordination task force for preparedness, emergency response and recovery
• Developed a Climate Change Action Plan for the Disaster Risk Management Sector 2014-2018

Challenges
• Capacity gaps (disaster information and monitoring, risk assessments and disaster risk reduction strategies);

• The only few numbers of line ministries-institutions has established a disaster management unit/mechanism and assigned a focal point for effective and productive coordination;

• Financing and investments (no specific budget allocation for the effective implementation of disaster risk reduction, disaster prevention and preparedness and recovery programme activities-public-private investments and risk insurance penetration);

• Governance challenges and localization (including community-based disaster risk reduction);

• Changing risk landscape (Rapid and poorly managed urbanization, etc.);

• Effective early warning (technological and data gaps) and its translation into early action (human capacity gaps);

• Inadequate subsidiary legislations, policies, and guidelines for disaster management in line with the regional and global development trends

Common property resources: In Cambodia, the poor in general and the extreme poor in particular depend heavily on common property resources such as fishery and forestry resources as a vital income source, as a safety net in the face of adverse shocks, and as an important source of nutrient. Unsustainable exploitation of these resources are also, therefore, a major source of vulnerability of the poor with adverse implications on poverty reduction in the country.

For Cambodia, the goal in preservation, conservation and sustainable use of all natural resources, including its bio-diversity, is not only to conserve Cambodia’s unique natural heritage but also to reduce vulnerability, enhance environmental sustainability and contribute to sustainable economic growth, poverty reduction and improvement in the lives of rural communities.

Implementing national strategies for sustainable development: Cambodia has adopted national strategies for sustainable development under which integrated responses are being implemented to environmental and economic constraints. The strategies highlight the importance of sensitization and advocacy activities for which greater reliance is paid on local communities, their traditional knowledge and practices, and on effective participation of the civil society. The Sustainable development

G. Mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity building

Domestic recourse mobilization:

Cambodia has continued its successful resource mobilization effort based on its commitment to poverty reduction incorporating inclusive and broad-based socioeconomic growth. Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) has contributed to the high economic growth rate at approximately 7.3% per annum over the past decade. This has significant contributions to the declining poverty rates from an alarming 53% in 2004 to 13.5% in 2014 and continue to decline to below 10% in 2018.

Official development assistance:

There have been successful achievements in mobilizing external development cooperation resources to support socio-economic development in the country. In 2008 it has recorded total
disbursement exceeding USD 1 billion and rising to almost USD 1.5 billion in 2012. ODA disbursements has accrued to USD 1.43 billion in 2014, a small decline compared to the 2013 figure of USD 1.46 billion. However, one must note the loan percent of ODA is also on the rise. Long-term trends show that the total aid/GDP ratio fluctuates around 10% for the entire 2005-2013 periods as external cooperation funding and GDP have grown at similar rates over the period. Official Development Assistance is disaggregated across four broad categories: social; economic; infrastructure and crosscutting sectors and continued to closely implement consistent to national development priorities.

**External debt:**

Public debt management has been improved significantly. Cambodia has gradually upgraded in term of Debt to GDP ratio (low to medium level) since 2011. Public expenditure management has been carefully implemented below 40% of the GDP or below 250% of total revenue. This achievement allowed Cambodia to mobilize external concessional assistance in order to fulfil the demands of public capital investment for supporting prioritized sectors. In 2014, the current debt to GDP ratio was 23.3%, the debt to export ratio was 34.9%, and the debt to revenue was 155.4%. The Debt Management Strategy 2019-2023 will focus on borrowing principle based on supportable economic production ensure macroeconomic and Supports public financial sustainability.

**Strengthening Partnership Mechanisms:**

Cambodia has strengthened cooperation with development partners through recognizing roles and responsibilities of all development actors including private sector, non-governmental organizations, south-south and regional partners. In this regard, the Development Cooperation and Partnership Strategy 2014-2018 clarifies roles and responsibilities of all development actors and establishes principles, tools and dialogue arrangements for working with all partners.

**Challenges and Opportunities:**

Cambodia’s threshold of attaining Lower Middle-Income Country status may imply changes to development cooperation financing in Cambodia, notably an increasing share of concessional loan finance. Regional integration, including ASEAN Economic Community 2015, represents additional challenges but also opportunity that can result antecedent impacts on industrial sector, employment, and national incomes. In this context, all development actors need to continue to work and collaborate with the Government to strengthen the national system and capacity for improving public service delivery and increasing economic competitiveness.

**Way forward to sustain and further progress in mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity building:**

Global changes to levels and approaches in provision of development finance, including increasing South-South partnering, leverage private sector engagement and to use parallel funds to address issues such as climate change adaptation, bring opportunities as well as challenges. GDP growth is matched by significant progress in mobilizing domestic revenues while the increasing presence of non-traditional development partners, particularly from the Asia region, and new modalities of cooperation – such as South-South initiatives from former aid recipients -
provide broader opportunities for continuing national development that is nationally-owned and strongly led by Government.

In addition to mobilizing official resource flows, both domestic and external, the private sector and the non-profit sector have proven to be effective development actors and there is potential for closer collaboration. A newly emerged global initiative, a Financing for Development, has guided its way to post 2015 agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals.

CRDB/CDC, Cambodia coordinating body in mobilizing external resources, stands ready to adapt the global evolution by mapping resources flows both externally and internally. Under leadership of the RGC, effective development partnerships will accommodate the diversity of actors and modalities, embracing the differentiated contribution made by each toward common development goals.

**H. Good governance at all levels:**

Democracy where people periodically voice their choice of leaders through elections to political and legislative institutions has already taken strong roots in Cambodia. An independent National Election Commission conducts the democratic elections based on full adult franchise with the last one held in 2018 which more than 83% 03.

**Ensuring good governance:**

Cambodia has put in place highly participatory system for grassroots level involvement in governance. With the commune councils in place through commune level elections in 2002 and decentralization starting with the Seila programme based on bottom- up, integrated, participatory, decentralized rural development, the Government has approved its Strategic Framework for Decentralization and Deconcentration (D&D) in June 2005. The framework provides clear guidelines and procedures to increasingly develop responsibilities and resources for development to provincial, district and commune levels.

Cambodia has adopted and pursues a multi-pronged attack on corruption. The Royal Government’s aim is to reduce all opportunities for corruption through putting in place unambiguous laws and procedures, clear transparency, accountability and predictability together with stringent punishment for those detected of corrupt behaviour. A n Anti-Corruption Law, conforming to international best practices. A clear Plan of Action has been adopted for legal and judicial reform.

A National Programme for Administration Reform has been taken up around four strategic objectives: improving delivery of public services; enhancing pay salaries and performance; developing capacity of people and institutions; and promoting use of information and communication technology. Innovation tools like Priority Mission Groups (PMGs) have been designed to accelerate special tasks.

In addition to cross-cutting areas of judiciary and law, public finance, civil administration and anti-corruption, Cambodia’s reforms in specific areas such in land and forestry management and armed forces and demobilization are important elements of its good governance agenda. The land reforms are being implemented to develop land tenure and land market and ensure pro-poor land access. In case of forestry, the reforms are designed to spell out and implement a clear
strategy to address management of concessions. Annual coupes, community forests and protected areas in a sustainable manner. Cambodia is also steadily pursuing de-mining operations which are not only humanitarian and security related issues but have significant social and economic implications especially on land distribution and security of poor farming households in remote areas.

As stated in NSDP 2014-2018, and 2019-2023 Good governance remains at the core of achieving social justice and sustainable and equitable socio-economic development. In order to further strengthen good governance, the Royal Government has firmly implemented key reform programs, including: (1) the fight against corruption; (2) legal and judicial reform; (3) public administration reform; and (4) reform of armed forces. The implementation of these reforms was done with other reforms with the following progress:

**Combating Corruption:**
The RGC of Cambodia has given high priority to anti-corruption work and has expanded and enhanced the effectiveness of the three core measures, including (1) strengthening education “to stop corrupt practices, (2) preventing corruption, (3) suppression of crimes by referring all cases to court.

**Strengthening education “to stop corrupt practices”**
- Implemented and mainstreamed education to stop corruption practices to all targets by (1) inclusion of general education curricula from elementary to high school (Grades 4-12) (2) direct promotion at national, sub-national, private institutions, academic institutions, and press organizations, along with the distribution of education materials produced by the UN and (3) organizing the celebration of the International Day Against Corruption and creating a poetry competition, writing short stories, singing songs, chapei songs, painting, comedy, etc. which is related to anti-corruption.
- Encouraging the public sector, the private sector, and the civil society to educate them not to commit corruption.

**Preventing corruption**
- (1) Developed a Joint Prakas on Public Service Delivery, clearly identifying the cost of the delivery, period and the specific delivery mechanism. (2) Memorandum of Understanding on Anti-Corruption Cooperation with the Private Sector and jointly launching "Anti-Corruption Program for Business in Cambodia" and (3) made written warnings on civil servants in the first phase, failing to enforce the laws and regulations in force.
- Participated in observation of the RGC’s official recruitments, vocational school examination, high school diploma examination and observation on auction of seized forest products, and public procurement to strengthen transparency of collection of revenue and efficiency of expenditure by the ministries and institutions.
- Declaration of assets and liabilities every 2 years of new positions, resignation, termination, retirement, great success with the good cooperation of anti-corruption focal points at all ministries, institutions and provinces and the dissemination of the Law on Anti-Corruption. Declaration of Assets and Liabilities is maintained in accordance with technical standards and high security and confidentiality.

**Suppression of crimes by referring all cases to court**
• Introduced and implemented an easy complaints mechanism and resolved the complaints in a timely manner.
• Developed and implemented complaints monitoring and analysis mechanisms as a complaint analysis meeting to analyse, comment, and decided on the resolution of complaints every morning of the working day by allowing the complainant to attend and provide additional information.
• Took some effective measures such as asking stakeholders to comment on allegations in case of a minor tip, transfer of authority if the lawsuit is not relevant and warns those who in the first instance failed to enforce the existing laws and regulations.
• Investigated to collect strong evidence and build a case to send perpetrators of corruption to the courts.
• Cambodia to strengthen, expand and enhance regional and international anti-corruption efforts in the region and in the world, enforced its active duty and participated in the process of reviewing the implementation of UNCAC in the first round of 2013-2015, with the participation of the legislature judicial institutions, relevant ministries, NGOs, civil society, academic institutions, media institutions and the private sector are highly appreciated by the UN and become a model and practice for many countries.

Challenges

• Change of mindset and jointly combat with corruption: It takes time, patience, and unwavering support from stakeholders to change the mindset, and habits to hate corruption.
• Comprehension of implementation, learning, building strength and ability: Limited resources and staff capacity which is really needed, learning, building strength, and building capacity step by stem.
• The difficulty of finding evidence: The perpetrator of corruption has evolved by adding caution and attempting to cover up the crimes.
• Lack of important procedures and mechanisms related to the protection of witnesses and individuals reporting, confiscation of pre-and post-conviction offenses.

In 2015, Ministry of National Assembly-Senate Relations and Inspection (MONASRI) has made a great effort to implement its mandate with good results. As a result, after the inspection, it showed that there was a decline in abnormalities caused by mismanagement in ministries, agencies, enterprises and public institutions, loss of state property, budget fraud, unsuitable budget expenditure, unpaid tax businesses, counterfeited documents related to veterans, the law enforcement in the companies with investment contract, anarchic business in forestry sector, and land invasion by the people and these were improved by the responsible institutions, making the mistakes. In addition, law education and dissemination helped to strengthen the awareness of the people on law, contributing to the prevention and reduction of disputes, which are the burden of the government ensuring the freedom, justice and benefits of the people and national stability.

Legal and Judicial Reform:

In the Fifth Legislature of the National Assembly, the Ministry of Justice has worked hard to provide legal services and justice services to the people and has fulfilled their respective tasks
and roles in the past five years. From 2014 to 2018, the justice sector has made the following achievements:

**a. Regulation**
- In order to strengthen the rule of law, the Ministry of Justice has collaborated with the development partners to develop and draft some important basic laws that Cambodia really needs. In addition to the existing laws since 2014, the Ministry of Justice has created three more fundamental laws such as (1) Law on the Organization of the Judiciary, (2) Law on Statute, Judges and Prosecutors, and (3) Law on Organization and Function of the Supreme Council of the Magistracy and the 8 legal documents which have been approved and put in force. There are also two international instruments which has already been prepared (1) Law on the Approval of the Extradition Treaty between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and (2) A Cross-Border Compromise Agreement between the Kingdom Cambodia and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Additionally, the Ministry of Justice has been reviewing six draft laws: (1) Draft Notary Law, (2) Draft Law on Bailiff, (3) Draft Law on Statute of Greffiers, (4) Draft Law on Experts in the Field of Justice, (5) Draft Law on Legal Aid in the Criminal Sector, (6) Drafting of Draft Law, (7) Draft Civil Registration Law, and (8) Draft Law on Suppression of Human Trafficking. In addition to the draft laws, the Ministry of Justice is also drafting a draft Law on Criminal and Civilian Assistance and a number of legal documents. The Ministry of Justice also plays an important role in taking part in reviewing and commenting on a number of draft laws drafted by the government ministries and institutions, especially the comments related to the penalties.

**b. Human resource development**

1. **Training, dissemination and research at the ministry level**
- The MOJ has organized the dissemination of law books, especially the four basic principles (Civil Code, Civil Procedure, Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure) to all legislatives, executive, courts, and all universities, state institutions and justice police in the capital, provinces, municipalities, districts and Khans throughout the country to have these documents as the basis for their work implementation and research.
- Academy Committee in charge of approving the legal terms under the MOJ was established in 2014.

**c. Court administration and justice development**
- The MOJ testified systematic case management systems in some provincial courts and in 2016 added additional mandatory management information systems and the administrative affairs website in 2017, extending the system of case management system by computer network to the provincial courts by 2018 The MOJ also established an electronic system for registration and technical guidance to some provincial courts.
- With the aim of increasing access to justice to people in the community and the remote areas to make it easier for the people, the MOJ are preparing to build Tbong Khmum Appeal Court and Battambang Provincial Court of Appeal and checking the possibility of building a appeal court in Sihanoukville.

**d. Out of court justice services**
- The MOJ has cooperated with the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia to organize the defense of the poor.
Challenges

During the implementation, the MOJ encountered the following challenges:

- Limited awareness and participation of the civil servant and the public in the implementation of legal reform programs;
- Limited means of work performance at the courts
- The number of judges, prosecutors, and greffiers and contracting officials is not yet meeting the requirements.

Public Administration Reform:

In the Fifth Legislature of the National Assembly, the RGC has changed structural management at the national and sub-national levels in order to improve the quality and productivity of their respective performance. In fact, at this stage, the RGC established the Ministry of Civil Services, which has the duty to develop the public service sector and public administration reform. At the same time, the National Program for Public Administration Reform 2015-2018 is structured mainly for three purposes: (1) public service with quality, simplicity, efficiency, reliability, rapidity, timely response to needs, easy access and the participation from all service users; (2) empowering and developing civil servants with more efficiency, effectiveness and reliability of providing public services, adhering to the culture of public service, willfulness, loyalty and professional conscience; (3) the salary system ensures equity, increases productivity and efficiency, and ensures uniformity between the framework of the civil servants and the armed forces. At the same time, the Ministry has achieved remarkable achievements as follows:

Improving the quality of public service

- Regularly updated 26 public service newsletters and launched public service delivery application via smartphones.
- Implemented four more special operation agencies in the Ministry of Health in Kampot, Prey Veng, Kratie and Kampong Thom.
- Cooperated with the Secretariat of the National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development in the development of legal normative documents for expanding the implementation of the One Window Service at capital, provincial, municipal, district and Khan councils.
- Established an inter-ministerial working group and collaborated with the Institute of Telecommunication Technology of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and Cambodia Transparency Organization to set up and launch smart phone application for providing the public service information and public service e-gateway Phase 1.
- Prepared a draft Law on Public Services to establish a legal framework for promoting quality improvement and efficiency of public service delivery.
- Established and implemented a Sub-Decree on the Evaluation and Recognition of Public Service Delivery model units in the field of education and health, to promote competitive movement and to improve public service delivery at state education and health institutions.
- Provided trainings to civil servants at public service units about policies, strategies, approaches, and methods of providing and improving the quality and efficiency of public service delivery.
- Cooperated with the ASEAN Secretariat to implement the Guideline on Public Service Standards for the 10 ASEAN countries.
• Encouraged ministries to use IT in providing services such as tax, customs, electricity, water, road tax, plate number for vehicle and motorbikes, driving licenses, trade registration, trade licenses, and so forth.
• Encouraged ministries and agencies to revise the structure to establish a single window office or mechanism for public service delivery such as SEZs, the district administration, provincial administration, etc.

Salary system reform:

The Ministry of Economy and Finance has made good progress in implementing the Public Financial Management Reform Program. The purpose of this reform program is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Cambodia's public financial management system in line with international standards. The key components of the reform program include consolidating confidence, budgeting, strengthening management and revenue collection, strengthening financial accountability through financial information management systems, and expanding the implementation of program budgets and improving the implementation of budget strategic plans.

Achievements

1. Budget is more credible and becomes a catalyst to maintain the macroeconomic stability and public financial sustainability

• The RGC has achieved important indicators of the macroeconomic framework, including 7% economic growth, maintaining low inflation within 3%, exchange rate around 4,000 riels/US dollar and lower budget deficits.
• Revenue has increased between 15%-20% per annum over the last 5 years, and the current national revenue increased from about 15.06% of GDP in 2013 to 19.64% in 2017, nearly double or approximately 4.58% of GDP. At the same time, the execution of revenue is closer to the goal of +/- 5% of the loan amount determined by the law.
• Expenditure has increased by 1.8 times from 2013-2017, and the focus is on key priority areas and the budget execution on expenditure are more effective, both the allocation level and operational level. At the same time, the expenditure execution is closer to the goal of +/- 5% of the credit limit set by the law.
• The current account surplus reached 3.6% of GDP per year and reduced the total budget deficit from -7.01% in 2013 of GDP to -5.84% of GDP in 2018.
• Effective cash management with no debt arising in which the salary and other deductions of civil servants and state employees are transferred directly into the bank account in the fourth week of the month. In addition, pensioners have also received a steady increase in pensions and other benefits.
• Public debt is properly managed and consistently adhered to in four key points (1) having the appropriate loan size that the budget and the economy can handle; (2) have a loan with a high concession or favorable conditions; (3) having loan for the priority sectors only, sustaining sustainability, growth and sector, increasing economic productivity; and (4) using credit These transparent, accountable, efficient and highly effective. At the same time, the RGC maintained the ratio of debt to GDP ratio. Only 20.6% (excluding heritage debt) and 22.8% (including hedge debt), as set out in the Debt Management Strategy 2015-2018 (below 40%).
In addition, the increase in income levels has enabled the RGC to increase its expenditure on improving quality and expanding public service coverage through the recurrent budget of the national budget and public investment budget to provide much better and closer public services to the people who are the consumers. On this basis, in the last 5 years, the total amount of national budget has nearly doubled, with the total expenditure of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport increased by more than three times the total cost of the Ministry of Health has nearly doubled half the cost; the total of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has nearly tripled, and direct investment spending with financing in the country is increasing twice and a half. On the other hand, the proportion of budget revenues from external financing sources in the national budget has decreased from almost 70% in 1995 to only 21.4% in 2017 and will continue to decrease further 20% in 2018. This is a testament to the fact that Cambodia has become more financially independent and more self-sufficient.

**Decentralization and De-concentration**

From 2014-2018, Decentralization and Deconcentration (D&D) Program has focused on these priorities: (1) reform management, (2) good governance, (3) human resource development and management, (4) service delivery and local development and (5) financial decentralization.

Under the leadership and coordination of National Council for Sub-national Democratic Development (NCDD) with the cooperation with public administration reform, public financial management reform and other sectoral reforms, D&D program has been implemented with the following achievements:

**Reform Management:** Key achievements include (1) approximately 300 legal documents have been prepared and implemented to ensure the promotion of public service delivery and basic economic development; (2) D&D Process; (3) structure and SNA management system are continuously reviewed and revised to ensure compliance responding to the different characteristics of each SNA and (4) The Association of Sub-National Administrative Councils, including the National Association of Capitral and Provincial Councils, and the National League of Association of the Administration, Municipality, District and Commune Councils were created to support and capacity development for Sub-National Councils.

**Governance:** The process of exercise of decision-making power and decision-making in the management of state or private institutions or civil society organizations. Key achievements include (1) Strategic Plan and Program on Social Accountability was organized and implemented in close partnership with civil society to provide key information pertaining to implementation, budget utilization, service delivery and implementation of projects of commune/sangkat administrations and local authorities; (2) principles for promoting gender, equity, social equity and strategies increasing women in management positions were mainstreamed into work processes and management system of SNA; (3) mechanisms for settling complaints from citizens regarding public service delivery and SNA management were developed and put into operation; and (4) accountability between the council and the people, between the council and its administrative officers, and between the councils and the ministries and agencies has been gradually strengthened.

**Human resource development and management:** Key achievements include (1) key legal documents related to the establishment of the human resource management system and human
resource development at the SNAs to delegate to the SNAs for the staff management of staff working at the sub-national level have been developed and implemented; (2) the strategic plan for increasing the number of women in the SNA management positions has been developed and implemented; (3) capacity development for SNAs on regulations, the framework of systematic implementation and work procedures are regularly provided and (4) the national school of local administration was established and started functioning.

Service delivery and local development: Key achievements include (1) 14 ministries and agencies have organized functional and resource transfer functions to SNAs, in which 4 ministries transferred 16 functions to sub-national administrations, the Ministry of Environment transferred 6 functions; Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation transferred 3 functions; Ministry of Rural Development transferred 3 functions; Ministry of Education, Youths and Sports transferred 4 functions. (2) The Ministry of Interior has proposed to the RGC the Sub-Decree on the Establishment of a One Window Service Mechanism for delivering administrative services at the SNAs. 14 relevant ministries delegated over 600 administrative functions to capital, provincial administrations and district, municipality and Khan administrations to provide administrative services to the people through the One Window Service Office (OWSO). The OWSOs at district, municipality and Khan were established and put into operation.

Financial decentralization: Key achievements include (1) establishment of an unconditional fund transfer system (district, municipality fund and commune/Sangkat fund); (2) establishment of a flexible funding mechanism attached to a function transferred to the SNAs; (3) establishing a sub-national investment fund transferring mechanism, which is an additional financing to the SNAs in a competitive manner for implementing public investment projects; (4) establishing SNA’s own direct source of income through the sharing of tax and non-tax revenues between capital, provincial, district, municipal, Khans and communes/Sangkats by assigning the capital, provincial administration to distribute the tax revenues at the rate of 3% to the district, municipal administration and 1% to the commune/Sangkat administration.

Challenges

Along with the above achievements, several challenges arise as follows:

- Function transfer processes to the SNAs are slower than expected. SNAs have not yet been able to fully implement these functions due to the delay in transferring financial and human resources to implement those functions.
- The development and implementation of the SNA staff management system is much slower than expected, which has led SNAs to not have complete control over the management, assignment, and use of their staff with responsibility and accountability to SNAs.
- The development of recent SNA developments focuses only on legislative frameworks, with no focus on specific skills development that are needed for innovative leadership initiatives. Management and assignment of public service delivery and economic development to meet specific needs of the people at the local level.
- The sub-national management structure has yet to responded to a unified administration management policy that guarantees the leadership, management and coordination of the implementation of public actions within the mandate of each local administration.
- For the provincial department's service delivery procedures, there is a need for a deeper
study and understanding between the capital, provincial administrations and capital, provincial departments to simplify the process for the people.

**Armed force reform:**

Responding to threats, the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces have exercised their rights to defend themselves in effectively preventing and reparation, maintaining the sovereignty of all lands and maintaining the highest tolerance, in strict compliance with international law such as the achievements of diplomatic and legal efforts. Achievements made by the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces are:

- Implemented the vision of transforming former combating zones into development zones from battlefields into economic markets from hazardous areas to tourist destinations from fearful to peaceful areas.
- Carrying out border defense, sea security, exercise, and training; the UN peacekeeping operations; counterterrorism; humanitarian assistance and disaster response; international cooperation; and defense resources management.
- Established the National Institute of Management of Peacekeeping and ERWs and established the Cambodian Veterans Association to serve welfare services in the military community, focusing on the RGC’s land concession policy.
- Obtained the rights to do business in order to find the source of income, enhance the prestige of the army and increase the standard of living of the military community.

Currently, the Ministry of National Defense has built a new historical achievement, the Win-Win Monument, which began the construction on 25 February 2016 and officially launched on 29 December 31, 2018. The achievement of this historical achievement is to show the values of peace and reconciliation under the leadership of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

**Challenges**

Along with the above achievements, the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces faced the following challenges:

- There is not a suitable vocational training center to strengthen the military's capabilities in science, technology and skill.
- The management and the utilization of the army's physical assets have not yet maximized the benefits of improving the standard of living and organizational development.
- The establishment of strategic partnerships for long-term business cooperation and investment has not obtained responses.

**Cults and religion:**

The Ministry of Cults and Religion (MOCR) plays an important role in implementing the Policy on Promoting State Religion, Social Ethics Value and Religion Harmonization following the RGC’s reforms in the fifth mandate to enhance the economic growth, creating jobs, ensure equity and efficiency in parallel with the growth trend in the region and the world.
During the 5-year period, the ministry has implemented its policy with the following remarkable achievements:

1. **Buddhism education**

   The Ministry of Cults and Religion has been operating smoothly with the aim of providing equitable education services, improving the quality and efficiency of education services in the Buddhist field by training both monks and buddhist men about the discipline from Buddhist disciplines to higher education.

Ministry of Cults and Religion has continued to implement the Religion Policy, particularly Buddhism, the national religion and the main basic for mental education, ethics, culture, customs, literature and development. In 2014, the ministry:

   **Challenges in culture:**

   destruction of ancient sites in the remote areas, lack of cultural infrastructure, lack of legal documents managing cultural sector and lack of capacity to disseminate all forms of culture and limited creative activities.

**IV. Coherence and linkages with the Post 2015 development agenda and other global processes:**

Cambodia has actively participated in the international, continental and regional meetings including the ASEAN frameworks, the Sustainable Development Goads (SDGs), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CDAW), and other international program. Cambodia just prepared and present Voluntary National Review 2019 on the implementation of the agenda 2030 for sustainable Development Goals on July 2019. Cambodia is committed to these developmental agendas and has been doing so through domesticking them by making them part and parcel of the national development agenda. The National Vision 2030 which is operationalized by 5 year national development plans and other policies and programmes ensures its implementation takes into account international development initiatives such as those stated above.

**V. Conclusion and Toward the next LDC agenda**

Although economic performance has been positive and consistent in the last decade, there is still need for the country to take more effort to sustain the positive economic growth and reduce poverty eliminate hunger and lifting up living standard of Cambodian population. The actions need to be done in order to achieve Government priorities placed in Rectangular Strategy-IV, achieve Cambodian Sustainable development Goals (CSDGs) and especially to reach the IPoA target to graduate from Ldc. The Actions to be undertaken include:

Rationalizing the roles and duties, management structure, and inter-institutional coordination by focusing on strengthening ownership, responsibility and clear division of accountability of each ministry-institution, especially through the firm enforcement of the Law on the Organization and Function of the Council of Minister.

Strengthening leadership, sense of ownership and responsibility and internal unity of the institutions, formulation and strict implementation of the code of conduct, and selection of quality people with high qualification for the management position in the public sector,
Promoting meritocracy in the recruitment, appointment and promotion process along with the provision of incentives and other benefits to civil servants and public institutions, especially the implementation of performance-based system in the public sector.

Strengthening management capacity of the public sector through putting in place legal and regulatory framework, work infrastructure, human capital development framework which focus on skills and talent, and the use of information technology to improve the management of civil servants’ information and data.

Continuing to reform the armed forces through 1. Strengthening leadership, management and distinction 2. Human resource development and capacity building by enhancing the capacity of appropriate technology training and building the Continuing Forces of Forces Turn 3. Strengthening the capacity to maintain security, continue to drive the army and family troops to live along the border Combat terrorism to ensure peace boundaries and national security development and no threat of terrorism 4. Strengthen the capacity to participate in the expansion and strengthening of international cooperation, especially in the fulfillment of the peacekeeping mission in the framework of the organization. United Nations and 5. Enhancing capacity to support the development of Hey Infrastructure, environmental protection and intervention in times of natural disasters and humanitarian operations to assist arable farming people

- Improving incentives in agriculture, tourism and manufacturing sectors to enhance the competitiveness of the sectors.
- Establishment of agro – processing industries and agribusinesses to enhance diversification
- Improve infrastructure especially in energy, transport, education, health, water and sanitation.
- Improving access to credit for small and medium enterprises to improve financing for enterprises and small scale farmers especially women.
- Invest in research and development and technology in the key economic sectors to improve diversification and enhance standards.
- Improve efforts towards ensuring environmental sustainability.
- Enhancement of youth development efforts to deal with youth unemployment
- Promoting gender equality and empowerment of women.
- Establish new financing avenues for rural development.

In order to meet the targets set out in the IPoA, there is need for development assistance to be structured in such a way that it meets the desired needs of the country and should not attract stringent conditionality. There is also need for development partners to meet their commitments towards implementing the IPoA and other international agreements. Likewise, Cambodia has heavily invested in economic and social infrastructure especially it is structured around the eight development priorities set out in the Istanbul Program of Action such as roads, electricity, water and irrigation systems, education, health, and other social services in order to promote inclusive and sustainable growth, socio-economic development and ensure poverty reduction of more than targeted 1% per annum. This is in an effort to facilitate viable business environment and increased economic competitiveness.

Furthermore, what Cambodia must do is to create opportunity for all the people to participate
in socio-economic activities especially for young people through the following important measures:

Maintain long-term high economic growth and promoting a transformation of economic structure to be more productive, particularly through promoting SMEs development, attracting investment and increasing investment in physical infrastructure for better linkages between rural to urban areas and to market as well as to other countries in the region;

Pay more attention to investing in agriculture and relevant infrastructure such as irrigation and water management system, and continue to provide support services, new technologies as well as other inputs to the sector for enhancing productivity, production and export;

Accelerate implementation of trade liberalization policies especially through improving trade facilitation, providing preferential treatments to developing countries, and reducing trade barriers for diversifying export products and markets in the region and the world;

Continue to upgrade quality of education and skill trainings that generate value addition, particularly in science, technology, and engineering as well as promoting professional careers and strengthen vocational education along with other important social protection programs; and promoting financial inclusion and providing easy access to sources of finance in order to give opportunity to all the people to use financial services.

In addition apply e-government to manage all the activities as just introduce for the last few years in the region as well as on the developing countries.

In conclusion, Cambodia remains committed to ensuring that there is sustainable and inclusive economic growth that will enable her graduate from the LDCs category, by 2030 Cambodia will be transformed into a upper income nation and will become high income country in 2050 as identified in nation vision 2050.

VI. Statistical Annex to Support Policy and planning preparation and Monitoring and Evaluation

The need to ensure indicator choices and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) processes remain relevant to policy feedback or management requirements. This is particularly important in the rapidly changing policy context of Cambodia – and with specific regard to the NSDP, this is seen by the level of evolution between RS III to RS IV, adaptation of the CSDGs and IPoA as a primary long-term M&E framework. This has been achieved within the NSDP through reshaping the frame to reflect the new structure of Government priorities in the RS and revising the core indicator choices to draw predominately on the CSDG dataset. In addition, this has required judicious selection of indicator data from the proposed RS Strategic Results Framework (SRF) and crafting new ones based on the needs of decision makers. This will also need to be looked at again during annual reviews, and ongoing efforts will be needed to ensure indicators and frameworks (NSDP, CSDGs and Strategic Result Framework (SRF), and IPoA) are synergized and kept up to date.
RGC will also prioritize efforts to improve coordination between the producers and users of indicator data to ensure needs are met. There are multiple agencies requiring data on diverse issues (finances, agriculture, industry, labor to name a few), and in turn, supply is also diverse with several agencies collecting and compiling both statistical and administrative data. This is appropriate and efficient; a single agency cannot undertake all these tasks and some datasets are highly technical in nature. This shows that there is a de facto market place for data within public policy management, yet it is important this market is managed. Ministry of Planning (MOP) on behalf RGC aims to do this by coordinating via the work of General Directorate of Planning (GDP), and the output of National Institute of Statistics (NIS) as a monopoly provider of statistical data.

The questions of completeness and quality of data – i.e. securing enough data at the right time, with the appropriate level of reliability, relevance and disaggregation. Several considerations are relevant here, first is the need to ensure that all selected indicators can be collected, have appreciate souring details and specification (termed meta data) and that base and end lines and milestones are given. Additionally, tests are needed to ensure that target-based indicators meet the minimum SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound) requirements. Any issues can be identified by testing of the data and relating indicators back to the policy and management objectives hey aim to track.

Resolving issues revealed however, extends well-beyond effective design of the framework, to management and governance of M&E processes. As noted, there are multiple agencies collecting/collating data and effective coordination is limited. Efforts are needed to ensure that as far as possible definitions and data generation processes are comparable, and where possible agencies should be engaged to follow, international, or at least nationally accepted definitions and practices.

As in previous cycles, three strategies will be pursued by MOP to deliver this: (1) increased data standardization - building on the National Strategy for Development-Statistics (NSDS) which provides quality standards for statistical data, MOP will extend this to administrative datasets and compilation processes; (2) specification of common sources and definitions within national data frameworks (NSDP, the CSDGs and the SRF to encourage consolidation; and (3) recognizing that standardization is not deliverable overnight, inform the users of the differences and discourage the comparison of incomparable variables.

Extension of the MOP’s efforts (via the NSDS) to reshape the statistical system, including administrative data is a priority as these policies relevant and readily available. MOP through is ongoing partnership with LMs/LAs will work to improve the two most prominent databases, which are available in public domain: the Education Management Information System (EMIS); and the Health Information System (HIS).

Group of challenges refer to a series of technical and especially analytical, capacity gaps. Staff are often unable to formulate SMART indicators for their sectors, nor do they have adequate capacity
to collate and analyze data for policy and decision making. Some often gaps also have in institutional dimensions, with some agencies eschewing an evidence-based approach. Moreover, efforts underway within PFMRP led by MEF, to link budgets to delivery performance, via the use of output indicators within Budget Strategic Plans (BSPs), will heighten the importance of these challenges.

In response, and building on efforts in past cycles, MOP on behalf RGC, with other ministries agencies, will undertake a series of measures to develop key capacities:

- Set up a national system for M&E the result of NSDP implementation and CSDG and IPoA achievements;
- Prepare, with closely cooperation with LMs/LAs and other stake holders, Annual Progress Report (APR), Mid-term Review (MTR) and Final Report of NSDP implementation, Progress Report on CSDP and IPoA achievement;
- Formulate new technical guidelines and a National M&E Strategy, and disseminate these widely, and support with familiarization training;
- Strengthen systems for major projects tracking (delivered by the Three-Year Rolling Public Investment Plan);
- Link and synergize NSDP M&E with indicators and data used to monitor budgeting via the Budget Strategic Plan (BSP) process;
- Provide training packages for officials-in-charge of planning and statistics; and ad hoc training on the basics of M&E, data collection, analysis for other focal points in the line ministries and agencies;
- Establish a one-stop technical assistance service for ministries and agencies on indicator selection, data collection, data analysis/ interpretation, formulation of results framework and so forth (as requested).

LMs/LAs need to provide inputs and closely cooperation accordant with MOP requirement for preparing APR, MTR, and end report of NSDP implementation and for preparing CSDG, IPoA achievement progress report.

NSDS will provide a road map for support sustainable data producing. NSDS will also support for additional statistic producing as needed to ensure objectives of statistic system for effective and efficiency M&E policies implementation and statistic program.

NSDS is an effective tool for identify the statistic operation situation, human development, and data quality improvement at sectoral level for planning, policy formulation, and decision makings.

Moreover, NIS of MOP continue to implement NSDS 2019-2023 with 8 strategic objectives as follow:

- Strategic Objective 1: Develop, implement, and maintain a core data set of high quality by all institutions of the National Statistics System (NSS), under the leadership of the NIS,
to adequately respond to the statistical requirements to support development processes arising from, NSDP, SDG, and ASEAN commitments and the needs of other users. To achieve these strategic objective there are 4 priority activities: (1) link the operation of national statistic system to development policies; (2) improve data policy and statistical infrastructure; (3) support for data compilation for CSDG and IPoA; and (4) continue to improve socio-economic statistics.

- **Strategic Objectives 2**: Strengthen further statistical legislation, institutional infrastructure, organization structures, independence of the NIS & operational, financial & administrative management systems of the NSS to support statistical production & development which focus on priority activities as follow: (1) organize national statistical system as articulated in statistical law and sub-decree; (2) provide more autonomy and accountability to NIS in human resource; (3) Identify mandate of statistical organization which set up in LMs/LAs.

- **Strategic Objectives 3**: Develop and implement human capacity building in an organized recruitment, training and employee motivation programme in the NSS. To achieve these strategic objective there are 2 priority activities: (1) introduce human resource management and policy; (2) develop and continue widely training program with national statistical system.

- **Strategic Objectives 4**: Develop & implement ICT Strategy & Plan to provide state-of-the-art ICT capacity to support all aspects of statistical collection, processing, analysis, maintenance & dissemination by focusing on strategic use of ICT with minimum reduction of labors.

- **Strategic Objectives 5**: Develop and implement a Dissemination Strategy & an Advocacy and Literacy Strategy to provide improved access to all users & increased demand for statistics through the priority activities as follow: (1) support using data for policies and plans preparation; (2) Promote and interact effectively with consumers across the country.

- **Strategic Objectives 6**: Improve coordination of the NSS to eliminate data conflicts and produce comparable, timely statistics in the NSS as efficiently as possible by focusing on extending the scope and mechanism of coordination in the national statistical system.

- **Strategic Objectives 7**: Improve the working relationship and coordination with Development Partners to ensure predictable, continuing, integrated support to the priority activities of the NSS and ensure full transfer of skills and know-how by balancing the need of country with requirement of development partners.

- **Strategic Objectives 8**: Promote stability and growth of budget support for the NSS from both domestic and international sources to allow effective planning and implementation of priority statistical programmes through the implementation of the provisions of the law on the statistics concerning the revised procedure for financing.