

Annex 6 Regional programmes

6.1. ASEAN

Germany supports regional cooperation in Asia, with a focus on transboundary environmental and climate protection and regional integration. Development cooperation projects address the regional level through ASEAN working groups. Where possible, they are implemented on a pilot basis in selected ASEAN member countries. Germany seeks to dovetail such projects with its bilateral projects with countries in the region. Through various line ministries and agencies, Cambodia is involved in the following regional ASEAN projects:

ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity

One project is geared toward improving ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) institutional capacity for the provision of advice to ASEAN members on biodiversity-related activities in the fields of climate change mitigation and adaptation. In addition, via the recently committed Small Grant Programme, ASEAN is being supported in protecting biological diversity in and around the ASEAN Heritage Parks. Cambodia is a member of ACB and benefits from this project.

Clean Air and Climate Change Protection for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region

This project assists small and medium-sized cities in developing and implementing actions to improve air quality. A plan of action for a clean air plan for Phnom Penh has been devised.

Sustainable Port Development

The purpose of this project is to ensure selected ports' compliance with international environmental and safety standards and conventions. In Cambodia, the ports selected are Phnom Penh (river port) and Sihanoukville. Initially, action plans will be drawn up for the two ports with a view to introducing management systems for the areas of environment as well as health and safety.

ASEAN Biocontrol (ABC) for Sustainable Agrifood Systems

This project is geared toward coordination among ASEAN members on regulations regarding the registration of, trade in and use of biological pest control products. At present, the project addresses mainly the regional level. Pilot countries will be selected in the course of further implementation.

Building the Capacity of Supreme Audit Institutions in the ASEAN region

This project's goal is the establishment of a regional network of supreme audit institutions in the ASEAN region. Those involved in the project are in close contact with the Cambodian-German bilateral programme "Support to the National Audit Authority".

ASEAN Renewable Energy Support Programme

This project is intended to help improve the general environment for the use of renewable energy for power generation in the ASEAN region. The project addresses exclusively the regional level. There are no plans to select focus countries, as all ASEAN countries are to be given equal treatment.

Competition Policy

The purpose of this project is to put in place and/or consolidate the legal and institutional environment needed to strengthen a market-based competition system. The plans for activities in the ASEAN countries still need to be specified by the steering body.

6.2. Cities Development Initiative for Asia

Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA) is a regional programme established in 2007 by the government of Germany and the Asian Development Bank. It receives additional support by the governments of Sweden and Austria and the Shanghai Municipal Government. The Initiative provides assistance to medium-sized Asian cities to bridge the gap between their development plans and the implementation of their infrastructure investments. The long-term aim of the initiative is to contribute to the promotion of sustainable and pro-poor urban development, leading to improved environmental and living conditions for all in Asian cities. CDIA uses a demand-driven approach to support the identification and development of urban investment projects in the framework of existing city development plans that emphasise on environmental sustainability, pro-poor development, good governance, and climate adaptation/mitigation.

In Cambodia, CDIA has supported the city of Battambang in preparing infrastructure investment projects in the field of sewage / drainage system improvement and waste water treatment as well as in solid waste management. ADB has taken up the project for financing. A loan will be provided within the "Sustainable Urban Development in the Tonle Sap Basin Project" by the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) comprising six cities in the region.

In order to extend its scope and to root the initiative in the region, the current CDIA members are working on establishing CDIA as an international regional organisation. The German Government would welcome it if the Royal Government of Cambodia considered supporting the recognition of CDIA as an international organisation.

6.3. Programmes with the Mekong River Commission

Germany's current support to the Mekong River Commission (MRC) is defined in a "Strategic Framework" which was signed by the two partners in February 2011. Under this framework, the German government supports the MRC with technical and financial cooperation measures in the areas of "Support to the organisational transition of the MRC", "Sustainable hydropower in the Mekong Basin", "Climate-sensitive flood management in the Lower Mekong Basin", "Sustainable watershed management" and "Wetland conservation and management". In 2011 and 2012, Germany will be supporting MRC with a total of € 8 million.