

# Seventh Joint Annual Review Meeting of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2011-2015

2014 ANNUAL MONITORING SUMMARY

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# 2014 ANNUAL MONITORING SUMMARY

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## **OUTCOME 1 – Economic Growth and Sustainable Development**

By 2015, more people living in Cambodia benefit from, and participate in, increasingly equitable, green, diversified economic growth.

## Introduction

Through UNDAF Outcome 1, the UN system coordinates efforts to develop the agricultural sector and promote equitable access to food and agricultural products, supports the development of a policy framework to promote economic diversification, job creation and skills development, and addresses environmental and climate change challenges.

The UN plans to continue supporting diversification of the country's economic base through existing mechanisms designed to coordinate external assistance and enhance aid effectiveness in four priority areas that contribute to this outcome: agriculture; infrastructure; the private sector and employment; and human resources development.

The UN has intensified its efforts to create an enabling environment; increase business development services to micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, and to increase employability and decent work opportunity, especially for youth and women through diversified local economic development in urban and rural areas.

#### 2014 Results

In 2014, the UN continued to engage in the agricultural development in the country. The UN supported the first ever Agricultural Census in Cambodia creating baseline data of the situation of agriculture holdings and households in the country. Final results are expected to be disseminated in the first half of 2015.

The CensusInfo 2.0 database, containing key socio-economic indicators, was upgraded and enables NIS to disseminate data from all surveys in a more user friendly way. The UN provided support to conduct the fourth round of the Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey (CDHS 2014) with inclusion of a comprehensive Domestic Violence Module. The capacity of NIS for food security monitoring and analysis was strengthened as food security and vulnerability modules were integrated into the 2014 Cambodia Socio-economic Survey (CSES) to allow calculation of key food security indicators, such as household food consumption or dietary diversity score, coping strategy index, and food expenditure share. Technical support continued to be provided for the monthly publication of the joint Cambodia Food Price and Wage Bulletin and the quarterly joint Food Security and Nutrition Quarterly Bulletin together with an annual food security report. The UN also supported the Government to strengthen the Food Security and Nutrition Information System (FSNIS).

The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programme, which laid the foundation for the Farmer Field School (FFS) Programme nationally, continued in 2014. Capacity of relevant Government agencies extension services and crop protection services as well as non-Governmental development partners was strengthened to conduct IPM field programmes. A total of 5112 farmers including 1710 women benefited from the programmes in 2014.

The UN provided training to smallholder farmers through FFS and business schools for rice, cassava, vegetables and chicken farming over periods matching production cycles, with the provision of input credit and nutrition education to promote agricultural enterprises and in the long term increase smallholder's access to food. In 2014, 3,700 families have been trained through Farmer Field School and Farmer Business Schools and assisted through agricultural inputs in Oddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear.

The UN collaborated with authorities on Avian Influenza (AI) awareness in the organisation of 23 AI risk communication school forums, with a total of 7,000 pupils who received information related to H5N1 in poultry, and learned how to avoid being exposed to the virus. Additional technical assistance has been provided to prevent and contain other serious diseases such as the Foot and Mouth Disease. As a result, reporting protocols have been established, Rapid Response Veterinary Teams are operational and the national capacity to carry out sample analysis has greatly increased.

The UN continued to promote and support capacity building on financial literacy of the poorest households often left behind by micro-lending initiatives. About 49,200 beneficiaries were assisted in the establishment and training of Group Revolving Funds, the provision of bookkeeping services and the establishment of an IT system to track financial transactions in and out of the Group Revolving Funds.

The UN supported the formulation of the Food Security and Nutrition Strategy 2014-2018 and Fast Track Road Map for Improving Nutrition 2014-2020, which were officially endorsed by the Government. The UN also supported the formulation of a draft food law which will serve to improve the safety of produced food for exports, imports and domestic consumption. The UN provided technical assistance to the Fisheries Administration to draft the National Action Plan 2015-2020 on gender mainstreaming and elimination of the worst forms of child labour in the fisheries sector. The National Action Plan on Early Childhood Care and Development 2014-2018 was also developed and launched.

A nationwide Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience (CLEAR) was conducted to better understand natural resource management as well as weather and climate change impacts on specific livelihoods and resilience. The CLEAR report will be finalized in 2015.

The UN has worked to improve the resilience of the most vulnerable to weather-related shocks/climate change through community asset creation and adapted livelihoods and practices. In 2014, the UN provided food assistance to over 55,440 people (of which over 40% were women), and distributed cash through cash for work and cash for community activities to 1,781 households (total US\$167,804), of which 56% were female-headed. A pilot Plan of Action has been prepared for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Kampong Speu province to guide the implementation of targeted actions and mitigate agricultural damages and losses. A national strategy has also been endorsed for the crop sector, and will be expanded to other agriculture subsectors.

The UN promoted and demonstrated the use of renewable energies and efficient use of resources, and supported the Government to prepare for REDD+ and report on Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Furthermore, the UN supported the development of the National Bioenergy and Food Security (BEFS) roadmap to demonstrate the role and use of renewable energies.

The UN supported the development of a national employment policy, and updated the policy on Labour Migration, and other related Prakas. The UN provided assistance to strengthen the legal and policy framework for migration in order to improve the protection of migrant workers through the development of tools for labour migration based on principles drawn from international labour standards. A ground-breaking regulation was launched to protect entertainment workers and to reduce widespread stigma and discrimination in the sector.

The UN provided assistance in keeping Cambodia's biggest export earner and largest formal sector employer – the garment and footwear industry – sustained and competitive through enhanced productive and export capacities, improved working conditions including compliance with international and national labour standards and well-balanced minimum wage adjustments. In 2014, 356 factories benefited from Better Factories Cambodia programme, and the industry made more than US\$ 5 billion in export revenue while employing around 500,000 workers, who are estimated to be providing support to up to two million Cambodians. Furthermore, a total of 4,663 young people got a job in 2014 through career counselling and employment services of the National Employment Agency (NEA).



The UN continued to support Cambodian migrant workers through information, employment services and humanitarian assistance, as well as supported the institutional framework for minimum wage fixing set at US\$ 128 as the new minimum wage for workers in the garment industry and footwear sectors in 2015. With the help of the UN, HIV awareness and prevention has been included in the work plans of 90 enterprises, each having established a HIV and AIDS committee in compliance with the national policy.

## Challenges

- Agricultural productivity is still low due to low levels of technology, poor farming skills, poor soil and water management, insufficient use of and access to improved seed varieties, limited access to extension services, and the effects of climate change. The capacity of farmers to absorb new technologies is low, and introducing improved production methods is a long process. The increasing rural/urban migration accentuates the capacity gaps in rural areas.
- While productivity of local enterprises has increased, Cambodian enterprises continue to compete with the influx of cheap imported products, while the prices of domestic products, for example pork or cash crops such as cassava and maize, are unstable.
- The low skilled workforce today represents a serious challenge to competitiveness, productivity and to increased value addition in key economic sectors. Weak labour market data and information systems further hinder the current and the future labour force, as well as education and training institutions, from making informed decisions on the types of skills and competencies to acquire.
- The active participation of the private sector in the promotion of climate change mitigation and pollution control still needs fostering.
- Illegal logging, poor land management, land clearance/encroachment and unclear tenure rights continue to put pressure on forests, biodiversity and forest-resource dependent livelihoods.

## Priorities for 2015

- Continue to contribute to improving access of the poorest rural households to micro-financing services.
- The UN will continue to support the drafting of the food law. Continue to support the Ministry of Planning to finalize the CDHS analysis and dissemination at national and sub-national levels. Provide technical and financial support and build capacity of Government officials (NIS/MoP) to prepare for the 3rd round of the Population and Housing Census to be conducted in 2018. Provide training of trainers on gender mainstreaming for planning and statistical analysis to gender focal points in planning departments at subnational level.
- Continuing to jointly produce and publish the monthly Cambodia Food Price and Wage Bulletin, strengthening national technical capacity. Further produce and publish an annual food security report jointly with the NIS. Continuing to finalize and publish CLEAR report jointly with the Ministry of Environment in 2015.
- The UN will support the sustainable management and use of fisheries resources through strengthening community fish refuge committees. The UN will facilitate the alignment of the curriculum for veterinary medicine of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the Royal University of Agriculture with international standards and build the teaching capacities of Faculty staff.
- Continue to strengthen capacity to innovate and scale-up Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and pesticide risk reduction training and farmer education for sustainable intensification of crop production.

- Continue to build community resilience to weather-related shocks and climate change through community asset creation and adapted livelihoods of vulnerable households. Support MAFF to expand the National Plan of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction in Agriculture to other subsectors, including at provincial level.
- Enhance response to climate change and disaster threats through adaptation and mitigation by establishing a climate change financing framework, M&E, REDD+ Strategy and Implementation Framework, and Early Warning Systems. Continue to promote access to clean energy and energy efficiency. Continue to support the National Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV)/ Reference Emission Level (REL) Technical Team and other concerned stakeholders to develop the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and to support the development of Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL). Develop capacity of forest sector on GHG emission reporting.
- Continue to strengthen capacity at national and subnational level to carry out surveillance, investigation and control of trans-boundary animal diseases, including Avian Influenza, and to strengthen national capacity of laboratories.
- Finalize the national employment policy with an accompanying action plan that focuses on a small set of feasible policy actions, and expanding employment services in rural areas.
- Continue strengthening national capacity through training and awareness raising to: (1) coordinate and implement policies and strategies for technical and vocational education training, and (2) develop and implement gender-sensitive labour policies/strategies, with an emphasis on youth, entertainment workers and migrant workers.
- Continue the support for increasing productivity and improving working conditions and occupational safety and health of small and medium enterprises through low cost capacity building programmes and advisory services that strengthen enterprise networks, competitiveness and core business competencies.
- Continue to support the Government's efforts to protect Cambodian migrant workers through a number
  of activities that will enable more effective implementation of the relevant laws and policies, including
  training-of-trainers on pre-departure orientation curriculum; analysis of complaints mechanisms and
  capacity building on dispute settlement; development of a checklist for labour inspectors for private
  recruitment agencies; as well as technical support in finalizing the draft of the Prakas on Use of Guarantee
  Deposit.
- Continue to support the MoP in conducting a follow-up survey on the Cambodian Rural-Urban Migration Project (CRUMP) to gain a better understanding of evidence of new migration patterns of people in Cambodia.

## Outcome area 1 expenditures for 2014 – 2015:

Estimated expenditure 2014: \$28,096,145 Projected expenditure 2015: \$27,226,831



## Quantitative Analysis – indicators to be monitored in 2014

						Planned Target
No.	Indicator	Status	Baseline	2014	Comments	2015
1.1	Annual GDP growth rate	Planned				8
	(Percent)	Actual	6.8	7.2		
1.2	Export growth rate	Planned				18
	(Percent)	Actual	16.3	11.4		
1.5	Household food	Planned	,			11
	consumption score (Percent)	Actual	6	N/A	Not available yet as NIS just finished data collection for CSES 2014 and data entry is going on until Feb/Mar.	
1.6	Growth rate of the	Planned				5.5
	agricultural sector (Percent)	Actual	5.4	N/A	Only 4% indicated in NSDP 2014-2018	
1.7	Growth rate of non-rice	Planned				5
	agricultural production (Percent)	Actual	2.67	N/A		
1.8	Strategic plan on			Yearly		
	sustainable crop production	Planned		costed plan	A II I I C A O D D	
	intensification and diversification developed with yearly costed work plan	Actual	0	N/A	According to draft ASDP 2014-2018, the planned 2014 was \$ 7.8 million whereas the 2015 is \$ 11.4 million	
1.9	Number of people which	Planned				13500
	utilise extension services including farmer field school, trainings and services for agriculture, fisheries and forest dependent communities including responsible use of pesticides (Number, Female)	Actual	7487	18949		
1.9	Number of people which	Planned				16500
	utilise extension services including farmer field school, trainings and services for agriculture, fisheries and forest dependent communities including responsible use of pesticides (Number, Male)	Actual	11231	51438		
1.9	Number of people which	Planned				30000
	utilise extension services including farmer field school, trainings and services for agriculture, fisheries and forest dependent communities including responsible use of pesticides (Number)	Actual	18718	70087		
1.15		Planned				35

	Percentage of most vulnerable food insecure men and women that receive support through provision of seeds, fertilisers, tools and extension services (Percent, Male)	Actual		9271	The figure reflects number of households or participants but it is difficult to convert this figure into percentage.	
1.15	Percentage of most vulnerable food insecure men and women that receive support through provision of seeds, fertilisers, tools and extension services (Percent, Female)	Planned Actual		2229	The figure reflects number of households or participants but it is difficult to convert this figure into percentage.	35
1.15	Percentage of most	Planned				35
	vulnerable food insecure men and women that receive support through provision of seeds, fertilisers, tools and extension services (Percent)	Actual		11500	The figure reflects number of households or participants but it is difficult to convert this figure into percentage.	
1.18	Percentage of provinces	Planned		70	D 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	80
	reporting routine agricultural, food security, and nutrition data to national level on time (Percent)	Actual		90%	Regular administrative report from provincial level to national level.	
1.17	Operational information system (linked provincial to national level) on food security and nutrition including early warning	Planned		Operationa I		Early warning system develop ed
	system	Actual	Systems not in place yet	4	3 issues have already been produced and disseminated. The latest issue (Oct-Dec) is being produced and will be finalized in late Jan.	
1.20	Variation in CO2 emissions	Planned				400000
	nationally due to adoption of improved cookstoves	Actual	50,000tCO 2 e per year			
1.22	Guidelines developed for	Dierara		-1	Guidelines developed in	1
	forestry-related carbon credit community sites based on model interventions	Planned Actual	0	1	2014	1
1.24	Number of community-	Planned		50		50
	managed forests nationwide with management plans (Number)	Actual	4	50		
1.24	Number of community-	Planned				
	managed forests nationwide with management plans	Actual		30		



1.29	Number of national and	Planned		19	With the previous years	19
	sectoral plans and strategies	Actual		9		
	which explicitly refer to					
1.00	climate change (Number)	Diamanani				10
1.29	Number of national and	Planned	0	9		19
	sectoral plans and strategies which explicitly refer to	Actual	0	9		
	climate change					
1.28	National Climate Change			Costed		
	Strategic Plan with costed			annual		
	annual work plan	Planned		work plan		1
	·	Actual	0	•		
1.30	National REDD Readiness			Costed		
	Strategic Plan developed			annual		
	with costed annual work	Planned		work plan		1
	plan	Actual	0	Initial		
				working		
				draft of the Cambodian		
				National		
				REDD+		
				Strategy		
				developed		
1.34	National REDD Readiness	Planned		1	Annual costed plans	1
	Strategic Plan developed	Actual	0	Initial	·	
	with annual costed plan			working		
				draft of the		
				Cambodian		
				National		
				REDD+		
				Strategy developed		
1.36	National Climate Mitigation	Planned		1	Annual costed plans	1
1.00	Strategy and Action plan	Actual	0	Climate	7 ii ii dali dested piaris	<u>'</u>
	exist with annual work plan			Change		
	implementation			Financing		
				Framework		
				has been		
		5.		approved		
1.37	Diversity of economic	Planned		-		
	activities in specific provinces	Actual				
1.38	Number of qualitative and	Planned		5	2014 - 5 surveys conducted	5
1.50	quantitative surveys	Actual	0	J	2017 0 301 VEY3 CONQUERE	J
	conducted to identify	, ictual	U			
	potential for local					
	development and economic					
	diversification in both rural					
	and urban areas (Number)					
1.44	Percentage of Trade Swap			_	80% of delivery per year	
	annual work plan targets	Planned	h 1 / c	80	from 2011	80
	that are delivered on time	Actual	N/A		UNDP develop a plan to	
	(Percent)				support MOC in translating	
					the Trade SWAPs road map into the actual	
					implementation plan for	
					each of the relevant line	
	l	l l		l .	cach of the relevant line	

					ministry. The plan is called Mid-Term Plan with the expectation to produce in 2015.	
1.45	Number of times per year Sub-committee of Trade	Planned		2	At least 2 times per year from 2011	2
	Development and Trade- Related Investment convenes (Number)	Actual	2	2		
1.56	Database developed and	Planned		3	Updated annually	4
	updated bi-annually with inventory and characteristics of business development services (Number)	Actual	0	2		
1.59	Percent of beneficiaries who	Planned		70		70
	used any of the schemes who have obtained work (wage employment or self- employed) within 6 months of completion (Percent)	Actual		23	Percent of beneficiaries who obtained a job within 6 months after use of NEA's services.	
1.60	Percentage of medium and large enterprises (SMEs)	Planned		30	30% of SMEs signed up at NEA	30
	Government bodies and CSOs who have agreed to provide work placements with decent work conditions (Percent)	Actual	0	14&53	14 percent (or 7,430 enterprises) of all SMEs (53,417 enterprises) employing between 5 and 1,000 workers or 53 percent of enterprises employing between 10 and 1,000 workers.	30
1.61	Number of measures to give	Planned				3
	accreditation and recognition for apprentices, interns and volunteers (Number)	Actual	0	2	2 industries e.g. tourism with industry-wide recognition in ASEAN & Construction with selected occupations (masonry & electric wiring) with Thailand.	

Baselines and targets are yet to be established in some cases.



## **OUTCOME 2 – Health and Education**

By 2015, more men, women, children and young people enjoy equitable access to health and education.

## Introduction

To achieve CMDG health and education targets, the UN has been working to promote equitable access to services focusing on: quality reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health including family planning and nutrition services; the HIV response; increasing access to safe water and improving sanitation and hygiene; expanding the reach and sustainability of early childhood learning and quality basic education; and expanding young people's access to life skills including sexual reproductive health and HIV awareness and technical and vocational education.

#### 2014 Results

#### Maternal and child health:

Cambodia has made some notable progress towards achieving the Cambodia Millennium Development Goals (CMDGs) 4, 5 and 6. Nevertheless, in 2014, maternal mortality ratio (MMR) remained high at 170 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births<sup>1</sup> and neonatal mortality rate remained unchanged at 27 deaths per 1,000 live births, accounting for half of under five years deaths<sup>2</sup>. Moreover, a child from the poorest quintile is three times more likely to die than a child from the wealthiest quintile. Poor performance is associated with low coverage of basic maternal, newborn and child health care services, especially in remote and sparsely populated provinces, for example in Mondulkiri and Ratanakiri.

In 2014, the UN provided technical and financial support leading to the development and implementation of new national guidelines on comprehensive outreach maternal neonatal tetanus elimination, integrated post-partum care - community care for mother and newborn, communication for behavioral impact and integrated management of child illnesses. This was complemented by adopting an equity focused approach targeting 10 low-outcome operational districts (ODs) resulting in an estimated 88,648 mothers and newborns from most deprived populations being reached, for example the percentage of four or more antenatal care visits increased from 23% in 2013 to 39% during the third quarter of 2014.

Through training of midwives together with intensive rolling out of the Emergency Obstetric and Newborn care (EmONC) Improvement Plan and other outreach activities supported by the UN, in 2014 all health centers and referral hospitals (HCs and RHs) provided a package of safe motherhood, newborn and child health services.

The proportion of deliveries by skilled health personnel also increased and is estimated to reach the set target (85%) in 2015. However, very low Skilled Attendance at Birth coverage was reported in Kratie (19%), Banlong (39%) and Sen Monorum (48%) because outreach services mainly focus on antenatal care (ANC) and postnatal care (PNC) services excluding delivery due to lack of trained midwives.

Following successful advocacy by the UN, the MOH organized the first National Family Planning Conference involving 250 participants in November 2014. This was jointly supported by DPs, NGOs and the private sector resulting in a joint commitment reaffirming government and stakeholders' support to rights-based, gender-responsive family planning in Cambodia. The UN supported MoH to ensure the availability of modern contraceptive methods in every health center in every province of Cambodia, including introducing and expanding Emergency Contraception into the health system and almost every HC and RHs were trained and providing EC services. In 2014, all 1,094 health centers and 43 referral hospitals are providing at least three

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Estimates by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, The World Bank, and the United Nations Population Division: Trends in maternal mortality:1990 to 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> DHS 2010

modern methods, including intrauterine device (IUD) services (962) and Implant services (527). A national budget line for an initial contribution to contraceptive procurement system was established and the government has also promised to double its contribution in 2015.

For the first time, the Children's Surgical Centre (CSC) was supported to carry out a media campaign and community outreach to identify obstetric fistula cases in all remote and poor locations around the country.

Progress has also been recorded in immunization coverage (83 per cent for pentavalent-3, 84 per cent for oral polio vaccine, 77 per cent for measles vaccines), but access remains constrained in hard-to-reach communities where about 20% of children are not receiving all basic vaccinations. Support has been provided to facilitate three rounds of catch-up campaigns in identified high risk villages throughout the country in 2014 as well as to strengthen the Vaccine Preventable Diseases surveillance system.

On the enabling environment front, notable achievements supported include development of the National Strategic Newborn Framework, the Safe Motherhood Protocol for Referral Hospital in late 2013 and Maternal Death Audit protocol in early 2014. The Core Competency Framework for Midwives was jointly launched Cambodian Midwives Council (CMC) and the MoH in 2014 and used to initially develop a Competency Assessment Tool on Midwifery Training Curricula for both public and private training institutes. Technical and financial support was also provided to MOH to develop the first ever National Guidelines for Management of Violence against Women and Children (VAW/C), currently awaiting endorsement by the Minister of Health.

#### Nutrition:

The UN support mainly focuses on facility-based care of severe acute malnutrition (SAM), provision of supplementary micro-nutriments (target: 20 per cent) and improved awareness of good feeding practices. This allowed for treatment of an increased number of children with SAM and higher cure rates through improved adherence to follow-up schemes (cure rate at discharge 60 per cent, 75 per cent and 85 per cent with one to three follow-up visits, respectively).

In an effort to prevent stunting and micronutrient deficiencies, the UN in partnership with NGOs provided monthly rations of special nutritious foods to some 15,000 children under two years of age and pregnant and nursing mothers in two provinces complemented by health and nutrition education to increase public awareness. To give way to the development of a more sustainable model that uses locally produced ready-to-use supplemental food products, the rations were suspended in June 2014.

The UN supported school feeding programme continued to improve dietary diversity through the provision of fortified food products (vegetable oil and iodized salt) and mobilizing communities to provide complementary home grown food items. In addition, the UN continued to explore options to add fortified rice into the food basket to ensure greater provision of essential micronutrients, and this work will be continued in 2015.

By supporting the establishment of the Oversight Board, Working Group and development of Terms of Reference and guidelines, the MoH's capacity for enforcing the implementation of the Sub-Decree 133 and the Joint Prakas 061 on the Marketing of Products for Infant and Young Child Feeding was strengthened. The development of the National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2014-2018 and the National Fast-Track Road Map to Improve Nutrition 2014-2020 was also supported.

#### HIV/AIDS:

National Health Sector Strategic plan for HIV and STI control (2015-2020), the Harm Reduction Strategy (2015-2020) and guidelines on prevention, service delivery and management were finalized based on the 2013 review of the Cambodia Health sector response and AIDS epidemic modeling work was updated using latest available data and information on unit costs, intervention packages and programme effectiveness. This provided an in-depth and common understanding of the national HIV epidemic evolution through its unique features such as estimates' updates, programme effectiveness, scenario building and impact analysis. These new strategic plans provide implementation frameworks for the vision of the Cambodia 3.0 to eliminate new HIV infections by 2020.

During the period Jan-Sept 2014, the proportion of pregnant women tested for HIV and receiving their



results; as well as the proportion of early diagnosis among HIV exposed infants increased significantly (9% and 8% respectively). The UN continued to support MoH to implement the finger prick testing method that allows for rapid test results. In collaboration with MoH, standard operation procedures (SOPs) were developed for the implementation of Cambodia 3.0. Technical assistance was provided to NCHADS for Global Fund financed supply planning, forecasting, procurement of ARV, HIV reagents and other consumables.

The UN continued to support the SMARTgirl programme in seven provinces through an NGO (CWPD) reaching 34 percent of entertainment workers, street-based and freelance sex workers (13,000 in total). By focusing on integrating family planning in the HIV component of the SMARTgirl programme, the result showed that 69% of potential clients reported using FP methods. Consistent condom uses with clients remain stable at 80%, but use of contraceptives and condoms among regular partners is still low at 36%.

In partnership with a local NGO, a hotline calling service was initiated for providing information on sexual reproductive health so that young people can make informed decisions. Around 8,727 young callers (under 25 years) received education and counseling from the hotline focusing on sexual reproductive health (56%), HIV (19%) and STIs (6%).

In addition to the allocation of the national budget for the RH commodities procurement using the internationally recognized procurement system, the Royal Government of Cambodia confirmed a new national contribution of \$US 3.7 million for Anti-retroviral drugs over three years (2015 to 2017) as a result of policy level advocacy informed by evidence demonstrating greater ownership by the government for sustainable access to treatment in the long term. Support was also provided to the RGC in producing the Global AIDS Response Progress Report (GARPR) for the year 2014.

In terms of harm reduction, the Needle and Syringe Policy developed with UN support was adopted and community-based treatment center for people who use drugs is being expanded in Phnom Penh.

The Ministry of Health approved and submitted to Council of Minister the draft Law on Compulsory Licensing for Public Health, which aims to ensure Cambodia's continued access to patent-protected medicines beyond the TRIPS exemption period for Least Developed Countries. Technical support is being provided to MoH for defense of the law before the jurist from Council of Minister and ECOSOC.

In operationalizing Cambodia 3.0 strategies the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STD (NCHADS) and partners focused on the development of Integrated Active Case Management (IACM). Case management coordinators/assistants were assigned at operational district (OD) level to maximize patient retention. The Rapid Monitoring and Analysis for Action (RMAA) team was established at the national level and met every two weeks to monitor the progress of IACM and to discuss problematic individual cases including those belonging to key populations, such as entertainment workers, men having sex with men (MSM), transgender people, and people who inject drugs (PWID).

Within the framework of HIV/AIDS and Sexuality Education for Young People, including Young Key Populations, UN supported the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and NGO partners to deliver Comprehensive Sexuality Education Curricula in 9 provinces, at primary, lower and upper secondary education levels as well as non-formal education programs. As part of the National Core Group on HIV Nutrition, the UN played a key role in the revision of the Good Food Toolkit, a package of materials for counseling people living with HIV on nutrition. Five hundred toolkits were procured and disseminated to trainers and NGOs implementing home-based care programs.

## Water and sanitation:

Sector progress is monitored through the UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) and Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS). In 2014, over 70 per cent of the population use improved water source (94% urban/66% rural)<sup>3</sup>. In terms of rural water and sanitation, Cambodia is ranked one of the lowest in the region. Huge disparities in WASH coverage exists, particularly in sanitation, where the total coverage is 37 per cent (82% urban/25% rural).

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<sup>3</sup> JMP 2014

In 2014, the National Council of Ministers in Cambodia has adopted the national strategic plan for rural water supply, sanitation and hygiene following years of combined advocacy by the UN and NGOs. Subsequently, a national plan of action to operationalize the strategy was developed. According to the a recent WHO's drinking water quality assessment in 2014, only 23 per cent of households have safe drinking water at the point of consumption. Despite significant increase in private sector investment to build piped water supplies, regulation and enforcement of safe drinking water quality standards remains a challenge.

Support was provided to 383 villages in 11 provinces, providing an opportunity to showcase community-led total sanitation as a flagship strategy to change social norms. An estimated three million viewers and listeners were reached with songs, messages, radio call-in shows and promotional TV programmes. As part of national hand washing with soap activities in schools, 200,000 school children were reached through social media campaigns over a two-month period<sup>4</sup>.

Through partnerships with NGOs, six schools benefited from elevated and reinforced designs providing access to sanitation services to 1,740 children<sup>5</sup> during 2014 rainy seasons. As part of the UN supported school feeding programme, 40 wells and 78 latrines were built or rehabilitated and 856 hygiene and sanitation packages were provided in 2014. In addition, 46,459 families (213,711 people) have gained access to safe drinking water, particularly water from alternative arsenic-free water sources. Retesting of 4,586 wells and awareness activities in 273 villages of 60 communes in three high risk provinces of Kandal, Prey Veng and Kampong Cham was supported. Twenty three villages in 5 communes initiated household water treatment and safety activities to promote safe drinking water.

Through funding support from the European commission, critical supplies for 10,000 households were prepositioned in 18 districts in five provinces perennially affected by flooding. This was complemented by capacity building of 98 officials in chlorination and management of wells during and after floods. Well assessment using mobile technology was launched in partnership with NGOs thereby increasing the efficiency and accuracy of information collection and use for planning and decision-making.

## Education:

Cambodia is on track to achieve most of the education CMDG related targets. Primary education coverage remained high, increasing to 98.2% in 2013/2014 (98.5% for girls). Primary school-aged children enrolled in private schools accounted for 2.6%. Access to early childhood education (ECE) slightly increased from 32.7% in 2012/2013 to 33.3% in 2013/2014 among three to five year olds. The UN supported the MoEYS to increase the availability of comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) in schools. This provided young people in lower and upper secondary schools with better knowledge about their sexual reproductive health as part of the RGC commitment to fulfill the reproductive rights of the Cambodian people.

Coverage at lower secondary level remains low, reducing from 53.6 per cent (2012/2013) to 53.5 per cent (2013/2014) (54.5 per cent for girls). These rates are largely due to the high opportunity costs of education which increase as the economy and salaries grow. The textile industry remains a threat to children completing basic education in Cambodia. The planned Out of School Children study will further unmask drivers of school dropout.

Data from standardized assessments of children's learning outcomes (conducted in different samples of schools) showed a drop in results in Grade 6 from 68.1 to 52.2 per cent in Khmer and 58.9 to 42.8 in maths between 2006/2007 and 2012/2013. In 2015, MoEYS will be supported to join a regional initiative to measure children's learning outcomes in maths, Khmer and citizenship in Grade 5. This will provide complementary data on what and how, and which children are learning.

One of the Minister's priority reforms in 2014 was managing the Grade 12 exams in partnership with the Anti-Corruption Unit, technically and financially supported by UNICEF. Cumulatively, 41 per cent of students passed the exam with rates of 9 per cent and 14 per cent in maths and chemistry respectively, leading to a policy focus on the curriculum and teachers' knowledge of science subjects.

In promoting access to basic education during the 2013-2014 school year, the UN school feeding programme

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Taken from UNICEF 2014 annual report- results assessment matrix

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ibid.



reached 450,000 primary school children, including 397,000 pre-primary school children and 53,000 scholarships (food and cash) to poor students in grade 4 to 6, in 4,190 schools across 16 provinces. School feeding provides parents the choice of sending children to school, rather than sending them to work, and contributes to increased enrolment, attendance, and retention in school. As part of the transition to a nationally-owned school feeding programme, the UN handed over significant responsibilities to the Government for the implementation of the food scholarship programme in two provinces, and supported the establishment of the new national primary scholarship programme to be implemented nationwide in 2015. Annually, the government contributes 2,000 metric tons of rice to the school feeding programme.

In 2014, the UN and USAID jointly supported a multimedia initiative on youth education about sexual reproductive health and rights, "Love9" that has produced positive results. As of November 2014, almost one million individuals have accessed the social media network of Love9. Audience feedback from Facebook was very positive.

The Ministry's share of the total recurrent budget increased from a low base of 15.5 per cent in 2013 to 16.2 per cent in 2014 and projected 17.1 per cent in 2015. Progress has been made in execution rates and there has been a reduction in under spend over the past several years due to a stronger budget preparation process, particularly on personnel. In 2014, teachers received their salaries by bank transfer, which will likely further increase execution. Following sustained advocacy efforts, teacher salaries were increased and allowances were streamlined and simplified, increasing transparency and improving teachers' terms and conditions.

In broader sectoral developments, the Education Strategic Plan (ESP) 2014-2018 was endorsed in March 2014. The new Global Partnership for Education (GPE) fund, worth US\$38.5 million, was launched and the design was influenced to complementary support, particularly related to ECE and inclusive education.

In preparation for the National Literacy Campaign in 2015, 666 core literacy trainers (including 77 female staff from Provincial and District Education Offices) were trained. This is anticipated to make 92,000 Cambodians literate in 2015. In addition, National Literacy Curriculum was reviewed and revised and Non-Formal Education Management Information System (NF-EMIS) was developed and installed in 25 Provincial Offices of Education.

The MoEYS was technically and financially supported to draft and finalize the Teacher Policy Action Plan (TPAP), which will have long-term impacts on teacher education, recruitment, development, management and career pathways as well as teacher training institution management. The National Institute of Education was technically and financially supported to integrate Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) concepts into the existing curriculum and 150 teacher trainers were updated on the use of the revised curriculum.

Recognising the importance of entrepreneurship in Cambodia, the UN supported the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) to introduce an entrepreneurship education in the secondary education. Five schools started piloting an entrepreneurship tool called "Know About Business" (KAB), prior to a wider roll out – the breakthrough step for developing entrepreneurial skills for secondary students in the country. Also, with the UN support an innovative, low-cost training for entrepreneurship and small business development called "Community-Based Enterprise Development" (CBED) was provided to 2,700 out of school youth through vocational training services by the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MoLVT), MoEYS and international NGOs.

The TVET Strategic Plan 2014-2018 focusing on the improved access, quality and relevance of TVET System was adopted by the MoLVT. UN support was given to the implementation of the TVET Plan and the mutual skills recognition in preparation for ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015. Competency-based skills standards for 23 jobs of tourism professionals have been developed for the industry-wide recognition and accreditation across ASEAN countries. Also, with the UN support two jobs (masonry and electrical wiring) of the construction industry was set to be mutually recognized between Cambodia and Thailand as part of AEC arrangement.

Further, the UN actively engaged youth organizations and networks participate in decision making processes and dialogues on the post 2015 consultations, UNDAF Comparative Advantage consultation, National Youth

Action Plan finalization together with civil society.

## Challenges

#### Health:

- Populations living in remote, hard-to-reach least developed areas (new settlements, seasonal migrants)
  exacerbated by multi-dimensional poverty, long distances to health facilities, lack of transportation and
  shortage of midwives continue to be excluded by critical reproductive, family planning, maternal,
  newborn, and child health services.
- Although some awareness is beginning to be noticed among health managers, poor quality of services combined with poor organization of emergency referrals still remain a challenge that requires collaborative efforts by health actors.
- Other challenges identified by the Reproductive Maternal Newborn and Child Health during the annual
  performance review in 2014, include lack of compliance with the existing policy and guidelines; limited
  supportive supervision and follow up after training; shortage of human resources, equipment and
  supplies in health facilities; misconceptions about use of modern contraceptives and limited ownership
  and support to establish community emergency referral systems among others.

#### HIV/AIDS:

- Over the last two decades, the HIV response largely depended on external resources. The sudden reduction (around 40-50%) of the Global Funds in 2014 raised major sustainability issues regarding scale of key prevention services and continued access to treatment for those living with HIV.
- While Cambodia has achieved significant gains over the last decade in averting new HIV infections and AIDS related deaths, capacity particularly at the provincial and operational district levels still remains a big challenge to scale up and monitor the response.
- A large proportion HIV exposed infants lost during follow up hampers early infant diagnosis.
- Consistent use of contraception and condoms with regular partners among entertainment workers remains very low (36%) contributing to high abortion rate (at 77%).
- The cluster of new HV cases reported in a village in Roka commune in Battambang province in December 2014 indicated the need for a more stringent regulatory framework to check malpractices in informal health service provision, ensuring universal precautions and a more vigilant and responsive surveillance system for early detection of such incidents. At the same time it calls for raising awareness on HIV and safe injecting practices among general public and addressing stigma and discrimination

## Nutrition:

- The rate of severe acute malnourished (SAM) children returning for at least 1 follow-up visit post-discharge is remaining at about 60%.
- Despite notable progress made on development of nutrition policies and strategic plans, financial gaps been experienced because the life of HSSP2 came to an end.

#### Water and sanitation:

- The role and responsibilities in delivery of water supply, sanitation and hygiene services are still uncertain under the evolving decentralization and deconcentration (D&D) process and monitoring progress in the sector continues to be difficult without a single standardized management information system.
- Weak regulation and enforcement of safe drinking water guality standards remains a challenge.
- Sustaining access to WASH in schools and health center is challenging given poor operation and maintenance, responsibility and accountability by duty bearers.
- The functionality status of WASH services and practices in health care referral hospitals and schools is not well captured in the sectoral information management system.

#### Education:

- High demand of the school feeding programme versus limited and uncertainty of funding from UN and government to support a scaling up.
- Many reforms are being undertaken in education; these are urgent and greatly needed however



- capacity to implement them all fully is constrained.
- Lack of official guideline on allocation of teaching hours for Comprehensive Sexuality Education/Health Education at both primary and secondary school levels results in inconsistency across schools when developing teaching schedules. This also affected supervision and monitoring activities as well as quality of the curricula delivery.
- The implementation of the TPAP requires significant investments from the government and from the development partners.
- Despite development of the draft Youth Action Plan, the General Secretariat of National Youth Council is yet to be established thereby presenting an unclear roadmap to its implementation and monitoring.
- TVET training has traditionally been supply-driven and trainer cantered using curriculum that is theoretical, time-based, and inflexible to the labour market and technological changes. There is limited involvement of industry and other stakeholders to ensure the relevance of TVET systems while institutions are faced with competing demands on resources and capacity to improve both access and quality of services.

## Priorities for 2015

#### Health:

- Expand community behaviour change communication education session on prevention of Neonatal Tetanus in areas with high prevalence of harmful cord care practices to raise awareness of family and community on harmful cord care practices.
- Continue to support integrated outreach activities for hard-to-reach and most deprived communities to fill gap in service coverage for vulnerable groups, combined with advocacy for increased of fiscal space.
- Strengthen competencies and skills of midwives serving remote facilities by providing them opportunity to practice under close supervision and coaching from experienced coaches in Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care facilities.
- The National Immunization Program has identified following priorities for 2015: introduction of Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) and Inactivated Poliomyelitis Vaccine (IPV) into routine immunization schedule and training, validation survey for maternal and neonatal tetanus elimination, review of Expanded Programme on Immunization, and nationwide routine immunization catch-up campaigns in identified high risk communities.
- Priorities identified by the Joint Annual Performing Performance Review include expansion of severe malnutrition management sites at health facilities, improving the quality of family planning counseling and services including family planning (FP) needs forecasting, upgrading health facilities to provide comprehensive abortion care services according to the abortion law (580 health facilities by 2016), supportive supervision and follow up after training, maintaining high coverage of prevention of mother-to-child transmission ( PMTCT) of HIV, increasing availability of blood bank/depot at emergency obstetrics and newborn care EmONC facilities, strengthening implementation of outreach guideline and high risk strategy, enhancing competencies and skills of midwives to improve quality of RMNH counselling and services provision, capacity development on the response to Violence Against Women in the health sector.
- Update the Fast Track Initiative Roadmap for Reducing Maternal and Newborn Mortality and Birth Spacing Manual and Guidelines, EmONC Improvement Plan for 2016 2020 followed by training, coaching and monitoring

#### HIV/AIDS:

- Continued advocacy for securing both national and external funding for HIV response.
- Continue support to government for adoption of law on compulsory licensing to ensure Cambodia long term access to cheap generic drugs for AIDS and other communicable and non-communicable diseases.
- Focus on innovative and integrated service delivery model for impact including with continued strong partnership between Government, civil society and community engagement
- Implementation and monitoring of prioritized and streamlined health sector response to HIV is a major priority area of support to move towards elimination of new HIV infections by 2020 in a sustainable

manner.

- Operationalization of National Harm Reduction Strategic Plan with particular to strategies to increase coverage of needle syringe program in an efficient and sustainable way.
- Conduct operational research on HIV transmission related to unlicensed informal practitioners learning from case of HIV cluster in Battambang province.
- Continue to provide full support to the four priorities of the National Youth Action Plan education, employment, volunteerism, and health including sexual and reproductive health.
- Support the integration of family planning in the HIV/AIDS interventions among female most at risk populations such as entertainment workers

#### Nutrition:

- Continue to advocate and support to ensure sustainability of supply for nutrition interventions by encouraging government to incorporate essential nutrition commodities into essential drug list.
- According to the Fast Track Road Map for Improving Nutrition 2014-2020, five components were selected as priority interventions: nutrition counseling and micronutrient supplementation, treatment of severely wasted children, micronutrient supplementation for prevention and treatment strategies and behavior change communication focused on 1,000 days window of opportunity.

## Water and sanitation:

- Support development of a comprehensive National Action Plan for rural WASH, designed as the operational plan for the recently launched National RWSSH Strategic Plan 2014-2025.
- Support MRD to develop a sector monitoring and information management system.
- Support a meta-analysis of WASH services and practices in health centres for evidence based policy and decision making.
- Support the in 2014 launched ECCD framework under the Ministry of Education and National Strategic Plan for Food Security and Nutrition initiatives under CARD.
- Continue to support hygiene and sanitation facilities, through provision of hygiene and sanitation packages and strengthen daily hygiene and sanitation practices in schools and communities.

#### Education:

- Further support hand-over of the scholarship programme to the government.
- Finalize the school feeding Road Map and its implementation in 2015.
- Further explore operational options for Government school meal programmes combined with advocacy for increased funding by the government and other DPs.
- Strengthen community participation in school feeding activities, including mechanism for engaging the commune council/community contribution.
- Continue to support the CSE implementation and support the MoEYS's process of integrating CSE contents into the national curriculum.
- Continue to support telephone hotline counseling (Inthanou) and media intervention (Love9) on issues related to sexual reproductive health and rights of young people.
- Support MoEYS and Cambodian Higher Education Association to organize the first ever Cambodia Education Research Forum (CERF).
- Support implementation of the TPAP combined with enhanced advocacy for increased investments from the government and from the development partners.
- The UN will continue strengthening national capacity to coordinate and implement policies and strategies for technical and vocational education training (TVET).
- Support the expansion of MSMEs through low cost capacity building programme (CBED) and the integration of entrepreneurship education (KAB) in the national curriculum of the secondary education sector.
- Support the implementation of skills recognition arrangements in the tourism and construction sectors in the context of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) integration.



## Outcome area 2 expenditures for 2014 – 2015:

Estimated expenditure 2014: \$25,808,409 Projected expenditure 2015: \$28,295,540

## Quantitative Analysis – indicators to be monitored in 2014

No. 2.5	Indicator Percentage of children aged 12-23 months who are fully immunised	Status Planned Actual	Baseline 91	2014	Comments	Planned Target 2015 95
	by age 1 (Measles) (Percent, Measles)					
2.5	Percentage of children aged 12-23	Planned				95
	months who are fully immunised by age 1 (DPT) (Percent, DPT)	Actual	92	94		
2.7	Proportion of births attended by	Planned				87
	skilled health personnel (Percent, Doctor)	Actual	58	86	This value is the target set up for 2014. The formal result of achievement will be released during the National Health Congress.	
2.9	Number of basic/comprehensive	Planned		3.5		4
	EmONC (Per 500,000 population, Basic)	Actual	1.6	3.5		
2.9	Number of basic/comprehensive	Planned		0.97		1
	EmONC (Per 500,000 population, Comprehensive)	Actual	0.9	0.97		
2.12	Percent of pregnant women with 2	Planned		98		100
	or more antenatal care consultations (ANC) (Percent)	Actual	80	98		
2.19	Percentage of adults and children	Planned				95
	with advanced HIV infection receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) (Percent)	Actual	92	85.4		



## **OUTCOME 3 – Gender equality**

By 2015, all women, men, girls and boys are experiencing a reduction in gender disparities and progressively enjoying and exercising equal rights.

#### Introduction

The UN supports Cambodia's commitment to gender equality, and is working to support a harmonised aid environment that promotes gender equality and the empowerment of women; strengthened gender mainstreaming mechanisms; the progressive empowerment of women to exercise their rights to full and productive employment; the enhanced participation of women in the public sphere; and preventive and holistic responses to gender based violence. The UN is co-facilitator of the Technical Working Group on Gender (TWGG) and its sub-groups on Gender Based Violence and Women's Economic Empowerment. It is supporting the development of a Programme Based Approach (PBA) to gender equality.

## 2014 Results

In 2014, the UN continued to support MoWA leadership in supporting and coordinating policy dialogue on national gender equality priorities. Significant progress was achieved in the response to gender inequalities and gender-based violence through the finalization and approval of the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women. UN support contributed to further capacity development of the national women's machinery for pursuing a programme-based approach to gender equality. Key results include the development and launching of the Neary Rattanak IV and ten accompanying Policy Briefs, which provide a basis for mainstreaming gender in line ministries. With UN support, progress was achieved in developing the third Cambodia Gender Assessment-report (forthcoming in 2015), and in capacity development for the Programme Based Approach to Gender Equality, which is applied to two thematic areas: Gender-Based Violence and Women's Economic Empowerment. Further, UN assistance supported the preparation of a report by MoWA on progress achieved in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action as a part of a regional and global review process.

The UN continued its support to policy dialogue on critical gender issues across sectors through the TWG-G, TWG-G sub-groups on Gender-Based Violence and another on Women's Economic Empowerment, as well as the GMAG mechanisms. Key results include the development of a section on gender equality and the mainstreaming of gender across the NSDP 2014-2018, as well as the development of Joint Monitoring Indicators at the outcome level for 2014-2018 and at the output level for 2014-2015. In addition, UN support contributed to the development of a section on gender equality for Cambodia's *Vision 2030* Input Paper 3 on *Managing Development Towards 2030*, prepared under the guidance of SNEC.

At the ministerial level, with UN support 23 ministries integrated their Gender Mainstreaming Action Plans into their 2015 Operational Plans, and capacities across ministries were strengthened for gender-responsive, CEDAW-compliant policy, programming, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation through trainings and technical support. Capacity development initiatives supported by the UN include support for strengthening national monitoring and reporting on CEDAW and women's human rights; for review of the Domestic Violence Law and migrant worker legislation in light of international legal frameworks and standards; for mainstreaming VAW into local planning processes; for strengthened understanding among police officers and other local authorities of the DV Law; for strengthened understanding of international standards vis-àvis health system responses to violence against women and children; for costing VAW interventions; and for gender-responsive monitoring of the HIV response. With UN support, various gender specific interventions were implemented by line ministries, including interventions by the NCDD aimed towards strengthening actions by commune leaders to prevent all forms of violence against women and children in response to the CEDAW Concluding Observations and building on general administrative provisions by MOI; as well as



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MoEYS interventions in the area of Comprehensive Sexuality Education, with results including the launching of a booklet on puberty for girls.

In the area of women's participation and leadership, UN support contributed to strengthening capacities of female leaders at national and sub-national levels, and to enhanced dialogue on women in leadership. Results include a set of recommendations by gender equality advocates on women and health, - education, - politics and decision-making, and economy, which were shared with and endorsed by MoWA for further action; and a petition on increasing the political participation, representation and leadership of Cambodian women by gender equality advocates, which was submitted to 4 ministries and to the two main political parties in the National Assembly. Specific activities include leadership and advocacy training to female provincial councillors on the promotion of women's participation in decision-making; training to Commune Councils for Women and Children and Women and Children's Consultative Committee members for enhanced promotion of the well-being of women, children, youth and vulnerable groups in local decision-making processes; capacity development of young women in leadership skills; and training and IEC development targeting WLHIV and key populations affected by HIV for enhancing awareness of rights and enabling their participation in decision-making on issues of concern to them.

In the area of women's economic empowerment (WEE), UN support contributed to evidence-informed policy-making and the promotion of women's rights in employment through technical assistance to the development of the WEE Operational Strategy (forthcoming); support to a joint publication with the ADB on *Gender Equality in the Labour Market in Cambodia*; and three Smart Guides for Cambodian trade unions on non-discrimination and equality, maternity protection, and action against sexual harassment at work. As a result of UN support, a Network of Cambodian Workers in Malaysia was established, enabling its members to voice their needs and negotiate effectively with employers for decent work conditions. At the grassroots level, UN support also contributed to the development of demand-driven business models for female producer groups.

With UN support, MoWA initiated the development of an Implementation Plan for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NAPVAW, engaging stakeholders across sectors in consultations and dialogues. Key achievements to support evidence-informed programming in response to violence against women and children include the launch of a national prevalence study on violence against children, the initiation of a national prevalence study on violence against women (forthcoming) and inclusion of a module on Domestic Violence in the 2014 CDHS. Key activities supported by the UN include the 16 Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women, which was implemented by 33 partners representing the Government, NGOs and UN; and the development of a publication on *Being LGBT in Asia: Cambodia Country Report* through a consultative process. With UN technical and financial support, the first *National Guidelines for Managing Violence Against Women and Children in the Health System* were developed, and the manual *Ending Violence Against Women – A Guide to Working with Volunteers* was updated to reflect available evidence on best practice.

## Challenges

As stated by the committee on the elimination of discrimination against women 2013 concluding observations, gender equality priority challenges are that:

- The RGC lacks a comprehensive legal aid system, which is negatively affecting women's access to justice.
- There is a lack of synergies between the national machinery for the advancement of women and Gender Mainstreaming Action Groups.
- Women continue to be under-represented at all levels of political and public life (para 28) and there is a need for effective strategies to increase their representation in decision-making.
- Women continue to be concentrated in unskilled labour sectors and the working conditions of women employed in the garment industry and women domestic workers is poor.
- Women continue to face limited access to land and tenure security, are subjected to displacement and evictions, and lack basic infrastructure and essential services in relocation sites.

In addition, the following challenges were confronted in 2014:

 Need for timely finalization of the Neary Rattanak IV versus need to ensure national ownership and capacities for developing the policy document.



- Limited focus of gender mainstreaming interventions impedes capacity of line ministries to implement effective interventions in response to critical gender equality issues, which require more specialized sector and project-based trainings and interventions.
- Limited quality and reliability of GBV data, which is from multiple data sources and is recorded by many actors, and related lack of routine national data required for registering and tracking GBV cases at national and sub-national levels.
- Ensuring multiple and overlapping forms of gender-related vulnerability are addressed by gender equality programming including those based on age, ethnicity, disability, and sexual orientation and gender identity, as also recognized by the MoWA Policy Brief on Vulnerable Groups of Women and Girls.

## Priorities for 2015

- Strengthen multi-stakeholder dialogue on critical gender equality and women's rights issues, including in the context of CEDAW, the Beijing Platform for Action, the CMDGs and forthcoming SDGs. Specifically, support the RGC to contribute to the formulation of the global and regional agenda for the realization of gender equality and women's empowerment through the CSW 59 process, and to engage stakeholders in follow-up dialogues at the national level.
- Work with the Government to improve the systematic assessment of progress on national gender equality priorities, including through support to the development of a common M&E framework and methodology for Neary Rattanak IV and to embedding the gender specific elements of the SDGs in national M&E systems.
- Support national efforts to operationalize the Neary Rattanak IV, the 2<sup>nd</sup> NAPVAW and the WEE OS, including support to the finalization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NAPVAW costing and to the finalization and commencement of delivery on the Implementation Plan; and support to the finalization and launching of the WEE OS for implementation.
- Continue to work with line ministries in mainstreaming gender into their policies, plans and budgets, including support to GMAGs to incorporate specific, costed actions informed by the Neary Rattanak IV, the 2<sup>nd</sup> NAPVAW and WEE OS within their GMAPs and broader ministerial policies, plans and strategies.
- Enhance understanding of gender responsive budgeting, supporting the implementation of a survey on the use of commune resources by commune councils, with a focus on investments on women, children and youth.
- Support national efforts to disseminate the CDHS and the VAW Prevalence Study findings (forthcoming), and gender-specific findings from the first National Agricultural Census.
- Support the MoLVT to prepare a Roadmap towards the ratification of the Convention on Domestic Work (C189).
- Support national efforts to enhance the participation of women in public decision-making through capacity building interventions targeting female leaders and support to public dialogue on effective strategies to increase women in decision-making, including in the context of the Third National Conference on Women in Leadership and Political Participation scheduled for 2015.
- Promote efforts to mobilize men as advocates for gender equality and women's empowerment.
- Support the MOH to launch and implement the National Guidelines for Managing Violence Against Women and Children in the Health System, and to develop a National Clinical Handbook and accompanying curriculum and health promotion tools.
- Support the Government to respond to the findings of the VAC survey through teacher training, life skills and early childhood development interventions.

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## Outcome area 3 expenditures for 2014 - 2015:

Estimated expenditure 2014: \$4,758,017 Projected expenditure 2015: \$7,128,995

## Quantitative Analysis – indicators to be monitored in 2014

						Planned Target
No.	Indicator	Status	Baseline	2014	Comments	2015
3.1	UN Gender Related	Planned				
	Development Index (GDI) (Index)	Actual	0.594	0.505	This is the figure for the GII.	
					There is a need to revise the target, as per the indicator has been adjusted.	
3.6	Percentage of national sectoral	Planned				
	annual costed plans which are gender responsive against criteria developed with MEF (Percent)	Actual	10	Eight line ministries received budget from MEF to implementGender Responsive Budgeting.		
3.7	Percentage of Technical	Planned				
	Working Groups (TWGs) a) Workplans, and b) JMIs that are gender responsive against criteria developed by TWG-G (JMI)	Actual	25	JMI is under implementation and reprting by the TWG- G		
3.7	Percentage of Technical	Planned				
	Working Groups (TWGs) a) Workplans, and b) JMIs that are gender responsive against criteria developed by TWG-G (Policy)	Actual	25	JMI is under implementation and reprting by the TWG- G		
3.8	Percentage of line ministries	Planned				50
	(including Office of the Council of Ministers and the State Secretariat for Civil Services) conducting gender responsive training programs for staff within their ministries/institutions (Percent, National)	Actual	30	120 staffs of Minstry of Civil Services and 177 gov't tranees of Royal School of Administration were trained on gender responsive.		
3.8	Percentage of line ministries	Planned				50
	(including Office of the Council of Ministers and the State	Actual	30	120 staffs of Minstry of Civil Services and		



	Secretariat for Civil Services) conducting gender responsive training programs for staff within their ministries/institutions (Percent, Sub-national)			177 gov't tranees of Royal School of Administration were trained on gender responsive.		
3.9	Percentage of GMAGs	Planned				60
	accessing national government budget to implement activities (Percent)	Actual	20	89	24 out of 27 ministries.	
3.13	Selected line ministries whose				All line	
	JAPR use gender responsive			4	ministries in	4
	data for priority setting and	Planned	0	1	selection	1
2.15	program decision making	Actual	0	N/A		
3.15	Number of labor related policy and legal initiatives that	Planned Actual	Number	77	77	
	address discrimination and promote equality in the world of work (Number)	Actual	of initiative s reported in MoLVT GMAP		enterprises developed workplace policy with action plan addressing discriminati on in line with the national	
					policy.	
3.21	Percentage of members of sub-	Planned		25	CMDG	
	national councils that are women (Percent, Commune)	Actual	14.1	17.78		
3.21	Percentage of members of sub-	Planned				
	national councils that are women (Percent, Province)	Actual	10.1	13.23		
3.21	Percentage of members of sub-	Planned				
	national councils that are women (Percent, District)	Actual	12.65	13.85		
3.22	Percentage of civil service	Planned				
	employees in high level positions (director and above) (Percent, Male)	Actual		6		
3.26	The Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence and the Protection of Victims is operationalised	Planned Actual	0	1	Law operationali sed	1
3.29	Costed annual work plans for				Costed work	
	the National Action Plan to	Planned		3	plan	4
	Combat Violence against Women developed	Actual	0			

Baselines and targets are yet to be established in some cases.



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## **OUTCOME 4 – Governance**

By 2015, national and sub-national institutions are more accountable and responsive to the needs and rights of all people living in Cambodia and increase participation in democratic decision-making.

## Introduction

The UN supports Cambodia's commitment to democratic governance, and is working to: strengthen mechanisms for dialogue, representation and participation; increase women's participation in political life; enhance the ability of vulnerable and marginalised groups to claim their rights; and strengthen state institutions' capacity to protect citizens' rights.

Efforts are also being made to build capacity for collection, access and utilization of disaggregated information to develop and monitor policies and plans; to improve public services; and to strengthen the multi-sectoral response to HIV/AIDS.

UN support in the area of Decentralization and De-Concentration (D&D) and related administrative reforms is coordinated through the National Committee for the management of Democratic Development (NCDD) and the Technical Working Group on Decentralization and De-Concentration, plus initiatives to support planning processes at the subnational level. UN support in the area of legal and judicial reform is coordinated through the Technical Working Group on Legal and Judicial Reform, which the UN is co-chairing.

#### 2014 Results

In 2014, the UN supported the youth education initiative "Loy9", which produced TV shows, radio and online component that contributed to an increased youth access to information about and participation in civic life, reaching three millions young Cambodians. The results included a delivery of Loy9 TV Series III along with a total of 37 TV magazines, 114 episodes of radio programmes. A study on youth civic engagement in Cambodia, launched in March 2014, highlighted significant impact of Loy9 on civic knowledge, attitude and practice among young people. The Loy9 audience demonstrated greater knowledge of civic terms, expressed positive attitudes towards civic engagement and have heard of, and been involved in, opportunities for community participation.

Building on the success of Loy9, the UN has developed and launched a new initiative in November 2014 with the aim to contribute to build knowledge and capacity among young people, especially young women, in negotiating with decision makers for better employment opportunities and livelihood enhancement.

In efforts to transfer functions from the central institutions to the subnational administrations under the Decentralization and De-concentration (D&D) reform process, with the support of the UN, six ministries completed functional mapping and four completed functional reviews. The ministries of Health (MoH) and Rural Development (MRD) designed pilots for selected functional assignment to sub-national administrations. The UN and other development partners provided technical support to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation for the implementation of the functional assignment.

On Sub-National Administration (SNA) planning policy and guidelines, a planning policy was drafted and is expected to be adopted shortly.

With UN technical and financial support, progress was also made in implementing a social accountability strategic plan. Information for citizens (I4C) materials contains information on services available, standard of services, budget and rights of the citizens was developed. NGOs and target areas were selected and

procedures and tools for citizen-led monitoring designed and tested. It is expected that 20 districts will implement activities related to dissemination of I4C material, community and citizen capacity building so that they can monitor and provide feedbacks to the service providers and participate in planning for joint actions to address the shortfall in social service delivery.

With UN support, the National League of Local Councils (NLC) carried out an expansion on 14 remaining provincial associations (PAs) and included the district, municipal and khan level councils. In addition, National Association of Capital and Provincial Councils (NACPC) were formed at capital and provincial level. The UN has provided support for the development of and training on a code of conduct for sub-national councillors. In addition, support has been provided for the creation of a joint secretariat of two associations (NLC and NACP). The main role of the two associations and the secretariat is to advocate for the interest of local self-Governments at national level and provide services to their members.

The UN supported the Council for Development of Cambodia (CDC) in producing and finalizing the Development Cooperation and Partnerships Strategy 2014-2018 and the Joint Monitoring Indicators. This sets out a results-based approach in managing development results and partnerships (line ministries, development partners, Non-Governmental Organizations, private sector and South-South partners) based on mobilizing resources and ensuring alignment to national development priorities. This also promotes transparency and accountability of development assistance.

A great effort was also made to address the issues of social exclusion of persons with disabilities. With support from the UN, the National Disability Strategic Plan 2014-2018 was approved by the Government. The initial report of the United Nations Convention on Rights of People with Disabilities was drafted following consultations with key stakeholders. The Cambodian Disabled People's Organization (CDPO) established a radio station of persons with disabilities to broadcast in two provinces – Kampong Som and Siem Reap, which will improve access to information and allow voices of people living with disabilities to be heard in wider society. In addition, the Ministry of Information agreed to mainstream disability in the information policy. Representatives of CDPO have been included in the Government's working group for the preparation of the Access to Information law.

The capacity of the General Department of Prisons (GDP) of the Ministry of Interior to protect the rights of persons detained in prison has improved, thanks, inter alia, to the production of two posters on the rights of prisoners and family visits which will be displayed in all prisons, as well as other public buildings, the drafting of a new Royal Decree on sentence reduction and pardon; strengthening of prison staff training; and material improvement to prison conditions and treatment - all with support from the UN.

UN support has been provided to the Government and Civil Society for participation in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Process which took place in January 2014, as well as in the process of dissemination and implementation of the UPR recommendations. UN support was also provided to Civil Society sending information to the UN Human Rights Committee ahead of the examination of Cambodia in March 2015. The Disability Action Council received extensive support from the UN to prepare its first report under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The capacity of sub-national authorities and civil society to implement the 2009 Law on Peaceful Demonstration has been increased through ongoing training of NGO-, CBO- and trade union representatives on the Law and its Implementation Guide in five provinces in 2014. The UN and the Ministry of Interior have agreed to co-organise a series of Provincial Dialogues between sub-national authorities and civil society organisations, especially on freedoms of assembly and expression. The first Provincial Dialogue took place in December 2014 in Mondulkiri.

The capacity of the courts to prevent arbitrary detention was enhanced through a new requirement that judges provide reasons when deciding to place a defendant in pre-trial detention. This change has been advocated by the UN since 2012. The UN has worked closely with the Ministry of Justice on this issue and new instructions were sent by the Ministry to all courts in January 2014. This reform will help increase transparency and accountability in the decision-making process in the courts. The UN has been providing



support to the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia and its Lawyers Training Centre to integrate human rights training in the curriculum for all trainee lawyers.

The capacity of the police forces to understand relevant human rights norms was increased through targeted trainings on rights upon arrest and use of force. The UN also developed, together with the Ministries of Interior and Justice a poster on rights upon arrest to be displayed in police stations.

The capacity of the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MOLVT) was strengthened to conciliate labour disputes. 264 cases of collective disputes were conciliated in 2014 of which 74 were successfully resolved and 190 were partly solved and were referred to the Arbitration Council.

The UN provided capacity building on industrial relations, social dialogue and collective bargaining for employers and workers' organisations. As a result, at least 37 new Most Representative Status (MRS) unions were certified by the MOLVT and new 37 Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs), including 12 high quality CBAs registered. Draft Trade Union Law was finalised in more compliant with the ratified ILO conventions.

An institutional framework for minimum wage fixing was established with the help of the UN. The tripartite Labour Advisory Committee adopted the principles for the minimum wage setting, such as an annual frequency of adjustments, win-win bargaining process and the balanced use of social and economic criteria, on which it analysed data to provide with an evidence basis for the 2015 minimum wage adjustment. As a result, the tripartite negotiation process led to the agreed \$128 minimum wage for workers, peace and stability in the garment and footwear sectors.

The UN collaborated with the Government (Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) and Ministry of Interior (MoI)) to promote and protect the land and economic rights of indigenous people (IP). 8 Indigenous communities (ICs) received a letter of recognition from MoRD, 7 of which received a letter of registration from the MoI. The UN assisted communities in mapping communal land, submitting applications for land titles and obtaining interim protection measures, whilst continuing to advocate for an increase in resources to speed up the communal land titling process.

UN support has been provided to a non-Governmental open-data source, which makes online information on land concessions available, and includes briefings on thematic issues, in order to make information in the public domain freely available to all and facilitate research and communication between the public, private companies, civil society and the Governments. A total of 598 concessions are listed, including 301 Economic Land Concessions, 267 mining and 30 Special Economic Zones, as well as interactive maps.

The new five-year overarching National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2014-2018 was developed and endorsed by the relevant state actors. Following extensive evidence-based advocacy and dialogues, key issues of concern related to demographic dividend, migration, urbanization, population projections, youth, ageing, sexual reproductive health, maternal and new-born health, family planning and HIV/AIDS were successfully integrated in the endorsed plan, with support of the UN.

The UN provided technical and financial support to the NIS to conduct in-depth analysis on Gender and Population Ageing in Cambodia by using and analysing the recent 2013 Cambodia Inter-Censal Population Survey (CIPS) data. These thematic reports will be used as evidence for development of Government policy on ageing, and updating the National Population Policy in the coming years.

Recognizing the socio-economic and environmental impact of urbanization, especially concerning sexual reproductive health and reproductive rights status of people who are urban poor, the UN commissioned in 2014 a first ever study on urbanization. The report has been completed and will be further used for knowledge sharing, policy advocacy dialogues with the Government and other stakeholders.

The network of PLHIV and Most at risk Population (FONPAMs) including Men who have sex with Men, Entertainment Workers, People who inject drugs, Transgender and PLHIV, were equipped with new HIV-related legal service and human rights tools and skills developed with support from the UN.

The UN also facilitated an update on new programmatic and funding related developments. PLHIV and HIV Key Affected Populations are now critical players in the national HIV response including meaningful and active participation in policy discussion, funding decisions and implementation thanks to UN advocacy and capacity building support. PLHIV are increasingly confident and able to speak up on stigma, discrimination and human rights abuses. Leaders and members actively participated and contributed to the development of the national Health Sector Strategic Plan (2015-2020). Aside with NGOs, community groups are also contributing to promoting awareness on the right to and demand for quality key prevention, treatment, care and support services and empowered to mitigate human rights issues. In 2014, the new community-led testing approach allowed over 25,000 people from key affected population to know their status.

## Challenges

- The absence of a tradition of independence of State institutions and checks and balances remain an overarching challenge to improve governance and public accountability.
- Limited progress on Public Administration Reform (PAR) and Public Finance Management (PMF)
- Low level of preparedness and understanding among line ministries on decentralizing functions to sub national authorities
- Slow progress in the implementation of the functional mapping and functional review which led to delay in implementation of the functional assignment
- Slow implementation of functional review and assignment to sub-national administrations
- Limited understanding on the importance of the functional assignment in improving service delivery
- Concerns on limited capacity of sub-national administrations
- Guidelines for sub-national administration planning has limited provision that ensure full participation of citizens and vulnerable and marginalized groups such as people with disabilities, young people, children, pregnant women etc.
- Limited legal literacy and access of marginalized population to legal services while some legal barriers remains for them to have free access to HIV prevention and treatment services
- Limited budget allocation for social protection and assistance to people with disability in MOSVY budget 2014.
- Fiscal transfer at subnational level is lengthy and slow
- Political disagreement between various stakeholders on national and subnational level on forming of the joint secretariat for two local Government associations
- Limited budget allocation for the Ministry of the Justice and the courts, as well as issues in the general functioning and practices of the judiciary continue to limit access to remedies by ordinary Cambodians when their rights have been violated.

## Priorities for 2015

- Continue to support inclusive, evidence informed policy dialogue and formulation, including in the context of national strategic planning processes and the post-2015 development agenda.
- Continue to support mechanisms for increasing accountability, aid effectiveness and coordination at all levels of Government.
- Provide support to three ministries in implementing a functional assignment pilot programme.
- Support the implementation of the social accountability strategic plan through working with NGOs and relevant stakeholders in target areas

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- Continue to support the Ministry of Planning (MoP) to review the poverty line for Cambodia based on the new poverty approach.
- Support to the Ministry of Planning to produce the Cambodia MDG report in 2015 to take stock of achievements and lessons learnt in Cambodia in terms of reaching the goals committed in the MDG.
- Support to the Ministry of Planning in conducting preparatory work for the upcoming mid-term review of the NSDP 2014-2018 to be conducted in 2016 which is to assess the progress of the implementation and to adjust relevant priorities where necessary.
- Support the MoP to review and update the National Population Policy to reflect emerging population issues Cambodia is facing to support the implementation of the policy.
- Further capacity building of community groups for their meaningful participation in programming, planning, implementation and monitoring of HIV and SRH services as well as related human rights demand and monitoring.
- Enhance access of PLHIV and Key Affected Population especially the marginalized ones to legal and social services beside basic HIV prevention and treatment services.
- Support CDC/CRDB to roll out the Development Cooperation & Partnerships Strategy 2014-2018 as part of global cooperation and partnership exercise on aid management.
- Continue promoting the participation of youth, women and indigenous people through the implementation of the Multimedia Civic Education Programme and other rights-awareness raising work.
- Membership expansion of provincial associations of communes/sangkats with inclusion of DMK councils in remaining 13 provinces and creation of new national league of associations.
- Support the Government to report on the status of high level/international commitments to the UN and ESCAP.
- Continue support for improving lives of People with Disabilities (PwD) through implementation of UN Joint Programme Disability Rights Initiative Cambodia (DRIC).-Continue to support the effective administration of justice through capacity building and support to improved case management in the courts.
- Continue to advocate for and provide support to Government reforms and capacity building in the administration of justice in line with international norms (including judicial reform, prison reform and legal aid)
- Support the Government to develop Labour Court Law in accordance with ratified ILO convention and international good practices, and with tripartite support.
- Continue to support the integration of human rights in the training for lawyers, judges and prosecutors and police forces.
- Support the Government, employers and unions to improve industrial relations and develop a more robust system for minimum wages adjustments.
- Extend support to 10 indigenous communities on land rights and titling.

Outcome area 4 expenditures for 2014 - 2015:

Estimated expenditure 2014: \$7,914,542 Projected expenditure 2015: \$9,058,720 Quantitative Analysis – indicators to be monitored in 2014

No	Indicator	Status	Baseline	2014	Comments	Planned Target 2015
4.50	Number of line ministries receiving direct support from NCDD in carrying out functional review exercise (Number)	Planned		3	At least three line ministries	3
		Actual	0			

Baselines and targets are yet to be established in some cases.



## **OUTCOME 5 – Social protection**

By 2015, more people, especially the poor and vulnerable, benefit from improved social safety nets (SSN) and social security programmes, as an integral part of a sustainable national social protection system.

## Introduction

The UN system is working with Government and civil society to address four key dimensions of social protection: 1) ensure improved coverage, quality and equitable geographic access; 2) reduce fragmentation and gaps and increase policy coherence through further developing common systems of identification, targeting, and delivery; 3) address the financial sustainability of the system by identifying a more long-term funding base; 4) establish a cross-referral mechanism at the national and sub-national levels.

The UN plans to continue working with the Government to expand the existing social security system by developing policies to cover workers in the formal and informal economy, with a focus on expanding health insurance and ensuring that the national social security fund is in line with existing legislation. The overall goal remains improved access to inclusive social protection measures, reduction of gaps and fragmentation, mitigation of the impact of shocks and achievement and acceleration of the CMDGs.

## 2014 Results

In 2014, the UN continued to engage in the social protection dialogue through the Social Protection Core Group (SPCG), and the Technical Working Group on Social Protection and Food Security & Nutrition (TWG-SP&FSN) which was reformed in January 2014, with the aim of strengthening social protection, food security and nutrition in line with the 2015 CMDGs, the Rectangular Strategy Phase III, and the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2014-2018. At the regional level, the UN assisted the RGC in hosting the ASEAN Inter-Sectoral Consultation on the Development of a Plan of Action for the Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on strengthening Social Protection in the region.

With technical and financial support from the UN, the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development - Social Protection Coordination Unit (CARD-SPCU) conducted the Costed Action Plan for the National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS) to identify national social protection measures to be taken over by the RGC over the next five years and better prepare the country for ASEAN integration.

The UN facilitated the drafting by the Ministry of Health (MoH) of a National Health Financing Policy aimed at achieving universal health coverage by expanding and strengthening Cambodia's social health protection mechanisms. A key pillar of the policy is the establishment of the National Social Health Protection Fund (NSHPF) to provide coverage for the informal sector. The policy is due to be endorsed by the Council of Ministers in early 2015.

Furthermore, the UN continued to provide technical and financial support to the consolidation of social security funds including the expansion of the Health Equity Funds (HEFs) which now reaches 93 percent of Cambodia's poor; and the development of the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), under the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training, to prepare for the introduction of social health insurance for the formal private sector. The total target population includes 1 million workers and 1 million dependents. Cambodia released its first ever National Health Accounts (NHA) – the first systematic and comprehensive analysis of health care expenditure to date.

The UN supported the RGC in improving on-going social protection programmes, to increase coverage and enhance impact, inclusiveness and sustainability. The school feeding programme, implemented in

partnership with the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport (MoEYS) reached almost 450,000 students in around 60% of primary schools nationwide in school year 2013-2014. The MoEYS increasingly demonstrated its confidence and capacity to assume full responsibility in managing school feeding activities as illustrated by the RGC's annual contribution of rice to the school feeding programme, and the finalization of a School Feeding Road Map to establish, manage and fund a full-fledged national school feeding programme by 2020. As part of the transition to a nationally owned school feeding programme, the UN supported the design of a nationwide cash scholarship programme to be implemented in 2015, including taking over responsibility in several provinces previously assisted by the UN. Conditional cash transfers to support public works programmes for poor rural households were scaled up from 10 communes in 2013 to 22 communes in 2014, and additional cash for community activities (CfCA) were incorporated into these projects to ensure the most vulnerable people could participate. The UN also supported a pilot conditional cash transfer programme targeting poor families with pregnant mothers and/or young children to support survival and development of full potential during early years in life.

A number of innovative pilot programmes were designed and rolled-out to provide operational options for the emerging national social protection system. These included the establishment of ten Social Service Delivery Mechanism (SSDM) offices in two districts of Siem Reap province to provide a single entry point for households to access information and register in social protection schemes and employment services in their own communes; two pilots of conditional cash transfer programmes to poor pregnant women and children aged below 6 years for early childhood development in Siem Reap and Banteay Mancheay provinces; a Home Grown School Feeding (HGSF) pilot in Siem Reap province aimed at ensuring a sustainable supply of fresh produce food to school meals by local small-scale farmers.

In collaboration with CARD, the UN conducted research and studies advocating for further investment in the emerging social protection framework and systematical inclusion of special vulnerable groups. These included a Strategic Review of Food and Nutrition Security identifying key investment opportunities for Cambodia in its transition towards Lower Middle-Income Country status; a Fiscal Space Analysis for Social Protection; and a study on the Economic Consequences of Malnutrition in Cambodia; an impact simulation of scholarships covering primary and lower-secondary students to reduce school drop-out; a Strategy Paper on Adaptive Social Protection including a ten year action plan for the development of appropriate schemes integrating Social Protection, Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction; a survey on ID poor with 255 People Living with HIV (PLHIV) and Key Affected Populations (KAPs) in three Provinces contributed to the inclusion of HIV in the urban ID poor mechanism as a special circumstance among the eligible criteria for ID-poor program; and a study with MOH and GIZ on financial access to health care by three particularly vulnerable groups: older people, people with disabilities and people with non-communicable diseases. The UN also developed the monitoring, evaluation and coordination capacity of CARD and the social protection inter-ministerial task force officials through a training course on research and evaluation. In an effort to address to pursue an inclusive social protection mechanism, a national consultation on advancing HIV sensitive social protection was conducted by the UN in late 2014 enforced the need of HIV incorporation in Social Protection given significant declining of HIV funds.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY), the UN conducted and launched the Study on the Review of Social Work Practice: An Emphasis on Public Social and Child Welfare, which showed that financial and human resource allocations are very low for the social work sector, significantly hampering the implementation of all major social protection related frameworks.

The UN supported the Government to strengthen and enhance capacities of national and sub-national authorities to implement Cambodia's alternative care framework, with the development of guidelines on domestic adoption and guardianship, and a Sub-decree regulating the opening and registration of residential care institutions and sanctioning of institutions that do not comply with minimum standards of care for children. Technical and financial support was provided to MoSVY to strengthen its monitoring and inspection of residential care institutions to ensure that children are cared for and protected in accordance with alternative care minimum standards and to close down orphanages that fail to meet the standards. Moreover, the UN supported Government efforts in selected provinces to undertake the case management



of children in orphanages and to reintegrate them to their families or to alternative family-based care, in cooperation with civil society organizations.

In coordination with MoSVY and with a view to reduce fragmentation of social welfare services, the UN supported the Partnership Programme for the Protection of Children (3PC), a network of civil society organizations working under Government oversight, for the equitable delivery of prevention and response services for the most vulnerable and victimized children, including children with disabilities, children affected by HIV and AIDs, drug-affected children, orphans, separated children, and children from poor families, in five provinces. A total of 9,509 vulnerable children (4,237 females), 3,331 youth (1,007 females) and 6,768 families from these provinces benefitted from outreach, social-economic support, vocational skills training, transitional home stays, case management and other preventative and response services. In addition, several models of family preservation, foster care, group homes, and independent living were implemented as alternatives to residential care, through 3PC.

The UN and international humanitarian NGOs continued to coordinate disaster preparedness and response through the Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF). Between July and September 2014, UN agencies and International NGOs provided relief to vulnerable households affected by the small scale floods and droughts that partially affected 18 provinces, complementing support given by the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC). Moreover, the HRF supported the RGC's relief coordination and distribution efforts following the mass return of Cambodian migrant workers from neighbouring Thailand in June. The HRF continued to work closely with the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) and local NGOs to enhance disaster preparedness and response capacity in three main areas: overall coordination, emergency assessments and information management. In addition to response activities in 2014, the HRF completed a number of preparedness activities, including the development of field-tested join-assessment tools; the creation of a humanitarian information-sharing website; as well as the completion of a simulation exercise to ensure disaster readiness of humanitarian actors in the country (an exercise that will be repeated in 2015).

## Challenges

- Fragmentation of Social Protection Programmes and donor-driven initiatives.
- Uncertainty over funding limits scale-up of existing social protection programmes and further implementation of the NSPS; RGC may face budgetary bottle necks and human capacity challenges at a time when the country is moving towards ASEAN integration and LMIC status and donor support is beginning to dwindle.
- Limited SP coordination capacity and mechanisms at both line ministry and sub-national level, where actual implementation takes place.
- Limited resources and need to further clarify roles and responsibilities of CARD-SPCU to perform effective coordination with different ministries and DPs.
- Limited understanding of social protection principles and objectives and limited capacity of social protection-related Government bodies for an effective implementation laid out in the NSPS.
- Very low financial and human resource allocations for the social work sector, which hamper the implementation of the social protection framework.

## Priorities for 2015

- With plans to update the NSPS in 2015, CARD-SPCU has collected information of all social protection programmes to develop its databases in 2015 which will be used for mapping of social protection programmes and gaps of interventions, and strengthening CARD's role in monitoring, evaluation and coordination.
- Continue to strengthen advocacy on mainstreaming and promoting larger national investments on social
  protection and resourcing for CARD through promoting high level inter-ministerial dialogue among
  CARD, Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) and line ministries using the existing TWG-SP&FSN
  mechanism.
- Continue to support the inter-ministerial dialogue on social protection programmes and gaps of intervention, and innovative approaches to resilience building and adaptive social protection.
- Continue to create an enabling environment for social protection through policy support, capacity development of social protection-related Government bodies, and operational learning through scaling up of existing pilot initiatives (e.g.: Social Service Delivery Mechanism, Cash Scholarship, Home Grown School Feeding, and Conditional Cash Transfer).
- Finalize the Costed Action Plan of NSPS and promote ownership of the plan by CARD, MEF and line ministries.
- Assessment of the targeting tool (ID-Poor) in identification of the most vulnerable
- Ensure that the development of the next NSPS will be completed based on assessment/evaluation of the current NSPS and with a view to move from a safety nets approach to social protection (coherent framework with clear priorities related to the actual fiscal space of the country)
- Continue to support and coordinate the implementation of the alternative care framework, including through case management and family reintegration of children living in residential care institutions; and promotion of community-based alternatives to institutional care, permanent guardianship and domestic adoption.
- Support the professionalization of 'social work', the inclusion of social work as a civil servant classification, and setting-up of a training and accreditation system for social and para-social workers.
- Improve targeting mechanisms to reach the most vulnerable including special vulnerable groups with a special focus on PLHIV, KAPs and Persons with Disabilities.
- Continue to support and advocate for the development of sustainable institutional arrangements and financial mechanism for social protection, in line with the Decentralization and De-concentration reform.

## Outcome area 5 expenditures for 2014 - 2015:

Estimated expenditure 2014: \$13,713,625 Projected expenditure 2015: \$26,939,059



## Quantitative Analysis – indicators to be monitored in 2014

NI-	laskatas	Chah	Danalina	2014	Commence	Planned Target
No. 5.3	Indicator Country's social protection	Status	Baseline	2014	Comments	2015
5.3	index ranking (Index)	Planned	0.10	0.00		
	index ranking (index)	Actual	0.18	0.02		
5.5	A Sub-Decree and a National Social Protection Strategy including M&E framework with costed annual plan developed	Planned		1	Costed annual plans	1
	in collaborative multisectoral process	Actual	0	5	Cost Action Plan for NSPS, fiscal space for SP in Cambodia, Strategic review of FS&N for the transition to MIC, Economic consequences of malnutrition in Cambodia, Impact simulation of scholarship covering primary and lower-secondary student to reduce drop-out,	
5.6	Percentage of laws and	Planned				100
	regulations harmonised with the new social protection policies and National Social Protection Strategy (Percent)	Actual		N/A		
5.8	Percentage of communes	Planned				60
	where official channels for the population to claim their right to social protection have been established (Percent)	Actual	0	0.49	8 commune implemented Social Service Delivery Mechanism out of 1633 communes	
5.21	Development of comprehensive national/sub-national database	Planned				1
	or inventory on social protection/social safety nets and HIV status	Actual	0	1	SSDM	
5.22	Updating inventories of new/pilot/existing social	Planned				5
	protection and social safety net programmes every two years	Actual	0	No updated	No updated	
5.23	Long-term national funding	Planned				1
	strategy for SSNs developed	Actual	0	1	Costed action plan to be finalized in early 2015.	
5.24	Develop protocol for cross-	Planned				1
	referral within social safety net system	Actual	0	1	Social Service Delivery mechanism	