Global Gateway

CAMBODIA - Sustainable Landscapes, Forests and Agriculture

#GLOBALGATEWAY   #TEAMEUROPE

TEAM EUROPE PROPOSAL

Promoting sustainable use of natural resources, combining protection and increase incomes for the rural population.
Different aspects of the initiative:

- Develop regional food security (agriculture value chains and market access within and outside ASEAN)
- Improve regional Mekong River management
- Improve transboundary actions (against illegal logging and wildlife trade)
- Develop cross-border management of protected areas (trans-frontier/ASEAN Heritage Parks)

Support for sustainable agriculture and agri-food chains (EU, EIB, BE, and FR):

- Rain fed agriculture (FR)
- Irrigated agriculture
- Deforestation-free agricultural value chains
- Agro-ecology and agro-forestry
- Sustainable agriculture at local levels (BE)
- Sustainable food systems (EU)
- Agriculture value chain (EU

Support to landscape restoration, watershed management and COPERNICUS/university partnerships (EU, BE, CZ):

- Education on forests and agricultural processing (CZ)
- Sustainable NRM at local levels (BE)

Support (loans, guarantees, grants) to reforestation, forest value chains, Community Forestry, cooking stoves (EU, EIB)

Support to forest defenders, land right organisation & accountability (EU) through civil society participation

Support to rural infrastructure (EU, EIB, FR):

- Rural roads - rehabilitation
- Integrated water management, improved regional Mekong River management

Support (grants) to biodiversity, REDD+, and ecotourism (EU, FR, CH):

- Biodiversity hotspots (AFD/FFEM)
- Natural forests
- Policy dialogue
- High level coordination mechanism
- Pilot landscape approach

MODALITIES/TOOLS

Budget support

VET Skills, studies and research COPERNICUS initiative

Blending operations
- Loans
- Grant

Multi-stakeholders mobilisation (e.g. youth, CSO)

TRANSFORMATIONAL POTENTIAL

- Support to sustainable landscapes, forests and agriculture
- Support to a sustainable agriculture and agri value chains
- TEI №1 is directly related to IDP AEC Blueprint, focusing on green agribusiness and green value chains.
- TEI on Build back better – green energy and industrial value chains (TEI №2) could replicate these efforts in the export-oriented industry sector

KEY DELIVERABLES

Food production value chains

1. Rehabilitation of 650 km of rural roads to hard paved, and 150km of gravel roads, 50 rural market areas improved and about 25 other value chain logistics facilities.
2. Rehabilitation of irrigation and drainage infrastructures for climate change resilience and sustainable water management (WAT4CAM). Protection against floods, improvement of water supply availability, promotion of diversification into higher value less water-intensive crops, improvement water governance/management across 51,000 hectares.
3. Rehabilitation of 550 km of hard paved and 50 km of gravel rural roads. First 126 Km start in early 2023, to be completed by 2025 (RID4CAM)

This Team Europe Initiative is work in progress

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NATIONAL CONTEXT

Agriculture is a key sector:
- 22% of GDP
- Employing about 3 million people employed
- 65% of Cambodians rely on agriculture, forestry, and fisheries for their livelihoods

Challenges:
- Crop diversification (beyond rice) and productivity remain low
- Most agriculture products (and timber), are not transformed locally but in neighbouring countries

Farmland expansion led to agric land expansion, massive deforestation and land use change:
- Farmed area increased by 2.2 m ha (2016-2018)
- 2.7 million ha of forests lost and 63,000 ha of primary forests lost in 2019
- Deforestation accounts for 80% of GHG emissions
- Rapid loss of biodiversity
- Exacerbates natural disasters such as droughts and floods

- Illegal logging of high value tree species and timber smuggling to neighbouring countries (primarily to Vietnam)
- Uncontrolled extraction of low value fuelwood (firewood and charcoal for households, garment, and brick industries)
- Migrant workers returning to rural communities in the unfolding COVID-19 crises
- Land grabbing
- Higher vulnerability to poverty for returning migrant workers (increasing during COVID-19)

GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT AND RELEVANT SDGs

15 LIFE ON LAND

2 ZERO HUNGER

5 GENDER EQUALITY

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Agenda 2030

ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)
FLEGT
Vietnam-EU Voluntary Partnership Agreement

COVID-19 pandemic

**SDGs included based on a new JRC electronic text mining tool, which identifies SDGs (targets)