

Exit Strategy for the SFM Project

1. Project Profile

Name of the project	Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management and Bio-Energy Markets to Promote Environmental Sustainability and to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Cambodia
Implementing agency	Forestry Administration-FA/Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Fishery
Project timeframe	4 years (01 March 2011 to 31 Dec 2015)
Project objective	To strengthen national SFM policy, integrate community-based sustainable forest management into policy, planning and investment frameworks and create markets for sustainable bio- energy technologies that reduce CO2 emissions
Project outcomes	<p>Outcome 1: National capacities, policies and regulations exist to facilitate the widespread implementation of SFM, integrating energy efficiency, biodiversity, sustainable land management and livelihood considerations.</p> <p>Outcome 2: Community-based sustainable forest management is being implemented effectively within a context of cantonment/province, district and commune level planning and delivering concrete benefits to local communities</p> <p>Outcome 3: Strengthened demand and supply chain for energy efficient cook stoves</p>
Target of the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kampong Speu (11 CF and 1 ACFM, 1 CLUP) • Kampong Chhnang (06 CF, 1 CLUP) • Pursat (08 CF and 02 ACFM, 1 CLUP) • Battambang (05 CF and 01 ACFM, 1 CLUP)
Project budget	Total budget = USD 4,025,342.02
Donors	GEF and UNDP
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2. Introduction

As the project has been approaching to completion of project by December 2015, the exit strategy of the SFM project has been developed with the aim of provision of strategic guidance for the gradual withdrawal of the project and to prepare key partner and stakeholders to continue the activities in a sustainable manner. The exit strategy outlines the plan how the project intends to withdraw its support

from the project target sites while ensuring the achievement of the project goals and objectives is not jeopardized. The main objectives of the project exit plan are 1) to identify, prioritize, and institutionalize key activities and mechanism to strengthen the capability of partners and stakeholders to take over and 2) to prepare key partners and other stakeholders to plan and implement prioritize activities sustainably after the project.

The project aims to achieve the following outputs by end of the project:

- A supportive legal framework for SFM, including Partnership Forestry, Community Conservative Forestry, Community Based Production Forest, and CF Business Plan developed and incorporated into existing CF guideline
- 30 Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP) developed, with inclusion of forest based business plan
- 10 Community Protected Areas (CPA) Management Plan developed
- 04 Piloting Alternative Community Forestry Modality (ACFM)
- 04 Commune Land Use Planning with integration of SFM
- 05 Woodlot Management Plan (WLMP)
- 16 Improved Charcoal Kiln (ICK) constructed and operated
- 06 Improved Cook Stove Production Cluster established

To achieve the above project outputs, two service providers have been contracted – RECOFTC and GERES – to implement the project activities. And the service providers, in consultation with FA and UNDP, are informed to prepare the exit plan, which is consolidated into one document.

3. Criteria for project exit

The achievement of project outputs, as said in the project strategic result framework, is one of the important aspects for the project exit that is why the project extension is needed to ensure key elements of the project results could be achieved. However, as this project has time limited dictated by funding cycle, the project is absolutely focusing on matter of sustainability and ownership.

4. Exit Plan

The exit strategy has been prepared through the following steps:

- Revisit the project outputs to be sustained
- Determine actions for take up
- Determine actions for exit

a. Revisit the project outputs to be sustained

- FA/MOE have improved policies, which provide better support for the SFM
- Improved capacity (FAC, DOE, and DLMUPC) ensure replication of activities (CF/CPA-MP and Business Plans, and CLUP)
- Local communities implement CF/CPA MP and BP
- Continued production of improved cook stoves
- Production of efficient charcoal kilns provided additional incomes to CF members
- Increased awareness on the improved palm sugar stoves

b. Determine actions for taking up

- Suggestion for improved ACFM Guidelines (closing workshop)
- CPA Guidelines ratification (closing workshop)
- CF-MP, CPA-MP, Business Plans to be approved at national and local levels
- All the CF/CPA records and documents properly kept by relevant authorities (on progress)
- Lessons learnt to be consolidated and shared with all key partners (closing workshops and reports)
- Capacity building of local partners, such as FAC, DoE, Mlup Baitong (CF: completed, CPA: on progress)
- Commune Council links the Commune Development (CDF) Fund to the CF Dev. Fund
- Improve capacity of ICS on quality + Reflection workshop about QC (role of DMEs? ICoProDAC capacity?)
- Participatory planning between firewood collectors and charcoal producers
- Continued monitoring on Improved Charcoal Kiln and charcoal production + business plan
- Anticipate next harvesting season in woodlots: integrate into CFMPs, explore possible other firewood sources, develop Seasonal Time Tables and Quotas
- Document best practices for SFM experiences to contribute into institutional arena (notably WEWG)
- Finalize Improved Palm Sugar Stoves Pilot in Kg Speu
- Seek additional support to develop a next phase

c. Determine actions for exit

The SFM/PMU will discuss with relevant stakeholders from interministerial focal persons at the national and sub-national level on the below issues:

- Who will take over, maintain and manage the outputs after the project ends?
 - FA/MoE: ownership of improved policies & lessons learned
 - FAC/DoE: ownership of CF/CPA-MP, improved capacity
 - MME/DME ownership of Wood and Biomass Energy Strategy
 - Local communities: ownership of approved CF/CPA-MP and Business Plans, improved capacity, CF Dev. Fund autonomously managed
 - Commune Councils and other line departments: ownership of the CLUP
 - DLUP teams and other line departments: improved capacity for CLUP
 - DME continue to monitor the on-going operation of improved cook stove and efficient charcoal kiln (ECK)
 - Local communities ownership of ECK

