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## **Action & Investment Plan for the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy of Cambodia**

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# ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

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AD	Activity Data
AIP	Action and Investment Plan
BUR	Biennial Update Report
CF	Community Forest
CG	Consultation Group
CPA	Community Protected Area
CSF	Commune/Sangkat Fund
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EF	Emission Factor
ELC	Economic Land Concession
ER	Emission Reduction
ESF	Environmental & Social Fund
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
FA	Forestry Administration
FiA	Fisheries Administration
FPIC	Free and Prior Informed Consent
FREL/FRL	Forest Reference Emission Level / Forest Reference Level
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDANCP	General Directorate Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection
GG	Gender Group
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
ha	hectare
JCM	Joint Crediting Mechanism
LULUCF	Land use, Land use Change & Forestry
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance
MIS	Management Information System
MLMUPC	Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MRV	Measuring, Reporting & Verification
NC	National Communication
NCSD	National Council for Sustainable Development
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NFDF	National Forestry Development Fund
NFMS	National Forest Monitoring System
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPASMP	National Protected Area Strategic Management Plan
NRS	National REDD+ Strategy

NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
PA	Protected Area
PAF	Protected Area Fund
PaM	Policies and Measures
PFSP	Production Forests Strategic Plan
RBP	Results-Based Payments
REDD+	Reduce emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, and the conservation, sustainable management and enhancement of forest and forest carbon stocks
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
RTF	REDD+ Taskforce
RTS	REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SIS	Safeguards Information System
SLC	Social Land Concession
SO	Strategic Objective
SoI	Summary of Information
SPFCM	Strategic Plan for Fisheries Conservation and Management
SPFF	Strategic Planning Framework for Fisheries
TA	Technical Annex
ToC	Theory of Change
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

# I. INTRODUCTION

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The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) recognizes challenges posed by global warming and has included climate action in its national policies, notably in the **National REDD+ Strategy (NRS)**. Endorsed in 2017, the NRS goals for the 2017-2026 period are (i) to reduce deforestation and forest degradation by half by 2026 (compared to the 2006-2014 reference period) in promoting sustainable management of forests and conservation of natural resources, and (ii) to contribute to poverty alleviation.

**The REDD+ Action & Investment Plan (AIP)** sets up the programmatic framework of investments needed to achieve the REDD+ Strategic Objectives (SOs) identified in the NRS. It presents the institutional arrangements, actions and financial needs to implement REDD+ in Cambodia. The purposes of the AIP are to channel finance towards REDD+ objectives and guide investments for effective implementation of various REDD+ strategies (Policies and Measures - PaMs) across the country, in a way that ensures social inclusion and gender equality. The AIP aims to link existing policies and address gaps in an implementation framework that enhances coherence and coordination, especially between the RGC Ministries and their technical and financial partners.

To consider the diversity of stakeholders who interact with the forest and to reflect their perspectives about its use, management and conservation, AIP implementation will be guided by *socially inclusive* and *gender responsive* approaches that includes Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) and Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).

**Section II** provides the **national context** and outlines risks of climate change and how Cambodia's response is captured in the NRS for the Land use, Land use Change & Forestry (LULUCF) sector. This section also provides information on land use changes over the recent years as well as complementary information on direct drivers of deforestation. This section finally presents a briefing on the status of the REDD+ Programme of Cambodia.

**Section III** defines a robust **Theory of Change (ToC)** to move from a *business as usual* scenario with its associated forest cover loss to a *sustainable scenario* that reduces deforestation, forest degradation and enhances forest cover. This section also details PaMs that need to be implemented.

**Section IV** provides an outline of the **implementation framework**. It describes the strategic framework in which the objectives of the NRS are aligned with those for Protected Areas (PA), production forestry and sustainable fisheries, and the alignment with national priorities for sustainable development and inclusive economic growth, including those defined under the RGC's Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency. This section also outlines the needed reform of institutional arrangements for REDD+, as well as the regulatory framework for REDD+ Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reductions (ER) mechanisms.

**Section V** provides an outline of the **Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)** framework with the objective of effectively monitoring and coordinating AIP implementation and assessing achievements and progress towards Cambodia's REDD+ objectives.

**Section VI** provides the **financial plan** for AIP implementation with estimates of implementation, monitoring and transaction costs. The financial mechanism for resources management is presented, as well as the Resource Mobilization Strategy.

**Section VII** provides the **environmental and social safeguards management framework** in which an initial assessment - against the Cancun safeguards - of the potential social and environmental risks from implementing the AIP and the mitigation measures is presented.

## II. CONTEXT

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Cambodia has attained the lower middle-income country status in 2015 with gross national income per capita reaching USD 1,070<sup>i</sup>, and has made huge strides in reducing poverty, particularly through the garment industry, agricultural production and tourism. Even though the country is still classified as a least developed country, it has emerged from a difficult period to be a dynamic and stable country which, over the last 20 years, has experienced remarkable economic growth.

### 2.1. Climate Change and the Nationally Determined Contribution

According to indices of vulnerability and readiness for climate change, Cambodia is one of the most at-risk countries globally, specifically due to its reliance on rice and inland fisheries<sup>ii</sup> and the threats to these from flooding and drought. Cambodia is considered one of the 10 most vulnerable countries to climate change and one of the three most vulnerable in Asia<sup>iii</sup>, with very limited ability to leverage investments and convert them to adaption action<sup>iv</sup>.

Considering its high vulnerability to climate change, Cambodia has submitted its first Nationally Determined Contribution<sup>v</sup> (NDC) in 2017 and is currently updating it to submit a second enhanced NDC to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2020.

Cambodia's current NDC key priorities for climate change mitigation are (i) the land use and forestry sector, (ii) renewable energy generation and energy efficiency, (iii) manufacturing industries and (iv) transport and waste. For climate change adaptation, Cambodia's NDC priorities are agriculture, water, infrastructure, forestry, human health and coastal zones.

The AIP is in line with NDC's priorities and enables its implementation for the LULUCF sector. The revised NDC will further build on the national REDD+ process, including through (i) enhanced data on forest and forest-related GHG emissions, (ii) ambitious while realistic targets, a coherent set of PaMs to collectively address the various direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and (iii) related implementation and coordination framework.

### 2.2. Land use, Land use Change & Forestry

Cambodia covers a total area of 18.1 million hectares<sup>vi</sup> (ha), mainly covered by a wide variety of forest lands and agriculture crops (Figure 1) across several ecological zones (Figure 2). Forests<sup>1</sup> and crop lands are managed by two Ministries: (i) the Ministry of Environment (MoE), with an overall mandate for managing the PA network (including Biosphere Reserve and Biodiversity Conservation Corridors) covering an approximate area of 7.5 million ha (41% of the national territory), and (ii) the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), with an overall mandate for agriculture development and management of forest resources according to national forest and fisheries sectoral policies and laws, covering an approximate area of 1.5 million ha (8% of the national territory).

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<sup>1</sup> Cambodia defines forest as a 'a unit of an ecosystem in the form of wetland and dryland covered by natural or planted vegetation with a height from 5 meters on an area of at least 0.5 hectares, and canopy crown cover of more than 10%', including forest regrowth and areas under afforestation or reforestation. The national definition of forest includes forest plantations.

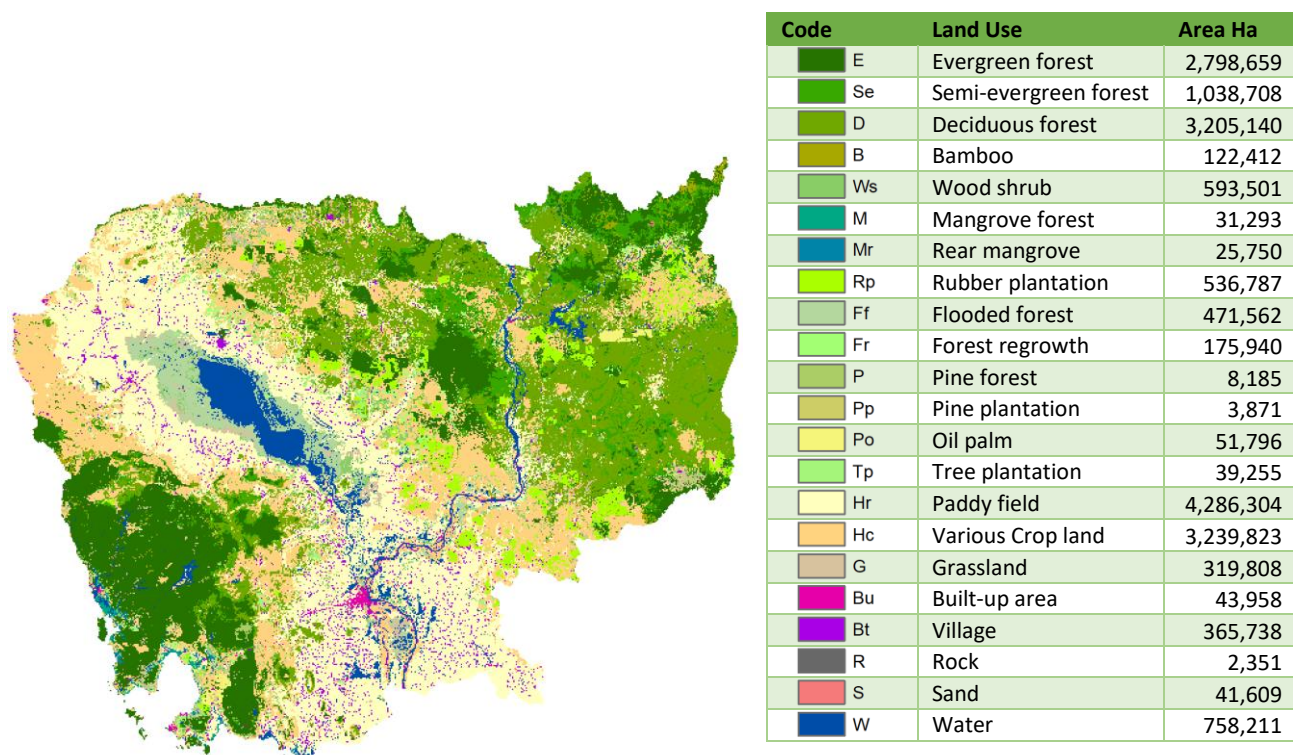


Figure 1. Land use/land-cover map of Cambodia in 2018 (source: RTS)

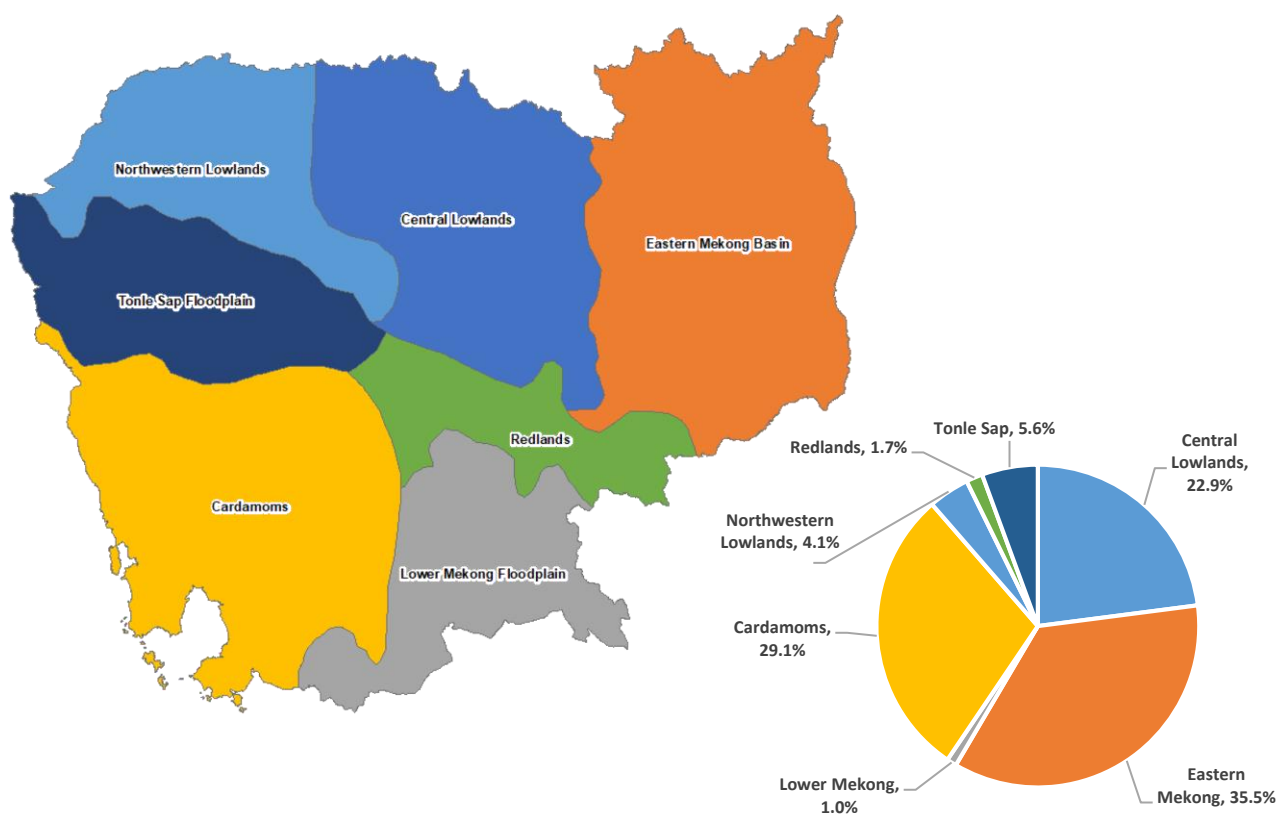
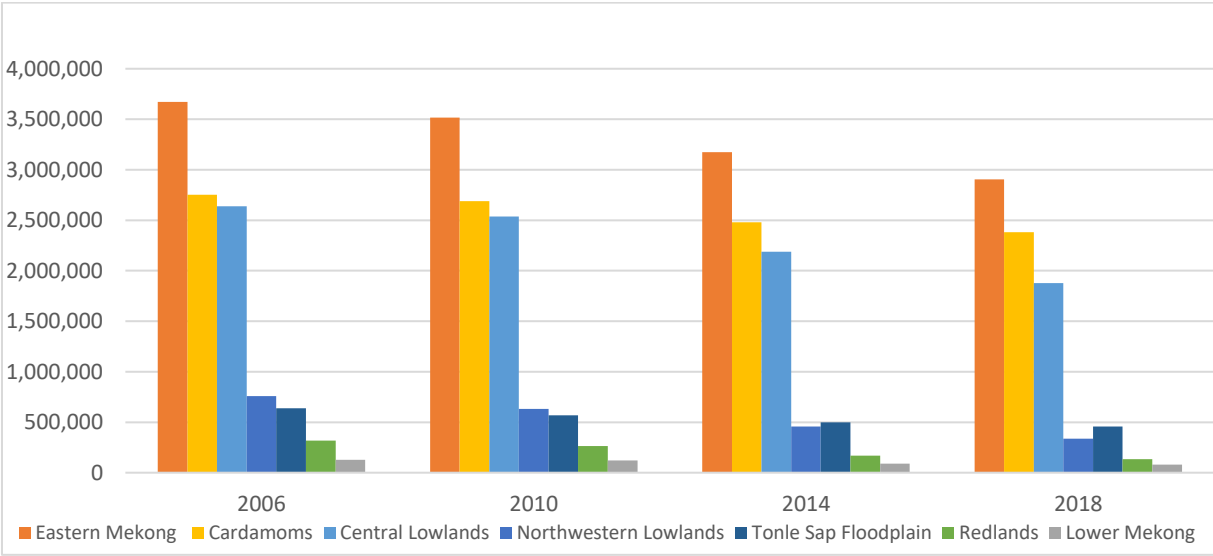


Figure 2. Forest distribution by ecological zone in 2018 (source: RTS)



While Cambodia had around 11 million ha of forest in 2006 (mainly located in the Eastern Mekong Basin (34%), the Cardamoms (25%), and the Central Lowlands (24%)), only around 8 million ha of forests remained in 2018 (of which 35% in the Eastern Mekong Basin, 29% in the Cardamoms and 23% in the Central Lowlands (Figure 3).



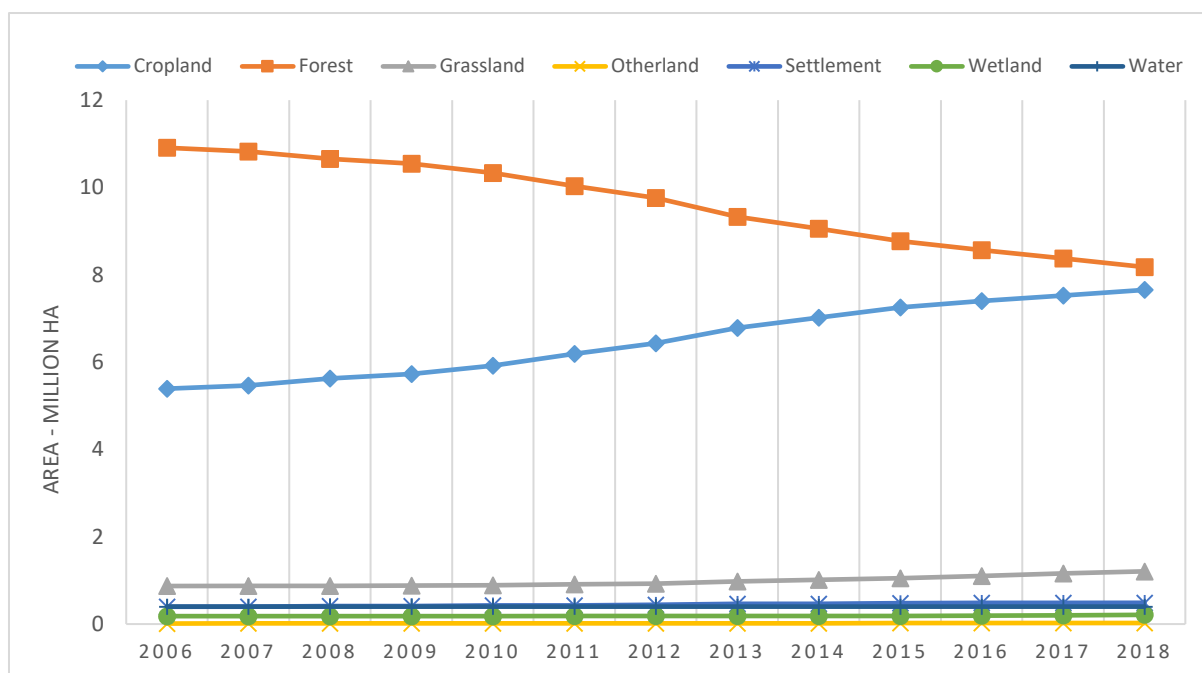
**Figure 3. Forest cover change by ecological zone between 2006 and 2018 (source: RTS)**

The Figure 3 shows that dynamics of deforestation vary by ecological zones, with higher deforestation rates in the Eastern Mekong Basin and Central Lowlands.

### 2.3. Drivers of Deforestation

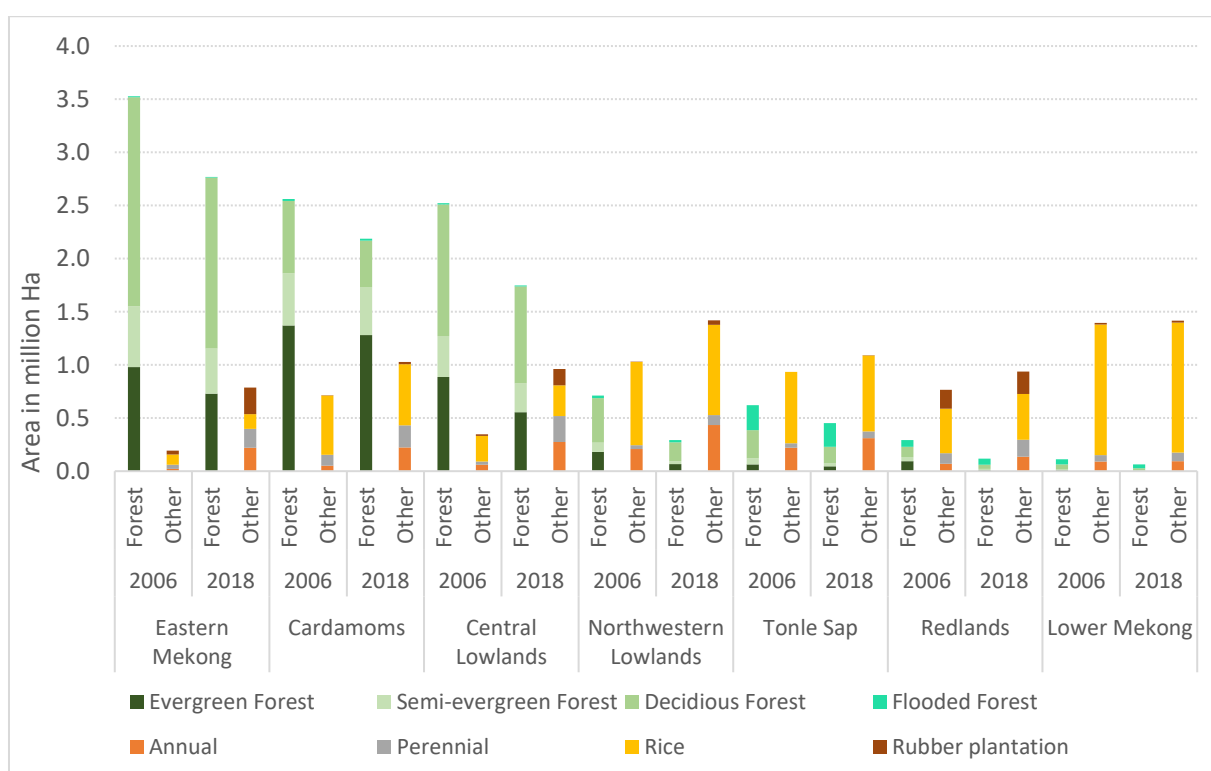
Complementing the outline of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation presented in the NRS, this section presents the results of a study on land use/land cover change undertaken by the REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat (RTS) in 2019 to further assess direct drivers of deforestation.

As illustrated in Figure 4, Cambodia lost 2.7 million ha of forest area between 2006 and 2018, corresponding to a loss of approximately 25% of the forest cover. During the same period, total area of crop lands has increased from 5.4 million ha in 2006 to 7.6 million ha in 2018, corresponding to an increase of 41%. As shown in Figure 4, recent increases in agricultural lands area have been mostly at the expense of forest cover. As a result, forest cover is down in 2018 to a historic low of 8 million ha, corresponding to 44% of the total land area.



**Figure 4. Land use/land cover change between 2006 and 2018**

Further analysis of land use after deforestation (Figure 5) show that most of the forest lands are converted for agriculture production in all ecological zones.



**Figure 5. Subsequent land use of deforested areas per ecological zone (2006-2018)**

As can be seen in Figure 6 showing area change of main crops between 2006 and 2018, rice fields area remained quite stable during the study period, while rubber plantations have dramatically increased,

notably in Central Lowlands and Eastern Mekong Basin. Similarly, other perennial (e.g. cashew, palm oil) and annual crops areas also increased between 2006 and 2018, especially in Eastern Mekong Basin, Cardamoms, Central and North-western Lowlands.



Figure 6. Area change of main crops between 2006 and 2018

## 2.4. Status of REDD+ in Cambodia

### 2.4.1. REDD+ under the UNFCCC

Cambodia is a signatory to the UNFCCC and has been engaged into REDD+ negotiations from the onset. The objective of REDD+ is to incentivize developing countries to reduce emissions from deforestation & forest degradation, and foster the conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. In order to be eligible for REDD+ Results-Based Payments (RPPs) under the UNFCCC, the RGC is continuously improving the different components of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+, as following:

- a. **National REDD+ Strategy<sup>2</sup>**: the RGC endorsed its NRS in 2017. The NRS primarily builds upon three national policy frameworks that guide forest management:
  - i. The Production Forests Strategic Plan 2018-2032 (PFSP);
  - ii. The National Protected Areas Strategic Management Plan 2017-2030 (NPASMP);
  - iii. The Strategic Planning Framework for Fisheries 2015-2024 (SPFF).

<sup>2</sup> [https://redd.unfccc.int/files/20180813\\_national\\_redd\\_strategy\\_cambodia.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/files/20180813_national_redd_strategy_cambodia.pdf)

- b. **Forest Reference Level<sup>3</sup> (FRL)**: the RGC has submitted its first FRL in 2017, which successfully went through the technical assessment process under the UNFCCC.
- c. **National Forest Monitoring System<sup>4</sup> (NFMS)** to monitor and report on REDD+ activities: Cambodia has launched its NFMS in 2017 and is continuously working to improve it. As part of those improvements, the RGC has progressively enhanced the data and methodologies for both Emission Factors (EF - data on forest carbon stocks) and Activity Data (AD - data on forest cover change).
- d. **Safeguards Information System<sup>5</sup> (SIS)** to cover the implementation of the REDD+ safeguards: the RGC has finalized the development of its SIS in 2019 and submitted to the UNFCCC its first Summary of Information<sup>6</sup> (Sol) on how Cancun Safeguards will be addressed and respected during REDD+ implementation.

To be eligible for REDD+ RBPs, countries must present their REDD+ results in a **REDD+ Technical Annex** (REDD+ TA) to the **Biennial Update Report** (BUR). The RGC has finalized its first REDD+ TA in late 2019 for submission to the UNFCCC in early 2020. The REDD+ TA presents estimates of GHG emissions and removals for the LULUCF sector for the reporting periods 2015-2016 and 2017-2018 and compares these figures with estimates of the reference period 2006-2014 (as described in the FRL). **Analysis show encouraging results, with ERs confirmed (i.e. 4,811,944 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/year) with high confidence for the 2017-2018 reporting period.**

#### *2.4.2. Other REDD+ schemes*

In parallel to preparing for participation in REDD+ under the UNFCCC, the RGC has been exploring other opportunities to catalyze climate finance for forests, through **voluntary carbon markets** (with three VERRA projects in the forest and land use sector) and **compliance markets** (with a project in preparation for the Japan's Joint Crediting Mechanism - JCM).

Such diversified climate finance is important to ensure that enough investment is directed to forest conservation and sustainable rural development on the ground. However, the multiplication of schemes also creates important challenges in terms of coordination of multiple actors intervening at different scales and locations, as well as in terms of carbon accounting. To address these challenges, the RTS is currently developing a regulatory framework for all REDD+ initiatives (see section 4.3).

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<sup>3</sup> [https://redd.unfccc.int/files/camfrrl\\_may\\_22\\_2017.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/files/camfrrl_may_22_2017.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [www.cambodia-nfms.org](http://www.cambodia-nfms.org)

<sup>5</sup> <https://cambodia-redd-safeguards.org/>

<sup>6</sup> [https://redd.unfccc.int/files/6.\\_cambodia\\_1st\\_summary\\_of\\_information\\_on\\_safeguards-final-oct-2019.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/files/6._cambodia_1st_summary_of_information_on_safeguards-final-oct-2019.pdf)

### III. THEORY OF CHANGE

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The main goals of the NRS are to *'reduce deforestation and forest degradation by half by 2026 compared to the 2006-2014 reference period'* and to *'improve natural resources management to contribute to sustainable development'*, along with other long-term goals (i.e. outcomes or transformational effects).

The proposed ToC describes the pathway to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation as presented in the NRS. The ToC describes PaMs needed to transition from a *business as usual* development model to a *sustainable scenario* that contributes to an economic growth aligned with social and environmental objectives and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) - especially SDGs 13 (Climate Action) & 15 (Life on Land). Feasibility rests on the country changing its model of land use planning and natural resource exploitation, especially for forests.

#### 3.1. Overall theory of change

Following a pragmatic stepwise approach, the first iteration of the NRS places emphasis on forestry-related drivers of deforestation and degradation as presented in the NRS. However, the RGC acknowledges the importance of also tackling non-forestry drivers to halt and reverse forest loss and to contribute to sustainable development. There is indeed an urgent need for **better land-tenure** and **land use planning** processes, more **sustainable agricultural models** and **renewable sources of energy** to support the needs of the population.

To address the various direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, the NRS promotes three key SOs:

- SO 1.** Improve management and monitoring of forest resources and forest land use;
- SO 2.** Strengthen implementation of sustainable forest management;
- SO 3.** Mainstream approaches to reduce deforestation, build capacity and engage stakeholders.

SO1 aims to particularly address the main underlying drivers of deforestation and forest degradation through better land use planning and natural resources management, and enhanced capacity for forest and land monitoring and enforcement of regulations.

SO2 targets particularly the main direct drivers of deforestation and forest degradation by promoting better forest management practices and support to sustainable livelihoods, as well as by enabling more sustainable private sector investment.

SO3 aims to support the key enabling conditions for efficient and effective implementation of REDD+, through a supportive policy, legal and regulatory framework, as well as through multi-stakeholders participation and cross-sectoral coordination.

**The transformational effects arising from the AIP implementation are the following:**

- Conservation of remaining natural forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks;
- Enhancement of sustainable local livelihoods through communities' empowerment;
- REDD+ implementation through inter-sectoral coordination and stakeholders' engagement at national and subnational levels.

The Figure 7 illustrates the ToC and the logical sequence from the drivers' analysis to the identification of SOs and implementation of PaMs. The figure illustrates how PaMs will achieve outputs, mid-term outcomes and long-term outcomes.

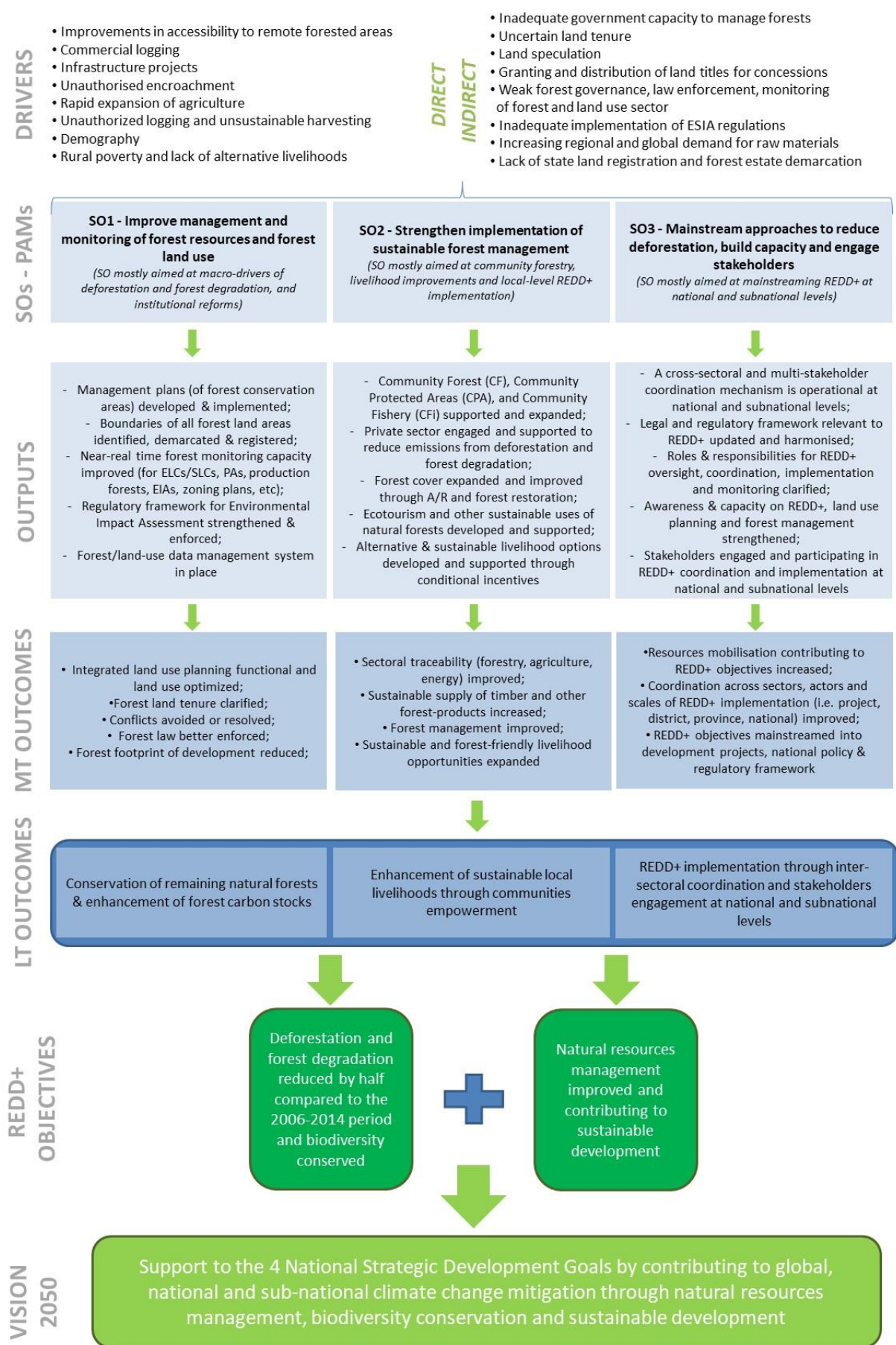


Figure 7. Theory of change



### 3.2. REDD+ Policies & Measures

The Table 1 presents details on the various policies and measures required to enable the ToC and achieve the NRG goals. Details are given on the priority level of each action and on the responsible bodies and estimated costs (USD) for their implementation.

**Table 1. REDD+ policies & measures**

Strategies	Policies & Measures (Activity)	Priority	Responsible Bodies	Phase I 2018 – 2021	Phase II 2022 – 2026	Post-Phase 2027 – 2031	Total USD
<b>Strategic Objective 1: Improve management and monitoring of forest resources and forest land use</b>							
1.1 Strengthen management of forest conservation areas, such as protected areas and flooded and mangrove conservation areas	1.1.1 Demarcate and register PAs boundaries	H	GDANCP/GDLC with support from GDEKI (GIS Department)	1,870,000	495,000	-	2,365,000
	1.1.2 Prepare PAs Management Plans include zoning designations	H	GDANCP/GDLC	1,710,000	1,350,000	750,000	3,810,000
	1.1.3 Develop and implement Forest Restoration Plans	M	GDANCP, GDLC, FA & FiA	375,000	500,000	275,000	1,150,000
	1.1.4 Reactivate the National Committee for Conflict Resolution on PA Management to address ongoing land use conflicts inside or adjacent to PA boundaries	M	GDANCP with support from NCSD	75,000	125,000	125,000	325,000
Subtotal				4,030,000	2,470,000	1,150,000	7,650,000
1.2 Promote forest land tenure security through forest land classification, zoning, demarcation, and registration	1.2.1 Identify and demarcate the boundaries of forest lands areas (all other forests areas outside PAs - production forest, etc.)	H	FA national & subnational level, FiA, GDANCP	750,000	750,000	-	1,500,000
	1.2.2 Clarify tenure rights in ELCs and community forests, community protected area and develop procedures for monitoring and compliance assessment with sustainability criteria	H	FA national & subnational level, GDANCP, GDLC, ELC & SLC holders, forest communes	300,000	300,000	300,000	900,000
	1.2.3 Extend & link forest areas under protection through demarcation, registration and promotion of improved management strategies	H	GDANCP with support from GDEKI (GIS Department)	2,000,000	-	-	2,000,000
Subtotal				3,050,000	1,050,000	300,000	4,400,000
1.3 Strengthen law enforcement activities to address unauthorized logging, and encroachment	1.3.1 Invest in human and material resources for forest law enforcement	H	GDANCP, FA & FiA FA, FiA, GDANCP, MAFF, MoE, ELC & SLC holders, forest communities	4,050,000	4,000,000	3,000,000	11,050,000
	1.3.2 Raise awareness for law enforcement among local authorities and communities	H	GDANCP, GDLC, FA & FiA	1,580,000	880,000	500,000	2,960,000

Strategies	Policies & Measures (Activity)	Priority	Responsible Bodies	Phase I 2018 – 2021	Phase II 2022 – 2026	Post-Phase 2027 – 2031	Total USD
Subtotal				5,630,000	4,880,000	3,500,000	14,010,000
1.4 Monitor the status of ELCs and SLCs for compliance with regulations and strengthen capacity for effective monitoring	1.4.1 Extend 2012 ELC moratorium	H	MAFF	180,000			180,000
	1.4.2 Develop guidelines on the status of cancelled ELCs and a methodology to reallocate it to communities and indigenous people in order to create new forest areas and contribute to livelihoods improvements	H	MAFF	2,000,000			2,000,000
	1.4.3 Support community development in ELCs/SLCs	H	FA, FiA, GDANCP, GDLC CF organizations, NGOs	100,000	100,000		200,000
Subtotal				2,280,000	100,000	-	2,380,000
1.5 Support harmonization of legal frameworks for effective management of forest resources	1.5.1 Implement and harmonize existing policies in order to ensure a cohesion between it via major national development documents and REDD +	H	RTS, with support of all ministries	180,000			180,000
	1.5.2 Support the revision of the National Forest Programme in 2019	M	FA	180,000			180,000
	1.5.3 Update and amend the Law on Forestry and the National Forest Programme	M	FA, FiA, GDANCP	300,000	300,000	300,000	900,000
Subtotal				660,000	300,000	300,000	1,260,000
1.6 Strengthen regulatory framework and capacity for social and environmental impact assessment and compliance	1.6.1 Support the adoption and the publication of the New Environment and Natural Resources Code	H	MoE	300,000	375,000	125,000	800,000
	1.6.2 Train all stakeholders in how to properly utilize new rights and procedures of the New Environment and Natural Resources Code	M	MoE	1,580,000	880,000	500,000	2,960,000
	1.6.3 Create/update a regulatory framework to implement and monitor EIAs	H	MoE	300,000	300,000		600,000
Subtotal				2,180,000	1,555,000	625,000	4,360,000
1.7 Strengthen capacity for data management and establish decision support systems for forest and land use sector	1.7.1 Quantify forest by type, location, extent	H	FA, FiA, GDANCP, ELC & SLC holders, forest communities	1,750,000			1,750,000
	1.7.2. Establish a Forest Resource Management Information System (FRMIS) as supplement to the existing National Forest Monitoring System	M	FA, FiA, GDANCP, ELC & SLC holders, forest communes	200,000	50,000	50,000	300,000
Subtotal				1,950,000	50,000	50,000	2,050,000
Subtotal for SO 1 (USD million)				19.8	10.4	5.9	36.1



Strategies	Policies & Measures (Activity)	Priority	Responsible Bodies	Phase I 2018 – 2021	Phase II 2022 – 2026	Post-Phase 2027 – 2031	Total USD
<b>Strategic Objective 2: Strengthen implementation of sustainable forest management</b>							
2.1 Strengthen and scale up community-based forest management	2.1.1 Support and expand forest community development (CPA, CF and FiA)	H	GDANCP, GDLC, FA & FiA	1,800,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	4,600,000
	2.1.2 Expand livelihood opportunities for local communities that are linked to clear land use practices and conditional incentives/enforcement	H	GDLC, GDANCP, FA & FiA	4,200,000	2,600,000	2,600,000	9,400,000
	2.1.3 Complete CPA Management Plans	M	GDLC	1,330,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	3,430,000
	2.1.4 Provide direct support to CPAs	H	GDLC	1,760,000	900,000	900,000	3,560,000
	2.1.5 Establish and operationalize new CPAs	M	GDLC	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	3,750,000
	2.1.6 Expand and strengthen collaborative management mechanism with communities	H	FA, ELC holders, CTIA, NGOs forest communities	150,000			150,000
Subtotal				10,490,000	7,200,000	7,200,000	24,890,000
2.2 Engage and encourage the private sector to implement alternative and sustainable supply chains from agro industrial plantations, and to reduce emissions	2.2.1 Raise awareness of private sector on climate change, impact of agriculture at a large scale on environment and REDD+ benefits	M	MAFF	1,580,000	880,000	500,000	2,960,000
	2.2.2 Develop traceability systems linked to the NFMS and REDD+ PAMs registry for each commodity (rubber, cashew)	M	MAFF	400,000	200,000		600,000
	2.2.3 Set-up a 'near real-time' monitoring system linked to the NFMS to identify deforestation associated with agricultural commodities	H	MAFF	800,000	400,000		1,200,000
Subtotal				2,780,000	1,480,000	500,000	4,760,000
2.3 Expand afforestation, reforestation and restoration activities	2.3.1 Develop and implement Forest Restoration Plans	M	MoE, FA/MAFF	3,375,000	4,500,000	4,725,000	12,600,000
	2.3.2 Create tree nurseries (managed by women and young people) to support afforestation, reforestation and restoration activities	M	FA, GDANCP & GDLC, councils in communes	6,600,000	4,400,000		11,000,000
Subtotal				9,975,000	8,900,000	4,725,000	23,600,000
2.4 Enhance timber supply and wood-based energy sourced from community-based forest management areas and private	2.4.1 Establish the institutional framework to facilitate public and private investments	H	FA, FiA & GDANCP	250,000	100,000		350,000
	2.4.2 Develop management guidelines for planted forests	M	FA, with support from FiA & GDANCP	300,000	300,000		600,000

Strategies	Policies & Measures (Activity)	Priority	Responsible Bodies	Phase I 2018 – 2021	Phase II 2022 – 2026	Post-Phase 2027 – 2031	Total USD
plantations to reduce pressure on forest areas							
Subtotal				550,000	400,000	-	950,000
2.5 Promote effective, equitable, sustainable management and use of forests, forestlands and non-timber forest products	2.5.1 Prepare and implement pilot projects for forest lands areas in consultation with all stakeholders (all other forests areas outside PAs - production forest, etc.)	M	FA, FiA, RUA, IRD, ELCs, NGOs, forest commune organizations	3,750,000	3,750,000	3,750,000	11,250,000
	2.5.2 Implement EIAs under new environmental code for all forested areas in ELCs	H	GDANCP and GDEP in collaboration with FA	300,000	375,000		675,000
	2.5.3 Develop an Ecotourism Strategy specific to protected areas	M	GDLC, GDANCP	750,000	750,000	750,000	2,250,000
	2.5.4 Strengthen funding mechanisms for PAs	M	MoE, MEF	180,000	180,000	180,000	540,000
	2.5.5 Institutionalize Management Effectiveness Evaluations	M	GDANCP, FA & FiA, MRD	350,000	750,000	1,250,000	2,350,000
	2.5.6 Implement forest certification scheme	M	FA, FSC/PEFC, MAFF, MoE, ELC & SLC holders, forest communes	100,000			100,000
	2.5.7 Develop pilot projects to test forest management certification	M	FA, FiA, GDANCP, forest community organizations, NGOs	50,000	100,000		150,000
Subtotal				5,480,000	5,905,000	5,930,000	17,315,000
2.6 Identify and implement alternative and sustainable livelihood development programmes for local communities most dependent on forest resources	2.6.1 Enable local communities to explore livelihood activities	H	FA, ELC holders, CTIA, NGOs forest communities	100,000			100,000
	2.6.2 Complete valuation of ecosystem services (ES pilots) in priority PAs	M	GDANCP with support from Biodiversity Department (GSSD)	625,000	250,000	500,000	1,375,000
	2.6.3 Provide training on using participatory tools for engaging local stakeholders	H	GDLC	800,000	500,000	500,000	1,800,000
	2.6.4 Deliver educational outreach and awareness programs for local authorities	H	GDLC with support from GDANCP and GDEKI	1,330,000	1,050,000	105,000	2,485,000
	2.6.5 Target CPAs for livelihood enhancements	H	GDLC with support from MAFF	2,625,000	3,000,000	3,750,000	9,375,000
	2.6.6 Facilitate access to small business and microcredit opportunities for local entrepreneurs	M	GDLC with support from private sector	1,200,000	800,000	800,000	2,800,000
Subtotal				6,680,000	5,600,000	5,655,000	17,935,000
Subtotal for SO 2 (USD million)				36.0	29.5	24.0	89.5

Strategies	Policies & Measures (Activity)	Priority	Responsible Bodies	Phase I 2018 – 2021	Phase II 2022 – 2026	Post-Phase 2027 – 2031	Total USD
<b>Strategic Objective 3: Mainstream approaches to reduce deforestation, build capacity and engage stakeholders</b>							
3.1 Support mechanisms to mainstream policies and measures that reduce deforestation in relevant government ministries and agencies	3.1.1 Create a special inter-ministerial working group to synchronize the management approaches of MoE and MAFF regarding the production and conservation forests under their jurisdictions	M	RTS, with support of MoE and FA	180,000	180,000	180,000	540,000
	3.1.2 Ensure a clear coordination between the relevant agencies to be sure REDD+ is monitored and enforced across the different related sectors	H	RTS, with support of all ministries	180,000	180,000		360,000
	3.1.3 Review and clarify the roles and responsibilities of MoE, MAFF and FiA	H	FA	300,000			300,000
Subtotal				660,000	360,000	180,000	1,200,000
3.2 Strengthen national and subnational capacity for improved coordination mechanisms for national land use policy and planning	3.2.1 Review and streamline land allocation procedures in concessions	H	MAFF, INCLMUP under MLMUPC, Mol, GDANCP, FA & FiA	750,000	750,000		1,500,000
	3.2.2 Update national cadastre by including forest areas, especially natural forests	H	MLMUPC (Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning & Construction)	1,000,000	200,000	200,000	1,400,000
	3.2.3 Develop Centers for Capacity Development	M	GDANCP	3,600,000	750,000	750,000	5,100,000
Subtotal				5,350,000	1,700,000	950,000	8,000,000
3.3 Strengthen capacity, knowledge and awareness of stakeholders to enhance their contribution to reducing deforestation and forest degradation	3.3.1 Confirm who the relevant stakeholders are for REDD+ and map them	M	MAFF/MoE	350,000	-	-	350,000
	3.3.2 Raise awareness of population about climate change, REDD+, etc.	M	MAFF/MoE	800,000	400,000		1,200,000
	3.3.3 Build capacities of all responsible directorate about REDD+ on the issues linked to the activities they will implement	M	MoE	1,500,000	750,000	500,000	2,750,000
Subtotal				2,300,000	1,150,000	500,000	4,300,000
3.4 Encourage public engagement, participation and consultations in forestry and land use planning, and promote the	3.4.1 Implementation of land tenure security (communities)	H	MoE/MAFF, MLMUPC	3,000,000	1,200,000		4,200,000
	3.4.2 Establish a platform for dialogue and negotiation in order to review forest governance to create a new model based on the involvement of local communities in relation with authorities	M	FA, councils in communes	400,000	50,000		450,000
	3.4.3 Organize populations into a formal local governance structure, build their capacities	H	FA, councils in communes	800,000	200,000		1,000,000

Strategies	Policies & Measures (Activity)	Priority	Responsible Bodies	Phase I 2018 – 2021	Phase II 2022 – 2026	Post-Phase 2027 – 2031	Total USD
involvement of multiple stakeholders	3.4.4 Set-up a national benefit sharing system	M	FA, councils in communes	1,800,000	600,000		2,400,000
Subtotal				6,000,000	2,050,000	-	8,050,000
3.5 Strengthen capacity of academic and research institutions in training, research and technology development associated with forestry and land use	3.5.1 Assess the needs for capacity development and implement training programme	M	FA	150,000	200,000		350,000
	3.5.2 Participate in key regional and international workshops, trainings and study tours	M	GDANCP/GDLC	400,000	500,000	500,000	1,400,000
	3.5.3 Strengthen the Research and Development capacity in existing Departments	M	GDANCP/GDLC, FA, FiA, GDANCP, international organizations and development partners	1,000,000	750,000	750,000	2,500,000
	3.5.4 Develop and deliver integrated technical training modules for central and provincial staff	M	GDANCP/GDLC	750,000	500,000	500,000	1,750,000
Subtotal				2,300,000	1,950,000	1,750,000	6,000,000
3.6 Establish partnerships with development partners in building knowledge and human resources related to forestry, land use and climate change	3.6.1 Strengthen research and development, improve networking and disseminate results	M	FA, FiA, RUA, IRD, ELCs, NGOs, forest commune organizations	300,000	300,000	-	600,000
	3.6.2 NRS Establish the institutional framework to facilitate Official Direct Assistance providing partners to align ODA with REDD+ objectives	H	MoE/MAFF	250,000	100,000		350,000
Subtotal				550,000	400,000	-	950,000
Subtotal for SO 3 (USD million)				17.5	7.6	3.4	28.5
TOTAL (USD million)				73.2	47.5	33.3	154

### 3.3. Thematic and geographic priorities

In terms of **thematic and sectoral priorities**, PaMs related to intersectoral coordination & stakeholders' engagement, land use planning & land tenure, forests & forest law enforcement, agriculture and energy will be prioritized.

***Cross-sectoral coordination & stakeholders' engagement*** – Engagement with diverse stakeholders (e.g. government, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), men and women in indigenous and non-indigenous forest-dependent communities, private companies involved in agriculture production, etc.) and inter-sectoral coordination is key for REDD+ implementation. Activities will target institutional and technical capacity building, engagement of stakeholders, coordination of their actions, organize local governance and establish support for their dialogue and negotiation. These activities are also considered as enabling activities to support other actions which are more focused on reducing pressure on forests and generating ERs.

***Land use planning & Land tenure*** – Activities will support land use planning at jurisdictional scale (i.e. national, provincial, district and commune scales). Activities will aim at developing a coherent land use plan according to the potentialities of the resources and perspectives of their valorization, with a view of securing land tenure and promoting conservation agriculture to reduce pressures on forest lands.

***Forests & forest law enforcement*** – Activities will focus on forest law enforcement to address unauthorized logging and encroachment, by investing in human and material resources and raising awareness of local communities and authorities on forest laws. Activities will also focus on reforestation, forest restoration and sustainable forest management under government and community management to better consider timber and fuelwood demand. Public Private Partnerships will be encouraged to benefit local communities, notably through ecotourism development. Besides, a Near Real-Time Forest Monitoring System will be developed to improve the NFMS and to support law enforcement and response capacities of the government.

***Agriculture & agro-industrial plantations*** – Expansion in agriculture area is a main historical driver of deforestation in Cambodia and remains a threat to forest cover. The enforcement of the Environmental and Natural Resources Code can have a significant impact when applied to commodities (e.g. rubber, cashew, oil palm). In that regard, activities will be undertaken to support both public and private sectors to implement sustainable supply chains from agro-industrial plantations. Considering the historical importance of ELCs on deforestation in Cambodia, specific actions will also be undertaken to encourage the reallocate of some existing ELCs to communities and indigenous people in order to create new forest areas and contribute to livelihood improvements and community development.

***Energy*** – Firewood is closely associated with forest degradation. Therefore, alternative sources of energy will be developed to avoid future degradation (and deforestation) under increased population and income. Importantly, timber and wood-based energy production and supply sourced from community-based forest management areas and private plantations will be enhanced under more sustainable production systems. A priority action is the establishment of an institutional framework to facilitate public and private investments, together with management guidelines for planted forests and the communities responsible for them.

In terms of **geographical areas**, priorities will be given based on forest type and carbon density (40% of Cambodia's carbon stock is held in less than 23% of its area). The top five priority provinces, based on forest cover, are *Koh Kong, Pursat, Stung Treng, Ratana Kiri* and *Preah Vihear*. Also, considering they hold over 75% of the remaining forests, the PAs network and their surroundings will be a major focus for REDD+ implementation, notably through the strengthening of community PAs.

## IV. IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

### 4.1. Strategic Framework

The NRS is focused on meeting the goals of the Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency, as well as the realization of the Cambodia Vision 2050, in a sustainable and forest-friendly way. From the 100 ‘priorities’ of the Rectangular Strategy IV, fifteen ‘highly relevant’ Priorities significant to REDD+ were identified (Table 2), one from Rectangle I (Human Resource Development), one from Rectangle II (Economic diversification), and 13 from Rectangle IV (Inclusive & Sustainable Development). **These 15 priorities will be used as indicators in the implementation of the NRS.**

The NRS and its AIP are closely built on the PFSP, the NPASMP and the SPFCM, ensuring essential synergies and addressing gaps. Implementation of the AIP is expected to lead to full implementation of the NPASMP and the PFSP, and to contribute significantly to the implementation of the SPFCM.

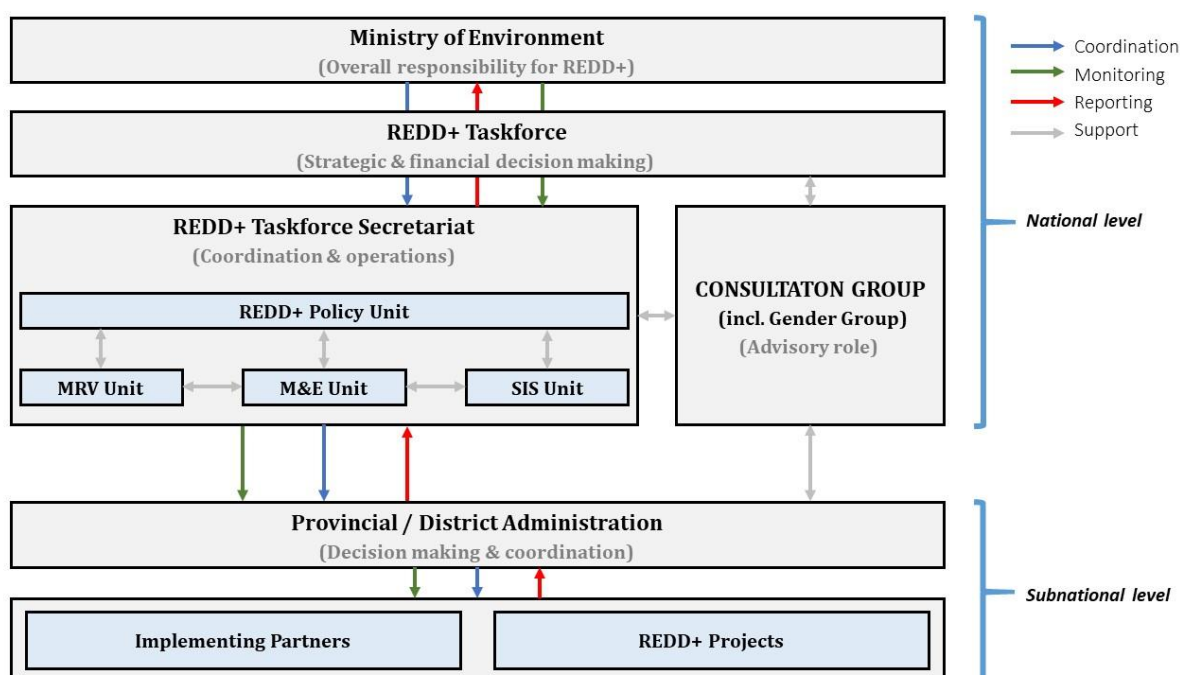
**Table 2. Priorities of Cambodia’s Rectangular Strategy-Phase IV most significant to REDD+**

<b>Rectangle I: Human Resource Development</b>	
<b>4. Improving Gender Equity &amp; Social Protection</b>	
1	Enhancing women’s capacity & proportion in leadership roles at both national & sub-national levels, in ministries-institutions.
<b>Rectangle II: Economic diversification</b>	
<b>1. Logistics &amp; Enhancing Transport, Energy, &amp; Digital Connectivity</b>	
2	Finance to rehabilitate & develop infrastructure (roads, bridges, railways, waterway & airway, expressways) & improvement of inter-institutional coordination mechanisms.
<b>Rectangle IV: Inclusive &amp; Sustainable Development</b>	
<b>1. Promotion of Agriculture Sector &amp; Rural Development</b>	
1	“Master Plan for Agriculture Sector Development towards 2030” & “Agriculture Sector Strategic Development Plan 2019-2023”
3	Productivity, quality, & diversification: R&D in crops, livestock & aquaculture; Model Farm development; extension; cooperative management; contract farming; innovation around finance, insurance, digital & smart technology.
4	Processing & value chain: private investment in rice, cassava, mango, cashew nuts, banana, rubber, vegetables, etc through the preparation of strategy for each type of crops.
8	ELCs: mine action, SLCs to poor for family-based farming.
10	Rural development: roads, irrigation, electricity, clean water, sanitation, “One Village-One Product Movement” & “New village Movement”.
<b>2. Sustainable Management of Natural Resource &amp; Culture</b>	
3	Forestry & wildlife: maintaining forest cover > 60% promoting community partnering.
5	Protection: ecosystem & natural area protection of biodiversity, wet land & coastal areas.
<b>3. Strengthening Urban Planning &amp; Management</b>	
1	Land reform: Master plan & land use plan at national & sub-national levels.
2	Urbanization: management capacity, zoning & land use plans.
<b>4. Environmental sustainability &amp; response to climate change</b>	
1	Sustainable economic development: “National Strategic Plan on Green Growth 2013-2030”, “Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan 2014-2023”, “National Environment Strategy & Action Plan 2016-2023”, “National REDD+ Strategy”.
2	Protected areas: natural resource & biodiversity (esp Tonle Sap, Mekong & the coastline).
6	Carbon trading regulatory frameworks, climate change adaptation & resilience.



## 4.2. Institutional Arrangements

Current institutional arrangements for REDD+ were defined in the early stages of the REDD+ readiness phase and include (i) the REDD+ Taskforce (RTF), chaired by the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD), (ii) the RTS, chaired by the Forestry Administration of MAFF, (iii) a Consultation Group and a Gender Group (CG), and (iv) four Technical Teams, on safeguards, benefits sharing, demonstration activities and MRV/FRL. While these arrangements were designed for institutional and technical capacity building, the overall institutional arrangements for REDD+ need to be reformed to better reflect current capacities and the needs to shift from REDD+ readiness to REDD+ implementation. The new institutional arrangements define mandates of institutions responsible for REDD+ implementation at national and subnational levels, as well as coordination, monitoring and reporting lines between institutions at different levels (Figure 8).



**Figure 8. Institutional arrangements for REDD+ implementation**

At national level, the **Ministry of Environment** has the overall responsibility for REDD+, in close consultation with the **REDD+ Taskforce** for strategic and financial decision-making. The **REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat** is responsible to support and coordinate REDD+ implementation and is the primary contact point and coordination mechanism at operational level. The **Consultation Group** provides a forum to represent the views of all stakeholders concerned by REDD+ implementation. The **Gender Group** promotes and ensures active participation of women in REDD+ implementation.

At subnational level, **Provincial & District Administrations** will have the overall mandate for decision-making and REDD+ coordination under their jurisdiction. REDD+ PaMs will be implemented through various **implementing partners** (e.g. line ministries, NGOs, local communities, etc.) at jurisdictional scales (i.e. province & district), as well as by (and in coordination with) **REDD+ projects** aiming at generating GHG ER credits at project scale.

The mandate, detailed roles & responsibilities and the proposed composition of the main institutions and entities responsible for REDD+ implementation are detailed in Annex 1.

### 4.3. Regulatory Framework for REDD+ Projects

The RGC is considering a wide range of options to mobilize climate finance for forest protection and sustainable rural development. Such options include RBPs for REDD+ performance (often provided for national or subnational GHG performance), as well as participation in emerging carbon markets (including both compliance and voluntary markets, currently active at project scale). These carbon finance options represent opportunities, but also bring challenges in terms of coordination of multiple actors intervening at different scales (e.g. national, provincial/district and project scales), in multiple locations, and following different standards. There are also challenges with carbon accounting<sup>7</sup> when actors use different data and methodologies to measure GHG performance. Carbon accounting may require complex procedures to avoid the double-counting, claiming or use of the same ERs by multiple actors at different scales.

Therefore, there is a need for clear rules regarding the way actors interested in forest carbon finance operate (i.e. actors generating and transacting ERs units or receiving payment for GHG performance), engage with, and report to the government. The RGC is therefore developing a “nested system” with the objective to:

- Enable multiple sources of finance to help achieve Cambodia’s forest and climate goals;
- Supplement government capacity to implement the NRS through support for site-based activities;
- Drive projects to areas of higher risk and promote equity among them;
- Promote alignment in how projects and the national government measure GHG performance;
- Support Cambodia’s NDC achievement and avoid the double counting of ERs.

The nested system will seek to enable carbon crediting and RBPs at multiple scales (project, subnational, national). This requires clarifying the rules and methodologies to account for and keep track of ERs at multiple scales, and a fair system to share REDD+ benefits at multiple levels. The key principles for the design and implementation of the regulatory framework are transparency, consistency, efficiency, effectiveness and fairness.

The nested system will include the following components:

- Institutional, legal & regulatory framework: a sub-decree on the approval of participation in GHG ER mechanisms is being finalized by the NCSD. It covers all sectors and includes additional elements specific to REDD+ (e.g. registration to a REDD+ specific registry) and refers to a complementary regulation (“*Prakas*”) for further guidance on REDD+;
- The *Prakas*, under development by the RTS, will cover elements such as:
  - Reporting requirements on, e.g. support for the NRS, safeguards, benefit sharing to promote transparency on REDD+ beyond the National Registry of GHG ER;
  - Technical guidelines, such as baseline setting, carbon accounting, leakage and under-performance management to promote alignment with national REDD+ accounting;
- Nesting tools: A revised national FRL that is “fit-for-nesting” and a FRL allocation methodology.

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<sup>7</sup> Carbon accounting includes the measuring and reporting of GHG emission as well as setting the benchmark against which performance is measured.



Because a nested system can be technically challenging to design and implement, a “staged approach” has been agreed:

**Stage I: Pre-nesting** (*until December 31, 2020*)

During this stage, projects may continue to use current methodologies (including baselines). New projects may be initiated, but all projects are expected to shift to new guidelines, including assigned baselines, starting in Stage II (i.e. for carbon credit vintages starting January 1, 2021).

The RTS of the RGC will work on the following during Stage I and keep all stakeholders informed of progress and seek input on development of:

- A new FRL that will enable the early nesting stage;
- Scenarios for allocation of the FRL to projects and/or subnational jurisdictions;
- Options to manage leakage and underperformance (project, subnational and national scales);
- Methods to integrate project data into the National Forest Monitoring System;
- A draft Prakas that will regulate all projects starting January 1, 2021 that may include guidance on carbon accounting, as well as the application of safeguards, benefit sharing, transparency, use of the national registry and alignment with the NRS.

**Stage II: Early nesting** (*starting January 1, 2021*)

In the “early nesting” stage, all REDD+ projects must register formally with the RGC, as instructed through the Sub-decree, and follow a common set of rules set in the Prakas.

**Stage III: Full nesting** (*date to be determined in the future*)

A fully nested system may come later in time when national data is sufficiently robust for project, subnational and national scales and when various functions necessary for nesting - e.g. a fully integrated MRV system, fully functioning registry that tracks GHG units, a fully functioning safeguards information system, etc. - are fully institutionalized.

## V. MONITORING & EVALUATION

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### 5.1. Objectives & Methodology

The M&E framework aims at monitoring progress of AIP implementation, with four objectives:

- **Management:** to provide the information needed to coordinate action and ensure efficient and effective implementation, and support strategic management decisions;
- **Accountability:** to support accountability to the RTF and all stakeholders involved in implementing the AIP with regards to resources and achievement;
- **Learning:** to enable learning from the AIP implementation, testing and challenging assumptions from the ToC, and sharing lessons learned and best practices;
- **Influence:** to enable evidence-based adaptive management in broader national policy development reform in the environment and forestry sectors.

The M&E framework was designed based on the ToC and its results chain (i.e. outputs, outcomes, impact). Since the AIP acts as an aggregator that creates synergies across existing strategies, the M&E framework is closely aligned with the results frameworks of the NPASMP, PFSP and SPFCM.

To facilitate the consolidation of information and overall coordination, initiatives and projects contributing to AIP implementation at national and subnational levels should align their own results framework by using relevant indicators and related methodologies.

The detailed results framework with indicators, baseline, targets and means of verification is presented in Annex 2.

Reporting on progress of AIP implementation will include:

- **Annual AIP-NRS report:** Will outline progress in implementing activities, delivery of outputs and progress towards outcomes;
- **Mid-year briefing:** Six months after each annual AIP-NRS report a mid-year update will be prepared to ensure adequate actions are underway to achieve annual objectives;
- **Financial reports:** Transparent information on budget spend is reported, if not be published publicly, summary financial information could be included in public documents;
- **National Communication (NC) & BUR:** Support the preparation of the NC & BURs for submission to the UNFCCC;
- **Mid-term and final evaluations:** Projects and programmes subject to external assessments of performance and progress as an independent process.

### 5.2. Management Information System

A data Management Information System (MIS) will be necessary in order to aggregate, organize and analyze information on REDD+ implementation in Cambodia, as well as to report to the various stakeholders. Such a MIS must be robust, transparent, easily accessible and coherent.

The MIS is envisaged as a platform that would connect and complement different existing databases (e.g. NFMS, SIS, etc.), with the respective data owners keeping full ownership and control over their data and databases. A web-interface would enable authorized users to access data and analytical tools, and for the various stakeholders at national and subnational level (incl. carbon projects) to report on implementation of their activities.

## VI. FINANCIAL PLAN

Cambodia has been successful in securing funding for REDD+ readiness, which resulted in the important progress mentioned in section 2.4. The volume of funding required to transition from readiness to actual implementation is however many-fold higher and will necessitate the coordination of various sources of finance.

### 6.1. Cost Estimates

Detailed cost estimates for PaMs implementation were presented in Chapter IV (Table 1). Total cost estimates are derived from base implementation costs (i.e. costs for PaMs implementation), transaction & monitoring costs & financial charges, as presented in the table below.

**Table 3. Summary costs of AIP implementation**

	Phase I (2018-2021)	Phase II (2022-2026)	Post-phase (2027-2031)	Total (M USD)
SO1 - Improve management and monitoring of forest resources and forest land use	19.8	10.4	5.9	36.1
SO2 - Strengthen implementation of sustainable forest management	36	29.5	24	89.5
SO3 - Mainstream approaches to reduce deforestation, build capacity and engage stakeholders	17.5	7.6	3.4	28.5
<b>Total base cost</b>	<b>73.3</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>154.1</b>
<b>Transaction &amp; Monitoring costs</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>30.8</b>
<b>Financial charge</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>
<b>Total (M USD)</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>57.2</b>	<b>40.1</b>	<b>185.7</b>

Base implementation costs are calculated for each SO from the cost per NRS Strategy, summarized from the cost of each PaM calculated over each Phase, including the post-Phase implementation (see Table 1 for more details). Base implementation costs are USD 154m; Phase I USD 73.3m; Phase II 47.5m with a further USD 33.3m to complete the NRS activities and include the activities necessary to complete implementation of the NPASMP, PFSP and SPFCM which are critically linked to successful NRS outcomes.

Transaction & monitoring costs are based on an assumption of 20% of base implementation costs. Transaction costs include implementation of the NFMS and SIS, as well as operational costs of RTF, RTS, CG and M&E. Transaction and monitoring costs are USD 30.8m; NRS Phase I is USD 14.7m, Phase II is 9.5m – total for Phase I and Phase II is USD 24.2m. A further USD 6.7 million is required to complete the NRS activities and include the activities necessary to complete implementation of NPASMP, PFSP and SPFCM.

Financial charges (0.5%) include provision for exchange rate fluctuations and banking and transfer fees. No contingency cost is included (20-25% should be considered, i.e. USD 30.8m to USD 38.5m).

## 6.2. Financial mechanism

REDD+ implementation requires the mobilization of multiple sources of funding (public and private, national and international, bilateral and multilateral, market-based and non-market based). This multiplicity of funding sources, each with specific requirements and limitations, entails different dedicated financial mechanisms. Considering the pressing financial needs for forest conservation in Cambodia, a pragmatic stepwise approach is proposed based on two main financial instruments:

- In the short-term: A dedicated and audited **bank account for REDD+ finance**, managed by **XXX**, will channel financial contributions from REDD+ projects to support REDD+ *transaction costs* and other priority investments. Additional support from donors may also use this channel or continue to use classical ODA channels (i.e. through development partners) or existing national Funds (e.g. Protected Area Fund (PAF), National Forestry Development Fund (NFDF), Environmental & Social Fund (ESF) and Commune/Sangkat Fund (CSF));
- In the medium to long-term: when potential volume of RBPs would justify it, the financial mechanism would evolve towards a dedicated **REDD+ Fund** or **REDD+ window** under an existing Fund. The latter option may be easier to implement but is likely to require some changes in the Fund management arrangements to ensure alignment (mission and objectives, safeguards requirements, fiduciary standards, earmarking ability, etc.) with international standards. It is to be noted that the National Committee for Sub-national Democratic Development (an inter-ministerial coordination entity for democratic development through decentralization) is accredited to the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

Principles to be followed for the design and implementation of the REDD+ financial mechanism are *efficiency, transparency and accountability*. It is also important to highlight that any effort to generate sustainable funding must be coupled with efforts to enable a supportive institutional framework.

The proposed financial mechanism for AIP implementation is illustrated in Figure 9.

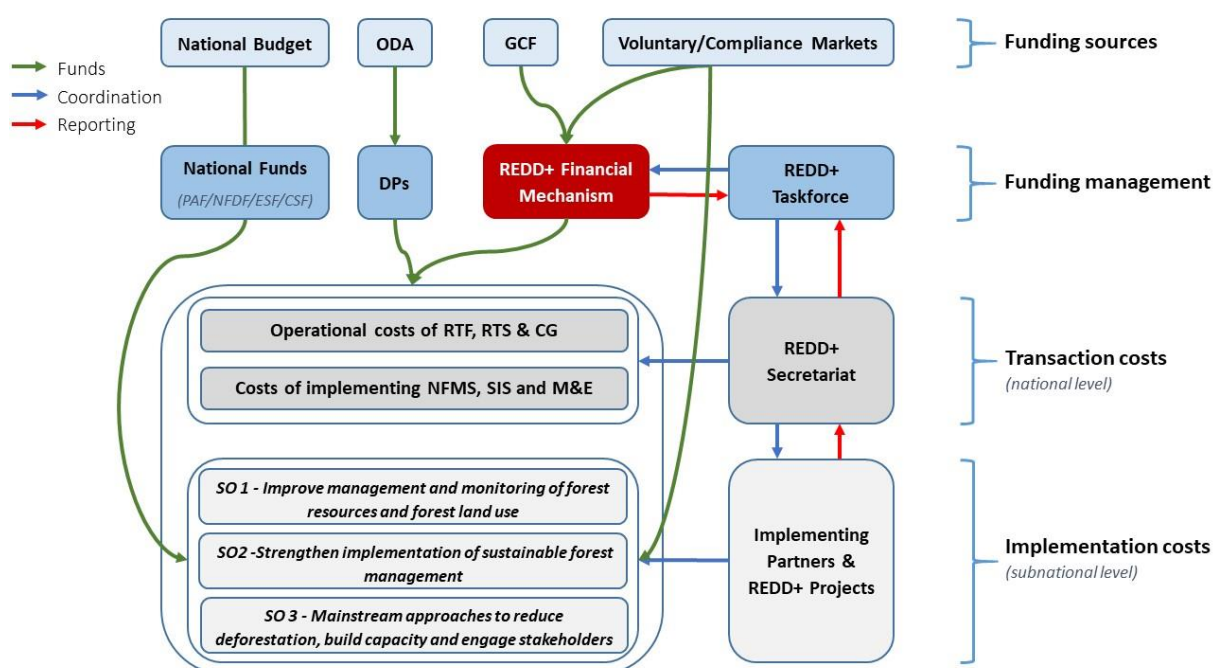


Figure 9. Proposed financial mechanism for REDD+ implementation

### 6.3. Resources Mobilization Strategy

AIP implementation will require to engage with and coordinate multiple sources of finance: domestic and international, public and private, market and non-market-based REDD+ finance.

In Phase I (2017-2021), the RGC will prioritize access to classical upfront finance from bilateral and multilateral development partners. In Phase II (2022-2026), financial resources tapped will include results-based finance, both market and non-market-based.

#### 6.3.1. *Maximizing access to REDD+ finance*

Examples of existing international public REDD+ finance include the GCF and the Carbon Fund of the Forest Carbon Partnership Fund. Voluntary carbon markets enable to catalyze additional public and private finance towards REDD+ implementation on the ground, as well as the generation of revenues for Governments through a share of the proceeds generated from transacting the forest carbon credits. Furthermore, other emerging carbon markets and schemes may also offer new opportunities in the short-term, such as the Japan's JCM and the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

#### 6.3.2. *Aligning existing relevant finance*

International climate/REDD+ finance will not be enough to deliver on the ambitious climate and forest goals of the NRS. It is necessary to align other financial resources relevant to REDD+, both domestic and international, and to ensure that these resources supports REDD+ objectives<sup>8</sup>. This may include existing domestic finance as well as traditional ODA in thematic areas such as agriculture development, forestry, land use planning, land tenure or governance.

The RTS will have a key role in identifying such opportunities, engaging with the relevant government units and development partners, and supporting the mainstreaming of REDD+ objectives into relevant initiatives through provision of technical assistance and potentially co-financing. The RTS has also a key role in coordinating various actors and initiatives intervening simultaneously in diverse locations and at different scales, to optimize the use of funding and ensure efficiency and effectiveness.

In the short term, the priority is to engage with development partners who have committed the highest levels of investment in key provinces for forest protection. The RTS will determine which actors are active in different relevant sectors and with which volume of investment. The RTS will assess, through direct engagement with ODA partners, the practical modalities for aligning ODA projects with REDD+ objectives.

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<sup>8</sup> For example, a traditional agriculture development ODA project may contribute to deforestation by encouraging further extension of cultivated areas through forest conversion. However, by supporting agriculture intensification combined with a land use planning that takes forests into account, and provision of conditional incentives for such plan to be respected, it is possible to achieve a better, more sustainable, conflict-free agriculture development that supports REDD+ and the NDC.

## VII. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

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Parties to the UNFCCC agreed that as a minimum, REDD+ should 'do no harm', and where possible go beyond this to 'do good' and achieve carbon and non-carbon benefits. This is encapsulated in a set of seven safeguards for REDD+, also known as the 'Cancun safeguards'<sup>9</sup>. When undertaking the activities referred to in paragraph 70 of UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16, the following safeguards should be promoted and supported:

- a. That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;
- b. Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;
- c. Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- d. The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, in the actions referred to in paragraphs 70 and 72 of this decision;
- e. That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that the actions referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits<sup>10</sup>;
- f. Actions to address the risks of reversals;
- g. Actions to reduce displacement of emissions

Cambodia, as a Party to and in accordance with the requirements of the UNFCCC, has agreed to:

- Implement REDD+ activities in a manner consistent with the Cancun safeguards;
- Establish a system to provide information on how the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected;
- Provide a summary of information on how the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected.

The AIP was assessed against these Cancun safeguards. An initial assessment of the potential social and environmental risks from implementing the AIP and the mitigation measures is presented in Annex 3. Before specific PaMs are implemented on the ground, an environmental and social impact assessment will be carried out. The findings will be used to revise the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and develop relevant management plans to address these impacts. The implementation of these plans will be recorded in Cambodia's safeguards information system and contribute to the development for future safeguards summaries of information.

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<sup>9</sup> UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16 Appendix 1 paragraph 2

<sup>10</sup> Considering the need for sustainable livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities and their interdependence on forests in most countries, reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as International Mother Earth Day.

## ANNEXES

### Annexe I. Mandate & composition of entities responsible for REDD+ implementation

<i>Entities</i>	<i>Mandate, roles &amp; responsibilities</i>	<i>Composition</i>
<b>MoE</b>	<b>Overall responsibility for REDD+</b>	Minister
<b>REDD+ Taskforce</b>	<b>Strategic and financial decision-making</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: NCSD</li> <li>Deputy-Chair: GDANCP, FA &amp; FiA</li> <li>NCSD, MoE, MAFF, MEF, MLMUPC, MoI, MME, MoD &amp; MP</li> </ul>
<b>REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat</b>	<b>Coordinate operations and stakeholders for REDD+ implementation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support to the REDD+ Taskforce;</li> <li>Ensure coordination with implementing partners;</li> <li>Implement work plans approved by the REDD+ Taskforce;</li> <li>Mobilize resources and coordinate technical support from government, DPs, NGOs, academic institutions &amp; other stakeholders;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: MoE</li> <li>REDD+ Technical Specialist</li> <li>Finance &amp; admin officer</li> </ul>
<b>REDD+ Policy Unit</b>	<b>Coordinate and operationalize REDD+ implementation at national and subnational levels</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support cross-sectoral coordination to mainstream REDD+ in Cambodia's development priorities;</li> <li>Coordinate actors, sectors and implementing partners at national and subnational levels;</li> <li>Engage in fundraising for AIP implementation and achievement of REDD+ objectives;</li> <li>Set detailed guidance regarding REDD+ Registry; maintain and regularly update the REDD+ registry;</li> <li>Assess REDD+ projects which seek endorsement from RGC to participate in GHG ER Mechanisms;</li> <li>Ensure that REDD+ projects comply with the Regulatory Framework for REDD+ projects implementation;</li> <li>Ensure alignment of REDD+ projects with NRS and technical elements of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+;</li> <li>Provide technical clearance for endorsement of REDD+ projects proposals by REDD+ Taskforce;</li> <li>Ensure appropriate registration of REDD+ projects in the REDD+ Registry;</li> <li>Monitor the enforcement of the Regulatory Framework during implementation of REDD+ projects; including the benefit-sharing system;</li> <li>Provide regulations and guidelines regarding the criteria, datasets, methodologies and tools to be used by REDD+ projects for the various ER mechanisms, and facilitate carbon accounting across sectors and scales;</li> <li>Periodically update the analysis of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and corresponding REDD+ PaMs; update and revise the NRS and AIP accordingly;</li> </ul>	REDD+ Technical Specialist

<b>Entities</b>	<b>Mandate, roles &amp; responsibilities</b>	<b>Composition</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report to the National Authority for GHG ER mechanisms in Cambodia (NCSD) on the status of REDD+ implementation, and comply with relevant international reporting obligations, according to international and national commitments.</li> </ul>	
<b>MRV Unit</b>	<p><b>Assess and monitor forest resources and prepare REDD+-related submissions to the UNFCCC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measurement, monitoring and reporting of land use/land-cover changes and assessment of AD;</li> <li>Measurement, monitoring and periodic reporting of forest carbon stocks and assessment of EF;</li> <li>Harmonize AD and EF measurement methods with REDD+ projects;</li> <li>Update the FRL on a regular and timely basis;</li> <li>Provide technical analysis on potential emissions leakage and ER double counting linked to REDD+ projects;</li> <li>Support the analysis of direct drivers of deforestation and forest degradation;</li> <li>Reporting of the GHG inventory for the LULUCF sector on a regular and timely basis;</li> <li>Manage and update regularly the NFMS web-portal and CEMIS.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GIS &amp; RS Technical Specialist</li> <li>Forest Inventory Technical Specialist</li> </ul>
<b>Safeguards Unit</b>	<p><b>Ensure that Cancun safeguards are addressed and respected during REDD+ implementation and prepare REDD+-related submissions to the UNFCCC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate the environmental and social risk assessment of REDD+ PaMs with implementing partners;</li> <li>Ensure adequate implementation of the ESMF during REDD+ implementation;</li> <li>Ensure availability, appropriateness and operation of a REDD+ Grievance Redress Mechanism;</li> <li>Coordinate the collection of safeguards-related information through the SIS;</li> <li>Compile and analyze safeguards-related information through the SIS;</li> <li>Draft the Sol on a regular and timely basis;</li> <li>Communicate and disseminate safeguards-related information through appropriate means;</li> <li>Manage and maintain the SIS (including safeguards website and database);</li> <li>Build and strengthen the capacities of REDD+ stakeholders on SIS and other safeguards-related issues.</li> </ul>	Social & Environmental Safeguards Technical Specialist
<b>M&amp;E Unit</b>	<p><b>Monitor progress in the implementation of the AIP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure alignment of REDD+ projects and their reporting following the AIP-NRS results framework;</li> <li>Collect, compile &amp; analyze data and means of verification to populate the results framework of the AIP;</li> <li>Design, operate &amp; maintain the REDD+ data and information management system;</li> <li>Ensure reporting on the progress of AIP implementation, in drafting annual reports, mid-year briefings, financial reports, sections of NC &amp; BUR, as well as mid-term and final evaluations;</li> <li>Analyze information, compile lessons learned and good practices and provide recommendations for the improvement of the REDD+ theory of change and the update of the NRS and AIP;</li> <li>Design, maintain and regularly update the visualization system of the M&amp;E.</li> </ul>	M&E Technical Specialist
<b>Financial mechanism</b>	<b>Catalyze, manage and channel REDD+ finance from various sources to support REDD+ coordination and implementation</b>	Chair: MoE



<b>Entities</b>	<b>Mandate, roles &amp; responsibilities</b>	<b>Composition</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage and channel the funding needed to achieve the vision, mission and goals of the NRS;</li> <li>• Fund AIP-NRS implementation through partnerships with implementing partners for the implementation of NRS SOs, strategies &amp; PaMs at different spatial scales (national, provincial, district &amp; project scales);</li> <li>• Support the transaction costs of implementing REDD+ (REDD+ governance &amp; coordination (i.e. operation of RTF, RTS, CG, NFMS, M&amp;E and SIS);</li> <li>• Ensure accountability and transparent financial reporting of REDD+ implementation;</li> <li>• Support necessary reforms and policy dialogue associated with REDD+ implementation.</li> </ul>	Finance Technical Specialist
<b>Consultation Group</b>	<p><b><i>Provide a forum to represent the views of all stakeholders concerned by REDD+ implementation in Cambodia</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in decision-making through its representation in the REDD+ Taskforce meetings;</li> <li>• Provide inputs and written comments in REDD+ policies development and implementation;</li> <li>• Facilitate community outreach to build awareness on REDD+;</li> <li>• Ensure and uphold high standards of stakeholder engagement in the REDD+ mechanism;</li> <li>• Provide a platform where CSOs can demand official feedback/response from government on their earlier comments (whether or not comments were accepted, suggestions implemented, etc.).</li> </ul>	Representatives of Gender Group, CF, CPA, CFI, IPs, NGOs & CSOs, private sector & academic institutions
<b>Gender Group</b>	<p><b><i>Promote active participation of women in designing and implementing the National REDD+ Strategy</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise awareness on gender and women's empowerment issues relevant to REDD+</li> <li>• Provide regular feedback to incorporate gender concerns into policy development</li> </ul>	Representatives of Ministry of Women's Affairs, FA, FiA and MoE
<b>Provincial/District Administration</b>	<p><b><i>Strategic, financial decision-making &amp; coordination for REDD+ implementation at provincial/district scale</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare &amp; implement work plans;</li> <li>• Ensure coordination with implementing partners;</li> <li>• Ensure regular reporting on the progress of REDD+ implementation</li> </ul>	Provincial/District Board of Governor and Representatives of NGOs, CSOs & Private Sector
<b>Implementing partners</b>	<b><i>Implement REDD+ PaMs and report on the progress of REDD+ implementation</i></b>	Representatives of Implementing Partners
<b>REDD+ Project</b>	<p><b><i>Strategic, financial decision-making &amp; coordination for REDD+ implementation at provincial/district scale</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare &amp; implement work plans;</li> <li>• Ensure coordination with implementing partners;</li> <li>• Ensure regular reporting on the progress of REDD+ implementation</li> </ul>	Project Executive Board

## Annexe II. Results Framework

PaM	Expected results (ToC)	Indicator / evaluation question	Means of verification	Baseline	Source	Target (2026)	Freq.	Entity
<i>REDD+ objectives</i>								
All	Reduce deforestation & forest degradation by half by 2026 compared to 2006 - 2014 (to be adjusted in 2020 with the revised FRL and updated NDC)	Deforestation rate	MRV report, NFMS web portal	1.59% (average annual rate of deforestation 2006-2014)	FREL & NRS	0.795%	Annual	MRV team (RTS)
1.1.3, 1.4.2, 1.5.2, 1.5.3, 2.1.1, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.4.2, 2.5.6	60 % forest cover (to be adjusted in 2020 with the revised FRL and updated NDC)	Forest cover area	MRV report, NFMS web portal	48.14% (year?)	NDC	60% by 2030	Annual	MRV team (RTS)
<i>Long-term outcomes</i>								
1.1.1, 1.1.2	Conservation of remaining natural	% of land area under protected area status	MoE/GDANCP progress report	41%	NPASMP	50%??	Annual	MoE
1.2.1, 2.1.1	forests & enhancement of	% of inland fisheries area under conservation	ASDP/SPF indicator monitoring, DP reporting	??	SPFCM	17% by 2028	Annual	MAFF
1.2.1, 2.1.1	forest carbon stocks	% of coastal & marine fisheries area under conservation	FiA/SPF/ASDP indicator monitoring, DP reporting	??	SPFCM	10% by 2028	Annual	MAFF
2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.6.1, 2.6.5	Enhancement of sustainable local livelihoods through communities' empowerment	# CPAs targeted for livelihood enhancements	MoE/GDLC progress reports	15	NPASMP	75% of all CPAs	Annual	MoE
		# CFs reforested & rehabilitated for livelihoods enhancement	MAFF progress reports	??	PFSP, A20	2,400 ha	Annual	MAFF
1.2.1, 2.1.1		% of CFis under strong management	FiA/FIAC monitoring, DP reporting, baseline assessments	??	SPFCM	90% of CFis	Annual	MAFF

PaM	Expected results (ToC)	Indicator / evaluation question	Means of verification	Baseline	Source	Target (2026)	Freq.	Entity
		# women involved in REDD+ implementation activities	SIS	??	SIS indicator	??	Annual	RTF
3.1.2, 3.3.1, 3.3.3	REDD+ implementation via inter-sectoral coordination & national & subnational stakeholder engagement	# public policies relevant with REDD+	Policies & frameworks to check if /how forest included	??	Suggestion	100% of public policies relevant with REDD+	Annual	RTF
3.1.1		# meetings of the NCS inter-ministerial working group	Minute/brief report of the meetings	0	Suggestion	??	Quarterly	RTF
<i>Mid-term outcomes</i>								
1.2.1	Forest land tenure clarified	# km of forested lands demarcated	Ministry progress report	0 km of forested lands demarcated	PFSP, annex 10.2	750 km of ELC boundaries & CF demarcated	Annual	MAFF
		# PAs demarcated & registered	Ministry progress report	7 PAs demarcated & registered	NPASMP-AP	100% PA demarcated & registered	Annual	MoE
		# BCCs demarcated & registered	Ministry progress report	0 BCC demarcated & registered	NPASMP-AP	100% BBC demarcated & registered	Annual	MoE
1.1.4	Conflicts avoided or resolved	# meetings of the National Committee for Conflict Resolution	Minute/brief report of the meetings	0	Suggestion	??	Quarterly	MoE
1.3.1	Forest law better enforced	# rangers with law enforcement training	Lists of participants	300 rangers	NPASMP	All rangers trained	Annual	MoE
1.3.1		# law enforcement teams trained & equipped in Forestry Administration	Lists of participants	0 enforcement teams trained/ equipped in FA	PFSP	5 enforcement teams trained & equipped in FA	Annual	MAFF
1.3.2		# training sessions of local authorities & rural communities on forest laws/regulations & the rights/responsibilities of forest use	Programmes reports	0 training sessions	PFSP	8 training sessions	Annual	MAFF
All	Forest footprint of development reduced	# hectares deforested	MRV report, NFMS progress report	??	Suggestion	??	Annual	MRV team

PaM	Expected results (ToC)	Indicator / evaluation question	Means of verification	Baseline	Source	Target (2026)	Freq.	Entity
2.2.2	Sectoral traceability improved	Are traceability systems & REDD+ PAMs registry operational?	Traceability system & REDD+ PAMs registry progress reports	No traceability systems, No REDD+ PAMs registry	Suggestion	1 traceability system, 1 REDD+ PAMs registry	As required	RTS
2.5.6, 2.5.7	Sustainable supply of timber & other forest-products increased	Is the national certification scheme (NCS) established & fully functional?	Progress reports	No NCS	PFSP	1 NCS	Annual	MAFF
1.1.2	Forest management improved	# PAs with management plans (MPs)	PAs MPs, land tenure registry, NFMS progress reports, NPASMP	3 PAs with complete MPs	NPASMP	75% of PAs with MPs	Annual	MoE
2.1.4, 2.6.6	Sustainable & forest-friendly livelihood opportunities expanded	# CPAs that have facilitated access to microcredit opportunities	List of funding mechanisms	5 CPAs	NPASMP	50% of all CPAs	Annual	MoE
3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.4.1	Integrated land use planning functional & land use optimized	Are the procedures of land allocation in concessions reviewed & updated?	Land tenure registry	No review	PFSP	Procedures reviewed & updated	As required	MLMUPC
3.2.2		Are all land use plans available at national & subnational levels?	Land use plans	0 province	Suggestion	24 provinces	Annual	MLMUPC
2.4.1, 2.6.6	Resources mobilised & contributing to REDD+ objectives	# new investments in Cambodia	Progress reports, guidelines	0 investments, No guidelines available	PFSP	> 5 new investments made	Annual	MEF
3.1.1	Coordination across sectors, actors & scales of REDD+ implementation improved	# meetings of the NCS inter-ministerial working group	Minute/brief report of the meetings	0	Suggestion	??	Quarterly	RTF
		# provinces operating a REDD+ coordination mechanism	Ministries progress reports	0	Suggestion	24	Annual	RTF
3.1.2, 3.3.1, 3.3.3		# ministries/agencies involved in the REDD+ process	Ministries progress reports	Current percentage??	Suggestion	100%	Annual	RTF
1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3, 1.6.1, 1.6.3	REDD+ objectives mainstreamed into development projects, national	Are the legal frameworks sufficiently updated? Do they consider forests? Is the approach top-down working (i.e. application of the laws voted at a national level)?	Legal frameworks to check if /how forest included at a national level, surveys alongside local authorities &	No of policies coherent with REDD+ = benchmark --> too few,	Suggestion	All Cambodian public policies must be coherent with	Annual	RTF

PaM	Expected results (ToC)	Indicator / evaluation question	Means of verification	Baseline	Source	Target (2026)	Freq.	Entity
	policy & regulatory framework		rangers to check how law is locally applied	Laws not applied locally		REDD+ & consider forests		
<i>Outputs</i>								
<b>SO1 - Improve management and monitoring of forest resources and forest land use</b>								
1.1.2	Management plans developed & implemented	# PAs with MPs	PAs management plans, land tenure registry, NFMS web portal, NPASMP	3 PAs with complete MPs	NPASMP	75% of PAs with MPs	Annual	MoE
1.1.1	Boundaries of all forest land areas identified, demarcated & registered	# PAs demarcated & registered	PAs MPs, land tenure registry, NFMS web portal, NPASMP	7 PAs with clear boundaries	NPASMP	100% PA demarcated & registered	Annual	MoE
1.2.1		# km of forested lands demarcated	MRV report, NFMS web portal	0 km of forested lands demarcated	PFSP	750 km of ELC boundaries & CFs demarcated	Annual	MAFF
1.2.3		# corridors with boundaries demarcated & registered	NPASMP	0	NPASMP	All corridors	Annual	MoE
1.3.1	Near-real time forest monitoring capacity improved (for	# PAs with upgraded equipment for effective patrolling & biodiversity monitoring	Invoices, organisations' budget	4 protected areas	NPASMP, annex 3	All PAs have upgraded equipment	Annual	MoE
o	ELCs/SLCs, PAs, production forests, EIAs, zoning plans, etc);	Operating & updated near-real time monitoring system	Monitoring system progress report	No near-real time monitoring system	Suggestion	Near-real time monitoring system operating & up to date	As required	RTS
1.6.3	Regulatory framework for Environmental	Is the EIA law applied by companies?	Companies progress reports	No application	EIA sub-decree # 72	Application	Annual	MoE
2.5.2	Impact Assessment strengthened & enforced	# EIA performed to a specified standard each year	Companies progress reports	0	EIA sub-decree # 72	# EIAs performed to specified standard - baseline for subsequent years	Annual	MoE

PaM	Expected results (ToC)	Indicator / evaluation question	Means of verification	Baseline	Source	Target (2026)	Freq.	Entity
1.7.2	Forest/land use data management system in place	Is the Forest Resource Management Information System (FRMIS) operational?	FRMIS progress reports	FRMIS not operational	PFSP	FRMIS operational	As required	MAFF
1.7.1		Is the National Forest Inventory (NFI) conducted?	NFI guidelines	No inventory conducted	PFSP	NFI completed, results disseminated	As required	MAFF
SO2 - Strengthen implementation of sustainable forest management								
2.1.1	Community Forest (CF), Community Protected Areas (CPA), & Community Fishery (CFi) supported & expanded	# CPAs established with clear demarcation	Government decrees for new communities created, management plans	0 CPAs	NPASMP	50% of all CPAs	Annual	MoE
		# CFs established with clear demarcation	Government decrees for new communities created, management plans	368 CFs (302,793 ha) signed agreement	PFSP, CF Stats 2016	2 million ha (2029-NFP)?	Annual	MAFF
2.1.1		# CPAs with approved management plans	Management plans	22 CPAs	NPASMP	75% of all CPAs	Annual	MoE
		# CFs with approved management plans	Management plans	73 CFs (45,532 ha)	PFSP, CF Stats 2016	??	Annual	MAFF
2.1.2, 2.6.4		# CPAs with networks to share experiences & receive operational support	List of participants, list of collaborative mechanisms implemented	5 CPAs	NPASMP	75% of all CPAs	Annual	MoE
2.1.6		# stakeholder consultation or mediation sessions / year to expand & strengthen collaborative management mechanism with CFs	List of participants, list of collaborative mechanisms implemented	0 meetings organised	PFSP	> one meeting per year	Annual	MAFF
2.5.1		# pilot projects implemented, & hectares reforested	Progress reports	0 pilot projects implemented, & 0 hectares reforested	PFSP	>2 pilot projects (1 in community forest & 1 in ELC) & 5000 hectares reforested	Annual	MAFF

PaM	Expected results (ToC)	Indicator / evaluation question	Means of verification	Baseline	Source	Target (2026)	Freq.	Entity
1.2.1, 2.1.1		Dependency of CFI's on external funding	FiA/FIAC monitoring, DP reporting, baseline assessments	??	SPFCM	Dependency reduced by 50 %	Annual	MAFF
2.4.1, 2.6.6	Private sector engaged & supported to reduce emissions from deforestation & forest degradation	# REDD+ projects funded by the private sector	Progress reports	0	Suggestion	??	Annual	RTF
		Enabling tools or conditions for private sector to invest in REDD+ project (to be defined with private sector)	Progress reports	0	Suggestion	??	Annual	RTF
		# private sector projects or companies that are aligned with REDD+ objectives	Progress reports	0	Suggestion	??	Annual	RTF
2.3.1	Forest cover expanded & improved through A/R & forest restoration	# PAs with forest restoration plans	Progress reports, restoration plans	0	NPASMP	50% of PAs	As required	MoE
2.4.2		Are the guidelines on forest management planning with a focus on reforestation, forest rehabilitation & planted forest management in place & disseminated for ELCs & CFs?	Progress reports	Guidelines not published	PFSP	Guidelines published	As required	MAFF
1.1.3, 2.3.1, 2.3.2		# hectares restored & reforested	MRV report, NFMS web portal	474,413 hectares reforested	NDC/AIP-NRS Forestry Stats Cambodia 2017, FA	2.7 million hectares reforested or 230,000 ha/yr starting 2019	Annual	MAFF
2.5.3	Ecotourism & other sustainable uses of natural forests developed/supported	Is the ecotourism Strategy created?	Ecotourism strategy	0	NPASMP	1 strategy	Annual	MoE
2.5.4		# PAs with business plans for ecotourism development	Business plans	0	NPASMP	50% of PAs	Annual	MoE
2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.5, 2.1.6	Alternative & sustainable livelihoods developed/supported through conditional incentives	# hectares rehabilitated for participation of rural communities in sustainable initiatives to reduce pressures on natural resources & offer livelihood alternatives	Progress reports	0 hectares rehabilitated	PFSP	2500 hectares rehabilitated	Annual	MAFF
<b>SO3 - Mainstream approaches to reduce deforestation, build capacity and engage stakeholders</b>								

PaM	Expected results (ToC)	Indicator / evaluation question	Means of verification	Baseline	Source	Target (2026)	Freq.	Entity
3.1.1	A cross-sectoral & multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism operational at national & subnational levels	# meetings of the NCSD inter-ministerial working group	Minute/brief report of the meetings	0	Suggestion	??	Quartly	RTF
3.1.2, 3.3.1, 3.3.3		# ministries/agencies involved in the REDD+ process	Ministries progress reports	Current percentage??	Suggestion	100%	Quartly.	REDD+ Task Force (or RTS?)
1.5.2		Is the National Forest Programme (NFP) revised in 2019?	NFP	NFP not revised	PFSP	NFP revised	As required	MAFF
1.5.3	Legal & regulatory framework relevant to REDD+ updated & harmonised	Is the Law on Forestry amended?	Law on Forestry	Law on Forestry not amended	PFSP	Law on Forestry amended	As required	MAFF
1.6.1, 1.6.2		Is the New Environment & Natural Resources (ENR) code published?	New ENR code	New ENR code not published	Suggestion	New ENR code published	As required	RTF
		Is the code disseminated to provinces?	Communication supports	Provinces not aware of ENR code	Suggestion	24 provinces have ENR code available	As required	RTF
		Has training been provided on enforcement of the New ENR code at provincial & local level?	Lists of participants	Enforcement teams not trained to apply code	Suggestion	Teams trained in 24 provinces	As required	RTF
3.1.3	Roles & responsibilities for REDD+ oversight, coordination, implementation & monitoring clarified	Are the responsibilities for MoE & MAFF clarified?	Ministries progress reports	No clarification	PFSP	Sub-decree clarifying roles/responsibilities formally approved	Quartly.	RTF
3.2.3	Awareness & capacity on REDD+, land use planning & forest management strengthened	# development centres created	Centres	0	NPASMP	3 development centres created	Annual	RTS
3.3.3, 3.5.1		Are training needs of Forestry Administration staff assessed?	Capacity development programmes	No assessment	PFSP	Training needs assessed	As required	MAFF
3.5.4		# training modules implemented	Training modules	0 training modules implemented	PFSP	At least 10 training modules	As required	MAFF



PaM	Expected results (ToC)	Indicator / evaluation question	Means of verification	Baseline	Source	Target (2026)	Freq.	Entity
						implemented for FA staff		
3.5.2		# staff in workshop, trainings & study tours	Lists of participants	0	NPASMP	At list 10 staffs involved	As required	MoE
3.5.3		Is the new R&D Unit in GDANCP established?	Progress reports	0	NPASMP	Unit created	As required	MoE
3.1.2		Is the coordination & collaboration between FA & other ministries or international partners improved?	Progress reports	0	PFSP	> 2 MoU concluded with national or international partners	As required	MAFF
3.5.4		# training modules delivered for MoE	Progress reports	0	NPASMP, annex 3	15 training modules developed & delivered for MoE	As required	MoE
3.3.2, 3.3.3	Stakeholders engaged & participating in REDD+ coordination & implementation at national & subnational levels	# meeting of the consultation group (NGOs, indigenous, etc)	Minute/brief report of the meetings	0	CG bi-law	24 meetings	Annual	RTS
3.3.2, 3.3.3		# people attending to the meeting of the consultation group	List of attendees segregated by gender & IPs	0	CG bi-law	25 (2 women) from 9 institutions (CF, CFi, CPA, IP, private sector, academy, Int'n, Nat & local NGOs	Annual	RTS

### Annexe III. Risks arising from AIP implementation & management measures

Risk Description	Comments	Management Measures
<p><b>Risk 1: Interventions could lead to adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups. Of particular concern is the risk that interventions could restrict availability, quality of, and access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups. Interventions could exclude affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that affect them.</b></p>	<p>Demarcation of protected areas and modified / established PA management plans may result in loss of access to territory and resources by local communities, particularly marginalized groups. Reforestation that takes place in a context of overlapping or ambiguous land claims could result in a loss of access to territory and resources by local communities. Any such loss of access will negatively affect livelihoods and poses the risk of economic displacement. Livelihood interventions risk increasing inequality if the majority of benefits are captured by elites. Individuals who are well-capitalized and politically connected are often best able to benefit from program opportunities. Indigenous groups, impoverished families, and women may in some cases be at a disadvantage in terms of capturing benefits.</p>	<p>Resource use and land use assessments will be undertaken to assess who uses resources in areas affected by each REDD+ intervention and what is their tenure status. Particularly in cases with low levels of formal title, program funding should support efforts to formalize customary tenure and to ensure resource use rights. Assessments should focus in particular on resource use as differentiated by gender, by ethnicity, and by poverty level.</p>
<p><b>Risk 2: Interventions may have adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls and may limit women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources. Interventions may reproduce discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits.</b></p>	<p>Reduced access to natural resources—for example through increased enforcement or through changed demarcation of protected areas—can have a negative impact on gender equality in those cases where collection—of fuelwood, of water, of wild foods—is primarily undertaken by women and girls. Reductions in access to natural resources that may result from zoning changes can lead to increases in gender inequality. Because of the frequently gendered breakdown of tasks, any change in resource access and its associated impact on a household's livelihood composition may have implications for the gender balance of work in households. Without efforts to improve participation levels of women in community forestry, women will be excluded from some of the benefits of community</p>	<p>REDD+ interventions will be conducted in a gender-responsive, culturally sensitive, non-discriminatory and inclusive manner, ensuring that potentially affected vulnerable and marginalized groups are identified and provided opportunities to participate. REDD+ activities will seek to combat discriminatory practices and to challenging the roles and stereotypes that create inequalities and exclusion. REDD+ interventions will ensure that both women and men are able to participate meaningfully and equitably, to have equitable access to resources, and to receive comparable social and economic benefits. Information on how women and men use forests as well as formal and informal use rights will be gathered and disseminated.</p>

Risk Description	Comments	Management Measures
	forests and will also have reduced influence in decisions regarding the management of their local environment.	At the community level, the capacity of both men and women will be developed to address gender issues and to ensure the participation of women in decision-making. At the institutional level, it is important to build capacity of local authorities and of communities to help include women in decision-making roles and to improve capacity for gender analysis, particularly at subnational levels.
<b>Risk 3: Interventions could cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services.</b>	<p>If reforestation leads to the establishment of commercial plantations, it may have a negative overall effect on biodiversity.</p> <p>Reforestation or forest restoration may lead to a more homogenous landscape with reduced overall biodiversity. Low carbon forests and non-forest areas may provide important ecosystem services and provide unique habitats that are required by some species. If these areas are managed to become higher-density forests, habitat diversity may decline leading to some loss in biodiversity.</p> <p>Expanding community forestry may increase pressure on natural forests and may cause reductions in biodiversity. Expansion of harvest activities may have a negative effect on biodiversity by reducing some habitats and by increasing human presence in areas of natural forest.</p>	<p>Biodiversity assessment and site targeting are central to managing risks to biodiversity and habitats. This will include an initial assessment of biodiversity both at national-scale and at site-level in areas where REDD+ interventions will occur on the ground.</p> <p>At each site where a REDD+ intervention will take place, a biodiversity assessment will be completed that includes a general description of the relevant ecosystems, key species that may be affected, and identification of ecosystem characteristics that are relevant to national priorities as identified by national-scale mapping.</p> <p>In all cases, forest restoration and reforestation efforts will use native species, both for the maintenance of local biodiversity and to avoid the risk of introducing invasive species. In addition, best practices for diverse-species restoration and reforestation will be used.</p>
<b>Risk 4: Interventions may involve support for employment or livelihoods that may fail to comply with national and international labor standards (i.e. principles and standards of ILO fundamental conventions).</b>	<p>Employment created by reforestation and restoration projects may fail to meet labor standards.</p> <p>Reforestation projects are labor-intensive and at large scale will require hiring large numbers of people to complete physically demanding work. The risk exists that international and national labor standards will not be met.</p>	<p>Communication of relevant labor standards to all individuals employed under REDD+ efforts.</p> <p>Grievance redress mechanism will be established for grievances or disputes relating to employment conditions under REDD+ interventions.</p>
<b>Risk 5: Interventions could adversely impact sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural,</b>	Knowledge, use of, and access to non-timber forest products such as medicines and foodstuffs, and	Prior to REDD+ interventions being undertaken in any specific locations, an assessment of locally specific

Risk Description	Comments	Management Measures
artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices).	maintenance of resin trees, constitute important components of cultural identity. If demarcation limits access to traditionally used natural resources, there is a risk of a loss of cultural heritage.	historical, cultural, artistic, traditional, religious, or other intangible values will be undertaken. This assessment will be guided by a robust and meaningful stakeholder engagement process. Develop locally specific management plans, guided by stakeholders, to mitigate impacts on sites and other stores of intangible value.
<b>Risk 6: Interventions could induce temporary or permanent displacement and could result in economic displacement.</b>	Establishment or expansion of protected areas may result in population displacement and/or loss of access to traditional resources by local communities. Improved marking and enforcement of PA boundaries could result in reduced access by some groups. Groups who lose access to resources as a result of this process would create a risk of economic displacement.	Avoiding and mitigating physical and economic displacement can be achieved following a set of measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessments, including surveys of potentially affected individuals and communities.</li> <li>• Public dissemination in accessible form.</li> <li>• Access to effective remedies and to timely and affordable expertise, including legal counsel, to provide an understanding of rights and options.</li> <li>• Effective and informed consultations with affected populations and good faith efforts to secure negotiated settlements.</li> <li>• Resettlement Action Plans or Livelihood Restoration Plans to be publicly disclosed at least 90 days prior to displacement activities.</li> <li>• Ex-post evaluation of livelihood levels to examine if objectives of this Standard were met.</li> </ul>
<b>Risk 7: Interventions could lead to forced evictions.</b>	There is a risk that some populations may reside within PA borders and that those populations may be required to relocate.	Prohibit forced eviction and allow evictions in extreme circumstances only: Lawful evictions are those meeting all of the following criteria: (i) authorized by national law; (ii) carried out in accordance with international human rights law (ii) undertaken solely for the purpose of promoting the general welfare; (iv) reasonable and proportional; and (v) follow due process standards and are regulated so as to ensure full and fair compensation and rehabilitation. The protection provided by these requirements applies to all affected persons and groups, irrespective of

Risk Description	Comments	Management Measures
<p><b>Risk 8: Interventions may affect land tenure arrangements and/or community-based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources.</b></p>	<p>Modifying zoning designation within and surrounding protected areas risks affecting customary use rights of traditional resources, thus negatively impacting livelihoods and cultural heritage of Indigenous groups. Any actions that may reduce access to traditionally harvested resources within PAs risk having negative impacts on the traditional livelihoods of indigenous groups. There exists a risk that the process of preparation of PA management plans will not sufficiently engage all stakeholders, particularly marginalized groups and Indigenous Peoples. Reforestation interventions may exclude some rights-holders, particularly if land tenure is unclear prior to the reforestation. If reforestation leads to the establishment of privately managed forests, there exists the risk that individuals and communities who previously used or accessed resources on the same land will be excluded, with associated negative impacts on livelihoods.</p>	<p>whether they hold title to home and property under domestic law.</p> <p>Resource use and land use assessments will be undertaken prior to REDD+ interventions in order to identify individuals whose land use or resource use may be affected.</p> <p>Rights to Land, Resources and Territory, should be recognized, collectively, even in the absence of legal title as rights to own, use, and develop and control the lands, resources and territories that they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired. Specifically, where a REDD+ intervention touches upon these, support must be given to activities aimed at delimiting, demarcating and titling such lands, resources, and territories with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the individuals and communities concerned.</p>
<p><b>Risk 9: Interventions could affect the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas or whether the interventions is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples).</b></p>	<p>Access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources could affect traditional livelihoods, physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples. Restricting access to traditional resources within PAs can negatively impact livelihoods and cultural heritage of Indigenous groups. Reforestation that takes place in a context of overlapping or ambiguous land claims could result in a loss of access to territory and resources by Indigenous communities. Indigenous groups are particularly susceptible to the risk of losing access to land and resources because of the very low level of indigenous community land titling in Cambodia. Loss of access to traditionally used resources can negatively impact</p>	<p>Full, effective and meaningful participation: mechanisms will be identified and implemented to guarantee the meaningful, effective and informed participation of indigenous peoples on all matters. Culturally appropriate consultation will be carried out with the objective of achieving agreement. FPIC will be ensured on any matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories (whether titled or untitled to the people in question) and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned.</p> <p>Prior social and environmental impact study: All Projects that may impact the rights, lands, resources and territories of indigenous peoples require prior</p>

Risk Description	Comments	Management Measures
	<p>livelihoods and cultural heritage, particularly of Indigenous groups.</p> <p>Community forestry and community fisheries may be more difficult to establish for Indigenous communities than for majority (Khmer) ones, leading to ethnic disparities. The process of registering community forests and community fisheries in Cambodia is difficult and time consuming, which to some extent limits the potential for CFs and CF is. This challenge may be exacerbated among Indigenous groups, among whom there is already a very low level of collective land titling (CLT).<sup>11</sup> This lack of CLT—as well as other structural barriers, particularly language—may create obstacles for the full participation of Indigenous communities in CF, CFi, and CPA.</p>	<p>review and/or assessment of potential impacts and benefits.</p> <p>Support for rights: Projects may include activities that support legal reform of domestic laws to strengthen compliance with the country’s duties and obligations under international law with respect to the rights of indigenous peoples.</p>
<p><b>Risk 10: Interventions may involve the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health.</b></p> <p><b>Interventions may induce significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water.</b></p>	<p>Investment in agricultural technologies may lead to increased application of pesticides and associated declines in water quality and ecosystem and human health. Expanding NWFP commercialization may lead to unsustainable rates of harvest. Expanding NWFP commercialization can improve livelihoods and increase the incentive for communities to conserve forested areas. However, improving opportunities to monetize NWFPs can also encourage increased rates of extraction that may eventually reach unsustainable levels if not sufficiently monitored and managed. Ecotourism investments can lead to loss of biodiversity and other negative environmental impacts. Ecotourism has been shown to frequently increase deforestation rates when it is sited next to frontier forests. It can also lead to an increase in local water pollution.</p>	<p>Guidelines will be established specifying which agrochemicals may be used in REDD+ interventions, with particular focus on the avoidance of chemicals subject to international phase-outs.</p> <p>Efforts at improved NWFP commercialization could be coupled with resource assessments and sustainable harvest plans.</p>

<sup>11</sup> Cambodian Centre for Human Rights 2016. Access to Collective Land Titles for Indigenous Communities

## REFERENCES

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/cambodia/overview>

<sup>ii</sup> [http://sdwebx.worldbank.org/climateportal/countryprofile/doc/GFDRRCountryProfiles/wb\\_gfdr climate change country profile for KHM.pdf](http://sdwebx.worldbank.org/climateportal/countryprofile/doc/GFDRRCountryProfiles/wb_gfdr climate change country profile for KHM.pdf)

<sup>iii</sup> <https://www.voanews.com/a/changing-climate-has-major-impacts-for-under-prepared-cambodia/3075404.html>

<sup>iv</sup> <https://gain-new.crc.nd.edu/ranking/readiness> - economic readiness, governance readiness and social readiness

<sup>v</sup> <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NDCStaging/Pages/Party.aspx?party=KHM>

<sup>vi</sup> Initial Forest Reference Level for Cambodia under the UNFCCC Framework (FRL) 2017 - <https://redd.unfccc.int/files/camfrl may 22 2017.pdf>