



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
Nation Religion King



ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA

ACHIEVING CAMBODIA'S MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

UPDATE 2011

Prepared by Ministry of Planning




FOREWORD

The Royal Government of Cambodia is deeply committed to achieving the Cambodia Millennium Development Goals to the maximum extent as we can in the next four years, i.e. before 2015. Cambodia has achieved a lot on many facets: agriculture has grown, land distribution and titling exercises have been going on quite well, and infrastructure too has advanced rapidly. As a result, people earn more now and they live better compared to how they were a few years back. The government has strived to improve the quality of governance in the country, and the recent Mid-Term Review Report of the NSDP Update 2009-2013 suggests that the populace at large has greater faith in the governance structure now compared to earlier.

This report, the sixth and the 2011 version of our government's annual reporting on the progress that we make on the CMDGs, uses the latest data available from large surveys and censuses, conducted by the National Institute of Statistics at the Ministry of Planning in partnership with other ministries. It also draws extensively upon the inputs provided different line ministries and agencies, all of which makes it really a participative exercise. Additionally, a triangulation of different databases has helped arrive at firm conclusions.

The findings suggest that Cambodia has made good strides towards meeting the CMDG Targets. Our people are less poor, healthier, and better educated, almost all of our children are going to schools. However, we have problems as well: these relate of children's health and nutrition women's and nutrition, and control of certain life-threatening diseases. We also have problems with our environment and forests. This implies that our task is yet not complete and we have to strive hard until the time when our problems of underdevelopment, poverty and human suffering are effectively solved.

The Royal Government of Cambodia is deeply indebted to the United Nations Development Programme for providing the necessary technical and financial support for preparing this report. 



Chhay Than
Senior Minister
Minister of Planning
Phnom Penh, December 2011.

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ABSTRACT

This Annual Update assesses the Cambodia Millennium Development Goals (CMDGs) and throws fresh light on the achievements and challenges. New data from the Cambodia Demographic Survey (CDHS) of 2010 and Cambodia Socio-economic Survey (CSES) of 2009, now available in public domain, have made this possible. Additionally, some extensive departmental information, collected while preparing the Mid-term Review of the NSDP Update 2009-2013, has also been drawn upon. The report also identifies key targets requiring revision, given the extant situation and the linkages of these with human wellbeing. In this regard, specific reference needs to be made of rural water and sanitation. Next, issues relating to data and measurement, each of which is pivotal to gauging progress, are identified. They are appended to the report. Finally, the report makes a case for costing select lagging CMDG targets and evolving a CMDG Acceleration Framework for assisting the government meet the targets.

There are nine CMDGs, of which the first eight are the same as per the international norms. The ninth CMDG has been added to address the problem of unexploded mines and remnants of war. The targets and indicators, however, are uniquely defined to match the locally prevalent conditions.

At the outset, it is worth stating that it might be too general to label whether a goal is on track or not, unless most of its indicators are on track or significantly lagging behind.

- On the CMDG relating to poverty: Targets relating to income poverty or food poverty appear to have been already met, or will most likely be met. However, targets related to child nutrition are considerably behind their set target, and the progress on them is also slow. Similarly, child workers are yet many more than what the set target requires.
- On the CMDG relating to education: The primary education targets are most likely to be met. Though it is beyond the CMDG purview, the major challenge lies beyond primary education, as human capital needs of the society and economy are multi-faceted.
- On the CMDG relating to health: The IMR, CMR and MMR targets have generally been met, though nutrition, women's health and some communicable diseases, along with HIV/AIDS, will require continued vigilance and intervention.
- On the CMDG relating to gender: While a lot has been achieved, there are gaps in education, health and employment requiring bridging. Of particular concern are women's health and their representation in public offices.
- On the CMDG relating to environment: This issue needs address on several fronts, like reforestation, preserving fresh water resources, improving livelihoods of people dependent on natural resources, and governance of forests. Of specific concern is also the non-availability of potable water and hygienic sanitation for the rural people.
- On the CMDG relating to partnerships: Until so far, the government has been successful in maintaining healthy partnerships. However, this momentum will have to be kept up, given that further concessional in-flows will be more as loans and less as grants.
- On the CMDG relating to mining: Area cleared so far has been large, but people are still dying due to mine explosions. Resource shortage is an impediment.

INTRODUCTION

The country background

Cambodia is a low-income country; its per capita income is estimated at about US\$901 in 2011. Since the adoption of the new constitution and the ensuing elections in 1993, people here have generally enjoyed peace. During the 1990s the government and its development partners were mainly engaged in rebuilding the country after a devastating internal conflict that lasted more than two decades. In the new millennium, more substantial activities relating to development have been taken up. International development assistance has also played an important role in funding development programmes.

The nation is now on the path to alleviating poverty and achieving its Millennium Development Goals – the Cambodia MDGs (or CMDGs). CMDGs are the national adaptation of the global MDGs to suit the local conditions. CMDGs do not dilute the spirit of MDGs despite that individual targets and indicators are quite much changed to suit the local conditions. Cambodia has an added MDG, the ninth, related to demining, removing explosive remnants of war, and victim assistance, keeping in view its past history. Cambodia pursues a development strategy through planned development in a market framework. The government has evolved a ‘Rectangular Strategy’ (RS), which has been the hallmark of development in the recent years. It combines at least three elements of development:

1. Achieving rapid growth in the economy,
2. Alleviating poverty and achieving other goals laid down in the CMDGs,
3. Creating and sustaining institutions of governance with a view to facilitating (1) and (2) above.

RS Phase-2 emphasises on good governance, legal, judicial and armed forces reforms, peace and stability, partnerships

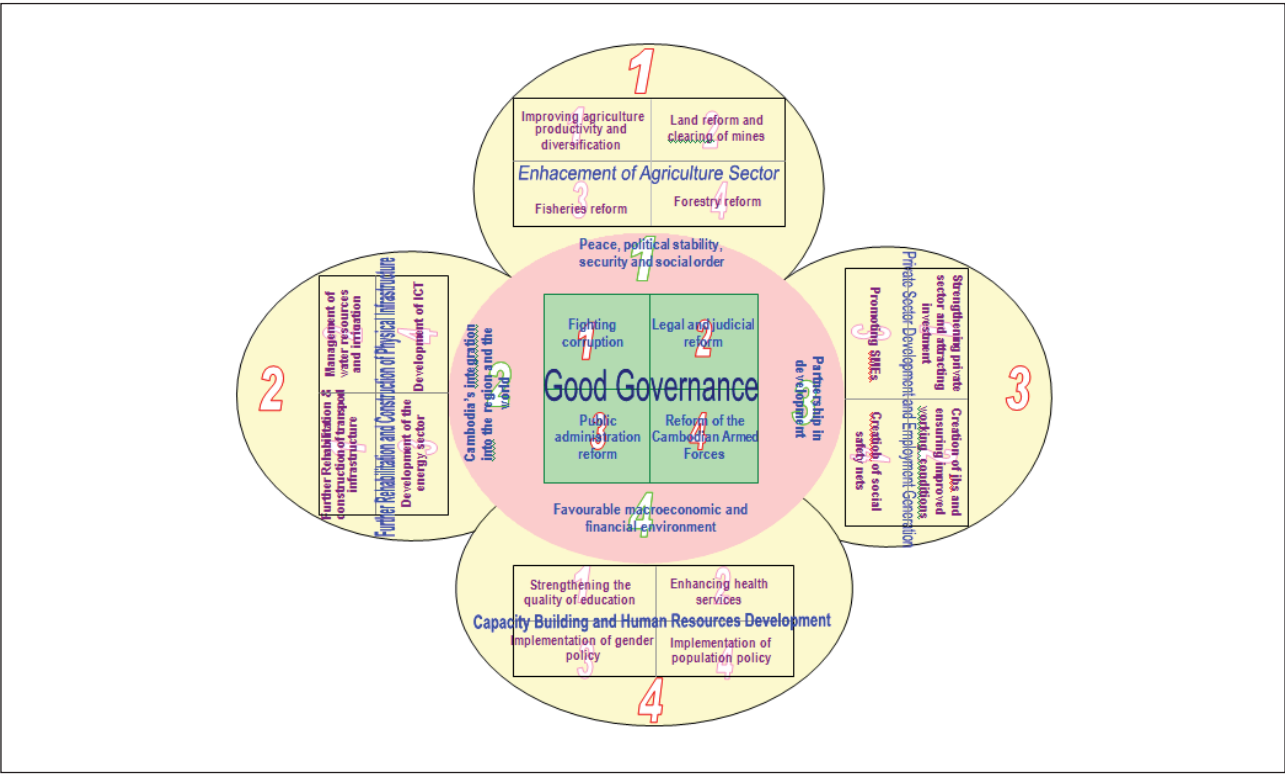
in development, a favourable macroeconomic environment, and the country’s economic integration with the region and the world. Agriculture and its allied activities, infrastructure, investments into human development and human capital, and private sector development, are all part of RS Phase-2. Most of the elements of RS Phase-2 embed one or the other component of the CMDGs. The government has formulated the National Socioeconomic Development Programme (NSDP) Update 2009-2013, which rests on RS Phase-2 and CMDGs. A sketch of RS Phase-2 can be seen in Figure 1.1

The recent years have not been easy for anyone. The global economic turndown and the commodity/petroleum-led inflation have resulted in a global economic turmoil, leaving out few countries unaffected. The Cambodian economy, as seen from the Mid-term Review of 2011, has shown the capacity to bounce back after facing a severe setback owing to these problems, and at least two domestic shocks like the border skirmishes and Ketsana Storm. This, however, does not mean that the turmoil has not left its scars: people have suffered, and government programmes have had to be re-scheduled or amended.

Cambodia’s Millennium Development Goals – a Brief

In 2003, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) adapted the eight universally agreed upon Millennium Development Goals with some modifications and localisation to better suit the realities of the country. Next, post the more than two decades of devastating civil war, one major constraint on development is the continued contamination of lands by mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW). It is because of this that the government added de-mining, ERW and victim assistance as Cambodia’s Ninth Millennium Development Goal.

Figure 1.1: Rectangular Strategy, Phase 2



The nine CMDGs are listed in Table 1.1 below. A more detailed list of targets and indicators could be seen in Appendix 1 to this paper.

Table 1.1: Cambodia Millennium Development Goals

	Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
	Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
	Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
	Goal 4: Reduce child mortality
	Goal 5: Improve maternal health
	Goal 6: Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
	Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
	Goal 8: Forge a global partnership for development
	Goal 9: De-mining, removing explosive remnants of war, and victim assistance

As in other countries, the CMDGs are not standalone targets. Instead, the sectoral targets are so fixed as to match with the CMDGs. Components of CMDGs find place in the entire group of social and economic ministries in one or another way. For example, the health ministry's targets and strategies are so formulated as to incorporate all the health-related CMDGs. The implementing agencies too are those of the concerned sectoral ministries and agencies: no separate CMDG implementing structures are created. In short, CMDGs are an integral part of the national planning process.

The present NSDP Update 2009-2013 and its predecessor had special emphasis on these goals, and the government aims to place them as a central strategy in the subsequent plans as well. The government believes that central to achieving the CMDGs, is the alleviation and eventual elimination of poverty. Explicitly or implicitly, all the MDG goals are intricately linked and if poverty is effectively addressed, most other goals become relatively easier to manage. It is for this reason that the government until so far has been waging a frontal attack on poverty.

Structure of the report

This paper, an annual update of the progress made in CMDGs, presents the most recent data on CMDG-achievement in the country and the challenges that lie before it in the next four years. It draws heavily on the Mid-term Review of the NSDP Update 2009-2013 produced in October-November 2011, through an extensive participation process with different ministries and agencies. Points of departure in this report from the past:

1. It points out issues arising out of inadequate and/or incomparable data in key areas, and emphasises on the importance of improving the quality of data for better monitoring of CMDG and other development goals. In this regard, it makes specific and actionable recommendations
2. It attempts to identify key challenges in human development that might be beyond CMDGs, but nevertheless vitally important for human wellbeing.



Photo: UNICEF/Alexandra Cedillo

STATUS OF CMDG ACHIEVEMENT



GOAL 1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER



Photo: UNDP/Arantxa Cedillo

TARGET

The different targets within this goal are:

1. Halve, between 1993 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than the national poverty line – i.e. reduce the poor to 19 percent of the population or less
2. Raise the share of the poorest quintile in national consumption to 11 percent
3. Reduce, between 1993 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger to no more than 10 percent
4. Reduce the prevalence of underweight children (<5 years) to 19 percent
5. Reduce the prevalence of stunted children (<5 years) to 25 percent
6. Reduce the incidence of wasted children (<5 years) to six percent
7. Reduce the prevalence of working children (up to 17 year) to eight percent
8. Increase the proportion of households using

FINDINGS

Poverty trends

The Cambodian target for poverty reduction, like the global target, is to halve, between 1993 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income (actually, consumption) is less than the national poverty line.

Cambodia has a nationally accepted poverty line evolved in 1993-1994.¹ The details of its components are as below:

1. Food poverty line is defined as the cost of purchasing food equivalent to 2,100 Kilocalories. A reference food basket (RFB) that could provide 2,100 K-calories of energy (as in 1993-1994) was designed to reflect the actual food consumption patterns of the third quintile of the total consumption distribution from the bottom, as seen from the first Cambodia Socio-economic Survey (CSES of

¹ The authorities are now working towards developing a new national poverty line as the existing one appears to be fairly dated, drawn up in 1993-1994, immediately after the war ended.

- 1993-1994). The sum of the monetary values of different food items in the RFB was/is the cost of the reference food basket. This is updated from time to time as prices change.
2. There is an allowance for non-food items. This is the proportion of non-food items consumed to total consumption by households at the poverty line as seen from the CSES of 1993-1994. The average non-food component constitutes about 20-21 percent of the total expense at the poverty line.

The sum of (1) and (2) above is the poverty line. While poverty is multi-dimensional—encompassing social exclusion, lack of skills, lack of confidence, and so forth—presently what is enumerated is income/consumption-based poverty.

Recent trends in the percentage of persons below this nationally accepted poverty line and the food poverty line could be seen in Table 2.1. There was not much reduction in poverty rate in the 1990s, given the background the country emerged from: it was the period of reconciliation and reconstruction. In the new millennium, however, Cambodia has done rather well. Seen from Table 2.1, the first CMDG target of halving the proportion of persons below the national poverty line, i.e. reducing poverty rate to 19 percent is likely to be met before the deadline of 2015. Food poverty line is lower than the general poverty line, as it does not include non-food items. Those below the food poverty line are generally classified as ‘very poor’. The trend in food poverty is similar, though the reduction is less steep. Among the reasons: food poverty was/is not high in Cambodia. In fact, food poverty has never been severe, the country being relatively sparsely populated, having good quality land and a long-standing tradition of crop agriculture. The present level of food poverty (estimate) is 15 percent, and the CMDG level of 10 percent should be met in all probability. In fact, complete elimination of extreme poverty appears to be within reach.

A preliminary estimate obtained from CSES 2009 made by World Bank consultants suggests that the poverty rate could have been lesser than 20 percent in that year. If this is to be believed, it is a huge achievement. It also implies that the main target of CMDG 1 has already been achieved.

Table 2.1: Trends in proportion of persons below the poverty line and food poverty line

	2004	2007	2010 (Linear forecast)
Poverty rate (%) -- Phnom Penh	4.6	0.8	0.1
Poverty rate (%) -- Other Urban	24.7	21.9	19.4
Poverty rate (%) -- Rural	39.2	34.7	30.7
Poverty rate (%) -- Cambodia	34.7	30.1	26.1
Food poverty rate (%) -- Phnom Penh	2.6	0.1	0.0
Food poverty rate (%) -- Other Urban	14.2	12.7	11.9
Food poverty rate (%) -- Rural	22.2	20.8	17.8
Food poverty rate (%) -- Cambodia	19.7	18.0	15.1

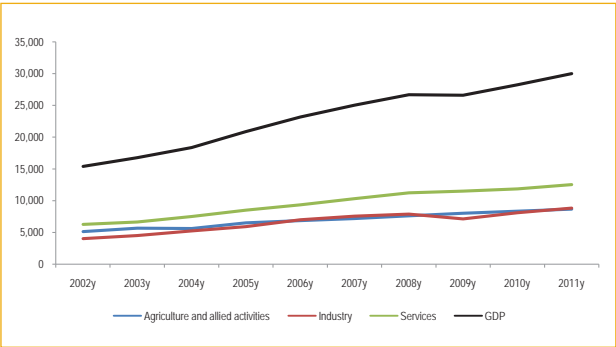
Source: NSDP 2006-2010 (2006), pg. 46; and NSDP 2009-2013 (2010), pg. vii

The regional patterns in poverty (Phnom Penh, other urban areas and rural areas) suggest the expected: rural poverty is higher than urban, and in urban areas, Phnom Penh is doing much better than ‘other urban areas’ (Table 2.1). In 2010, the rural poverty rate was 17 percentage points below its value in 1993-1994. This proportion fell faster in both Phnom Penh and other urban areas. However, since the proportions of people living in rural areas is in the range 75 plus percent, many more persons in rural areas will have crossed the poverty line compared to those in urban areas.

A sharp fall in poverty proportions since 2007, particularly if the World Bank consultants’ estimates are to be believed, might require an explanation. For one, there has been a fairly good growth in agriculture in the recent years, thanks to good rains and government policies in modernising agriculture and land management. ² The agricultural sector grew at 5.4 percent even in 2009, when all other sectors slumped, implying that this sector has been untouched by the global meltdown. Next, the GDP growth during the three years 2005, 2006 and 2007 was in double digits, which surely would have had some trickledown. In fact, the GDP growth has been strong for most of the years in all the major sectors in the last decade. This can be seen from Figure 2.1.

2 It is worth noting that between 1997 and about 2002, the extent of landlessness among farmers was growing at about two percent a year. Thereafter, this trend stopped.

Figure 2.1: Sectoral and aggregate trends in GDP in Cambodia 2002-2011 (billion Riels at 2000 prices)



Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance

An important reason for reduction in poverty proportions is also the reduction in inequality (Table 2.2). Detailed analysis of data from CSES 2008 suggests that up to 80 percent of the poverty reduction between 2007 and 2008 could be attributed to reduction in inequality. Two important means of achieving greater equity are, when the poorer sections get access to land (see Footnote 2), and the poorer sections earn larger incomes (wages of vulnerable workers have increased).³ This is again a reflection of affirmative government policies.

Table 2.2: Trends in inequality

Year	2004	2007	2008	2009	2015 (target)
Gini coefficient	39.6%	43.1%	36.8%	35.6%	-
Consumption of 20% poorest	7.2%	6.5%	7.6%	8.0%	11.0%

Source: Cambodia Socio-economic Surveys (CSES)

While a firm conclusion on the extent of reduction in poverty can be made only after the government declares its own results on poverty, the fact that poverty rates have reduced cannot be negated.

Alternative estimates of poverty

Alternative estimates of poverty based on Commune Database (CDB) place poverty proportions at about 25 percent in 2010. However, CDB do not collect data on household consumption patterns and poverty estimates from CDB are arrived at using indirect approaches based on

changes in the asset-base and social consumption at the village level. Hence, poverty estimates so derived are not sensitive to:

- 1. Aspects such as intra-household transfers in incomes within villages, not affecting the village structure
- 2. Changing household incomes and expenditures from one year to another, as the village asset structure or social consumption structure need not immediately respond to these.

Nevertheless, these derivations can proxy for poverty in the years when CSES survey data are not available.

A major advantage of in this dataset is its size. It is a census of all the villages, thereby permitting disaggregation up to sub-national levels. The derived poverty figures suggest that there is a larger incidence of poverty in the northeast, northwest, and then the northern region, followed by some in the western provinces.⁴ The southern and eastern parts of the country are relatively better off. The better off areas are better connected, have superior infrastructure, better quality land, more irrigation, greater occupational diversification and urbanisation, and better human development achievements. More detailed analysis suggests that people who live along the Tonle Sap Lake are poorer.⁵ This is a global phenomenon: fisherpersons/forest dwellers are poorer than cropland-based farmers everywhere. In the case of fish, the harvest is highly perishable, it in most cases not being linked to a value chain. This could also be the reason for Siem Reap to be relatively poorer: large numbers live by fishing, since the spread effect of the gains from tourism is not high.

The sub-national level picture suggests that while at the aggregate the CMDG targets might be met regional differences remain irksome.

Nutrition status

The nutritional deficiency levels among children are high as data in Table 2.3 indicate. Stunting has reduced by three percentage points from 43 percent to 37 between 2005 and 2010, a small decrease in five years. If the same trend continues, it is unlikely that the target of 25 percent would be met by 2015. Children underweight have not shown any

3 Wages of vulnerable workers have increased in the recent years according to data series prepared by the Cambodia Development Resource Institute.

4 Data not presented here for brevity.

5 A map is not reproduced here, but the Ministry of Planning has generated these and can be seen in their reports.

progress, and children wasted have actually increased from eight percent to 11 percent between 2005-2010. Only the use of iodised salt is on track.⁶ These are not encouraging trends.

15 These statistics do not conjunct with the data on poverty seen earlier. The definition of poverty is largely nutrition-based; yet, there is such a divergence between poverty and nutrition. Possible reasons:

1. The main component of food in relatively modest and low-income groups is rice. It provides the necessary calories but not enough proteins, vitamins or minerals/ micro-nutrients, all necessary for healthy human growth.
2. People might get food but not clean potable water: as a result, stomach ailments like diarrhoea do not permit absorption of all or part of the nutrients in the body, particularly among children for whom these nutrients are critical for growth.
3. Clean life habits, which include use of clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) have not become universally popular yet; as a result, people suffer from worms and other parasites in the digestive system, again not permitting the nutrients to get absorbed.
4. The poverty line has been drawn up based on food quantities, habits, and relative prices of different food items prevalent in 1993-1994. Much has changed since, and what people are actually consuming now and in how much quantity, can only be known after an exercise similar to the one carried out in 1993-1994 is carried out all over again. The government is already on the job.

Table 2.3: Child health and nutrition indicators and use of iodised salts

Indicator	2005	2010	2015 (target)
Children aged 0-59 months moderately or severely stunted	43	40	25
Children aged 0-59 months moderately or severely wasted	8	11	6
Children aged 0-59 months moderately or severely underweight	28	28	19
Children aged 15-59 yrs suffering from anaemia	62	55	42
Proportion of households using iodised salt	73	83	90

Note: Stunted: deficient on height to age; Wasted: deficient on height to weight; severe: more than two standard deviations from normal; moderate: more than one standard deviation from normal;

Source: Cambodia Demographic Health Survey 2010

6 This is Target 8 within Goal 1.

This is a regional dimension as well. The Demographic Health Survey of 2010 has published data at a disaggregated, province level, which are reproduced in Table 2.4 below.

Table 2.4: Child health and nutrition across provinces 2010

	Stunted	Wasted	Underweight
Banteay Meanchey	33.4	7.3	17.1
Kampong Cham	46.9	11.8	31.3
Kampong Chhnang	40.3	11.4	30.8
Kampong Speu	42.1	10.2	34.4
Kampong Thom	49.9	11.5	34.4
Kandal	34.9	9.9	24.7
Kratie	47.6	7.1	30.7
Phnom Penh	25.1	11.2	18.5
Prey Veng	34.6	10.9	25.5
Pursat	44.8	13.3	30.5
Siem Reap	50.3	12.3	34.9
Svay Rieng	31.2	12.2	29.7
Takeo	41.3	9.5	31.1
Odtar Meanchey	39.6	17.6	30.5
Battambang/Pailin	26.5	14.4	22.3
Kampot/Kep	43.4	8.9	29.9
Preah Sihanouk/Koh Kong	41.8	9.1	21.8
Preah Vihear/Stung Treng	56.4	8.0	36.8
Mondolkiri/Rattanakiri	54.9	10.3	34.3

Source: Cambodia Demographic Health Survey 2010 (CDHS 2010)

The three indicators of nutritional status vary widely across provinces:

1. The highest rates of underweight children (over 30 percent, weight for age) can be found in Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Speu, Kampong Thom, Kratie, Pursat, Siem Reap, Takeo, Odtar Meanchey, Preah Vihear/Stung Treng and Mondolkiri/Rattanakiri – this is more than half the country;
2. The highest rates of stunted children (over 40 percent height for age) can be found in Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Speu, Kampong Thom, Kratie, Pursat, Siem Reap, Takeo, Kampot/Kep, Preah Sihanouk/Koh Kong, Preah Vihear/Stung, and Mondolkiri/Rattanakiri;
3. The highest rates of wasted children (over 10 percent) can be found in Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Speu, Kampong Thom, Phnom Penh, Prey Veng, Pursat, Siem Reap, Svay Rieng, Odtar Meanchey, Battambang/Pailin, and Mondolkiri/Rattanakiri.

There is little correlation between the three indicators. Also, other than the stunted, the other two are statistically not even correlated with sub-national poverty rates (Figure 2.3). The possible reasons are:

- 1. Stunting is caused by early malnutrition, including foetal malnutrition
- 2. Wasting is caused by various diseases that attack a weak body
- 3. Underweight children are so because of current or chronic malnutrition

It implies that the approaches to address each of these maladies should be different. Put differently, the problem of malnutrition is multi-faceted and requires a multi-pronged solution.

Child labour

The government has adopted one target on labour within the CMDG1 Framework, i.e. to halve the proportion of working-children aged between 5-17 years. In the absence of a repeat Labour Survey after 2001, the General Population Censuses of Cambodia for 1998 and 2008 and the CSES reports of 2004 and 2009 provide the most comprehensive data on age-specific labour participation. However, the population census provides data on groupings of workers between the ages 5-14 years and 15-19 years, from which workers between age group 5-19 years alone can be calculated. Since data on labour participation for age group 18-19 years are not available, it is not possible to compute work participation rates exclusively for population 5-17 years from these grouped data.

Table 2.5: Labour participation rate for persons in age group 15-19 years

Year	5-14 years	15-19 years	5-19 years
1998	2.3%	48.6%	15.4%
2008	3.1%	43.3%	16.8%

Source: General Population Census of Cambodia

Table 2.5 suggests that persons working in the age group 5-14 years are few, in the range 2-3 percent of the population in that age group. However, there was a 0.8 percent increase in the labour participation rate in this age group between 1998 and 2008, which is not desirable. In the age group 15-19 years, there was a distinct reduction

of over five percent in the labour participation rate, but this group includes adults of age group 18-19 years as well. In the age group 5-19 years, there is a slight increase in the labour participation rate. While no firm conclusion can be drawn on child labour from these data, it is evident that there is little sign of child labour reducing significantly, such that it halves by 2015.

Results obtained from CSES 2009 are yet not in public domain. Special tabulations made for this report, however, suggest child labour to be in excess of 30 percent and not falling over time. This confirms the findings from the census.

Challenges in achieving and sustaining CMDG1

To address issues in poverty, malnutrition and social security, the government has announced the National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS), aimed at:

- 1. Addressing basic needs of the poor and vulnerable in situations of emergency and crisis,
- 2. Reducing poverty and vulnerability of children and mothers,
- 3. Reducing seasonal un/underemployment and provide people with livelihoods,
- 4. Promoting affordable health care for the poor and vulnerable, and
- 5. Improving social protection for special vulnerable groups.

The government aims to launch the NSPS in late 2011. If this programme is to be a success, it has to be well funded and a strong Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system requires to be put in place. Also, a cooperation mechanism between different ministries needs to be worked out for it to succeed.

Similar schemes have been implemented in other countries. This programme can mould some of those schemes to the local environment, or at least learn from them.

While most of the targets of Goal1 can be met in a sustainable manner, or at least considerable advances can be made on them, the following conditions need to be satisfied nevertheless:

- 1. The growth in GDP must be maintained at a rate 6.5-7

percent annually for the next four years and beyond.

2. The growth process has to be inclusive: it has to be labour-intensive and regionally dispersed. Typically, it implies further growth and deepening of activities in agriculture, and rapid growth in agro-industries, garments, leather products, light consumer goods, and light engineering products. Additionally, services like value-added tourism must grow. Finally, the growth

process must now emanate from regions that hitherto have not experienced much progress, i.e. the hinterland.

3. Government programmes to strengthen WASH-type activities require scaling up.
4. Social protection measures stated in the NSPS must be followed in full earnest.
5. Child labour requires to be minimised through



Photo: UNDP/Isabelle Lesser



GOAL 2:

ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION



TARGET

Under Goal 2, there are seven targets, namely:

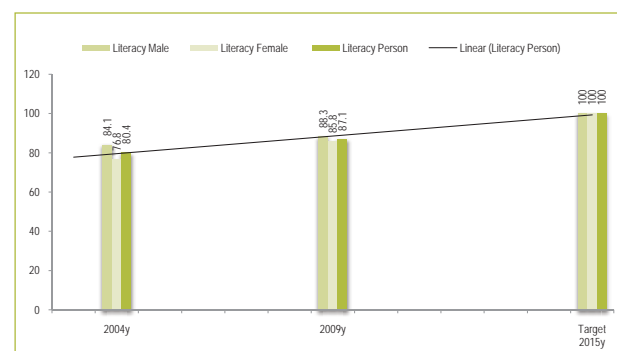
1. Literacy rate in population 15-24 years: 100 percent by 2015
2. Net enrolment ratio in primary education: 100 percent by 2015
3. Proportion of 6-14 year olds out of school: near zero percent by 2015
4. Primary completion rate: up to almost 100 percent by 2015
5. Primary Gender Parity Index: To be between 0.97-1.03 by 2015
6. Primary repetition rate: ≤ 10 percent
7. Primary dropout rate: ≤ 5 percent

FINDINGS

Literacy rates

Literacy rates among populations in the age-group 15-24 years by sex, given in Figure 2.2, suggest that the present rate of increase in literacy might have to be speeded up if the target is to be met. This is particularly for females: literacy among them was below the line in 2009. One positive signal is, as will be seen in the next sub-section, that the primary school enrolment is about 95 percent now. This implies that by the time these children reach 15+ years age group, they will be naturally at least literate. If some 1-2 percent children who have never gone to school manage to acquire some reading and writing skills, then by 2015, the percent literate in the age group 15-24 would be over 96-97 percent, or nearly 100 percent. With some effort, the literacy target, therefore, is within reach.

Figure 2.2: Literacy rates among populations of age 15-24 years



Source: CSES Reports 2004 and 2009

Enrolment, completion and dropout rates at primary levels

The net enrolment rate of over 90 percent at the primary level appears impressive (Table 2.6). ⁷ The gender balance is also maintained: this difference being less than one percent in 2010, and bridged in 2011 (estimate). The primary school level completion rate, however, is slack at about 85 percent (2010 data), and it will require some extra effort to reach the (near) 100 percent completion mark by 2015. ⁸

It appears as if a large number of children enrol but some of them do not attend schools. Since the net attendance rates are more difficult to monitor, to identify who is not attending and why, becomes so much more difficult.

The primary level dropout ratio exceeds 10 percent: 11.3 in rural areas and 5.6 in urban. Detailed statistics obtained from Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MOEYS) show that the key problem is at the Grade One level, where the dropout is about nine percent and repetition rate is almost 13 percent. The completion rates are accordingly lower. The completion rates at Grade 6 suggest that about 10 percent children, who are less than or near about 12 years today, will remain just about able to read/write for the rest of their lives, unless some of them opt for adult education later in their lives.

A section of the society almost never attends school after the first level enrolment. In all probability, they are the poorest and/or remotely located. Seen in terms of CMDG targets, a reduction in dropout rates to zero percent is yet distant.

Next, while education beyond primary education is not in the purview of CMDGs per se, it is critically important in the developmental and human capital perspective. Performance beyond requires a serious intervention according to the MTR Report 2011, of NSDP Update 2009-201.

7 Net enrolment rate refers to the ratio of enrolled children in a specific age group to total children in that age group. In case enrolment is gauged irrespective of the age group, i.e. the numerator contains all children enrolled irrespective of their age, the ratio arrived is the gross enrolment rate.

8 RGC has set this target for 2013, implying that the time left to cover the 15 percent gap is only two years.

Table 2.6: Progress in Primary Education

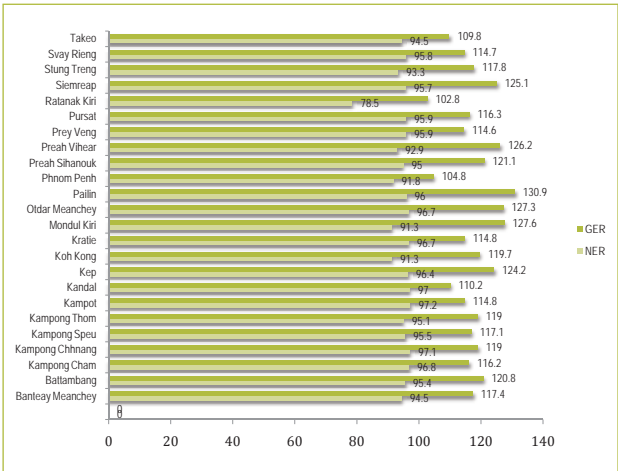
Targets/indicators	Unit	2008	2009	2010	2011 Est.	2012 Target	2013 Target	2015 Target
Net Enrolment Rate in Primary Education								
Person	%	94.4	94.8	95.2	96.0	97.0	98.0	100
Male	%	94.8	95.0	95.8	96.0	97.0	98.0	100
Female	%	94.0	94.6	94.6	96.0	97.0	98.0	100
Completion Rate Grade 6								
Person	%	85.6	83.2	85.3	90.0	95.0	100	
Male	%	85.4	82.8	85.6	90.0	95.0	100	
Female	%	85.7	83.7	85.0	90.0	95.0	100	

Source: MOEYS

Regional pattern

Figure 2.3, which presents a graphic on the gross and net enrolments across provinces for primary level 2010, suggests that the northern/mountainous provinces and the area around the Tonle Sap appear to have lower achievements than the others. Rattanakiri appears to be a particularly poor performer, with Mondolkiri somewhat better. Again at the primary school level, while the NER appears almost similar across provinces, GER has many variations. Evidently, the drive to enrol is uneven across provinces.

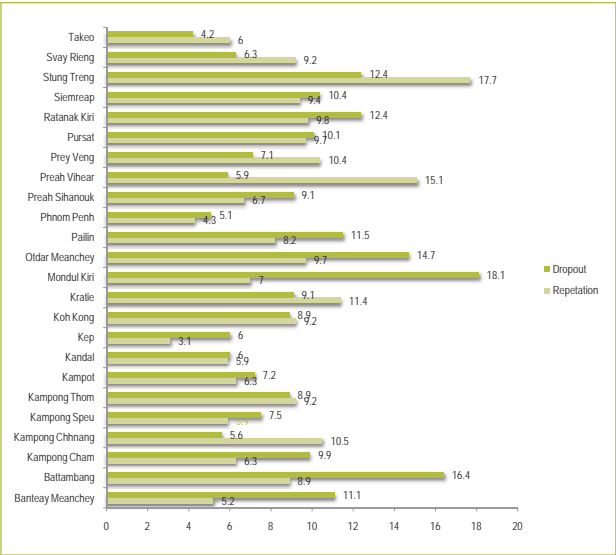
Figure 2.3: Gross and net enrolments across provinces at primary school level (% of children in relevant age groups), 2010



Source: MOEYS

Figure 2.4 suggests wide variations across provinces in dropout and repetition rates at the primary school level. It also suggests that both repetition and dropout rates are serious concerns. Provinces-specific reasons, however, will have to be separately identified in their own context.

Figure 2.4: Repetition and dropout rates (%) across provinces, primary school level, 2010



Source: MOYES

Gender parity

At the primary level, there is a near-gender parity in enrolment rates (Figure 2.5). Seen temporally, there appears to be no discernable trend, either in gross enrolment rates or net

enrolment rates. However, the fact that each of these values is fairly close to unity is a matter of satisfaction.

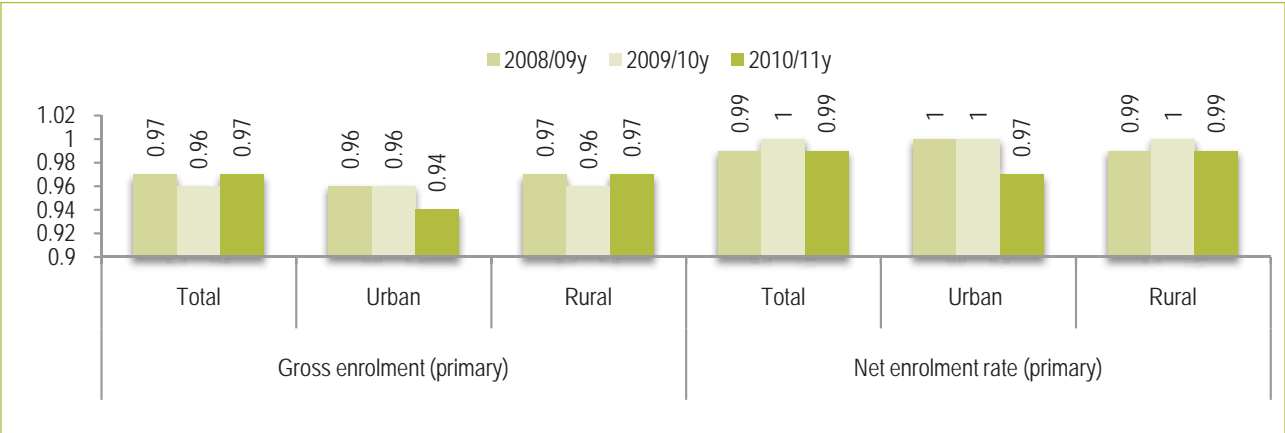
Overall, the CMDG target related to gender parity is already met or is within reach, but then, development targets should not stop at MDGs.

Key problems in effectively extending primary education

On the supply side: Since the early eighties, the numbers of primary schools (and classes therein) have about doubled up to 2010. The numbers of children in the schooling age group have slightly more than doubled. Since Cambodia of the early eighties is not a standard to be measured against—the country was probably at its nadir in modern history—there is a clear suggestion that the number of schools is less than required. Schools are not fully equipped and cost-free for the students, and only a few of them offer a meal, scholarships or other incentives. These problems deter school attendance.

On the demand side: The need for the elder sibling to look after the younger ones, child labour, and non-affordability, are real issues. An important demand side reason, however, is also that the returns to education fructify about only after a person acquires a minimum level of education – say 9-10 years, or acquires technical/specialised skills. The private costs of keeping a child in school for about 10 years or more for poor farmers might be too high as most of them think little beyond one crop season. The problem is compounded when the market for the educated is limited to a very narrow non-farm employment base.

Figure 2.5: Gender parity index in primary education



Source: MOYES

Challenges in achieving and sustaining CMDG2

Public policies

The government has been investing in constructing schools, especially in relatively more remote areas.⁹ In 2009-2010, MOEYS piloted a primary school level scholarship programme in Rattanakiri, Mondolkiri and Preah Vihear, targeting children belonging to ethnic minorities. This programme benefitted 5,132 children. A Bilingual-Education National Action Plan is currently being developed. There has also been progress in improving the curriculum, expanding education in border areas, promoting education among children with disabilities, inducting modern technology, and gender mainstreaming.

MOEYS has conducted a broad-based review of the training needs of teachers, students’ needs, level of child-friendliness of schools, and many other aspects and it intends to use the findings for strengthening policies.

MOEYS has also adopted a new approach to harmonise the government’s and development partners’ support and resources in a single plan. This includes improvement in the management and budgeting system and has space for capacity building.

A bird’s eye view of the some extracts of the policies on primary education could be seen in Box 2.1.

Box 2.1: Extracts of policy measures for next steps in primary education

Extracts of the main policy actions for next stage consist of the following. The purview of some of these might go on to primary education.

- 1. Plan Decentralisation & De-concentration reform in the education sector, build capacity of Provincial Offices of Education (POE) and District Offices of Education (DOE), and respond to local education needs
- 2. Expand early childhood education
- 3. Standardise national assessment of student achievements in Grades 3 and 6
- 4. Operationalise MOEYS’s Medium-Term Capacity Development Plan 2011-2013

⁹ These are ‘complete’ schools. In Cambodia, there are incomplete schools as well: those not having completed structures, other facilities or staff.

- 5. Implement accelerated learning programmes for special targets groups
- 6. Improve implementation of CFS Policy through strengthening DTMTs
- 7. Provide for more primary education scholarships
- 8. Implement the general education curriculum development policy 2010-14
- 9. Construct dormitories

In high probability the CMDG targets on primary enrolment would be met. Next, gender parity is attained or almost attained, but it would have to be maintained. Finally, there are challenges relating to children not completing school, as dropout and repetition rates are high.

Looking beyond CMDGs, it needs iteration that primary school level education is necessary but it is not a sufficient condition for a young person to make a place for oneself in the job market. People must acquire higher levels of education and skills to successfully negotiate their way into labour markets or take up value adding self-employment. In this regard, the performance beyond primary levels requires a quantum shift.





GOAL 3:

PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN



UNDP Photo 2009

TARGET

Since gender appears in many goals, e.g. in education, health employment, and so on, under gender parity, the four targets put forth are:

1. Reduce significantly, gender disparities in upper secondary and tertiary education
2. Eliminate gender disparities in wage employment in all economic sectors
3. Eliminate gender disparities in public institutions, and
4. Reduce significantly, all forms of violence against women and children.

These are then expanded into 16 indicators: the first target is disaggregated into two for secondary and tertiary education, respectively, the second into four indicators for each of the three main sectors and one for the aggregate, and so on. This section presents analysis based on as much information that could be extracted from the Cambodian Statistical System.

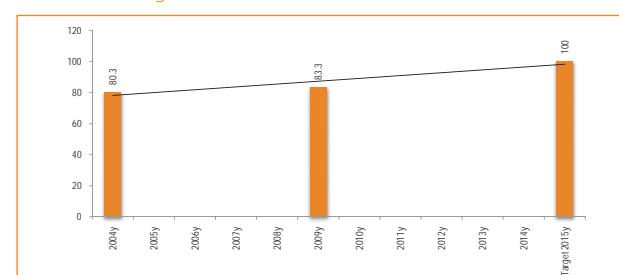
FINDINGS

Upper secondary and tertiary education

That there is a gender gap at almost all levels in education is well known; it is an almost universal phenomenon on the developing world. The key question is, whether the gap is narrowing; and if yes, at what rate?

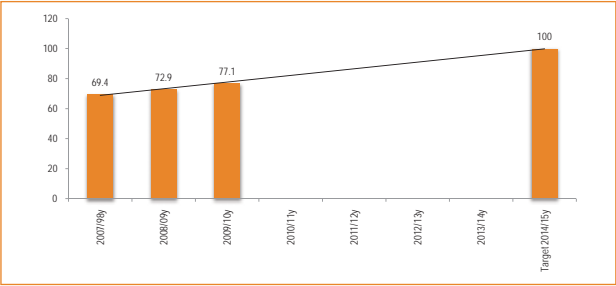
Figure 2.6 shows the ratio of females to males attending school at the upper secondary school level for 2004 and 2009. It suggests that in 2004 the ratio was 80.3 percent, which rose to 83.3 percent in the next 5-6 years. Since the achievement in 2009 falls below the trend line in Figure 2.6, at this rate bridging the gap fully, i.e. reaching 100 percent of the target might not happen by 2015. This shortfall needs attention.

Figure 2.6: Ratio of females to males attending school at upper secondary school level, 2004 and 2009, and the 2015 target (%)



Source: CSES 2004 and 2009

Figure 2.7: Ratio of females to males enrolled in upper secondary school level, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10, and the 2015 target (%)

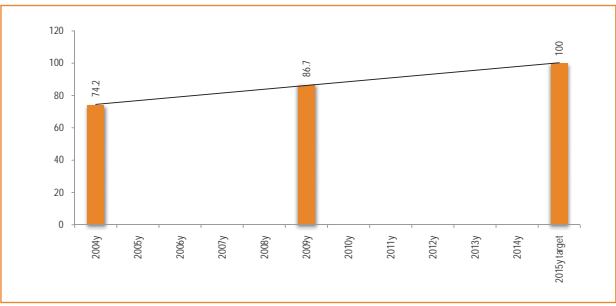


Source: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

Figure 2.7 plots data on the ratio of girls to boys enrolled at the upper secondary school classes for three years, 2007/2008-2009/2010. It suggests that the gender gap in 2009-2010 was in excess of 20 percent. Putting Figures 2.6 and 2.7 together, it appears as if there are much fewer girls enrolling than boys, but those girls who enrol attend classes more regularly. When seen from the CMDG perspective, the targets remain somewhat illusive.

Data on the ratio of females to males attending tertiary education for 2004 and 2009, seen in Figure 2.8 suggest a more heartening picture. The progress is on track and the target is likely to be reached. However, there is a catch here, though it is unrelated to CMDGs. Only about 3-4 percent of persons in the age groups 15-24 years participate in tertiary education. Additionally, most students enrol in disciplines other than science and engineering. First, the numbers are too small, and second, the subjects, important as they are, do not help fill in the human capital gap that the country faces, i.e. in science and technology.

Figure 2.8: Ratio of females to males attending school at tertiary level, 2004 and 2009, and the 2015 target (%)



Source: CSES 2004 and 2009

Wage employment

An agrarian economy transiting towards a market economy initially has large proportions of workers engaged in subsistence activities (both as self-employed workers or unpaid workers). Persons in these categories of work, especially the unpaid family workers, could also be underemployed or fully unemployed for part of the year, but this component remains concealed in large-scale surveys. In general, these workers are engaged in low productivity jobs. With a maturing of the (labour) markets, wage/salary labour begins to emerge.¹⁰ The Cambodian authorities consider female workers participating in the labour force as salaried/ wage employees in larger proportions as a sign of progress. The CMDG target is that there is parity between males and females in this ratio: i.e. the proportion of female wage/ salary employees to total wage/salary employees in each of the three broad sectors is the same as that of males. Data on these, obtained from CSES for 2004 and 2009, are given in Table 2.7 below:

Table 2.7: Percentage of Female Wage Employment to Total Wage Employment, by Sector

	2004	2009
Female wage employment to total wage employment (%) – agriculture	50.5	49.2
Female wage employment to total wage employment (%) – industry	47.6	47.6
Female wage employment to total wage employment (%) – services	30.7	32.5
Female wage employment to total wage employment (%) – total	40.1	42.2

Source: CSES, 2004 and 2009

On aggregate, the proportion of female employees to total employees was 42.2 percent in 2009, which is about eight percentage-points lower than the 2015 target. The shift between 2004 and 2009 has been glacial. Seen sector-wise, in the agricultural sector the target has almost been reached, and in industry it is quite close to reaching. In the event that the garment sector grows rapidly, this target is within reach. It is in services that the proportion is considerably less. It is not that there are fewer women in services; on the contrary, proportionately there are many more. But they are in self-employment, as this sector is presently quite fragmented,

10 Wage/salary work is a more efficient method of labour deployment since there is an actual payout, which can only be sustained if there is commensurate productivity.

dominated by small and tiny establishments. Seen from the CMDG perspective, this gap might be somewhat off-track, but a definitive statement cannot be made for reasons relating to definitions and coverage of different surveys (see Appendix 2).

Beyond CMDGs, the more serious challenge is to create for women workers to shift women out of self-employment and unpaid family work into wage/salaried employment. Data from the Census of 1998 suggest that only about seven percent of the female workers were then engaged in wage/salaried employment. This proportion rose to about 14 percent in 2008, implying that well over 80 percent of them are in self-employment and unpaid family work, most of it in the informal sector.

Women in politics and public services

Women in the legislature: Women’s seats in the National Assembly have increased steadily from one National Assembly Mandate to the next. In 1993, women occupied five percent of the seats, which increased to 19 percent in 2003 and to 22 percent in 2008. The proportion of female senators increased from 13 percent in 2003 to 15 percent in 2008. The target of 30 in each case, however, is yet to be achieved.

Women as members of the government: RGC has been appointing women officials in positions of decision-making, as seen from the fact that a woman now holds a deputy prime minister’s post, and two women are ministers. However, this is still short of the target of 15 ministers. Some 16 women are secretaries of state (target 18), and 31 women are under-secretaries of state (target 20 – exceeded).

Women in the public administration: In 2009, the Royal Government issued a guideline to all line ministries/ institutions, setting a quota of 20-50 percent for women among new recruits. Consequently, the proportion of women civil servants increased from 32 percent in 2008 to 34 percent in 2011.

Women in decision-making at the Sub-National Level: Women representatives have been appointed vice-governors of cities, provinces, towns, and districts/khans. There are 24

female vice-governors (20 percent of the total) today, thus the target of 15 percent is exceeded.

Women in Decision-making at the Commune Level: In the commune level elections of 2007, a total of 1,662 women were elected, which formed 14.2 percent of the total elected members (target – 25 percent).

The Royal Government is developing a capacity-building programme to assist women at the sub-national level, particularly for the newly nominated women, so that they participate fully in democratic development.

Violence against women

Violence against women and children has reduced as a result of awareness raising and enforcement of national laws and international convention (CEDAW). There is improvement in the enforcement of Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence and Protection of Victims, and Law on Suppression of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation. In 2009, the National Action Plan on Prevention of Violence against Women was adopted. The Ministry of Women’s Affairs (MOWA) conducted a follow-up survey on Violence against Women to track the progress.

This survey suggests that the percentage of Cambodians who understand that ‘violence against women’ is a wrongful behaviour and crime, increased from a much lower figure in 2005 to 80 percent in 2009, which is higher than the CMDG 2015 target of 70 percent (Table 2.8).

Table 2.8: Indicators of violence or measures to mitigate violence against women

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 Target	2013 Target	2015 Target
Level of awareness that violence against women is a crime (%)	30	80	80	80	80	70	70
Number of protection orders issued by courts based the Law on Protection of Domestic Violence and the Protection of Victims	10	8	14	7	10	120	120
Number of victims of domestic violence who received counselling by qualified personnel	600	452	391	185	360	900	2,000

Source: MOWA

Challenges in achieving and sustaining CMDG3

Some of the tasks yet to be completed are:

1. Economic empowerment: Women in the informal economy have received relatively less attention. There should be effort to raise protection levels to them, provide them with financial support, and improve their business skills.
2. Education: Girls' school dropout rates remain high, particularly in the higher grades despite recent progress. Reason: their early induction in the workforce. Effort should be made to improve the

3. Legal protection: Prevention of rape, support, and counselling services for victims, have been limited because of lack of training and awareness-raising on domestic violence; these have been carried out only in select areas; not nationwide. This aspect needs attention.
4. Public administration and decision-making: Despite RGC's effort to reduce gender disparities, there is no female provincial/city governor, and the proportions of female ministers, secretaries of state, and directors-general are yet few.

Women's position, whether in education, technical skills or public life, is yet weaker compared to that of men in Cambodia. It implies that the struggle for gender equity must continue.



Photo: UNDP/ Arantxa Cedillo



GOAL 4:

REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY



Photo: UNDP/ Arantxa Cedillo

TARGET

There are six targets under this goal, grouped into four:

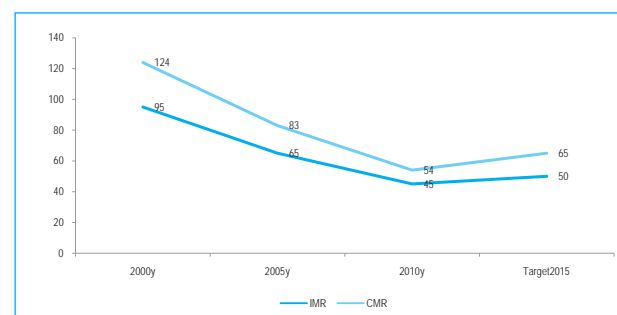
1. Reducing infant mortality rate (IMR) by half between 1998 and 2015
2. Reducing Under5 (U5) child mortality rate (CMR) by half between 1998 and 2015
3. More than 90 percent children are vaccinated by 2015
4. Up to 70 percent infants up to six months are breast-fed

FINDINGS

Infant/child mortality rate

There has been remarkable progress in reducing child mortality rate in Cambodia. The three Cambodia Demographic Health Surveys (CDHS) of 2000, 2005 and 2010, respectively, suggest a sharp reduction in IMR between 2000 and 2010 (Figure 2.9). This is to the extent that the CMDG target has been met five years in advance. This is a remarkable achievement for a low-income, post-conflict economy. The IMR target was set in 1998 based on calculations made from the Population Census conducted in that year. IMR according to the census calculations was 124 in 1998. The Statistical Authorities in the country now feel that 'dedicated health surveys' like the CDHS can yield better results compared to population censuses.¹¹

Figure 2.9: Trends in IMR, 2000, 2005 and 2010, and the 2015 target



Source: CDHS, 2000, 2005 and 2010

Figure 2.9 further suggests that reduction in CMR has been equally impressive: again, the CMDG target has been reached five years in advance. The CDHS report of 2010 suggests

11 See General Population Census of Cambodia 2008 – National Report on FINAL CENSUS RESULTS, NIS, Phnom Penh, Pg. 115. The Population Census of 2008 places IMR at 60 per 1,000 live births.

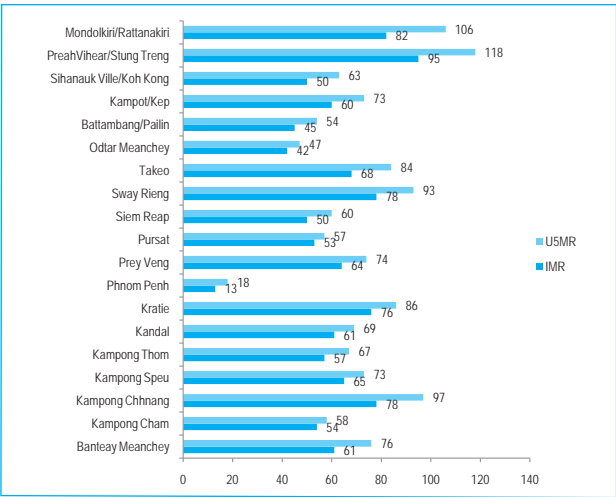
that there has been an all-round improvement in prenatal and post-natal care, which could be a strong reason for the fall in IMR and CMR. For example, the percentage of babies delivered by a health professional increased from 44 percent in 2005 to 71 percent in the 2010. The proportion of babies delivered at a health facility more than doubled during the same period, from 22 percent in 2005 to 54 percent in 2010. The progress has been particularly high in urban areas, where 86 percent of the babies were delivered in a health facility compared to less than 50 percent in rural areas. Education of women has also played a major role in them seeking modern medical assistance during pregnancy and delivery.

Figure 2.10 presents a provincial picture of the state of IMR and U5MR across provinces. It is evident that the national average conceals a lot: there are many provinces which are some distance away from the CMDG 2015 target; more so, in the north and in some provinces around the Tonle Sap. The regional disparity is an indication of the unfinished task.

Vaccination of children

A child is considered fully vaccinated if s/he has received vaccination against tuberculosis; receives three doses of DPT vaccine to prevent diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis; receives at least three doses of polio vaccine; and receives one dose of measles vaccine. These vaccinations should be administered during the first year of the infant's life. Since 2006, the Cambodian National Immunisation Programme has replaced DPT vaccines with a Tetravalent Vaccine (it includes DPT and HepB). Since 2010, the authorities introduced DPT and Hemophilus Influenza Type B Vaccine (Hib), and a pentavalent vaccine that includes DPT, Hib, and Hepatitis type B vaccine (HepB).

Figure 2.10: IMR and U5MR, 2010, provincial picture



Source: CDHS 2010

CDHS 2010 reports that four out of five (i.e. ~79 percent) children in the age group 12-23 months are fully vaccinated. This result is a considerable betterment over 2005, when it was reported that only 67 percent children in this age group were fully vaccinated. Ninety percent or more of children received BCG vaccines, two doses of tetravalent or pentavalent, and two doses of polio vaccines (CMDG 2015 target for DPT3: 95 percent). The proportion of children receiving the third dose of tetravalent vaccine or pentavalent vaccine and polio vaccine was 85 percent. More than 93 percent children received Hepatitis B vaccinations (CMDG 2010 target: 95 percent).¹² However, only 82 percent of the children received measles vaccination (CMDG target: 95 percent).

Full vaccination coverage varies by mother's education. It is low at 58 percent among children whose mothers have no education, relatively high at 80 percent among children whose mothers have obtained primary education, and 88 percent among children whose mothers have secondary and higher education. Full coverage is higher in urban areas (86 percent) compared to rural areas (77 percent). In short, a lot depends on mothers' education and location: well known results, yet again reiterated by these data. The message is clear: women need education for health and family welfare as well, and not just for the job markets.

Seen in terms of CMDG 2015 targets, all indicators are either met or are on their way to being met.

Exclusive breast-feeding

Exclusive breastfeeding is becoming common in Cambodia, with 74 percent children under the age six months being exclusively breastfed. This is a significant increase in the practice compared to 2005, when the then CDHS reported this to be about 60 percent. Exclusive breast-feeding reduces as a child grows and by age six months most breastfed children also receive complementary foods in addition to breast milk. Bottle-feeding is not very common in Cambodia, but it has slightly increased since 2005: 14 percent of children under six months have been fed with a bottle compared to 11 percent in 2005. Seen in terms of CMDG 2015 target, it is already met.

Up to 95 percent children born in the five years preceding the survey having been breastfed at some time. Children ever-breast-fed, ranges from 87 percent in Monduliri and Rattanakiri (low), to 99 percent in Svay Rieng (high). About

12 Hepatitis B vaccination is given at age 0 year. It is the same as HepB.

two-thirds of breast-fed children are breast-fed within one hour of their birth (65 percent) and 89 percent within one day of their birth. One in five breast-fed children are given a pre-lacteal feed, that is, something other than breast milk during the first three days of life. Early initiation of breastfeeding is more common among children whose mothers were assisted by trained personnel at delivery.

Challenges in achieving and sustaining CMDG5

2.74 Health had been among the more worrying factors in Cambodia until recently. However, the most recent results

show that a great deal of progress has been made, to the extent that all the CMDG targets relating to the child have been met. Children are surviving in larger proportions, government programmes are doing their job, and so on. However, the inter-provincial variation points out the need to bridge the regional gaps. Solutions to provincial level problems, however, would emerge only at the provincial level. The greater challenge is to sustain the gains made in the recent past.





GOAL 5:

IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH



Photo: UNDP/ Arantxa Cedillo

TARGET

Six indicators represent maternal health in the CMDGs:

1. Maternal mortality ratio (mortality per 100,000 live births) – 2015 target: 250
2. Total fertility rate – 2015 target: 3
3. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel – 2015 target: 87
4. Proportion of married women using birth-spacing methods – 2015 target: 60
5. Proportion of pregnant women with two or more ANC with skilled health personnel – 2015 target: 90
6. Proportion of pregnant women delivering by Caesarean Section – 2015 target: 4

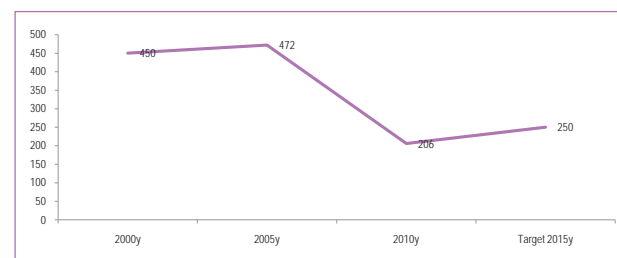
FINDINGS

Maternal mortality rate (MMR)

The MMR target, like other health/demographic targets, was set in 1998 based on the population census conducted that year. MMR was earlier calculated from the Population Census of 1998, and it stood at 437 per 100,000 live births. Since the base year was 1998 and not 1990, the target set for 2015 was to reduce it to 250.

Since 2000, a CDHS is conducted every five years, and being a survey dedicated to demographic/health issues, it is considered more reliable for calculating MMR, IMR and such indicators: this has been clarified in a footnote earlier in this report this report.

Figure 2.11: MMR, 2000-2010



Source: CDHS, 2000, 2005 and 2010

Figure 2.11 shows MMR computed from the CDHS reports of 2000, 2005 and 2010, and the target for 2015. The estimate for 2005 is actually higher than that in 2000: perhaps, a reason lies in the fuller coverage of the latter survey. Estimates for both 2000 and 2005 exceed 400, a rather high figure in absolute

terms. However, there has been a dramatic reduction in 2010, to the extent that the CMDG target has already been met five years in advance.

Part of the reason for this improvement is the increased penetration of modern health facilities and services. Government data suggest that the proportion of births assisted by skilled health personnel rose from 63 percent in 2009 to 69.6 percent in 2010. Next, the proportion of deliveries at public health facilities increased from 44 percent in 2009 to 52.1 percent in 2010. Surely, these steps would have ensured that the expecting mothers are safer.¹³

Total fertility rate

The total fertility rate (TFR) is the number of children that would be born to a woman over her lifetime if she were to experience the currently prevalent age-specific fertility rates through her lifetime, and that she would survive until the end of her reproductive life. If this number is large, it would imply that the woman is engaged in reproductive activities much of her time, which is detrimental to her economic or other engagements. Additionally, repeated pregnancies result in poor health and even early death of mothers. The CMDG target for 2015 has been fixed at 3.

Figure 2.12: Total fertility rates



Source: CDHS 2000, 2005 and 2010

2.81 Figure 2.12 suggests that there has been a steady fall in the TFR in the last decade, 2000-2010. While the TFR has been relatively slow to fall in rural areas, in urban areas it has rapidly decreased. Overall, the CMDG target has been met five years in advance. However, in terms of public policy, the rural-urban gap needs attention.

Other reproductive health related issues

Of all married women in the age group 15-49 years, in 2000, 19 percent were currently using modern birth-spacing methods. This proportion increased to 27 percent in 2005 and further to 35 percent in 2010. Linear projections independently suggest that the CMDG 2015 target of 41 is well in sight. The issue, however, is that 41 percent is not high enough; this target needs revision.

Pregnant women receiving at least two ANC consultations was 83 percent in 2009, 80 percent in 2010, and an estimated 41 percent of the whole year's expected pregnancies in the first six months of 2011. In absolute terms, these are good numbers, though there has been no improvement in the three years under consideration. The CMDG 2015 target should be met if the pace increased a bit.

Increase in C-Section deliveries suggests that there is recognition of possible complications and health risk to mothers and the foetus, and facilities have been created for conducting operations. The proportion of deliveries by C-Section to all deliveries increased from 1.4 percent to two percent against a target of four percent. A caution in interpretation needs mention here: pregnancy and childbirth are natural processes. A C-Section approach is resorted to only in the case of complications. Hence, this target has to be interpreted with care.

Challenges in achieving and sustaining CMDG5

MMR and TFR targets appear to have been met in advance. Others are on their way to be met, if the present trend continues. This performance is exceeding commendable for a low-income country. The key issue is to sustain this performance.

Perhaps, the performance of the health sector requires detailed documentation, so that other countries at similar levels of development, which are still grappling with some of these targets, can draw some lessons from Cambodia. Also, there is scope to revise some of the targets.

13 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel is unto itself a CMDG target. It appears to be on track.



GOAL 6:

COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES



Photo: UNICEF/John Vink/Magnum 2007

TARGET

The three main diseases that the RGC has brought under the purview of CMDGs are HIV/AIDS, malaria (including dengue) and tuberculosis. The targets are as below:

1. Decrease the prevalence of HIV/AIDS to 0.4 percent in the adult population
2. Decrease the prevalence of malaria and dengue to 0.8 percent in the population
3. Decrease the prevalence of tuberculosis to 626 per 100,000 population

FINDINGS

HIV/AIDS

The 2002 National Human Development Report of Cambodia, which focused on HIV/AIDS, painted a fairly grim picture of the spread of the disease. In 1998 the proportion of persons who seemed to have contracted HIV was in near about two percent.

Table 2.9: Progress and targets in key diseases

		2008	2009	2010	2015 target
HIV prevalence	% Adults 15-49	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.4
Malaria case fatality rate reported by public health facilities	%	2.1	1.8	0.8	0.8
Prevalence of all forms of TB	Per 100,000 population	697	693	681	626

Source: Ministry of Health

The situation is now under control: spread of HIV has considerably declined in the last decade, it being in the range 0.7 percent among adults aged 15-49 years (Table 2.9). Fifty-one Operational Districts in 21 provinces now offer treatment for opportunistic infections and provide Anti-retroviral (ARV) services. Thirty-two sites provide paediatric care. Ninety percent of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA), currently using ARV treatment, have survived at least 12 months after the treatment, compared to 86 percent in 2009. The number of voluntary confidential counselling and testing (VCCT) sites available in referral hospitals and sites in health centres increased from 212 in 2008 to 233 in 2009, and were 239 in 2010, as per data available from the Ministry of Health (MOH).

A caution: MOH, however, warns that according to a new report, HIV/AIDS will increase four-fold if further actions to prevent its spread are not put into place. The likely affected groups are those engaged in entertainment activities, practise MSM or inject narcotic substances. Drug resistance is also developing in treating HIV/AIDS.

Malaria, dengue and others

2.90 Malaria and dengue, both caused by mosquitoes, are much under control now compared to the earlier years. Fatality from dengue was small at 0.30 percent in the population in 2010 and from malaria at about one percent (Table 2.9). For controlling malaria and other mosquito-bite related diseases, the government distributed 997,609 chemically treated mosquito nets to people living in high prevalence areas in addition to chemically treating 94,740 nets already in use, during the period 2009-2011. Next, between June 2009 and September 2010, there were 760 cases of A(H1N1) infection reported; tragically, six succumbed to the disease. Thus, while effort has been made to control germ/bacteria-carried diseases, it will have to be sustained and deepened to make a lasting impact.

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis, a disease largely associated with poverty and malnutrition (though it is bacteria-carried), has not shown much reduction in its incidence (Table 2.9). In fact, the earlier target for tuberculosis prevalence was 464 per 100,000 populations, which is now revised upwards. At the same time, the RGC has scaled up the use of DOTS for treating tuberculosis at the community level. In 2008, 506 health centres provided this service; in 2009, 744 centres provided it; and in 2010, 839 centres provided it. A public-private partnership programme provides for treatment of tuberculosis in 39 districts in 11 provinces. Whether the CMDG 2015 target will be met, depends much upon how the programmes are intensified and also how conditions of poverty and malnutrition are alleviated.

Infrastructure and resources

Twelve new health centres have been set up along the border with Preah Vihear, Bantey Meanchey, and Odtar Meanchey.

Poor people being covered by equity funds and concessions for health care increased from 73 percent of the population in 2009 to 77 percent in 2010. Implementation of the law too has become stricter. Illegal pharmacies and drug stores sharply declined from 38.5 percent of the total in 2009 to 5.4 percent in 2010. Similarly, illegal private health providers declined from 28 percent of all private health service providers to seven percent in the same period.

Challenges in achieving and sustaining CMDG6

2.93 In the future, the National AIDS Authority, based on strategic effort and comprehensive and multi-sectoral participation from different stakeholders, will attempt to achieve its targets stated in the National Strategic Plan (NSP III). The AIDS III (2011-2015) will be implementing the following key strategies: further expand the coverage and include the target groups better, offer services for effective prevention, improve care and treatment, mitigate the impact of the disease, create an enabling environment, and mobilise resources. NSP III is expected to control the HIV epidemic, carried both through sexual transmission and MSM and drug users. Achieving and sustaining the HIV/AIDS-related CMDG target of 2015, however, depends much upon how successful the different programmes remain for the next four years and beyond. Additionally, a lot of effort will be required in terms of prevention, as the economy is poised to make substantive leaps in tourism as well as migration of workers, each of which is associated with this dreaded disease.

Forest-based villages have maximum incidence of malaria and dengue. If these people are provided livelihood opportunities in plain/open areas and encouraged to resettle there, it would serve the dual purpose of not having the disease and also improved livelihoods.

The government needs more resources to expand the physical infrastructure and medical facilities, and upgrade the medical technology. At the same time, trained human power is required to serve in public health facilities. Public provision also needs strengthening to reach out to the poor, again for which resources are needed.

14 It is well known that people living in forest-based villages are among the poorest.



GOAL 7:

ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



Photo: UNDR/ Arantxa Cedillo

TARGET

Under this CMDG the major targets are:

1. Reverse the loss of environmental resources
2. Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who do not have access to potable water supply
3. Increase the proportion of people having security of land tenure
4. Reduce use of wood fuel for cooking to 52 percent of the population.

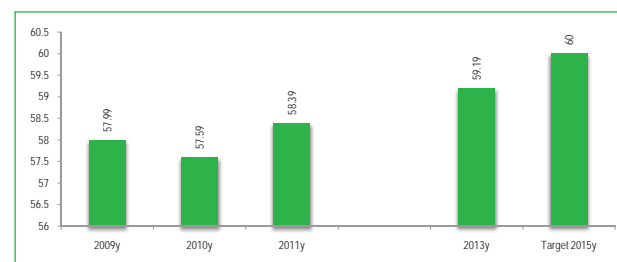
Keeping in view the importance of Target 1, forest and water are separately discussed.

FORESTS

Forest Cover

In the 1960s, Cambodia is believed to have over 70 percent of its area under forests. Since the 1990s, forest was one of the few 'real resources', which the country possessed in the commercial sense; consequently, deforestation began. This has affected inland water availability as well, a situation that the government is acutely aware of. It is attempting to address the problem now.

Figure 2.13: Current area under forest and future proposals



Source: Mid-term Review of the NSDP Update 2009-2013

Between 1990 and 2010, Cambodia lost an average of 142,500 ha or 1.1 percent of forest-cover per year. A national forest cover assessment conducted in 2006 found that the total forest-cover had decreased from 61.2 percent in 2002 to 59.1 percent in 2006. This represented a loss by conversion of 373,510 ha of forest, a rate of loss of about 93,000 ha per year, due to expansion of agriculture and other commercial plantations. The Forestry Administration (FA) estimated that the forest cover in 2010 was about 58 percent (Figure 2.13). The FA further reports that Cambodia has 66,000 ha of planted forest.

It is estimated that Cambodia's forests contain 464 million metric tonnes of carbon in living forest biomass. The country has some 775 known species of amphibians, birds, mammals and reptiles, according to figures from the World Conservation Monitoring Centre. Of these, 1.4 percent species do not exist in any other country. Some 7.7 percent species are threatened with extinction. Some 20.5 percent of Cambodia is protected under the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Categories I-V.

Most of the deforestation has happened in the northwest and northeast provinces. Some losses have occurred in the protected areas, though these are smaller in scale and have occurred over a much longer period.

Environment is high on the government's list of priorities. The Prime Minister stated recently, '...development with environmental sustainability is the key goal of Cambodia and (other) countries in the region.'¹⁵ Cambodian authorities have resolved to maintain the forest cover at 60 percent of total land area. This is also the CMDG 2015 target. To achieve this level, the Government plans to reinforce the protection and management of forests, decrease the pressure on forests by improving farming techniques, reduce dependence on fuelwood, and engage in an active programme of forest rehabilitation and reforestation, including commercial plantations.

Protected areas in forests ¹⁶

The government has identified protected areas (PA) and community-protected areas (CPA) as a part of its environmental protection strategy. Its current protection system includes 23 Protected Areas (PAs) totalling 3.1 million ha (Table 2.10). This amounts to about 27 percent of the country's total land area, one of the highest levels in the world. Data on these are given in Table 2.10. The area under '23 protected areas' is expected to stabilise in the coming years and community-protected areas are on the rise. The 2015 targets are well within reach or already met. These are positive signals.

Table 2.10: Environmental Sustainability – Forestry Development Indicators

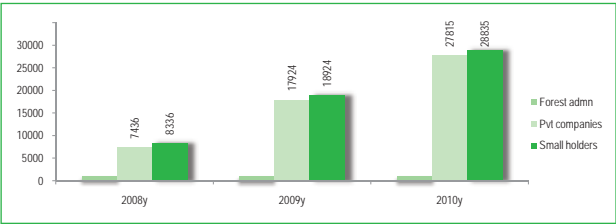
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 Target	2013 Target	2015 Target
Surface of 23 Protected Areas	Ha	3,100,199	3,100,199	3,111,041	3,111,041	3,111,041	3,111,041	3,111,041
Community Protected Areas	Nos	82	84	98	110	115	120	140

Source: MOE

Efforts to reforest

On the flip side, forests are under severe pressure from illegal logging and encroachment, and in some cases economic land concessions. About 350,000 ha land has been allocated to economic land concessions in Protected Areas, effectively reducing the total PA surface to less than three million ha.

Figure 2.14: Reforestation efforts



Source: MAFF

The Ministry of Environment (MOE) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) jointly promote forests in Cambodia. In 2008, the Government adopted a new law for PAs classifying forests into four zones: core, conservation, sustainable use and multiple-use. The MOE is now mapping and defining these four zones in each of the areas.

If Cambodia manages to reforest rapidly, it might become a net absorber of carbon dioxide. RGC is committed to help contain climate change and has become a signatory to the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol. This makes Cambodia eligible for carbon trading under the Kyoto Protocol and other market mechanisms, including voluntary mechanisms. All this can fetch the country substantial revenues. To achieve this in

15 Prime Minister's Opening Speech at the Third Greater Mekong Sub-region Environment Ministers' Meeting, July 28, 2011, Phnom Penh. Quote taken from MTR of the NSDP Update 2009-2013.
16 Seen historically, in 1925, Cambodia became the first country in South-East Asia to establish a protected area.

a limited timeframe, however, the government reforestation programmes must take lead. Thus the composition of responsibilities shown in Figure 2.14 must change.

Support measures

The government has undertaken a number of measures in the environment sector. Among them, the most important ones are the legal component and capacity building. A number of laws are being passed to protect the environment and make sustainable use of natural resources, specifically the inland fresh water resources. Officials are being sent for training and studies. Environmental impact assessment of commercial projects is being made compulsory before clearances are given. Finally, a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System to monitor the environment is being put in place, and a database on environment is in the offing.

Water and fish

Fisheries underwent a major transformation in Cambodia after reforms were introduced in 2000. These included both, the establishment of Community Fisheries, and the release of fishing lots from large-scale fishing operations (which were then given to be managed by family/small-scale fisherpersons through community control). Seventy-eight fishing lots were completely released and 81 partly released, resulting in a total area of 541,206 ha (out of total 953,740 ha, i.e. 56.7 percent) released for family/small-scale fishing, by September 2010.

The number of community fisheries gradually increased from 246 in 2002 to 469 in 2010, covering an area of 683,734 ha. However, only 236 of them, covering an area of 553,438 ha, are registered. The 2015 target has been adjusted to 470, as there is little room for further expansion, and it will be achieved when all communities 470 are registered. The registration of community fisheries is now under way.

In addition, 390 Community Fish Refuges covering 1,170 ha, and 335 fish sanctuaries covering 46,618 ha, have been established. The establishment of fish sanctuaries is on track to meet the 2015 CMDG target.

In 2010, the Fisheries Administration succeeded in all sub-sectors: preparing regulatory legal instruments, strengthening community fisheries, establishing community fish refuge ponds, developing aquaculture, undertaking research, conserving, suppressing illegal fishing practices, and fisheries

extension work. A Royal Decree, Sub-decrees, Prakas and technical orders have been drafted, reviewed, revised and approved, to ensure sustainable management of fisheries.

On the economic side, the total catch of inland fish was 405,000 tonnes, an increase of 3.85 percent over 2009. Among the reasons for the slow growth in the fish catch is a set conservation measures that the government has put in place.¹⁷ This was partly compensated by marine fish catch, which was 85,000 tonnes: an increase of 40.5 percent over the last five years (average). Production of fish under culture was 59,935 tonnes, and shrimp 65 tonnes. The NSDP Update 2009-2013 targets have been fully met. In aquaculture production, when compared to 2009, there was an increase of 20 percent. Crocodile farming was of 283,000 heads (exceeding the target of 200,000). The production of fish fingerling was 110,440,000 heads, exceeding the target of 80,000,000 heads. Close collaboration between local authorities, concerned institutions, and other organisations to support community development and management of fish and community fish refuge ponds has helped the sector to grow and support rural people’s livelihoods. The Prime Minister had once said that “where there water there is fish”. This is coming to be true.

Water and sanitation

Clean water and proper sanitation, it is widely maintained, are central to achieving MDGs anywhere. The government, therefore, has made it a priority.

In the case of rural drinking water supply, the CMDG target for 2015 is to reach 50 percent of the population, which is on its way to be met with some extra effort (Table 2.11). The CMDG target for 2015 for rural sanitation is 33 percent. Meeting this target by 2015, however, will require the pace to become quicker, given that the annual pace of increase has been only one percent in the recent years.

Table 2.11: Water and sanitation – percentages of the population covered

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2015 target
Water – rural areas	40.5	42.2	43.5	43.9	50
Sanitation – rural areas	23.2	24.2	25.3	26.0	33
Water – urban areas		76.0			80
Sanitation – urban areas		84.0			74

Source: Mid-term Review, MTR

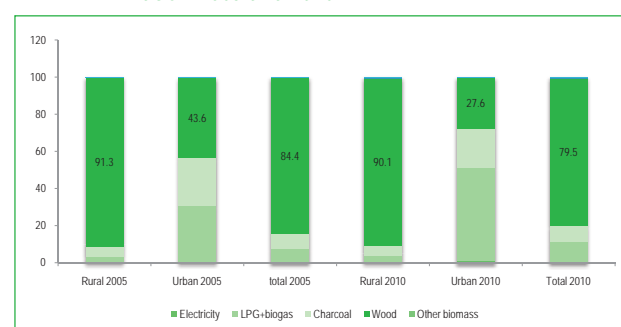
17 The deteriorating ecology in the larger region is impacting Cambodia as well. The fish catch in the Tonle Sap region is not as rich as one would have expected it to be some years ago.

The CMDG target for 2015 relating to urban drinking water is to increase the proportion of urban population, having access to safe water to 80 percent. The proportion of urban population with access to safe water was about 76 percent in 2009; at this level, there appears no problem meeting the CMDG target of 80 percent. Next, the CMDG target for 2015 for sanitation in urban areas is to increase the proportion of population having access to improved sanitation to 74 percent by 2015. The proportion of urban population with access to improved sanitation was about 84 percent in 2009, implying that the CMDG target has been achieved in advance.

Cooking fuel

Firewood and/or charcoal, the traditional sources of cooking, are now deemed ecologically harmful in view of the emerging threats of global warming. It must be recognised that woodstoves, even the efficient ones, are quite wasteful in burning fuel. Additionally, the smoke can be harmful to the eyes and the respiratory systems of those who cook. Charcoal is a partially combusted form of wood. The process of making charcoal burns part of the carbon uselessly, resulting in an avoidable contribution to greenhouse gases.

Figure 2.15: Percentage population using different cooking fuels – 2005 and 2010



Source: CDHS, 2005 and 2010. Figures seen from Population Census and CSES are similar. Percentages are given only for firewood, as it is very small for others.

In Cambodia, one of the main pressures on its forests is the continuing high level of firewood dependency. According to the CDHS, there were some 84 percent households dependent on firewood for cooking in 2005, which came down to 79.5 percent according to CDHS 2010 (Figure 2.15). The Population Census figures for 1998 to 2008 suggest that domestic firewood dependency decreased from 90.4 percent of households to 83.6 percent over the decade. CSES generate similar figures. If charcoal is included in firewood consumption, the figure further rises to exceed 90 percent. Each of these figures is far more than the CMDG requirement of reaching 52 percent by 2015.

The Ministry of Mines, Industry and Energy (MIME), using alternative measures of firewood consumption, estimates the number of households using firewood for cooking at 73 percent of the total households in 2008. It projects that this proportion be 54 percent in 2013. The method and data used, however, need greater scrutiny.

On the positive side, one million cook stoves have been produced since 2003, saving an estimated 5,000 ha of forest over the same period. In the longer term, the government is pursuing a strategy of rural electrification, supplemented by various small-scale renewable energy schemes like the use of bio-fuels. Planting fast-growing trees for firewood is also an option being pursued.

Tenure security for land

The government, through the Ministry of Land Management and Urban Construction (MLMUC), has given out 1,770,987 land titles to people (estimate until the first semester of 2011) in 16 provinces, through systematic titling. The provinces where these have been given out are Phnom Penh, Preah Sihanouk, Kandal, Kampot, Takeo, Kampong Thom, Prey Veng, Kampong Cham, Kampong Speu, Siem Reap, Kampong Chhnang, Pursat, Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, Kep, and Svay Rieng. Another 599,506 titles have been given out through sporadic land titling. The total titles given out thus were 2,370,493. The rate of farmland registration, measured by the percentage of total plots registered per year to total plots, has risen secularly, from 22 percent in 2009 to 24 percent in 2010, and 28 percent in 2011 (estimate). The aim is to reach 43 percent by 2015, revised downwards from the earlier target of 65 percent. To achieve this also, the progress will have to be faster than the present rate.

The registration of indigenous people's community lands is complete in three target pilot areas: first in Andong Kraling village, Orang Ov district in Mondolkiri, and the second and third in Ochum district and Konmom district respectively, in Rattanakiri. To strengthen the capacity for implementing both systematic and sporadic titling, MLMUC has conducted courses for training its officials.

Challenges in achieving and sustaining CMDG7

Preserving forests, water and environment are central to sustainable development. For reasons more historical than otherwise, the precious natural resources in the country came under threat. The government is attempting to stem the tide

but the process is expected to be slow and arduous. On potable water and sanitation too, the need to go beyond the modest targets set in the CMDGs is called forth. Finally, on firewood use, achieving the 2015 target of 52 percent households using firewood will require much more focused attention and an energetic campaign. In this regard, even if technological options were made available it would not be easy to reach out to remote areas and populations spread across more than 14,000 villages. In short, this CMDG is among the more challenging ones to achieve.

In the forest sector, an important challenge is enforcement: to ensure clear demarcation, effective protection, and sustainable management of the areas. There is lack of human and financial resources, which have been aggravated by budget cuts due to the financial crisis. E.g., the number of rangers in PAs has not been maintained to the desired level. Due to this limitation, the government is increasingly engaging community groups in the protecting and sustainably managing forests.¹⁸

Limited techniques available for replanting, incentives for staff, high-dependence of many villagers on the forest for livelihood, illegal logging, and not fully demarked forest areas, are also constraining factors.

A big challenge is also to manage the ecology of the Tonle Sap. With upstream deforestation in the catchment area of the Great Lake, the incidences of silting and alternate floods and droughts are not uncommon. Thus, while floods inundate lands in the wet season, there is paucity of water in the dry seasons. Next is the problem of controlling illegal fishing and use of ecologically harmful approaches to catch fish. Additional challenges relate to preserving and marketing the produce, it being highly perishable.

All the above suggest that more resources and attention are needed to effectively reach the CMDG targets and beyond. Additionally, the country has to rapidly graduate out of it being an extraction-based economy and become a value adding based economy, implying that forests do not stay such an important source of livelihoods.

18 There are 390 Community Forestry (CF) groups—though not all of them recognised—expecting to cover an area of about 477,000 ha. There are also 111 Community Protected Areas covering some 93,000 ha.





GOAL 8:

FORGE A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT



Photo: UNDP/Ricardo Bobis

TARGET

At the country level, there are no strictly defined quantitative targets for this goal; however, at least four targets could be identified:

1. Extent of aid receipt, coordination and harmonisation
2. Economic openness
3. Partnerships
4. Cooperation with the private sector to make benefits of new technologies, especially information technologies

FINDINGS

Aid receipts, coordination and harmonisation

Aid quantum

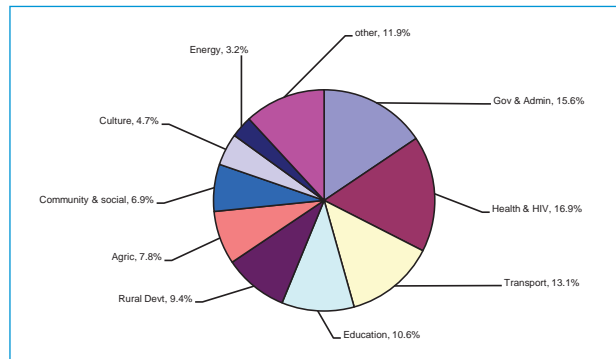
Since the year 2004, actual amounts disbursed have risen from US\$ 555 million, shown in Figure 2.16 below, to US\$ 1,075 million in 2010, which represents an annual average increase of 12.3 percent (trend, nominal prices). Despite a financial crisis in the development partner countries, disbursements to Cambodia in 2010 were higher by about eight percent compared to 2009. Projections for the future, beginning with 2011, show that aid disbursements should remain relatively robust, even though funding for many programmes and projects for 2011 is yet to be confirmed. Overall, the grant share of the support has actually risen, increasing from 66 percent of all disbursements in 2004 to 75 percent in 2010.

Figure 2.16: Trends in development assistance: Loans, grants and total (US\$ million)



Source: CDC

Figure 2.17: International assistance by purpose



Per capita assistance has increased from about US\$40 in 2004 to about US\$75 in 2010, an almost doubling in the six years under consideration in nominal terms. The aid to GDP ratio, however, has fallen from about 12 percent to eight percent through this period. This is understandably so, as the GDP has risen rapidly during this period.

Majority of the assistance has been in the health, governance and transport sectors, followed by education, rural development and agriculture (Figure 2.17). It is not surprising that health indicators and poverty ratios have shown good results in the recent years.

Overall, the assistance has risen and the partnerships also have diversified with new partners coming in: most visibly, China has now become an important development partner. Non-governmental Organisation (NGO) partners have also contributed about 12 percent of the funds, mainly for work in the provinces.

The partnership process – coordination, harmonisation and others

There are three aspects of partnership between Cambodia and its development partners:

1. A government-to-government partnership,
2. Private sector partnership,
3. Non-governmental organisations (NGO) and civil society partnership

Cambodia has established several levels of partnerships and has set up forums to make them functional. Some examples:

1. Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum
2. Government-Development Partner Coordination Committee

3. Technical Working Groups (TWGs) – there are 19 of them, covering different areas
4. ODA Database maintained by the Cambodia Rehabilitation and Development Board of the Council for Development of Cambodia (CRDB/CDC)
5. The NGO Forum

During the current plan, the government's focus is to integrate aid-effectiveness with sector programmes and reforms. The TWGs have identified three broad areas to judge aid effectiveness:

1. Strengthening programme-based approaches and sector strategies,
2. Capacity-building and using national systems, and
3. Promoting sound partnership practices

The international partnership-process aims to promote ownership aligned with RS-II: integrating the budget, Public Investment Programmes (PIP) and aid. The progress on aid alignment with national priorities has been positive. With regards to the use of government systems, however, there has been limited progress, as it is not always easy for both, the government and its development partners to move in tandem. Finally, on harmonisation of planning, public expenditures, and development cooperation financing, the government prefers promoting programme-based approaches that address ownership, capacity development and use of country systems, integrating core reforms and promoting results-focused approaches.

Concrete achievements toward strengthening partnership mechanisms are as follows:

1. Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum held three meetings successfully: in 2007, 2008 and 2010, respectively.
2. Sector-level dialogue mechanism (Government-Development Partner Coordination Committee-GDCC and TWGs) has been working effectively and is gaining strength.
3. A guideline on the role and functioning of TWGs has been produced, to strengthen government ownership and to promote TWG effectiveness.

Significant progress has been made toward implementing the commitments in "The Accra Agenda for Action":

1. Cambodia honours all its commitments on enhancing aid effectiveness stated in the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action. The government joined the process of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Paris Declaration in 2005, 2008 and 2011. Also, the government has participated in other global initiatives aimed at enhancing aid effectiveness, South-South Cooperation, and partnership with Asian development partners.
2. The government has strived to reduce aid-fragmentation and enhance development results. As part of these efforts, it has favoured Programme-Based Approach (PBA) as a tool to reduce aid fragmentation. Some ministries and government agencies have started implementing PBA, though the progress has been slow.
3. Civil society partnership has been enhanced to ensure the effectiveness of these organisations' participation in the development processes. The Guideline on the Role and Functioning of TWGs has also been updated to get civil society organisations involved in the dialogue process.

The Paris Declaration has helped improve aid effectiveness and development results. Some examples:

1. Integrating and strengthening pre-Paris Declaration reform efforts
2. Strengthening Cambodia's ownership of development
3. Strengthening mutual accountability at the national and sectoral levels
4. Widening engagement in aid effectiveness to include government, development partners and civil society partners
5. Developing social capital, nationally and in the provinces where projects and programmes promote empowerment of women and men (including those earlier excluded)
6. Supporting the move towards programme-based approaches, which harmonise development investments within specific sectors

There are many areas that require improvements, though. For instance, there is need to put in place mechanisms for raising revenues rapidly, and establishing procedures to managing resources efficiently – in this regard, making visible progress on PBA, adopting uniform country systems, and coordinating at the inter-ministerial/agency levels on the one hand, and vertically from commune to ministries on the other, all require to be implemented in a time-bound manner.

Partnerships in development

Cambodia has been integrated into the world economy since the present constitution was drawn up in 1993. The country became a member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in 2004, which has permitted it to get the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status for its exports. It also benefits from the "Everything But Arms (EBA) Initiative" of the EU's Generalised System of Preferences (GSP). Cambodia has been participating in other regional, sub-regional, and global cooperation initiatives such as the Mekong-Japan Cooperation, Lower-Mekong Countries-United States Cooperation, Greater Mekong Sub-regional Cooperation (GMS), Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), Francophone International Organisation, Ayeyawady Chao Praya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy, and the Non-Aligned Movement, to name a few. Strong bilateral relationships have been established with Vietnam, Thailand, Lao PDR, South Korea, China, Japan, EU and the US. Being a member of the ASEAN, the country is marching towards a free trade regime and full integration with the ASEAN by 2015.

In terms of economic policies, the government is committed to align its customs duty rates with those prevalent in the ASEAN region. It has also passed a law permitting foreigners to own upper floors in multi-storey apartment complexes. It is cooperating with other countries on a range of issues like money laundering and other economic crimes, and joint investigations. Finally, it has promulgated open border policies, i.e. visa-less travel for most citizens of ASEAN.

The country's trade, however, is more with Europe than with the ASEAN. This is so because this region, unlike the European Union (EU), has many countries making the same products – garments, raw and processed agro-based produce, wood products, simple assembly of mechanical or electrical products, etc. Even the older ASEAN members, which are technologically and economically several times more advanced (e.g. Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines), make and market products that Cambodia does. All this keeps intra-ASEAN trade low. However, foreign investment from some of the neighbouring countries is flowing in.

Cambodia cannot be compared with other countries in economic integration on many counts. For example, its stock market has just been inaugurated, and surely its stocks cannot be traded in international markets for several years, until the time when local companies and markets become more mature. The currency market situation is similar.

Economic openness

At the time of the Paris Peace Accord of 1991, Cambodia was a small, closed, war-torn, low-income economy, with virtually all institutions of economic management and governance very seriously eroded. What stayed in place was a centrally planned system with resources allocated through a ‘command and control’ planning process. After the general elections in 1993, the economy opened up suddenly: the currency was floated; free trade regime established (without adequate regulations); the private sector permitted to operate in all sectors; and many foreign investors came in.

Two decades later, Cambodia is still small, but an open, exported market economy, but having a high growth rate in GDP, and a floating exchange rate. It has lot more regulations now on the inflow and outflow of capital, goods and money, despite the economy remaining open.

To measure economic openness, two indicators put forth are:

- 1. The importance of trade – proportion of imports plus exports (two-way trade) to GDP
- 2. The extent of foreign investment inflow – i.e. trends in foreign investment.¹⁹

Table 2.12: Proportion of Trade to GDP (as percentage of GDP)

	2008	2009	2010
Exports of goods (% of GDP)	33.8	28.8	33.4
Imports of goods (% of GDP)	49.1	43.2	47.0
(Export + Import) * 100 / GDP -- two-way trade	82.9	70.0	80.4

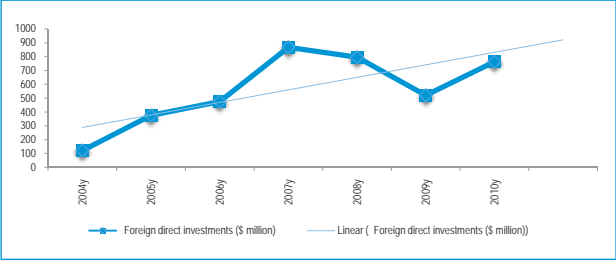
Source: MEF, MOP, and NBC

The last row of Table 2.12 suggests that the international interface of the Cambodian economy, measured by a proxy indicator ‘two-way trade’, exceeds 80 percent of the GDP. It dipped below 80 percent in 2009, but again exceeded 80 percent thereafter. Actually, the global economic crisis was responsible for a reduction in both exports and imports in 2009 in an otherwise fairly open economy.

Next, as Figure 2.18 suggests, the foreign direct investment (FDI) rose until 2007/2008, thereafter fell sharply in 2009, but then rose again in 2010 and it is estimated that in 2011 as well, it will rise. These suggest that it is the global meltdown

that affected capital inflows in 2008-2009 and not the investor confidence in the openness of the economy. Openness of the economy is thus not under question.

Figure 2.18: Foreign Direct Investments in Cambodia (US\$ Million)



Source: MEF, MOP, and NBC

Benefits of new technologies – connectivity

About 83-85 percent of Cambodians have access to informative, educational and entertainment programmes on TV, radio, newspapers, and other media (Table 2.13). However, since the target in the NSDP Update 2009-2013 is to reach 95 percent of the population by 2013 (there is no target set for 2015), some extra effort will be required to cover that proportion of the population.

Sixteen provinces have set up broadcasting stations, facilitating localisation of the information. The different topics covered in the broadcast are rights, laws, community, and women and children.

Table 2.13: Progress on Spread of Information

		2009	2010	2011
% Population having access to TV and Radio	% Population	74	77	80

Source: Ministry of Information

The government is trying to expand and deepen the media coverage through technological up-gradation, building more broadcasting stations in provinces, involving the D&D governance framework in ICT, improving human capacities, gender mainstreaming, institutional capacity building, and encouraging compliance with the Press Law to evolve the latest legal instruments for regulating the sector. Private sector participation is also being sought.

19 This indicator is particularly important since foreign investors have the option to invest elsewhere if their level of comfort is lower here.

In the telephony sector, there is adequate fixed-line and/or mobile coverage in Phnom Penh and other provincial cities. Mobile-cellular phone systems are widely used in urban areas to bypass the shortcomings in the fixed-line network, and their coverage is now rapidly expanding in rural areas. In 2011, there were a total of 14.3 million connections, combined for fixed and mobile, resulting in 98.1 connections per 100 persons. These have far exceeded the 2013 target of 15 million. In the first quarter of 2011, an estimated 580,000 persons used Internet. This number suggests that the country is well on its way to reach the 2015 target of 650,000.

Challenges in achieving and sustaining CMDG8

Cambodia is receiving increasing assistance in the last 5-6 years, and from diverse sources. It has also set up institutions and processes to follow up on the Paris Declaration and the Accra Declaration, which have shown maturity over time. Cambodia is an open economy, it having become a member of the WTO in 2004. Being a WTO member requires it to be open, a condition that it has not violated until so far. Finally, the success of mobile telephony has transformed the connectivity scene.



Photo: UNDP/ Arantxa Cedillo



GOAL 9:

DEMINING, ERW AND VICTIM ASSISTANCE



Photo: UNDP/Nathan Horton 2008

TARGET

RGC aims to eliminate all unexploded mines and explosive remnants of war and help all the affected victims. However, this could be achieved only if there is full knowledge of where these mines and remnants are. Thus, there are no quantitative targets set for 2015. Instead, it has long-term objectives, as stated in the section on 'Challenges' below.

FINDINGS

De-mining

Cambodia is a signatory to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction.

Significant progress has been made in clearing mines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW), though large areas remain contaminated. In terms of numbers, the following could be stated:

1. Total area cleared: In 2009 the cumulative area cleared of mines was 53,575 ha, and in 2010 it was 63,962 ha (Table 2.14). In the first and second quarters of 2011, an additional 4,040 ha were cleared. These areas are now used for construction, agriculture, infrastructure, and other purposes. The number of deaths due to explosions, tragically, was 42 in 2010, which was higher than in 2009. In the first six months of 2011, there were 112 mines/ERW casualties, a decrease by 55 compared to the same period in 2010.

Table 2.14: Progress in De-mining

Indicator		2009	2010	2011	2013 Target	2015 Target
De-Mining Programme						
Annual Victims caused by mines/ERW (death/injuries)	Nos	244	286	240*	200*	150*
Cumulative area cleared of mines/ERW	Ha	53,575	63,962		78,480*	91,693*
Additional Indicators						
Proportion of cleared areas of mines/ERW	%	53	59	56*	66*	77*

Source: CMAA; Note: (*) Estimates

2. Preparation of National Mines Action Strategic Plan (NMA SP 2010-2019): A strategic plan has been prepared to reduce mine accidents, contribute to economic

growth, reduce poverty, and ensure capacity sustainability in dealing with ERW.

Challenges in achieving and sustaining CMDG9

Cambodia has requested an extension of the time period for clearing mine-affected areas, estimated at around 470 square kilometres. This area could be cleared only by 2019. The current targets set for clearing mines have not been achieved, as it requires far greater effort compared to what the country can afford. Sustained financial support and technical input from the government and development

partners will be required to achieve the mine action objectives stated in the NSDP Update, 2009-2013.

Cambodia has to clear mines on 648.8Km² within the next 10 years with a budget of US\$330 million. Additionally, there is an area equivalent to 1,097,8km², suspected to be mine-contaminated, for which baseline and technical surveys need to be carried out. This will require an additional budget of US\$455 million.

In some senses clearing mines and ERWs is among the more difficult targets to achieve, since the exact dimensions of the problem are not known. Limited resources compound the problem. Nonetheless, there is reduction in the number of casualties over time, a sign of success.



THE WAY AHEAD

A recap

There are nine CMDGs though the numbers of targets are many more and diverse. Targets that require special attention, either because they lag behind, or are not making progress, or are vulnerable to relapse, are poverty, child labour, child malnutrition, school repeat/dropout rates at all levels, enrolment beyond primary levels (though outside the purview of CMDGs), gender gaps in education beyond primary level, control of tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, reforestation, and demining.

Put in sequence,

- CMDG1: Targets relating to income poverty or food poverty appear to have been already met, or will most likely be met. However, child nutrition levels are considerably behind their set targets, and the progress on them is also slow. Similarly, child workers are yet many more than what the set target requires.
- CMDG2: The primary education targets are most likely to be met. The major challenge lies beyond primary education. Though this is beyond the CMDG purview, human capital needs of the society cannot be met through primary level education alone.
- CMDG3: While a lot has been achieved, there are gaps in education, health and employment requiring bridging. Of particular concern are women's health and their representation in public offices.
- CMDG4: The IMR and CMR targets have generally been met, though malnutrition and the problems ensuing from it stay a major challenge
- CMDG 5: The MMR targets have generally been met. However, women in positions of authority are still fewer than the set targets.
- CMDG6: While the targets of identified communicable diseases, along with HIV/AIDS, are most likely to be met, they will require continued vigilance and intervention.
- CMDG7: This issue needs address on several fronts, like reforestation, preserving fresh water resources, improving livelihoods of people dependent on

natural resources, and governance of forests. Of specific concern is also the non-availability of potable water and hygienic sanitation for the rural people.

- CMDG8: Until so far, the government has been successful in maintaining healthy partnerships. However, this momentum will have to be kept up, given that further concessional in-flows will be more as loans and less as grants.
- CMDG9: Area cleared so far has been large, but people are still dying due to mine explosions. Resource shortage is an impediment.

There are some targets that are set at unrealistically low levels. This is to the extent that they might adversely influence other goals and targets. Two targets, for example, that need upward revision are rural water supply and rural sanitation, as at the present levels of 50 percent and 33 percent, respectively, they are abysmally low to the extent that they will hardly help reduce morbidity in the society. A careful examination of other targets as well, might be essential.

SOME APPROACHES

General and crosscutting issues

At a more general level, it is important to recognise that planning for CMDGs should be a part of sectoral planning. This has been stated in the NSDP Update document. It is important that planning in each sector complements planning in other sectors, for which harmonisation of activities within and across ministries is a must. The exercise could be extended to harmonising donor funding as well.

The M&E for CMDGs and NSDP could be collapsed into one, with the scope extending beyond outcome and impact assessment, to output and (some) input analysis as well. Some M&E activities could be undertaken at the commune levels, now that the D&D programme has matured significantly.

The lagging or worrisome CMDG targets need to be followed up. For this, the first step is to estimate the expense on strategies that would, on a fast track, help narrow the gaps. MDG-Costing is not a new exercise; many countries have done it, and it could selectively be done here. Following the costing, a CMDG Acceleration Framework requires to be

drawn up. Again, this has been attempted elsewhere, and could be tried here.²⁰

The database for tracking CMDGs needs strengthening. Much has been stated in the main text and this needs no further reiteration here.

There are many success stories on achieving CMDG/Plan targets, which could be replicated elsewhere. For doing this, good documentation of the success stories with explication on the strategies pursued, would be useful.

Some special topics that require focus are, child poverty, gender poverty, land poverty and inequality, and educational poverty and inequality.

Sectoral issues – Agriculture

Development of agriculture and its allied activities is central to poverty alleviation. Strengthening agriculture, therefore, is paramount. The government is acutely aware of this and has explicated this in as many terms. Some proposals:

- a. Land tenure: Completing the whole land registration process might take over 10-15 years to complete. To facilitate agricultural development, the government could consider taking two steps: first, to give higher priority to agricultural lands under its systematic titling programme, and second, recognise the present (untitled) ownership land holdings for purposes of raising loan etc., as long as the land is not disputed.
- b. Irrigation: The government has created a lot of irrigation facilities, estimated to have exceeded 33 percent of the sown area in 2010. Most of this is through impounding water in dams, which is then to be distributed to farmlands through main and subsidiary canals. While the dams and main canal may be complete, the subsidiary canals in many cases might not be. This process needs to be completed as early as possible, preferably in partnership with user-groups.
- c. Crop pricing: Unlike industrial products, crops have to be grown several months (in the case of tree crops, years) in advance, and if the prices crash when crops reach the markets, the farmers receive setback the most. To avoid this, many countries have set up farmers' cartels, strengthened information systems, established forward-trading agreements between traders and farmers, diversified

crops, introduced contract farming, and used insurance mechanisms. Some of these elements need a detailed analysis in Cambodia to assess their suitability.

- d. Activity expansion: Rural-based crop-processing facilities, extending electricity to rural areas to energise rural industries, and strengthening transport systems are other methods by which agriculture could gain.

Sectoral issues: Education and nutrition

- e. Children's education and nutrition: While this is not the place to analyse either of these as the actual action will emerge from an analysis in an MDG Acceleration Framework, it needs statement that objectives could be jointly achieved through a comprehensive mid-day meal programme implemented in schools. If the food is prepared in villages, it would not only be cheaper, it would also provide some employment at the local level.
- f. Child labour and education: Child labour is a result of demand for child workers for their households' livelihoods, and little interest among parents or children in schooling. With modernisation and larger incomes in rural areas (through (a) - (e) above), and better education-nutrition facilities, child workers would reduce, and other child/health related indicators would rise. The thrust proposed in (a)-(e) is, therefore, reiterated.

Sectoral issues - Environment

- g. Forestry: The government must lead reforestation programmes. The natural pristine forests must be protected and permitted to grow on priority. In addition, the producer forests require close monitoring.
- h. Forestry: Converting land into capital is a good strategy, but it is also true that mono-crop artificial plantations are no substitutes for multi-tree forests, which support a variety of flora, fauna and water systems. Cambodia has place for both, and this balance should be maintained at all times.
- i. Rural water and sanitation: As stated earlier, the targets set for these are too modest, and require scaling up, so that there is some sense of parity between rural and urban areas. Also, it is not necessary that the same model be applied across all the villages. The designs can vary regionally based on the extant geography and human habitats.

²⁰ It is believed that the UNDP has developed an Acceleration Framework for select CMDGs. This could be operationalised.

Appendix 1. Progress on selected CMDG indicators

Indicators		Unit	2008	2009	2010	2011 (Est.)	2012 (Target)	2013 (Target)	2015 CMDG
Eradicate Poverty and Hunger									
1	Poverty levels (Cambodia)	%	30.1 (2007)		26.1 (Linear forecast)	-	-	-	19.5
2	Poverty levels (Rural)	%	34.7 (2007)		30.7 (Linear forecast)	-	-	-	23
3	Food poverty levels	%	19.7 (2007)		15.1 (Linear forecast)	-	-	-	10
4	Share of poorest quintile in national consumption	%	6.5 (2007)	7.6 (2008)	8.0 (2009)	-	-	-	11
5	Gini coefficient of consumption inequality								
Health related indicators									
6	Infant Mortality Rate	Per 1,000 live births	66 (2005)	-	45	-	-	55	50
7	Under-5 Mortality Rate	Per 1,000 live births	82 (2005)	-	54	-	-	70	65
8	Maternal Mortality Rate (from CDHS)	Per 100,000 live births	472 (CDHS 005)		206 (CDHS 2010)	-	-	<300	<250
9	Births attended by trained health personnel	%	58	63	69.6	75	80	85	87
10	HIV prevalence	% of adults aged 15-49	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4
11	Malaria case fatality rate reported by public health facilities	%	2.10	1.77	0.76	1.10	0.99	0.90	0.80
12	Prevalence of all forms of TB	Per 100,000 population	697	693	681	669	657	645	626
Improvement in Nutrition and WATSAN									
13	Children aged 0 – 59 months stunted (Height-for-age more than 2 standard deviations below normal)	% To total children aged 0-59 months	43 (2005)	-	40	-	-	-	25
14	Children aged 0 – 59 months wasted	% To total children aged	8 (2005)	-	11	-	-	-	6
15	Women aged 15-49 years with anaemia	% To total women aged 15-49 years	47 (2005)	-	44	-	-	-	19
16	Access to safe water source of urban population	%	-	76	-	-	-	-	80
17	Access to improved sanitation of urban population	%	-	84	-	-	-	-	74
Improvements in Education									
18	Net Enrolment Rate in Primary Education								
18a	Total	%	94.4	94.8	95.2	96.0	97.0	98.0	100
18b	Boys	%	94.8	95.0	95.8	96.0	97.0	98.0	100

Indicators		Unit	2008	2009	2010	2011 (Est.)	2012 (Target)	2013 (Target)	2015 CMDG
18c	Girls	%	94.0	94.6	94.6	96.0	97.0	98.0	100
20	Completion Rate Grade 6								
20a	Total	%	85.6	83.2	85.3	90.0	95.0	100	-
20b	Boys	%	85.4	82.8	85.6	90.0	95.0	100	-
20c	Girls	%	85.7	83.6	85.0	90.0	95.0	100	-
Rural Development									
22	Access to safe drinking water sources (rural)	%	40.49	42.18	43.51	43.89 (1/2 yr)	-	-	50
23	Access to sanitation (rural)	%	23.24	24.24	25.00	26.00 (1/2 yr)	-	27	33
Environmental Sustainability									
24	Forest Cover	% of total area	57.99	-	57.59	-	-	-	60
25	Surface of 23 protected areas (PAs)	Ha	3,100,199	3,100,199	3,111,041	3,111,041	-	3,111,041	3,111,041
26	Community protected areas (CPA)	Number	82	84	98	110	-	120	140
27	Rate of issuance of land certificates to farmers	% of total farm plots	-	22	24	28		29	43
Gender Equity									
28	Mainstream gender in all spheres								
29	Number of ministries/ institutions that have formulated a Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan	Number	15	17	18	21	-	27	27
30	Number of ministries/ institutions that have implemented their Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan	Number	7	10	15	21	-	27	27
31	Female share of wage employment								
31a	Agriculture	%	50.5 (2004)	49.2 (2009)	-	-	-	-	-
31b	Industry	%	47.6 (2004)	47.6 (2009)	-	-	-	-	-
31c	Services	%	30.7 (2004)	32.5 (2009)	-	-	-	-	-
32	Level of awareness that violence against women is a crime	%	30	80	80	80	-	70	70
33	Number of protection orders issued by courts, based on the Law on	Number	10	8	14	7	-	120	120
34	Number of victims of domestic violence who received counselling by qualified personnel.	Number	600	452	391	185	-	900	2,000
De-mining, Victim Assistance									
35	Annual victims of mines/ERW	Number	-	244	286	240	-	200	
36	Total cumulated areas cleared of mines/ERW	Ha	-	53,575	63,962	65,781	-	78,480	

Appendix 2. Issues in statistical definitions and data comparability

Child labour

The International Labour Organisation encourages countries to set a minimum age for entering the labour force, which is not less than the completion age for compulsory schooling, or in any case not less than 15 years. For light work, it establishes a minimum age of 13 years and for hazardous work 18 years. In developing countries, it permits a lower minimum age of 14 years: 12-14 years for light work and in special cases, 16 years for hazardous work. ILO is concerned with the kind of labour that children do: it should not be detrimental to them and is not in violation of international law and national legislation. ILO also has a special convention on worst forms of child labour. From a statistical perspective, ILO defines boundaries and leaves a lot for the nation states to determine what is suited to them.

It is important, therefore, to define what is child labour, such that every survey and ministry/recognises and uses the same definition, and also tabulates data accordingly.

Literacy rates

The definition of who is literate differs between the Population Census of 2008 and the CSES of 2009. This needs standardisation. In this regard, any survey that the government conducts—CDHS, others—should follow the same definition.

Enrolment rates

There was a drop in gross enrolment at the lower secondary education in 2009, which is expected to reach 2008 levels only in 2011. Why should there be a fall in educational indicators in 2009? It surely cannot be due to the financial crisis, as the standards of living had not fallen – poverty figures in the previous section bear witness to this. Is it a data glitch, or are there other reasons not yet explored? This question needs examination.

Status of the labour force

The two Population Censuses suggests that the proportion of women wage/salaried employees to total wage/salaried employees was about 26 percent in 1998, which increased to 41 percent in 2008. If these are to be believed, the country

is well on its path to achieving this CMDG target. Statistical authorities in the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC), however, believe that the sample survey data serves the purpose better compared to census. Such discrepancies bring home the fact that there is need to reconcile these and similar data sets in definitions of variables, coverage, and maybe others.

A similar problem is seen between the census and the CSES on the sectoral distribution of the labour force.

Key health indicators

Health and related statistics collected from any two surveys throw up very different results, even if the years when these surveys conducted are only 1-2 years apart. E.g. the Population Census conducted in 2008 suggests MMR to be 460 and IMR, 60.

The needs to standardise the definitions and computation methods needs underscoring once again.

Defining a forest, and measuring fish catch and firewood use

There is need to define what is a ‘forest’ in the context of maintaining a healthy eco system.

There is also need to crosscheck fish catch data as collected by MAFF and the fish consumption data as collected by CSES. Strictly, Fish Consumption (for both direct consumption and processing) = Fish Catch + Fish Import – Fish export

In terms of data on how much fuel is being used by type, perhaps the Commune Database (CDB) can be a better source to look into, rather than five-yearly surveys. Next, since CDB collects data on land use pattern, perhaps some information on the tree cover could be derived from it.

Data on international assistance

While maintaining the ODA data is an important step, not all data on overseas development assistance finds place in the ODA Database. This is particularly true for the new, non-conventional providers. Effort should be made to capture these to the fullest extent possible.



Photo: UNDP/ Arantxa Cedillo



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