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Capacity Building Seminar on Green Growth Policy Tools and Application, Cambodia 1-4 October 2007

Summary of recommendations

The Capacity Building Seminar on Green Growth Policy Tools and Application, was organized by the Ministry of Environment of Cambodia in collaboration with UNESCAP from 1 to 4 October 2007 in Sihanouk Ville with financial assistance from the Swedish Environmental Secretariat for Asia (SENSA) at the office of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), Embassy of Sweden, Bangkok, Thailand. The Capacity building seminar was attended by 49 participants from Main Line Ministries of the Government of Cambodia, including the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Industry and Energy, Ministry of Transport and Public Works, Ministry of Rural Development, and various representatives from Chambers of Commerce, National Assembly, Forestry Administration, and NGOs.

The capacity building seminar was held during four days. Presentations on the green growth tracks and relevant policy tools were made by UNESCAP resource people, while representatives of the Government of Cambodia shared information on challenges and strategic plans for solutions. The presentations were followed by lively and practical discussions.

After the last session on the last day of the workshop, participants shared views, ideas, and recommendations related to the implementation of Green Growth in Cambodia. There is a strong will to continue exploring the opportunities and means for application of the green growth policy tools presented at the capacity building seminar. Furthermore, participants expressed their strong desire to work on the development of a road map for the green growth application through a national inter-ministerial committee/working group.

The table below presents the identified needs for application of green growth tracks and responsible Governmental Agencies as per the discussions during the concluding session of the capacity building seminar held on the 4 October 2007.

| ITEM | Lead/Responsible Agency |
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| <u>Green Growth Policy Tools and Application</u> | |
| Four-fold Cluster Training Workshops on Green Growth Policy Tools should be organized following the success of a Training the Trainer Seminar on Green Growth Policy Tools and Application | |
| <u>Green Tax and Budget Reform (GTBR)</u> | |
| Establish a technical working group on the application of GTBR with representatives of various ministries, public sector, private sector | Lead by Ministry of Environment |
| Identify benefits and adverse effects of GTBR. Conduct a study on experiences from different sectors and then in cooperation with ESCAP, combine the findings to an actual strategy for GTBR. | Ministry of Environment & Ministry of Planning |
| Link a previously developed master plan for GTBR in forestry and fisheries sector to all the sectors | Forestry Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in cooperation with Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Environment |
| Relevant sectors need to study options for application of GTBR | Line sectoral Ministries in collaboration with Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Environment |
| Study on various levels of GTBR application for heavy and light industries, for polluting industries. Especially the export-industry should be targeted together with the issue of how the Cambodian Government exempts tax on certain | Ministry of Industry and Energy and Ministry of Environment |

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| resources. | |
| There is a need for a budget revision in order to allocate finances appropriately from polluting to environmental industries and services. A proposal needs to be prepared and presented to the Leaders of the country. | All Ministries, lead by Ministry of Finance |
| There is a need for further awareness raising on the nature and application of green tax and budget reform/green growth policy tools for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small and Medium Enterprises (SME); • National Assembly members; • Key departments of Line Ministries; • Investment sector and financial institutions • Civil society; • General public | Ministry of Environment in collaboration with Chamber of Commerce, Line Ministries (Ministry of Industry and Energy, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries), investment and financial institutions, civil society leaders, NGOs, etc. |
| There is a need for supporting legislation and policies for the application of GTBR and green growth policy tools | National Assembly to provide support to strategic proposals from Line Ministries |
| <u>Sustainable Consumption and Production</u> | |
| Policies targeting polluting industries for resettlement to industrial parks should be developed. | Ministry of Industry and Energy and Ministry of Environment |
| Increasing awareness about adverse effects of environmental unfriendly products is needed together with a promotion of the 3R | Ministry of Environment /Ministry of Industry and Energy |

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| (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) approach. | |
| There is a need to mainstream green public procurement, through a centralization of procurement from various sectors. | The Government in collaboration with National Assembly. Ministry of Environment could initiate proposal. |
| There is a need for regulation on the export of chemical products, particularly in regards to chemical fertilizer and pesticides | Ministry of Environment /Ministry of Industry/National Assembly |
| The proposal for development of a Green Growth Flag for hotels and tourism services will be further developed | Ministry of Environment in collaboration with Ministry of Tourism |
| Concerning agricultural production, stakeholders need to provide appropriate guidance to the use of chemicals and fertilizers in a safe manner. | Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries/ Ministry of Environment |
| <u>Sustainable Infrastructure</u> | |
| There is need for further training on application of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) | Ministry of Environment |
| In case of the establishment of a sky-train facility in Phnom Penh ticket prices should be kept low to ensure usage. | Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Environment |
| There is a need for further promotion of the PES | Ministry of Environment / Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries/Ministry of Tourism/Forestry Services |
| Since the use of fuel-wood is still an important source of energy in rural areas, it may be an option to grow fast growing wood. | Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Industry and Energy |
| <u>Green Business</u> | |

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| Green business and poverty reduction | Ministry of Environment /Ministry of Agriculture |
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