**Cambodia – Pilot Program for Climate Resilience**

Response to Comments by the PPCR Sub-Commitee Members on Capacity Development Technical Assistance for ***Mainstreaming Climate Resilience into Development Planning*** **(Project Number XPCRKH016A) 10 August 2012**

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| **Summary**<br>• We welcome the proposed project, and would like to commend all involved parties for submitting the proposal. There are, however, some issues that, from our point of view, would require the proposal, and in particular its design and monitoring framework and indicators, to be revisited and amended as outlined in our recommendations below. | • Thank you very much for the many constructive comments and suggestions, especially on the design and monitoring framework and indicators.<br>• The PPCR results framework is still being revised and simplified by the CIF Administration Unit and MDBs in consultation with country representatives for consideration and approval by the PPCR sub-committee at its November 2012 meeting. Therefore, the results framework for this and other projects in Cambodia will continue to be strengthened over time.<br>• As indicated in the project summary (page 3 section15), further work on both "upstream" and "downstream" indicators will continue during the first six months of the technical assistance (TA), building on the final version of the PPCR results framework.<br>• While efforts to collect relevant data will continue, please note that baseline data for several indicators is often lacking in countries with relatively less developed national monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems. This is especially true in Cambodia. |
| **Individual Comments**<br>• In our comments on the Cambodian SPCR, we had highlighted the importance of establishing a steering committee overseeing the entire PPCR including all of its four components. To some extent, this recommendation appears to have been taken up in the project proposal at issue here ("a TA steering committee comprising senior representatives of the above agencies to oversee the operations of PPCR coordinating and technical backstopping unit", para 16). However, the SPCR document specifies that "the National Steering Committee on Climate Change will serve as the cluster TA steering committee". We would request clarification whether the National Steering Committee on Climate Change will indeed serve as the PPCR steering committee, or whether the "steering committee comprising senior representatives" is an altogether different and possibly less influential group of representatives, and if so, why the latter option was chosen. | • As noted in Para 16 of the TA Report, the executing agency will be the Ministry of Environment (MOE) with an administrative oversight of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) and the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC). Therefore, NCCC will give overall guidance to all climate change programs in the country, including PPCR.<br>• During the fact finding mission for this TA and other meetings, the Royal Government of Cambodia (the Government) stressed that there is no need to establish a separate National Steering Committee for SPCR, as the NCCC was established by the sub-decree of the Government. Please note that the Climate Change Technical Team (CCTT), comprising several line ministries under the NCCC, also exists and the Government considered that establishment of another committee for SPCR would overlap with functions of CCTT. The Government and ADB, therefore, determined that the steering committee for SPCR would only comprise CCTT members of relevant line ministries to oversee SPCR implementation.<br>• NCCC, with the Prime Minister serving as the |

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| • Furthermore, we recommend that an indicator be included at the output level that measures the success of the intersectoral steering committee in guiding PPCR implementation. | honorary chair and with membership from 20 ministries, is a very high level body playing the role of endorsing climate change policies. NCCC does not serve as a steering committee of any program or project and does not meet often.<br>• During preparation of the SPCR document, it was intended to have a steering committee with representatives of all ministries. However, during the fact finding mission and other meetings, stakeholders noted the need for establishing a relatively small-size steering committee with key agencies for effective monitoring of operations of PPCR coordinating and technical backstopping unit. Therefore, only selected key agencies will be included in the steering committee. These include MEF, MOE, Ministry of Planning (MOP), Ministry of Interior (MOI), National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MOWRAM), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT), Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), and senior representative of the organization managing the civil society support mechanism.<br>• An indicator "*Improved coordination mechanism for climate resilience established among key sectors*" is already proposed at the outcome level. Another indicator "At least two steering committee meeting reports each year to monitor progress in mainstreaming and SPCR implementation" is included as an indicator for the first output. A new activity is listed to support this indicator. |
| • In accordance with our earlier recommendation, the proposal does touch upon the issue of linking adaptation with the process of decentralization and de-concentration under the National Program for Sub-National Democratic Development (para 6). However, the proposal does not clarify how mainstreaming adaptation in the process of decentralization and de-concentration would be achieved, nor does it reflect the issue in the key results and indicators for success or in the activities – which we had also recommended. We would therefore request clarification why the issue of mainstreaming climate change in the decentralisation and de-concentration | • PPCR Phase 1 TA, which is being administered by the World Bank, has a component focusing on linking adaptation with the process of decentralization and de-concentration. The SPCR TA will build on this work and provide training for focal points in charge of adaptation in government agencies at the national and sub-national level.<br>• All SPCR investment projects will be carried out at the sub-national level. Using the budget allocated for workshops under investment projects, the TA will ensure that relevant staff at sub-national level are trained on ways to integrate adaptation considerations in investment planning and decision making.<br>• The functional assignments at sub-national levels are still being defined through the issuance of |

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| process has not been considered more thoroughly. | sub-decrees under the National Program for Sub-National Development. Once the functional assignments are defined, the TA can help in creating mechanisms to channel adaptation funds to governments at sub-national level. A new indicator – mechanisms to channel adaptation funds to sub-national governments in place by 2017 - is included in the DMF. |
| • The expected outcomes as listed in the project summary appear to some extent to be different from those in the technical assistance report. For instance, the expected outcomes (i) "degree of integration (qualitative assessment) of adaptation and disaster risk reduction in annual development plans and budgets"; (ii) "routine application of climate information in decision making"; and (iii) "improved budget allocation for adaptation and disaster risk reduction" do not appear in the design and monitoring framework. We view these expected outcomes as listed in the program summary as being quite well formulated and more ambitious than those presently listed in the design and monitoring framework. Since implementation of the project will ultimately be guided by the technical assistance report rather than the project summary, we recommend using the wording for expected outcomes as listed in the project summary in the design and monitoring framework of the technical assistance report as well. | • The ADB Design and Monitoring Framework for the projects is only indicative, and the final inception report will contain additional details on monitoring and evaluation, including those mentioned in PPCR project summary. Implementation of the project will be guided by TA report and PPCR project summary as well as other new documents (e.g. simplified PPCR results framework to be approved in November 2012). Therefore, the current wording on outcome is retained.<br>• Additional indicators from the project summary (degree of integration of adaptation and disaster risk reduction in annual development plans and budgets, routine application of climate information in decision making, and improved budget allocation for adaptation and disaster risk reduction) are now included at the outcome level in Design and Monitoring Framework of the TA report. |
| • The impact indicator reads "By 2022 Reduction in number of households affected and economic losses from droughts, floods, and other extreme climate events by 20% from the 2012 baseline". It is questionable whether a one year (2012) observation of droughts, floods, and other extreme climate events will provide a representative baseline, as this indicator is subject to substantial variability between years. The same applies to the target date of 2022. Also, it remains unclear who would monitor the achievement of the set target in 2022, considering that the project will end in 2017. We therefore recommend setting a baseline and a target which capture a certain time period rather | • A single year baseline will not be used. Instead, a moving 5-year average baseline (which means the average of losses for every 5 years) will be used. The 2012 baseline is an average of losses from 2008 to 2012, and the 2022 baseline refers to average of losses from 2018 to 2022.<br>• The TA will start in 2013 and the monitoring of losses will continue every year. Therefore it is easy to report the moving average every year from 2013 itself.<br>• Though this particular TA is expected to end in Dec 2017, adaptation investments by ADB and others and monitoring of losses from climate events will continue. |

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| than a single year. We further recommend observing and reporting the indicator annually starting no later than 2016. | |
| • Section III.A. Impact and Outcome (para 9) states that "by TA end, it is expected that (i) risk screening tools are applied for projects ...; and (ii) vulnerability assessments ... are performed". However, these two elements, while certainly very important and central to successful climate change adaptation (and even more so in a project to mainstream climate resilience into development planning), are only indirectly reflected in the design and monitoring framework ("climate risk management integrated into manuals ..."). We therefore recommend that these two elements be included much more prominently in the design and monitoring framework, at the level of activities and outputs as well as at the level of outcome, where an indicator should be included measuring that performance of climate risk and vulnerability analyses has become standard procedure in development planning at all levels. | • The suggested indicator at the outcome level – climate risk and vulnerability analyses become standard procedure in development planning – is included in the revised TA report.<br>• The two indicators related to risk screening tools and vulnerability assessments are combined into one. In addition, the earlier indicator on climate risk management at the output level has been modified to include programs, plans and projects.<br>• Application of risk screening tools and assessment of vulnerability for key projects has been included at activity level.<br>• The monitoring and evaluation sections will be expanded further in the inception report, which will be used as a basis for monitoring progress in mainstreaming climate resilience into development planning. |
| • Some baselines in the design and monitoring framework have a value of 0, for instance "At least 25% of approved projects are climate-proofed (2012 baseline = 0)". Considering the amount of on-going adaptation efforts in Cambodia, it seems unlikely that no project would have been climate proofed to date. For instance, the "ADB Sustainable Transport Initiative" supports climate proofing activities, and climate proofing work has also been undertaken by Danida and reportedly by the Cambodia Climate Change Office (CCCO). We therefore recommend either finding a more precise formulation for the indicator (whose and which projects are to be climate proofed: only those funded by the PPCR? government projects funded from other resources? etc) and/or revisiting the baseline value. | • There are a few small TA projects that consider climate proofing principles but the project team is not aware of any major investment project that is fully climate-proofed in Cambodia. Climate proofing does require substantial resources, and the Government is unable to borrow at commercial terms.<br>• To reflect your concern, however, the indicator has been changed to "At least 25% of approved <u>investment</u> projects are climate-proofed" and the baseline value was removed. |
| • Also, it seems unlikely that there are currently no "trained focal points in charge of adaptation in government agencies" when considering Cambodia's engagement in the UNFCCC, its involvement in MRC's Climate | • Despite several efforts by development partners, there are no "trained focal points on adaptation" in several ministries. Please note the difference between "appointed focal points" and "<u>trained</u> focal points". Mobility of trained staff is quite |

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| Change and Adaptation Initiative and others, and given the fact that various climate change bodies and institutions have been set up at the national level since 1999 (as described in section II. Issues, para 4). Also, indicators like this should also have a clear target: how many focal points in how many government agencies would constitute an acceptable target? We therefore recommend either finding a more precise formulation for the indicator and/or revisiting the baseline value, and setting a clear target. | common and it is not easy to retain fully trained staff in current positions because of various factors beyond projects' control, including limited incentives and low salary of civil servants.<br>• The PPCR will contribute to increase the number of trained staff but it would be difficult to guarantee the retention of such staff.<br>• Since the acceptable target of trained focal points varies with the size of the ministry and its current and future activities on adaptation, the baseline value is removed from the DMF. Instead, the overall target is given as at least 20. |
| • We wonder why the "civil society support mechanism including small grants" in the cost estimates and financing plan would be part of the budget line named "surveys", and what the financial volume available for small grants would actually be. (Would 1.4 mio $ be available entirely for small grants, or would part of it be used for other purposes, and if so, how much?) We therefore recommend either listing small grants in a separate budget line, or providing clear figures on the financial volume available for small grants in the table's narrative. | • The template for ADB TA report mandates that all demonstration and pilot activities are included under "surveys" item.<br>• The financial volume of $1.4 million is available entirely for small grants.<br>• Footnote 'd' under "Cost estimates Table" already included reference to small grants. The amount available for small grants and NAPA feasibility studies is now repeated in the footnote to address your concern. |
| **Comments on Cross-Cutting Issues**<br>***Gender***<br>• We very much appreciate that, in accordance with our earlier recommendation, gender aspects have been incorporated into the results framework of the proposed project. However, gender aspects are not reflected in the problem analysis in section II. Issues. In order to sensitize the various national actors involved in implementing the proposed project to the importance of addressing gender issues in adaptation to climate change, and to increase understanding of why the project makes a heightened effort to address gender issues, we recommend including a brief analysis of the specific adaptation issues and needs of woman and children in Cambodia in chapter II. Issues. | Agreed. As the 5-page limit on TA report does not allow the project team to discuss all issues in detail, a sentence on the need for addressing gender issues is now included in Para 5 of the revised TA report. |
| ***Learning***<br>• Output 4 is about development and dissemination of climate change adaptation knowledge products, and among others includes planned efforts to publish and post | Agreed. Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network is already referred to in Para 14. Reference to MRC's CCAI is now included. |

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| information in global web portals. We would recommend that, in addition, the project take existing regional knowledge platforms (such as the Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network or the Climate Change and Adaptation Initiation of the Mekong River Commission) into consideration for disseminating the climate change adaptation knowledge it will generate, in order to spread information and best practices to countries in the region with adaptation challenges similar to those faced in Cambodia. | |
| ***Synergies with German Climate Change Related Engagement in the Country / Region***<br>• Given that the Mekong River as the main source of Cambodia's waters is a trans-boundary resource, we recommend that the project interact closely with the Mekong River Commission's Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative (CCAI). On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), GIZ is supporting the MRC's CCAI to improve its services as a knowledge and information hub for adapting to climate change the Mekong region. The proposed project Mainstreaming Climate Resilience into Development Planning would certainly benefit from exploring synergies with the work done at the MRC in areas such as capacity building; development of guidelines, communication plans and awareness raising materials; or the involvement of communities in adaptation planning. | Agreed. ADB actively collaborates with MRC and its various initiatives including the CCAI. The proposed TA will surely promote synergies with CCAI of MRC. A reference to CCAI is included in Para 14 in the TA report. |

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| 1. We appreciate the work that the Government of Cambodia is doing to integrate climate adaptation planning into its planning processes, especially in creating the Department of Climate Change. Why will the PPCR planning and coordinating unit be housed in the Ministry of Environment as opposed to the Department of Climate Change? | • Thank you. The Department of Climate Change is one of the several departments under the Ministry of Environment (MOE) of Cambodia. The PPCR planning and coordination unit will be staffed by consultants and counterpart staff of the MOE (including, but not limited to, those from the Department of Climate Change) to provide technical backstopping to various line ministries. The unit works under the guidance of PPCR steering committee, which comprises senior representatives of selected line ministries. |
| 2. Please describe the relationship between the NAPA and the SPCR and how NAPA projects complement SPCR planning. | • The National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) is a process by which Least Developed Countries (LDCs) identify priority activities that respond to their urgent and immediate needs to adapt to climate change – those for which further delay would increase vulnerability and/or costs at a later stage. Cambodia submitted its NAPA in October 2006 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. NAPA listed 39 priority projects but only two of them were funded, as detailed feasibility studies could not be completed for many of them. During the SPCR preparation in 2011, the Government requested for using PPCR money to conduct feasibility studies on selected NAPA ideas so that those well developed projects can get additional funding from other climate change funds.<br>• Synergies between NAPA and SPCR at sub-national level have been discussed in the SPCR document. NAPA projects complement planning and implementation of SPCR investments. Where the projects identified in the NAPA are consistent with the outcomes of the SPCR planning, consideration will be given to the financing of selected NAPA activities through SPCR resources. Further, NAPA projects, when developed and funded, can benefit from experiences of implementing the 7 SPCR investment projects of SPCR. Likewise, SPCR investment projects will learn from NAPA project experiences. |
| 3. In the "**Design and Monitoring Framework**" the performance indicator for "Sustained institutional and technical capacity to integrate adaptation concerns into development" is to integrate strategies into at least 3 sectors. How will these sectors be chosen? And how significant are these sectors to the Cambodian economy and development planning?<br><br>Another indicator for this same | • The 3 sectors referred to are: agriculture, water resources and infrastructure. These sectors were identified to be the most vulnerable during PPCR planning stages in 2010.<br>• The 3 sectors are highly significant to the Cambodian economy and development planning, as Cambodian society is still primarily agrarian and the economy is highly dependent on these sectors. Water resources sector is critical not only for agriculture, but also forestry and fisheries. Likewise, infrastructure losses from impacts of climate change have been enormous. The 2011 floods alone caused an estimated $451 million in damages and $174 million in losses.<br>• To the project team's knowledge, no major investment |

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| outcome is to have at least 25% of approved projects be climate-proofed by 2018, noting that currently no projects are climate-proofed. Please confirm that zero projects are the baseline? | project has been climate proofed (by considering future impacts of climate change) in Cambodia. So the baseline was indicated as zero. However, baseline is now removed, and the target for climate proofing is given in percentage. |
| 4. A significant amount of the funding for this project ($4m out of $7m) is to fund consultants. Could you please explain the plan to build capacity within the Cambodian staff including if the staff slots will be built into the domestic budget? | • Capacity building of stakeholders including government staff is done through recruitment of experienced international and national consultants. The consulting firm will develop a detailed program of capacity building activities and training workshops by the time of inception of this project (perhaps by April 2013).<br>• Salary of government staff will not be supported from TA budget. However, expenses for participation in workshops, especially if they are conducted outside Phnom Penh, may be supported, if the Government cannot provide support.<br>• The Government agreed to provide in-kind contribution to TA in the form of office space, remuneration and per diem of counterpart staff and other services. |
| 5. In the section entitled "**Activities and Milestones**", #2 lists the detailed feasibility studies that will be conducted, including those that could receive funding from the LDCF, Adaptation Fund and GCF. How will the feasibility studies be designed so as to ensure they are appropriate for any of these three funds? | • Feasibility studies will be supported through allocation of a budget of $200,000 to selected high priority NAPA projects, which have not yet received funding.<br>• Feasibility studies will be designed in a manner to generate information necessary for developing detailed project design documents in accordance with the respective guidelines of each international fund. While guidelines for LDCF and Adaptation Fund are clear, guidelines for accessing GCF are yet to be released. |
| 6. Have target provinces been identified for the sub-national parts of the TA? If not, how will they be prioritized? | • The locations of 7 investment projects (2 in agriculture, 2 in water resources, and 3 on infrastructure) have already been identified in Cambodia's SPCR, which was endorsed by the PPCR sub-committee in June 2011. Therefore, the sub-national parts of the TA will be in those provinces and towns where investment projects are to be implemented. |
| **7.** The activities under **Output 3** focus on helping NGOs and CSOs to carry out studies. How will additional studies create a portfolio of 30+ CBA and DRR projects by 2017 (p. 7)? How could these activities help to support communities and CSOs/NGOs more directly? | • As noted in output 3, the civil society support mechanism will award 30-50 grants. Some may conduct vulnerability and impact studies, while others may implement adaptation and DRR projects. To avoid confusion, both "studies" and "projects" are referred to in Para 13. Local communities will be involved in implementing them. CSOs will receive funding on a competitive basis to conduct studies and/or implement adaptation projects. |
| 8. **Output 4** mentions "awareness raising and multi-stakeholder workshops." Could you please provide more detail on what they will accomplish and who they will involve? | • Awareness raising and multi-stakeholder workshops will focus on topics such as, (i) vulnerability assessment; (ii) climate change impacts in various sectors; (iii) indigenous coping strategies for adaptation; (iv) community-based adaptation; (vi) ecosystem-based adaptation; (vii) infrastructure-based adaptation; (viii) options for |

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| | mainstreaming adaptation into development planning at policy and operational levels; (ix) community-based disaster risk management; (x) options for building climate resilience in various agro-ecosystems, and so on.<br>• The awareness raising and multi-stakeholder workshops are expected to: (i) increase awareness of impacts of climate change and coping strategies adopted by different communities; (ii) improve disaster preparedness among communities; (iii) enhance understanding of policy makers on locally appropriate adaptation technologies and practices; (iv) increase knowledge of policy makers on options for integrating climate risks in planning; and (v) enhance understanding of multiple ways for climate change cooperation among various stakeholders.<br>• Awareness raising and multi-stakeholder workshops will involve national, provincial and commune-level policy makers; vulnerable communities including women, children and youth; private sector including small and medium enterprises; NGOs, and development partners. The type and number of people to be involved will vary with the scope of the seminar, workshop, or focus group discussion. |
| **Follow-up queries:**<br>9. How does hiring of international consultants increase capacity in a sustainable way? How will knowledge be maintained within the Cambodian Government? | • Hiring international consultants for a limited time is a common practice employed by MDBs to facilitate knowledge transfer, provide support for in-country training, and exchange information on the best international practices of mainstreaming adaptation at policy and operational levels. The national consultants, who will be hired for a longer period, assist international consultants and establish good rapport with counterpart staff of the Executing and Implementing Agencies of the technical assistance (TA). The national consultants and counterpart staff of the government will play a key role in enhancing the capacity of the government in a sustainable way. However, their capacity is still limited; hence they need extensive support and guidance from international consultants.<br>• International consultants to be recruited under the TA will contribute to increasing capacity in a sustainable way in 3 ways: (i) by serving as the catalysts for mainstreaming process, (ii) by assisting the government in assessing capacity needs of various institutions, and (iii) through building analytical capacity and decision-making capacity of the government staff. The analytical and decision-making capacities are needed to sustain a constant process of change (in this case, mainstreaming adaptation into development). However, analytical, decision-making and institutional capacities are more difficult to develop and monitor than awareness raising, and will need holistic programs using a wide range of capacity building |

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| | approaches. It is expected that international consultants will contribute to improvement of analytical, decision-making and institutional capacities by organizing policy dialogues, discussion workshops, regional meetings, interactive workshops using case studies, field visits and other elements of experiential learning. International experts are expected to put stronger emphasis on "learning-by-doing" programs and "training of trainers" approaches, to develop managerial and analytical skills of the Government staff.<br>• Capacity for integrating adaptation into development planning cannot be built in a short time. Therefore, capacity of the government staff will be built through their active involvement in planning and organizing workshops, and in establishing the networks of adaptation practitioners at national and sub-national levels. By encouraging the government staff to take the lead in organizing adaptation knowledge-based events and policy dialogues, we believe that knowledge on adaptation will be maintained within the Cambodian government. In addition, by targeting other stakeholder groups outside the government, the TA is expected to eventually build a critical mass of people that can initiate and sustain a process of change. The TA will ensure to involve local institutions and experts as much as possible, from the planning stage onwards, in organizing and conducting the capacity building activities. The TA, through the systematic integration of adaptation and disaster risk reduction in curriculum of secondary and tertiary education, will also target generation of future decision-makers. We hope that these efforts will contribute to retention of knowledge and sustainability of mainstreaming efforts within Cambodia. |
| 10. The 3 sectors the GOC will focus on for adaptation integration into development planning are not in the project document but are in the SPCR. | • The Technical Assistance Report Paragraphs 3 and 5 clearly refer to sectors of interest for mainstreaming adaptation into development planning. Para 3 discusses vulnerability of priority sectors; para 5 discusses barriers for mainstreaming in different sectors.<br>• We had earlier followed ADB classification of target sectors and subsectors in the PPCR project summary document. To avoid confusion, necessary edits were made in the document by specifying 3 priority sectors. |
| 11. The responses given on awareness raising has a lot more detail than the plan, which would also be good to have included. | • Additional details on awareness raising and multi-stakeholder workshops are now given in the project summary. |

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| 1. The project largely consists of capacity development activities carried out by technical assistants, whose costs comprise 50% of the budget. It will be important that the support provided is sustainable and builds long term capacity in Government, and that the work on developing proposals for external funding is largely done by national staff and aligned to the highest national priorities more likely to be ultimately successful. To ensure this the monitoring and evaluation framework must include success criteria that reflect capacity development outcomes, i.e. staff demonstrating ability against identified measures, rather than activities such as number of workshops carried out. It would also be useful to include the number of successful NAPA project proposals *developed by national Government staff*. | • Suggestions are duly noted. The project team will make earnest efforts to realize the objectives mentioned.<br>• Additional indicators to reflect capacity development outcomes will be included in the inception report.<br>• Regarding NAPA proposals, at least two proposals are expected to be successfully developed and submitted for funding. |
| 2. On output 2 – feasibility studies for NAPA projects – some areas could be clarified further. The project should state how proposals for securing new external funding including from the Adaptation Fund will support the National Implementing Entity accreditation process; whether any of the Government agencies will be applying for accreditation on the basis of this support and how the project proposals will be coordinated with the NIE if and when there is one. | • The national implementing entity accreditation process is being supported by UNDP already. Therefore, no additional support for this is envisioned as part of the technical assistance. Project proposals will be coordinated with Multilateral Implementing Entities or National Implementing Entity depending on the preference of the government. |
| 3. Clarity is needed on where the programme funding for the civil society component will come from, this project appears to be only for developing a mechanism for allocating grants, where will the grants themselves be funded from? | • As indicated in cost estimates table, the funding for civil society component will come from the project budget. It is $2 million (out of total $7 million for the project). Of the $2 million, at least $1.4 million out will be used for grants themselves. |
| 4. Good to see an emphasis in this proposal on the role of Cambodian CSOs and NGOs in community based adaptation, an area identified as a particular strength of the SPCR by the technical reviewer. This will need to be continually monitored to ensure successful. | • Noted with thanks. The project team has high expectations on outcome of this effort. |
| 5. The project approval request is strong on articulating coordination with the various entities in Government that are relevant. Feedback from the embassy is that it engages with the relevant Government stakeholders including the Sub National Democratic Development Programme (decentralisation), the Cambodia Climate Change | • Noted with thanks. Mainstreaming climate risks into planning at sub-national levels is indeed challenging but efforts will be made in cooperation with other development partners, and local champions. |

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| Alliance, as well as national planning processes. The challenge will be in implementation, paticularly at local level where the sub national level offices have few resources. | |
| 6. We would appreciate seeing the final selection criteria for the NGO to manage the community adaptation component when these are determined. | • The detailed criteria of selection for the NGO to manage the community adaptation component will be shared with you. In addition, they will be posted on the ADB Consulting Services Recruitment Notice. |
| 7. It would be useful to clarify whether the 'advance payment facility' described under the implementation arrangements are to disburse this project funding or subsequent funds. | • Advance payment facility is a mechanism in ADB to disburse funds to the government in installments depending on work progress and liquidation of expenses. |
| 8. The monitoring framework overall is good, it includes baselines for some indicators, targets, assumptions and risks. However there are some gaps in the baselines which would be good to see completed early in implementation, including for the impact which refers to a 2012 baseline and so will need to be set soon. For the capacity development indicators it is not clear how these will be measured, for example under output 1 it says 'technical staff…acquire capacity to prepare adaptation plans' but does not state how this capacity will be assessed. Under output 2 it sates a target of 'at least 2 NAPA projects…identified for support from global adaptation funds' – does this mean that these are actually funded, having been successful in applying, or simply that they are submitted and acknowledged? | • Noted. Inception report for the project will identify baselines for various indicators. The 2012 baseline is the average of losses for 5 years from 2008 to 2012.<br>• For monitoring improvements in technical capacity to prepare adaptation plans, pre- and post-training questionnaires will be used. Additional measures to assess capacity will be included in the inception and progress reports.<br>• Considering the short duration of the project, low capacity of the national government staff, and considerable delays in approval of such global funds, only success in applying for funds can be assured at this stage. |
| 9. Given the high proportion of the budget allocated to technical assistance, could the ADB provide further assurances and breakdowns on the fees and expenses paid, that these are good value for money and that there will be a plan in place to ensure this capacity is transitioned to national Government core staff? | • Other PPCR SC members, however, noted that budget allocated for this TA is limited, considering its multiple objectives and its overarching role for coordination of investments of nearly $400 million. Insofar as reporting details on fees and expenses, the project will follow standard ADB procedures, and the project will not be treated differently from other ADB projects. As with all other capacity development TAs, efforts will be made to strengthen the capacity to national government core staff. |