

# PRESS RELEASE

## Over 2 Million Dollars Awarded at Climate Change Forum

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011, *for immediate release*

Today, at the Second National Forum on Climate Change, eight new grants were awarded to projects which will support capacity development and institutional strengthening to address climate change, ensure climate change integration into policy, strategy, plans and programmes, and promote climate change knowledge and awareness in Cambodia. The grants are part of a first round of financing and a second call for funding is expected soon.

The grants were selected by the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance (CCCA) Trust Fund under its first call for proposals. “We have received very interesting proposals with well thought-out plans and great potentials and we are looking forward to seeing them being implemented.” said Dr. Tin Ponlok, Head of the CCCA Trust Fund and Deputy Director General, Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection, Ministry of Environment, in his presentation during the ceremony.

As well, at the forum today, speaking at the opening session, H.E. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy, stressed that the Royal Government has placed high priority on the development of the energy sector, in particular, electricity while making efforts to minimise impacts on climate change.

Several issues related to climate change were presented and discussed during the working sessions: ‘Climate Change Adaptation – Challenges, Successes and lessons learnt’, ‘Climate Change Mitigation – Status, Progress, lessons learnt, policy gaps and recommendations’ and ‘Climate Change Financing’.

There were national, regional, and international presenters with a range of areas of expertise. Dr. Kien Tran-Mai of the Mekong River Commission (MRC) brings with him lesson learnt from a multi-country regional Mekong river basin-based adaptation initiative. Mr. Kati Veijonen of the Embassy of Finland elaborated the Energy and Environment Partnership for the Mekong - an example of mitigation intervention from a regional perspective. Ms. Aneta Nikolova of UNESCAP’s presented the green growth concept and its linkage with climate change. The presentation on progress in promoting aid effectiveness with focus on climate change in Cambodia was delivered by Mr. Ros Salin, Head of Policy and Aid Coordination Department, Council for the Development of Cambodia.

The forum will continue for a full day tomorrow and the highlight will be the presentation and discussion of the draft Cambodia’s positions for the forthcoming 17<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and of the draft roadmap for preparing a Cambodia’s Climate Change Strategic Plan.



**Note to Editors:**

**The Ministry of Environment (MoE)** is a Focal Point of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and the Designated National Authority (DNA) for the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

**The National Climate Change Committee (NCCC)** is the main body of the Forum. It has been established as the climate change policy making body with Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, serving as its Honorary Chair.

**The Climate Change Department (CCD)** of the Ministry of Environment is the main facilitator of the Second National Forum on Climate Change. CCD is the secretariat of the NCCC. It plays a key role in climate change action in Cambodia.

**Cambodia Climate Change Alliance (CCCA)** is a joint effort of the National Climate Change Committee and key development partners, a comprehensive, innovative and programme-based approach to address climate change and disaster risks in Cambodia (see CCCA brochure for details information).

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