



*Forestry Administration
National Forest Programme*

*Kingdom of Cambodia
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National Forest Programme in Cambodia

The forests in Cambodia are facing multiple threats of degradation and conversion to other land uses. A need to ensure sustainable management and equitable use of forests, through an organised long-term framework for the forest sector is therefore urgently needed.

The recent Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum meeting between the Royal Government of Cambodia and its development partners, resulted in a substantial increase in development aid highlights the importance of sustainable natural resource management for improving rural livelihoods and poverty alleviation.

The Forestry Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and stakeholders are embarking on a process to develop a National Forest Programme (NFP) as a significant step towards sustainable forest management. The National Forest Programme aims to meet local, national and global needs by providing a strategic coherent transparent framework to plan, manage, use, protect and regenerate forest resources for the benefit of present and future generations. The forest programme will be directly aligned with the national development strategies and the Millennium Goals.

A Task Force and a number of working groups with representatives from many sectors, civil society, non governmental organisations and knowledge institutions have been established with the main task to promote sustainable forest management through the development of the National Forest Programme. The National Forest Programme will be structured as a Framework Document attached with six specific programmes: Forest Demarcation, National Forest Management and Conservation, Forest Law Enforcement and Governance, Community Forestry, Capacity Building and Research, and Forest Financing. Consultations with the wider public both at the local and national levels will be conducted in the coming months.

The National Forest Programme is to be completed by September 2009 and the programme is supported by a Joint Monitoring Indicator set by the Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum and by a range of development partners including Danida, FAO, UNDP, JICA, and WB.

Inputs and suggestions are welcome and requested to be handed in to the Forestry Administration located at No. 40 Norodom Blvd, Phnom Penh - marked "National Forest Programme".



Picture 1: Permanent Forest Estate in Cambodia



Picture 2: Meeting of NFP Task Force to discuss NFP development