



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
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Ministry of Commerce
Department of International Cooperation (D/ICO)
Secretariat of Trade SWAp &
Trade Development Support Program

Trade SWAp Retreat 2013 Report

The 14th SSC Meeting, May 30, 2013

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Chairman of IC and EIF Focal Point



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Presentation Outline

- 1. Issues**
- 2. Challenges**
- 3. Lessons Learned**
- 4. Proposed Recommendations and Action Plan**



Issues

- Huge documentary requirements in TDSP Proposal Preparation
- Lack of cooperation among Pillar Working Group leaders and members
- Lack of interest of Pillar Working Group members in group meetings
- Unequal provision of grants to each of the Pillar Working Group
- Scarce automated processes and resources
- Lack of human and financial resources
- Capacity constraints on individual and institutional levels
- Some Pillar Roadmap indicators are not clearly defined and difficult to monitor.
- SWAp Pillar Structure are not responsive and needs further review, whereby participation from new stakeholders are welcome.
- Existing Roadmap needs to be updated and simplified.
- Wider participation from other stakeholders are lacking and has to be sought.
- Corresponding Incentives Program must be introduced and implemented to increase quality of the dialogue and its outcomes.
- Complicated procedures in project implementation.



Challenges

- Achieve trade reforms, using the revised Trade SWAp Roadmap and DTIS Updated 2013, without compromising compliance/control
- Prepare the Pillar Working Groups and Sub-Working Groups to take on various trade obligations arising out of international Agreements.
- Aligning the Trade SWAp Roadmap initiatives with commitments at Regional and Multilateral level to bring synergies and efficiency.
- Integrating trade mechanisms, strategies and programs in the NSDP and Rectangular Strategy reformulation.



Lessons Learned



- **Formulation of New Trade Proposals:** Find suitable partners for strategic proposal preparation; Strengthen role of PWG in project formulation and in appraising project proposal.
- **Capacity Development:** Knowledge transfer from experts to government officials and staff; Introduce financial and non-financial incentives program to enhance capacity building.
- **Project Coordination and Management:** Commitment of the head of the IAs in managing and implementing projects; Adoption of simplified procedures in finance, procurement and M & E.
- **Commitment of Members and Sub-Working Group:** Less active participation of some PWG members because they do not have any project implemented/funded under Trade SWAp; Increase participation of technical experts, officials, and relevant sector representatives in PWG meetings.
- **Sustainability of Projects under Each Pillar:** Allocation and use of the department or agency's resources even after completion of a Project.



Recommendations and Action Plan



- **Updating the Pillar Roadmaps:** Pillar Roadmap must be reviewed and simplified; KPIs must be developed in consultation with the lead/relevant agency and technical departments.
- **Understanding and Ownership of the Updated Roadmaps:** PWG representatives must be consulted in the updating of the Trade SWAp Roadmap; Pillar WGs should be the one to define their own action plan to strengthen sense of ownership.
- **Strengthening the Role of Pillar WGs and Sub-Working Groups:** Revise current Prakas and update PWG membership; Ensure all ministries have access to Trade SWAp funding for their project.
- **M & E System:** Select practical, realistic, and workable indicators; Select focal persons for each PWG to monitor Roadmap achievements.
- **Role of Donors:** Invite new donors to Trade SWAp; Adopt better incentives to PWG members by providing transportation allowance in meetings; Align DPs program support to Trade SWAp requirements.
- **Role of Private Sector:** Invite private sectors to become PWG member or observer.



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