

**WORKSHOP ON EIF TIER 2 PROJECT FORMULATION
AUGUST 16, 2011, PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA**

Cambodia has been at the forefront of trade mainstreaming into national development policies and for making trade a key tool for poverty reduction and sustainable human development. Cambodia has pioneered the use of a Sector-Wide Approach (SWAp) in the trade field since 2008, an experiment many Least Developed Countries from Asia and Africa alike are hoping to emulate.

Still, the implementation of Cambodia's Diagnosis Trade Integration Strategy 2007 (DTIS 2007) is far from being complete, as important areas under the SWAp's three development pillars remained underfunded.

To address these challenges, Cambodia has the possibility to access resources available under the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) Tier 2 initiative. The EIF is a multi-donor programme, which supports LDCs to be more active players in the global trading system by helping them tackle supply-side constraints to trade. In this way, the programme works towards a wider goal of promoting economic growth and sustainable development and helping to lift more people out of poverty. The programme is currently helping 47 LDCs worldwide, supported by a multi-donor trust fund, the EIF Trust Fund, with contributions from 23 donors.

Cambodia is already benefited from the EIF Tier 1 funding, through a project implemented by the Ministry of Commerce, to increase the capacities of trade-related institutions to update, manage and monitor the country's trade development agenda. The Ministry of Commerce, in its capacity of Trade SWAp Secretariat, has also developed a medium-term Aid-For-Trade strategy that will allow, once implemented, to boost capacities and address supply-side constraints in key export-oriented sectors. To do so, it organized on August 16 2011 a workshop aimed at laying the foundations for effective Tier 2 programme formulation in Cambodia.



The workshop, organized in the framework of the EIF Tier 1 project, gathered officials from several line ministries in addition to those from the Ministry of Commerce. After several presentations on SWAp and EIF, the participants worked in group to produce 4 concept notes using the EIF Tier 2 guide- lines. Those concept notes will serve as a basis for a multiyear programme formulation. The sectors identified as priority are Garment, Rice, Silk and Tourism.

Sitting at the Left Mr. Chhieng Pich, D/ICO Director; H.E. PAN Sorasak, Secretary of State and EIF Focal Point, MoC in the middle and Mr. Pheanuroth Sisowath, Senior Technical Adviser, Representative to the International Trade Centre, at the Workshop on "Cambodia EIF Tier 2 Program Formulation", August 16, 2011, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

In his closing remarks, HE Pan Sorasak, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Commerce and EIF Focal Point for Cambodia, stressed the importance of an inclusive approach to define trade-related needs. Trade by definition cannot be limited to the needs and expectations of one ministry alone, but should encompass all line ministries. Needless to say, the private sector and the donor community should contribute to make the approach a comprehensive, far-reaching and efficient one.

Several activities will be organized in the coming weeks to elaborate on the concept notes developed during the workshop and finalize a Tier 2 Programme document for Cambodia.

More information on SWAp: Cambodia Trade SWAp website – www.moc.gov.kh/tradeswap
More information on EIF: Suon Prasith – prasithsuon@gmail.com