

UPDATE ON RECENT DEVELOPMENT RELATED TO FORESTRY FOCAL AGENCY OF CAMBODIA

1- Laws and Policy

For your information, undergoing the institutional reforms since the Law on Forestry 2002 was promulgated, Cambodia is modernizing forest governance through an amendment of Forestry Law to adapt the recent trend of forestry sector as well as to enhance implementation of sustainable forest management. The new amended Forestry Law will prioritize in promoting regional forestry information exchange, sharing best practices in regional forestry development, forestry and climate change and serve the realization of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use.

2- Government Strategies

The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) submitted its Long-Term Strategy for Carbon Neutrality (LTS4CN) to the UNFCCC in December 2021 — became one of the first Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Asia to do so. It outlines a roadmap to achieve net-zero (GHG) emissions by 2050, aligning closely with the Paris Agreement's goal to limit global warming to 1.5 °C. The LTS4CN provides the long-term vision that guides Cambodia's NDC 3.0 (2025–2035), ensuring consistency between medium-term actions and long-term decarbonisation goals.

The RGC officially submitted NDC 3.0 in August 2025 to UNFCCC, aim under the unconditional scenario, it commits to around 16 % reduction by 2035 compared to the “business as usual” (BAU) and with economy-wide GHG emissions reduction target (under the conditional scenario) to 55 % by 2035 relative to the “business as usual” (BAU) scenario.

According to the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP 2024-2028), the following outstanding achievements are highlighted:

- The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) enhances activities on development of community forestry, forest conservation, and forest rehabilitation. Currently, there are 651 community forests covering 528 658 ha;
- The RGC encourages cooperation activities on reforestation with private sector and relevant partners;
- The RGC has successfully established 73 Natural Protected Areas covering 7,046,863 ha (40% of country's total area);
- 1.27 million ha equivalent to 17.6% of the total Protected Area have been reserved for carbon trading purposes;
- 2.46 million ha equivalent to 34.1% of the total Protected Area have been reserved for REDD+ project.