Welcome to the fourth edition of the ‘Blue Book’, the annual report on the activities of European Union (EU) development partners in Cambodia. In this publication you will find a general overview, as well as more specific information, on the Official Development Assistance (ODA) provided to Cambodia by the European Union’s Member States and the EU’s executive branch, the European Commission.

Over the past years, the combined European Union has been the largest provider of ODA to Cambodia, almost exclusively in the shape of grant aid. At the annual government-donor meeting, the Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum (CDCF), the European Union pledged €130 million (approximately $192 million) in 2007. This represented 25% of the total ODA pledged in support of Cambodia’s development in that year.

In order to maximise what we can achieve with the aid we provide, and in line with the international commitments we have taken on, European Union development partners have also been playing an increasingly important role in promoting the aid effectiveness agenda in Cambodia over the past years. We have set ourselves an ambitious agenda in the EU Roadmap for Aid Effectiveness, a working document that is updated every year.

One concrete example of these efforts in 2007 was the initiative we collectively took to harmonise salary supplementation, regularising the incentives provided to the government’s employees in alignment with the policies of the Royal Government of Cambodia. Another expression of our commitment in aid effectiveness is the work that is now underway on a Division of Labour among EU development partners, through which a single EU development partner could represent all its EU colleagues in specific sectors or themes, leading to increased coherence and avoiding duplication. Although born under the EU flag, these initiatives are all open to other development partners who are willing and able to join.

In relation to previous editions we have decided this year to add some case studies, to illustrate in some detail the concrete impact which the funding provided by the European Union is making to day-to-day development in Cambodia. We hope you will find this publication of interest.

Jean-François DESMAZIÈRES
French Ambassador and EU Presidency Representative

Rafael DOCHAO MORENO
Chargé d’Affaires a.i.
EC Delegation to Cambodia
Developing countries have the primary responsibility for their own development, but developed countries bear responsibility too. The European Union, both at the levels of its Member States and of the Community, is committed to meeting this responsibility and working towards positive change.

The European Union is the world’s largest donor of international assistance, currently providing more than 55% of the world’s official development aid. It spends €46 billion (more than $68 billion) per year on development assistance. The European Commission, the executive body of the EU, alone provides more than €7 billion (over $10 billion) a year as it aims to tackle poverty and provide humanitarian assistance wherever it is needed. The EU is also the most important economic and trading partner for developing countries. It offers specific trading benefits to developing countries, especially to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) like Cambodia.

The primary objective of EU development cooperation is the eradication of poverty in the context of sustainable development. This includes the pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). To reach its goals, the EU is dedicated to working with all development partners to improve the quality and impact of its aid as well as to improve donor practices and to help partner countries use aid flows effectively. Core principles of EU cooperation include national ownership, donor coordination and harmonisation starting at the field level, alignment with recipient country policies, and an orientation aimed at results.

In Cambodia too, where the European Union is the biggest provider of grant aid, the priority objective of EU development cooperation is supporting Cambodian efforts to reduce poverty and integrate the country into the world economy. To this effect, as you will see in this “Blue Book,” EU donors have designed their programmes with a focus on sectors such as education, health, rural development, public administration reform, and trade and private sector development.

* Throughout this publication the exchange rate used for conversion from € to $ is that of February 2008: €1 equals $1.481
The common objectives of EU development policies outlined by the European Consensus on Development reaffirm the EU’s commitment to poverty eradication, ownership, partnership, delivering more and better aid and promoting policy coherence for development in many areas. These areas include trade, environment, climate change, security, agriculture, fisheries, social dimensions of globalisation, employment and decent work, migration, research and innovation, information society, transport and energy.

As the world’s largest aid donor, the EU has pledged to increase its aid budget in order to achieve a target of 0.7% of gross national income by 2015, with an intermediate collective target of 0.56% by 2010. This translates to an additional €20 billion per year from 2010. In 2006, the EU was ahead of target: the target was 0.39% but it achieved 0.43%.

Regarding Aid for Trade the EU (the Council and the Member States) agreed on 15 May 2007 to increase the Member States’ spending for trade-related assistance to €1 billion per year by 2010. This will bring the entire contribution of the EU, including the community contribution, to €2 billion per year by 2010.

Good governance, democracy and respect for human rights are essential to the process of sustainable development. The EU supports the processes of democratic governance under a partnership-based approach through dialogue with partner-governments - and as a donor through its various financial instruments.

In tackling the three most devastating global health problems – HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis – the EU increased funding to existing financing instruments at a global and country level. This includes the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Taken together, the EU has provided about 55% of the $10.4 billion in funding pledged to the Global Fund.

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1 In 2005, the Council, the European Commission and the European Parliament agreed on an overall policy approach to development - the European Consensus on Development which contains the main guiding principles for action of the European Union and Member States. It highlights how different policy aspects must fit together. It also emphasizes that policies should be worked out and applied in partnership with developing countries.
To help achieve a more rapid, equitable and sustainable poverty reduction, the EU is committed to action in a broad range of sectors including agriculture, community and social welfare, education, environment and conservation, health, HIV/AIDS, gender, good governance, rural development, trade, urban planning and management, water supply & sanitation.

The EU Joint Statement delivered at the first Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum 2007 highlighted the commitment of all EU donors to supporting the implementation of Cambodia’s National Strategy Development Plan (NSDP) which has good governance at its core.

The EU wants to increase the amount of development funding being provided through sector-wide programmes and budget support. For this reason, the EU attaches high importance to the Royal Government’s achieving a high standard in public financial management and public services in general.

EU Road Map: A quantitative increase in development funding needs to be accompanied by qualitative improvements. To this end, the “EU Road Map for Increased Aid Effectiveness” identifies concrete aid effectiveness measures for implementation by all EU partners in Cambodia. The road map can be used to help strengthen existing national processes or to promote new initiatives. As part of the plan to increase aid effectiveness, the EU wants to overcome the high fragmentation of development assistance by advancing the division of labour between EU Member States.

EU Projects and Programmes: More than 200 projects and programs, valued at over €708 million (more than $1,048 million), are being implemented. Projects and programmes are implemented by the EU development partners in cooperation with the responsible government agencies and through partnerships with multilateral agencies, including UN bodies, the World Bank and ADB, as well as international and local NGOs.

Disbursement: In 2007, EU development partners expected to disburse €130 million (approximately $192 million) in support of Cambodia’s development agenda. This includes disbursements by Member States and the European Commission, including those made through bi- and multilateral organisations and international and national NGOs.

EU Development Partners: EU donors most active in Cambodia include Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the European Commission.

- **Belgium** supports basic education, teacher training and the provision of health services in three provinces. It also funds rural development projects, targeting rural livelihoods.

- **Denmark** supports strengthened natural resource management in order to improve the livelihoods of the rural poor. The support increasingly will be given at the local level. The natural resource management and livelihood programme is implemented through a joint funding arrangement with the UK Department
for International Development. Denmark also funds NGO projects on human rights, anti-corruption and other activities to develop the Legal and Judicial Reform Strategy.

- **Finland** supports rural development and land management as well as in prevention of human trafficking.

- **France** is a donor to HIV/AIDS projects and a supporter of higher education institutions. It also is involved in strengthening institutions and development programmes in the legal, health and administrative sectors. It is active in rural development and trade and also funds human rights NGO projects.

- **Germany** is a donor to a wide variety of projects in the fields of rural development, health and governance.

- **Italy** supports urban and rural development and provides relief to populations at risk.

- **Spain** supports social sectors related to gender issues. This includes anti-human trafficking programs and efforts on behalf of other vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities.

- **Sweden** supports the UNICEF Expanded Basic Education Programme, decentralisation of government and NGO projects on human rights.

- The **United Kingdom** supports improved access to health and HIV/AIDS services, public financial management, local governance as well as improved rural livelihoods and natural resource management. Its focus for 2005-2008 is on working with others to strengthen aid effectiveness.

- **Austria**, the **Czech Republic**, the **Netherlands** and **Poland** provide support for rural energy, market access, NGO activities, humanitarian assistance, cultural co-operation, good governance and human rights, education and human resource development.

- The **European Commission** supports education, health, social issues, rural development, food security, environment, private sector development, administrative reform, and democratisation and human rights.
# Mapping Table EU Development Programmes

## Cumulative disbursements planned per sector in 2007-2010

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EC: European Commission
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FR: France
PO: Poland
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European Union - Development Activities in Cambodia ◆ 9
In line with the Paris Declaration commitment to improve aid delivery, the EU has committed to provide better aid and reduce its transaction costs. This requires working with development partners to more effectively implement the aid flows and to better monitor aid effectiveness in all developing countries.

The EU also made four additional commitments. It pledged to provide more assistance through multi-donor arrangements; channel to 50% of government-to-government assistance through country systems (including raising the level of EU assistance given via budget support or sector-wide approaches); to avoid the setup of any new project implementation units; and to reduce the number of uncoordinated missions by 50%.

EU donors in Cambodia in 2006 also established an EU Road Map for Increased Aid Effectiveness. The goal is to ensure more rapid achievement of Millennium Development Goals, specifically, sustainable poverty reduction. It will also strengthen country leadership in the aid effectiveness agenda and maximise the impact of EU aid to Cambodia through increased coordination and alignment among the EU Member States and the EC.
Austria follows the principles of geographic and thematic concentration in its development assistance.

Although Cambodia is not among its programme countries, Austria funds fellowships for a limited number of scientists and researchers.

It also funds Austrian NGO projects in close cooperation with local partners. It finances two projects implemented by UNIDO. They are Rural Energy for Productive Use and Income Generation in Cambodia (€643,000 or more than $952,000) and Market Access Support for Cambodia through the Strengthening of Capacities related to Metrology, Testing and Conformity” (€487,000 or over $721,000).

In the past, Austria has contributed to de-mining activities.

Bringing government closer to the people

A move towards decentralization

Until the first democratic elections of Commune Councils in February 2002 the administrative system in Cambodia was completely centralized. After the commune elections, selected powers and responsibilities were transferred to the newly elected Councils, though the administration of the districts remained completely under the centralized system.

The two Cambodian partner towns in this project, Battambang and Siem Reap, are fast growing urban areas of high economic importance. For this reason they were chosen as role models for decentralized governmental structures, which is expected to result in better delivery of public services and greater participation at the district level. The approach funded by the EU through the Asia Urbs programme is important for the formulation and implementation of Cambodia’s decentralization strategy as well as its democratic development.

Opening the window to local government

The project has achieved several of its milestones. The delivery of public services at the local level, such as the registration of motorbikes, shops, restaurants and guesthouses, is being successfully implemented through “One Window Services,” bringing government services together under one roof. The appointment of District Councils from among the elected members of the Commune Councils, and the selection of an Ombudsman with the participation of local civil society representatives, also are significant steps. The appointment of an official spokesman who can communicate decisions, strategies and proceedings within the districts is another important measure to bring democracy and transparency to the local level.

“Due to the administration reforms, we have removed ourselves from bureaucracy and have come closer to the citizens,” said Mr. Sieng Suthong, Deputy Governor of Battambang Province.
The main objective of Belgian Official Development Cooperation (ODC) in Cambodia is sustainable human resource development. The overall objective is to support implementation of Cambodia’s poverty reduction strategy.

Special attention is paid to national efforts to promote good governance, focusing on key sectors of national priority such as education, health, sustainable development and use of natural resources for navigation in the Mekong River. The assistance is targeted at the least-assisted geographic areas and the most disadvantaged and vulnerable population.

Although Cambodia has not been a partner country of Belgium with regard to ODC since 2005, the Belgian government continues to focus on existing projects that it supported and the possible extension of these projects. An exception has been made however for the basic education project, which has been credited with an additional budget of €4.7 million for 2007-2009 (over $6.9 million).

Disbursements: The plan disbursements for 2007 amount to €5,600,000 (more than $8,293,000). Approved activities are in a broad range of sectors including education, health, government and civil society, social services, transport and storage, agriculture, forestry and fishery, environmental protection, women and development and urban and rural development. The expected 2008 disbursement is estimated at €4 million. (over $5.9 million)
In the 1960s and 1980s Cambodia was one of Czechoslovakia’s most important Asian partners. Development assistance was provided in the form of transport equipment, machinery such as textile and shoemaking machines, sugar mills, diesel generators, tyre making plants and hydro and thermal power engineering equipment. The construction of the thermal power plant Chak Angré in Phnom Penh was the biggest project financed by Czechoslovakia.

Czechoslovakia also provided medical experts to Cambodian hospitals as well as scholarships for Cambodian students to study at Czech high schools and universities. That programme continues successfully today. Five Cambodian students are at present studying in the Czech Republic. Also in 2007 the Czech Republic contributed about €40,000 (over $ $59,000) to the construction of new primary schools in Takeo province.

**Cultural Cooperation**

Prominent personalities in Cambodian society, including His Majesty King Norodom Sihamoni who studied in Prague between 1962 and 1975, can speak Czech and continue to maintain contacts with the Czech Republic. This provides a basis for cultural cooperation that the Czech Republic intends to deepen in the future. In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the Czech Republic and Cambodia King Sihamoni visited the Czech Republic in September 2006 and the Czech Minister of Finance visited Phnom Penh.

**Disbursements:** Actual disbursements for 2007 amount to €130,000 (equal to $192,500). Approved activities are development cooperation in Takeo province and nuclear analysis of building Angkor monuments. Estimated 2008 disbursements are at €190,000 (over $280,000).

In addition to the ODA, several Czech NGOs (ADRA Czech Republic, Stonožka-Centipede) provide assistance to Cambodia, particularly to HIV/AIDS related projects.
**Denmark** supports the improvement of livelihoods for the rural poor through strengthened natural resource management. The support will cover 14 provinces and 707 communes by 2010. Denmark also funds a number of government institutions and NGO projects in the areas of human rights, good governance and implementation of the Legal and Judicial Reform Strategy.

The main objective of Denmark’s development assistance is poverty reduction subject to cross-cutting issues such as human rights, gender, environment and HIV/AIDS.

In 1997, the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Danish government signed a Memorandum of Understanding on assistance to the natural resources and environment sector in Cambodia. A Cooperation Agreement on a Natural Resource and Environment programme was signed in 2001 and was implemented through 2005.

**A five-year Natural Resource Management and Livelihoods** programme cooperation agreement was signed in 2006 for joint Danida/DFID support. It began in August 2006.

The programme has three components: 1) NRM in Decentralisation and Deconcentration. 2) Civil

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**Clean and effective agricultural production**

About 77% Cambodians earn a living from agriculture, most as subsistence farmers. The country’s average paddy yield is the lowest in Southeast Asia and a key problem is the inability of subsistence farmers to efficiently manage crop production. Regulations restricting the importation and sales of some pesticides exist, but pesticide abuse is an issue of great concern.

Danida is providing support to establish farming schools. The focus is on integrated crop cycle management that includes more than reduced use of pesticides. Under Danida’s NRML programme, the successful activities of the Integrated Pest Management Project funded under the NRE programme 2001-2005 are replicated. The direct results of the IPM project have been increases in yields and a reduction in use of farming inputs. The project has reached as many as 100,000 farmers and their families. The estimated additional direct economic gain to the farmers could be in the order of $10 million annually.

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Uy Chou, 46, farms in Trapaing village located in Chrey commune of the Kampong Trabek district in Prey Veng province. The family of nine owns 2.1 ha of land, using 2 ha of this to grow wet season rice and 0.1 ha for vegetables. Chou participated in one of the IPM farmer field schools supported by Danida.

"The FFS taught me to reduce the amount of rice seeds and chemical pesticides I use for farming and instead use compost as fertiliser. This has increased my income as the yield of my rice fields has gone up and the cost of inputs has gone down," Chou says.

Chou also learned to practise integrated fish production, resulting in a return of US$25 from produced fish with the cost of inputs at US$10. Previously, he struggled to make ends meet. "But now, I can afford to send most of my children to school," he adds.

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*Courtesy of Denmark Embassy*
Society and Pro-Poor Markets 3) NRM Sector and Policy Development (Land Management, Forestry & Environment & Fisheries)

Danida also implements a Human Rights and Good Governance programme that provides support to both NGOs and government institutions. The 2006-2008 phase supports the strengthening of civil and political rights, legal and judicial reform, provisions of legal aid, fighting corruption and increasing transparency and accountability within government. A new phase is under formulation.

A number of Danish NGOs also implement Danida funded projects in Cambodia in health, HIV/AIDS, gender-based violence, legal and judicial reform and agricultural development.

In addition a three-year programme to strengthen Cambodia’s role in the globalisation process is expected to start in 2008 with a commitment of €5.36 million (40 million Danish Kroner).

Disbursements: Actual disbursements for 2007 are more than €8,987,000 (over $13,309,000). Approved activities are in a broad range of sectors such as NRML programme, HRGG programme, new programme and support to Danish NGOs. Plan 2008 disbursements are at €9,189,000 (equal $13,609,000) and an estimated 2009 disbursement estimated at €12,019,000 (over $17,800,000).

* Exchange rate: €1 = 7.4546 DKK
Finland has supported Cambodia since the 1990’s. In the beginning the cooperation mainly consisted of humanitarian aid directed to reconstruction and funded through the United Nations Development Programme.

In recent years Finland has been involved in bilateral and multilateral development cooperation projects especially in rural development and land management as well as in prevention of human trafficking.

Humanitarian aid to mine operation related projects helps victims readjust into society, spread mine education and clear mines. Finnish NGOs support agricultural development and education especially in the rural areas. Through funds for local development cooperation, Finland has supported Cambodian NGOs working on human rights and vocational training of disabled people. Finland also supports regional Mekong projects in cooperation with the Mekong River Commission and Asian Development Bank.

The Land Management and Administration Project in collaboration with the World Bank has improved land tenure security and promoted the development of efficient land markets. The project has impacts on the development of national policies, regulatory framework, institutions for land administration and on the issuance and registration of land titles. About one million land titles have been so far been distributed and the work continues. The project has helped to establish an efficient and transparent land administration system.

Prevention of All Forms of Trafficking in Woman and Children project has enhanced the capacity of national and local authorities to prevent trafficking. The project has also helped the victims of trafficking to reintegrate to the society.

Disbursements: The plan disbursements for 2007 amount to €2,587,400 (about $3,832,000). Approved activities are in a broad range of sectors such as humanitarian mine operations, land management and prevention of human trafficking. Expected 2008 disbursements are estimated at €2,705,600 (approximately $4 million).
France’s cooperation in Cambodia is tailored to respond to international and national frameworks, particularly the Millennium Development Goals and the core partnership document outlining commitments made under France-Cambodia cooperation.

France has provided assistance to Cambodia under a series of initiatives undertaken since the signing of the Paris Agreements in 1991. This assistance encourages and supports regional integration in Southeast Asia and is in keeping with a sub-regional approach consistent with the multilateral donor programs. It is provided in compliance with the principles of harmonization of Official Development Assistance commensurate with the Paris Conference.

This aid is made available through projects implemented by the Embassy of France and the French Development Agency (Agence française de développement), which are of a cross-cutting or sectorial nature.

**Support for the rule of law and good governance:** Assistance for technical cooperation and training programs aimed at promoting rule of law and improved access to legal services, as well as coaching Cambodia in the globalization process through the creation of a secure economic and legal environment at the corporate level.

**Millennium Development Goals:** Agriculture, environment and health, as well as AIDS prevention, are the areas receiving the most support through French aid.

**Cross-cutting programs:** Cross-cutting approaches are interventions designed to back-up sector programs, such as the promotion of higher education and research, cultural diversity and francophony. A significant amount of aid is channelled to civil society via NGOs. Rebuilding of a skilled and competent management is a priority area of French cooperation, given the crucially important role of this initiative in achieving sustainable development in Cambodia.
Rubber production in Cambodia flourished in the 1960s due to the quality of “red soil” areas in the eastern part of the country. By the late 1960’s, areas under cultivation amounted to 70,000 ha., but the plantations fell into ruin during the Khmer Rouge era. Due to high world commodity prices and to alternative approaches to industry-level plantations, the French Development Agency (Agence française de développement - AFD), has helped to rebuild the Cambodian rubber sector with major private sector involvement. Land under rubber tree cultivation is now at 75,000 ha., half privately owned. The rubber production sector is in a position to generate about US$60 million in exports, or 2.5 percent of the national export volume and nearly 20 percent of exports, exclusive of textiles and shoes.

Since 1999, an additional 3,000 ha of rubber trees have been planted under this project in Kompong Cham province, with nearly 1,000 families benefiting. This translates into an average net annual income of US$1,000/ha for small holders, or those with 1.5 to 3 ha. These farmers need access to long-term credit with terms appropriate to the specific conditions of rubber tree growing in order to benefit further. So far, this approach, combined with assistance in obtaining land title, which can be used as loan collateral, has enabled 70 percent of the families in the project to get out from poverty.

Thy Sambo—A “pioneer” success story

In 1999 when the AFD-funded project was just getting underway, Thy Sambo decided to try his hand at rubber production. He put in 1 hectare of trees on red soil in his commune of Rokar Popram, Kompong Cham province. He added a second hectare in 2000 and a final one in 2001.

During the five years when the rubber trees were still immature, cashew trees, jackfruit trees and banana plants were grown between the rows as an interim income. He began harvesting rubber in 2004 on the first hectare with a yield of 800 kg of dry rubber that sold at about US$1,500 a ton. The next year Sambo produced nearly 2 tons at a price of $1,800 a ton. He anticipates a yield of 3.2 tons in 2007. His wife and son provide the tapper services. Sambo says he is spending his additional earnings on household improvements including electricity and water, as well as a motorcycle. He is now able to pay the fees for his children to go to school.
Germany, with a total annual bilateral grant of about €22 million ($32.5 million) in 2006 and its substantial contribution to the Development Cooperation of the European Union is one of Cambodia’s major external development partners.

The ultimate aim of the German-Cambodian Development Cooperation is poverty alleviation as it is addressed in the Cambodia Millennium Development Goals (CMDG).

Rural development and health sector reform is the focus of Germany’s long-term commitment. As a cross cutting topic, German Development Cooperation helps to advance democratic institutions and the voice of civil society as well as developing capacities of the administrative system and promoting good governance.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is the German government agency responsible for planning and programming the development cooperation. The Germany Embassy reinforced by a BMZ representative coordinates the work of the main implementing organizations: GTZ (Technical Cooperation), KfW (Financial Cooperation), DED (German Development Service), InWEnt (Agency for Advanced Training and Development) and CIM (Centre for Migration and Development).

Activities in de-mining, the safe deposit of old stocks of ammunition and for the preservation of Cambodia’s cultural heritage are also included in programmes of the Federal Foreign Office. German NGOs, political foundations, and church organisations contribute as well.

The different organizations have established a close collaboration in order to enhance their efficiency. Germany’s activities are guided by priority area strategies, jointly designed with Cambodian counterparts and based on national strategies.

Disbursements: The disbursement for 2007 totals €16.7 million. (approximately $24.7 million) Activities are in a broad range of sectors including social, economic, physical infrastructure, and multi-sectoral. Expected 2008 disbursements are estimated of €14.8 million. ($21.9 million)
Hardly a week passes without another story about a land conflict between the rich and powerful and the urban and rural poor, but what doesn’t make the news is that the cases are being resolved at a rapid rate. Every month about 25,000 land titles are being properly registered for land owners who have lacked clear title since the Khmer Rouge era. In the last five years, more than 1 million land titles have been surveyed and adjudicated with at least 85% of the new land title owners going to the rural poor.

German and Finnish technical advisors are working with the Ministry of Land to set up administrative and technical capacity. Nearly all title cases have been resolved; only 0.02% failed because of ongoing conflict. Titles cost $5 to $10 in the rural areas, a price that the rural poor should be able to afford once a World Bank loan ends. The title fee for agricultural land is about $2.5 per ha.

Mrs. Chok Chantha, a farmer in Russey Thlork, a small village in Prey Veng Province, 75 km south of Phnom Penh, explains how she received titles for her rice fields and her residential land. “It took longer than I thought, but it is a very cheap fee. We have a clear boundary with our neighbors and we will not dispute it anymore. These titles will help me to borrow money from the bank much easier than before, and I do not need to find more witnesses to guarantee my land.”
Italy has been working in Cambodia with multi-bilateral development cooperation projects since 1991. The aid has been carried out particularly in the emergency sector through the supply of food aid and in favour of the refugees in fields prioritised by the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP 2006-2010), with United Nations Development Programme and World Bank support. Future aid strategy centres on projects that have shown very good results both in promoting respect for human rights and in improving economic development.

The main sectors of Italian cooperation

1) Promotion of human rights against trafficking of persons and sexual violence. These two social curses that afflict the country must be resolved since they undermine normal development of society.
2) Improvement of rural infrastructure and farm techniques. Improvements in agriculture deeply affect the quality of farmers’ life and enhance the income of one of the poorest brackets of society.

Programme and priorities in Cambodia

Promotion of Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation through legal and policy support (HRPTV): sponsored by IOM and focused on those provinces at higher risk of trafficking of human beings. The first phase is finished, but the MFA is looking at a possible second phase.

Integrated Programme for Rural Development: sponsored by FAO and aimed at enhancing food security and ameliorating socio-economic conditions of the people in the area of Battambang.

Strengthening Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care among Drug Users and in Prison Settings: aims to improve cooperation between the public security sector and community based programmes of HIV vulnerability from drug abuse in prisons.

Regional Cooperative Mechanism to monitor and execute the ACCORD Plan of Action: the objective is to establish a suitable coordination mechanism to facilitate the execution of the ACCORD plan of action.

Phase III of UNESCO Project for the Restoration of Pre Rup Temple.
In 2004, Italy funded the UNESCO Project Safeguarding of the Angkor Wat Temple. It has been in a stalemate until 2007 and has now been reconfirmed.

Regional Programme for Child Protection: sponsored by UNICEF for the protection of minors at risk of trafficking or sexual exploitation.
In 2003 the Netherlands decided to concentrate bilateral aid on a limited number of countries. Emphasis was put on the poorest countries, mainly in Africa. As a result of this, the bilateral development cooperation programme with the Cambodian Government came to an end on December 31, 2005.

However, embassy project funding is still available to support small-scale rights-based poverty alleviation initiatives through the Small Projects Programme (PKP) managed by the Embassy in Bangkok.

The PKP Programme provides grants of up to €25,000 each (approximately equivalent to US$37,000).

Disbursements: Estimated disbursements for 2007 are more than €83,000 (US$123,000). Approved activities fall in the areas of reproductive health, ethnic minorities’ rights, and children’s rights. It is expected that the 2008 disbursements will be more or less the same.

Decentralization is a fast-growing element of administrative reform in Cambodia. With the passage of relevant laws and decrees, the establishment of the Department of Local Administration (DoLA) and with regularly elected Commune Councils, different roles and responsibilities have been transferred out from under the central ministries to the commune councils.

Civil registration
During decades of war, birth, marriage and death records were destroyed or never formalized and although later, provinces began collecting civil records they often used different methods. The absence of non-formalized records and a single national system created considerable consequences including lack of proof of age, marital status, parentage, inheritance, citizenship and entitlement to property.

With financial support from The Netherlands, the Office of Civil Registration (OoCR) now has established a nationally standardized civil registration system compiling records that can be used in development planning at national and local levels as well as for voter registration.

At the end of August 2006, the project achieved its goal to register the births of 80% of the population. Commune councils and OoCR staff were trained capacity building. Information on civil registration is sent to OoCR on a monthly basis. The budget for civil registration has been included in the overall budget of the Ministry of Interior.

Waiting their turn to be registered, people interviewed expressed satisfaction in being able to obtain birth certificates for each of their family members. However the civil registration still has a way to go, particularly with regard to women. At 14 legal rights seminars organized by the NGO Women for Prosperity, the women participants said the absence of civil registration records was a major obstacle preventing them from proving the existence of their marriages, pursuing property rights at divorce, and validating their parentage, age and rights to attend school.
Since Poland and Cambodia established diplomatic relations in 1956, a number of development projects have been successfully achieved. Polish financial assistance and co-operation with Cambodia concentrated on human resources, culture and education system development.

In the ‘80s and ‘90s several dozen Cambodian students received scholarships from the Republic of Poland and graduated from Polish universities. From 1989-1993 the Polish Mission of restorers was actively involved in the restoration and conservation of the Angkor Wat temples complex and murals of Silver Pagoda Gallery in Phnom Penh.

**Education – ticket to the better future**

The Basic Education System Development is the focus of Polish-Cambodian co-operation at this point. The Chey Mungkul Primary School, Kean Svay District, Kandal Province (CMPS) project started in 2001 for a duration of 6 years, and budget of €65,000 ($96,000). The aim of the project was to improve accessibility and quality of basic education through (1) construction of four new school buildings, along with electricity, water supply and sanitation system, (2) provision with school equipment and teaching materials.

The project has a tangible impact on its target groups, local community, parents, and students. As an immediate result of the project – a further 200 students have been accepted to the CMPS. The teaching and studying became more comfortable and effective as overcrowding in the lecture halls decreased from 50 to 40 students per room.

At the end of 2007, a new project of the school building construction in Prasam Primary School, Batheay District, Kampong Cham Province (PPS) will be launched. It is scheduled to be completed at the beginning of 2008.

**Disbursements:** Actual disbursements for 2007 amount to €35,000 (about $52,000). It is expected that the 2008 disbursements is estimated of €26,000 ($38,500).
Spain is raising its level of development assistance to Cambodia as a first Development Cooperation Plan 2006-2008 is being implemented to focus on poverty reduction.

Protection for vulnerable groups, ecotourism and aquaculture

In line with past successful experiences, priority social sectors are related to gender issues, particularly prevention of human trafficking and protection of vulnerable groups, such as people with disabilities. Under this plan, Spain is extending its cooperation this year to economic sectors, such as eco-tourism and aquaculture. Areas already covered are new technologies, a Khmer software initiative as well as humanitarian aid and de-mining and food security.

Moreover, an important component of our cooperation with South-East Asian countries is the advanced training for officials and professionals in fields such as fisheries, health, tourism, water and sustainable development.

New resident office

In order to consolidate development activities in Cambodia, the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation A.E.C.I. has recently approved the opening of a resident office for technical cooperation in Phnom Penh. This will help manage increasing resources and improve the quality of activities. Alignment and coordination are top priorities, hence Spain’s dialogue in our daily development work with the Royal Government of Cambodia, the civil society and other development partners—such as other EU member states and the UN Country Team—will be enriched.

Disbursements: Planned disbursements for 2007 amount to €3,809,280 (over $5,640,000) covering approved activities in a broad range of sectors such as health, agriculture, rural development governance, gender and humanitarian aid. Expected 2008 disbursements are estimated at €5,400,000 (approximately $8,000,000).

Access to productive lands

Battambang province, one of the last strongholds of the Khmer Rouge, still suffers the tragic consequences of active landmines. Most of the people in the region have no access to land for farming. The lack of medical assistance in remote villages also continues to be a problem.

With support from Spain, the land is being cleared of landmines, leading to immediate results. The program is also bringing the new farmers new agricultural technology, include the System of Rice Intensification (SRI). By the end of 2007, seven families will have settled on land newly cleared of 140 landmines. Fifteen more families are slated to move soon to the land.

Rice already is being grown and harvested.

Landmine victim Tip Luen, 49, a father of six, explains what a difference the project has made to his family. “Now I have land that I can work, my body is tired, but I’m happy and I thank you. Before I worked as a blacksmith and some money got into the house. But it was very hard.” His wife, Much, said their family’s life has greatly improved. Their children are able to go to school and decent housing is being built.
The overall objective of **Swedish** development cooperation for the present strategy period is to support Cambodia's own anti-poverty efforts.

The specific objectives of Swedish development cooperation for the 2002-2007 period are:

- **To promote opportunities for poor men, women and children** in rural areas to influence and improve their living conditions.

- **To promote conditions conducive to good governance**, with specific emphasis on the development of democracy and respect for human rights.

Three areas of cooperation have been identified for the strategy period namely (i) combating poverty in rural areas (ii) education and (iii) democratic governance. These areas have clear direct and indirect links to poverty reduction.

In addition, gender balance, the environment, democracy and human rights and HIV/Aids are to be integrated into these main areas as cross-cutting issues. Cooperation and co-financing with the United Nations, other multilateral organisations and bilateral partners are the principal form used for Swedish cooperation. Support is also channelled through NGOs.

**Disbursements:** The planned disbursements for 2007 are €16,950,440 (about $25,103,000). A new strategy for 2008 will be developed. It is expected that the 2008 disbursements will be €15.4 million (approximately $23 million).
Department for International Development

DFID’s Country Assistance Plan for 2005/06 and 2007/08 was produced through a joint process with the Asian Development Bank, United Nations system and the World Bank, based on shared analysis and consultations and complementary programmes. The plan sets out how DFID will contribute to poverty reduction in Cambodia and support the National Strategic Development Plan. The UK is scaling up DFID’s support to Cambodia with a planned disbursement of about €19 million ($28 million) for 2007 and €22 million ($32.5 million) for 2008.

The plan provides poverty reduction budget support in 2007 and aims to provide at least 25% of DFID total assistance as budget support by 2011. We will focus our assistance by reducing the number of separate projects and sectors DFID supports, and harmonising with others by channelling all our assistance through other partners by 2011.

Our Country Assistance Plan has four priorities.
1) Contribute to rapid increases in the impact of development resources by: supporting government’s efforts to improve public financial management and accountability; stronger accountability of government to its citizens; applying best practices in donor assistance.
2) Support responsive, accountable and effective local government for all.
3) Support government and civil society to strengthen livelihoods of the poor.
4) Increase access to health services and information.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office engages in a wide range of activities. Cambodia is a priority country for tackling child sex abuse and human trafficking and for strengthening freedom
Supporting Health Care

When the Khmer Rouge period ended, there were probably no more than 50 doctors left in all of Cambodia and hospitals had become ghost buildings, with no equipment, medicine or staff. Today, Cambodian health is among the poorest in Southeast Asia, with life expectancy of 57 years. But the country is progressing. It reduced HIV infection rates to 0.9% in 2006. Infant and child deaths are down 30% in 2006 from 2000. However, 37% of children are still stunted by malnutrition; the targets for reducing maternal mortality will currently not be met by 2015. Less than half the population has access to safe water and 80% lack access to adequate sanitation.

The government and donors, including DFID, have embarked on a novel approach, hiring international medical groups to help manage health facilities with specific goals. With coordinated support to the health sector by four partners (UNFPA, World Bank, ADB and DFID) the programme covers 12 districts serving 1.4 million people – a tenth of the Cambodian population. One result is that more children are being born in clinics or at home with a trained midwife, contributing to a rapid reduction in infant and child deaths.

Chum Mony sits in the shade under his house in Preah Sang, a poor village in rural Cambodia, while his neighbours visit to see his two-day-old son. His first two sons were home-delivered, like all of their ancestors. Little has changed for generations, and birth has always been the business of village midwives, often with tragic consequences. But this boy was born in a nearby clinic, the result of outreach efforts to women supported by the joint donor-supported Health Sector Support Programme. Mony’s mother salutes the changes in tradition. “Having babies at home means paying the midwife with lots of rice and other presents,” she notes. At the clinic, the total, including check-ups and injections was under $4. “Much cheaper,” she says with a smile.
The European Commission, the executive body of the European Union, has supported the rehabilitation and development of Cambodia since the signing of the Paris Peace Accords in 1991.

EC development assistance actions in Cambodia are defined in its Strategy Paper for Cambodia 2007 – 2013, which is in line with the Royal Government of Cambodia’s National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) and outlines the overarching objectives of EC assistance as providing support to Cambodia’s efforts to reduce poverty and to integrate into the world economy.

The Country Strategy and the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme 2007- 2010, which sets out how spending will take place, focus on two key sectors: providing support to NSDP and to Basic Education. Other areas are trade-related assistance and supporting co-operation and dialogue in the field of governance and human rights.

EC cooperation activities focus strongly on policy dialogue with the government and key donors. This takes place in the form of government-donor technical working groups and regular meetings between Commission representatives and ministries.

Rebuilding the education sector

Since the early 1990s, Cambodia has made considerable progress in expanding education services that were destroyed under the Khmer Rouge regime. But quality and access remain areas of great concern. A shortage of schools, excessive class sizes, too few actual teaching, a shortage of teaching materials and poor salaries for teachers and poor working conditions are problems.

The European Commission is financially and technically supporting the Ministry of Education’s reform agenda to achieve access to basic education for all by 2015. The EC’s financial contributions flow directly into the state education budget. Non-formal education is also a priority to help those who have fallen out of the regular education system. The Commission also provides technical assistance to the Ministry and 70 staff members are receiving part-time education to improve their qualifications. Through the EC budget support approach, the Ministry now receives a regular injection of funds into its budget and capacity of Ministry staff on education reform issues has been strengthened.
With the objective of strengthening EU Coordination, the Delegation of the EC and the EU Presidency Representative are active in leading the harmonisation activities to establish an EU Road Map for Aid Effectiveness as well as in overseeing its implementation.

**Development Cooperation Programme (2007-2010)**

In support of Cambodia’s efforts to reduce poverty and integrate into the world economy, the European Commission in June 2007 committed €77 million ($114 million) of bilateral aid to Cambodia for 2007-2010. An additional €20 – €25 million ($29.6 – $37 million) was earmarked for the work of international and local NGOs in Cambodia over the same period.

Forty percent of the bilateral aid (€30.8 million or about $45.6 million) is allocated for education in the form of budget support to help the Ministry of Education in providing basic education. Another 35% (€27 million or about $40 million) is general budget support for implementation of the National Strategic Development Plan. The remaining 25% is for activities in trade-related assistance, governance and human rights for 2007-2010.

**EC Funded Projects**

The EC has recently supported 121 projects in Cambodia. Forty-three of them, worth more than €70 million ($103.6 million), have been successfully completed and 78 projects worth over €190 million ($281 million) are being implemented. The projects cover education, health, social related issues, rural development, food security, environment, private sector development, administrative reform, democratisation and human rights.

The EC agreed on June 29, 2007 to contribute €7.4 million, (about $11 million) towards helping Cambodia develop trade policy to maximize economic development and poverty reduction.

In 2007 the EC agreed to provide €10 million, ($14.8 million), to support the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport achieve its “Education for All” targets. The funds are for budget support to basic education and capacity building in the ministry. A new grant with additional €30 million ($44.4 million) is under preparation.

Under the European Initiative for Human Rights and Democracy, the EC awarded 10 projects worth more than €2 million (approximately $3 million) to 10 local and international NGOs to carry out human rights related activities in Cambodia.

**Disbursements:** Planned disbursements for 2007 amount to €37 million ($54.7 million) covering approved activities in a broad range of sectors such as agriculture, water and sanitation, education, environment and conservation, gender, governance and administration, rural development and land management. Disbursements for 2008 are estimated at €26 million ($38.5 million).
Although going through transitional challenges, Cambodia is no longer facing acute humanitarian emergencies.

By spring 2007 the European Commission therefore phased out its humanitarian aid, provided since 1993 in support of refugees and returnees, flood victims and people living in remote areas.

In the past 15 years this support amounted to almost €68 million ($100.7 million), mainly in medical aid, temporary housing, access to clean water and sanitation for millions of vulnerable people. Cambodia however remains a disaster prone country where floods and droughts continue to slow down the development process.

The European Commission Disaster Preparedness Programme, DIPECHO, funds non-governmental and international organisations as well as the Red Cross Movement to help local communities define and implement pre-emptive measures, which reduce the impact of disasters on their lives.

Between 1998 and 2007 the Commission funded community-based disaster preparedness measures in Cambodia with more than €5.5 million ($8.1 million). The impact of these pilot projects is multiplied by incorporating them into national policies such as construction standards, improved land and agricultural management or school curricula. To bring such actions to the attention of decision makers DIPECHO also supports the development and implementation by authorities of national plans prescribing disaster risk reduction measures.

Activities range from building dykes or evacuation centres, to developing early warning systems, training volunteers and launching public awareness campaigns. They are designed as pilots for their region.
Natural disasters cannot be avoided, but preparatory measures can help

Cambodia is a disaster prone country. Floods and drought regularly destroy thousands of tons of crops, impoverishing further already poor subsistence farmers and slowing down the development process.

ZOA, a Dutch NGO, is implementing a disaster preparedness project in Anlong Veng and Trapeang Prasat districts, two poor districts in Cambodia where residents depend on farming. The project has supported 5,500 families in preparing for natural disasters. Village disaster management committees have been trained to develop village plans to reduce the impact of natural hazards on their lives. Working closely with the communities concerned is key to success.

Choeun Siem recalls how all the people in the village held a meeting “to discuss what we could do about the drought problem.” His wife Chop Cheng, explained: “I attended and we made a map of our village to show where the rice is most affected. In my group there is no source pond. All the 20 families in the group met to develop our rules for using the water and the water pumps that we got to pump the water to the fields.”

“This pond has proved its usefulness already this year as again the rains have been unpredictable and our rice would have been already lost if we had not had this pond water to pump to the fields,” said Choeun Siem.

of water to help us in the case of drought, so we decided to propose a pond to store rainwater. Four families with adjoining land gave up a piece of land each to construct the pond. All the 20 families in the group met to develop our rules for using the water and the water pumps that we got to pump the water to the fields.”

“Many other farmers in our village who still have not got irrigation water are very worried that the rain will stop before the rice is ready and they will get no, or very low, yield.”
Total area: 4,326,604 km²
Population: 492.8 million
Language: 23 Official languages
Currency: The single currency euro (€) is used by two thirds of the EU population in 15 different countries
ODA: 55% of global cooperation assistance to developing countries comes from the EU
Trade: 40% of total EU imports are from developing countries
United in diversity: The European Union is a family of democratic European countries, committed to working together for peace and prosperity. Now the EU embraces 27 countries and over 492 million people, and it deals with a wide range of issues of direct importance for the everyday life of Europeans.

Embracing a continent: from 6 to 27 Member States
1952 Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands
1973 Denmark, Ireland, United Kingdom
1981 Greece
1986 Portugal, Spain
1995 Austria, Finland, Sweden
2004 Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia
2007 Bulgaria, Romania
The European Parliament: Voice of the people

The European Parliament is elected every five years by the people of Europe to represent their interests. The main job of Parliament is to pass European laws on the basis of proposals presented by the European Commission. Parliament shares this responsibility with the Council of the European Union. Parliament and Council also share joint authority for approving the EU’s €115 billion annual budget ($170 billion).

http://www.europarl.europa.eu

The Council of the European Union: Voice of the member states

The Council of the European Union - formerly known as the Council of Ministers - is the EU’s principal decision-taking body with its 27 Members, representing every EU Member State. It shares with Parliament the responsibility for passing EU laws. It is also in charge of the EU’s foreign, security and defence policies, and is responsible for key decisions on justice and freedom issues.

http://www.consilium.europa.eu

The European Commission: Promoting the common interest

The European Commission represents and upholds the interests of Europe as a whole. It is independent of national governments. It drafts proposals for new European laws, which it presents to the European Parliament and the Council. It manages the day-to-day business of implementing EU policies and spending EU funds (from internal agricultural funds to external cooperation aid). The Commission also makes sure that everyone abides by the European treaties and laws. It can act against rule-breakers, taking them to the European Court of Justice if necessary.

http://www.ec.europa.eu

The Court of Justice: The rule of law

The job of the Court of Justice is to make sure that EU law is interpreted and applied in the same way in all EU countries, thereby ensuring that the law is equal to all 500 million Europeans. It ensures, for example, that national courts do not give different rulings on the same issue. The Court also makes sure that EU member states and institutions do what the law requires them to do.

http://www.curia.europa.eu
European Union Institutions

The Court of Auditors: Getting value for your money

The Court of Auditors checks that the EU’s funds, which come from the taxpayers, are spent legally, economically and for the intended purpose. The Court is based in Luxembourg and has the right to audit any organisation, body or company which handles EU funds.
http://www.eca.europa.eu

Other Institutions

The European Economic and Social Committee: Voice of civil society

The 344 members of the European Economic and Social Committee represent a wide range of interests: from employers to trade unionists, from consumers to ecologists. The Committee is an advisory body which must be consulted on proposed EU decisions about employment, social spending, vocational training, etc.
http://www.eesc.europa.eu

The Committee of the Regions: The local perspective

The Committee of the Regions is consulted on upcoming EU decisions with a direct impact at the local or regional level in fields such as transport, health, employment or education. Its 344 members are representatives and leaders of regional governments or mayors of cities.
http://www.cor.europa.eu

The European Investment Bank: Lending a helping hand

This bank lends money for projects of European interest, particularly in the less well-off regions. It finances infrastructure projects such as rail and road links, airports or environmental schemes. It provides credit for investments by small businesses. The Luxembourg-based bank also lends to candidate states and developing countries all around the world.
http://www.eib.org

The European Central Bank: A stable currency

Based in Frankfurt, the European Central Bank is responsible for managing our common currency: the euro, principally by setting interest rates. Its prime concern is ensuring price stability so that the European economy is not harmed by inflation. The bank takes its decisions independently of governments and other bodies.
http://www.ecb.eu
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<td><a href="mailto:Bangkok-ob@bmeia.gv.at">Bangkok-ob@bmeia.gv.at</a> / <a href="mailto:austrian@loxinfo.co.th">austrian@loxinfo.co.th</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.bmeia.gv.at">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Embassy of Belgium</td>
<td>17th Floor Sathorn City Tower, No. 173 South Sathorn Road, Tungmahamek, Bangkok 10120, Thailand</td>
<td>+66 (0) 2679 5454</td>
<td>+66 (0) 2679 54 67</td>
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<td>Embassy of Bulgaria</td>
<td>No. 227-229 Preah Norodom Blvd, Phnom Penh, Cambodia</td>
<td>(+855) 23-217-504</td>
<td>(+855) 23-212-792</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bulgembnpn@online.com.kh">bulgembnpn@online.com.kh</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.bulgaria.bg/Asia/PhnomPenh/">Link</a></td>
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<td>Embassy of Czech Republic</td>
<td>No. 71/6 Ruam Rudee Soi 2, Ploenchit Road, Bangkok 10330, Thailand</td>
<td>+66 (0) 255 5060</td>
<td>+66 (0) 225 37637</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bangkok@embassy.mzv.cz">bangkok@embassy.mzv.cz</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.mfa.cz/bangkok">Link</a></td>
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<td>Embassy of Denmark</td>
<td>No. 10 Sathorn Soi 1, South Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120, Thailand</td>
<td>+66 (0) 2343 1100</td>
<td>+66 (0) 2213 1752</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ambbbangkok@um.dk">ambbbangkok@um.dk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Embassy of Finland</td>
<td>16th Floor Amarin Tower, 500 Ploenchit Road, Bangkok 10330, Thailand</td>
<td>+66 (0) 2250 8801</td>
<td>+66 (0) 2250 8802</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sanomat.ban@formin.fi">sanomat.ban@formin.fi</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.finland.or.th/en/">Link</a></td>
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<td>Embassy of France</td>
<td>No. 1, Monivong Blvd, Phnom Penh, Cambodia</td>
<td>+855 (0) 23 430 020</td>
<td>+855 (0) 23 430 038</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ambafrance.phnom-penh-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr">ambafrance.phnom-penh-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr</a></td>
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<td>Embassy of Germany</td>
<td>No. 76-78 Yougoslavia Street (214), Phnom Penh, Cambodia</td>
<td>+855 (0) 23 216 193 / 216 381</td>
<td>+855 (0) 23 427 746</td>
<td><a href="mailto:germanembassy@everyday.com.kh">germanembassy@everyday.com.kh</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.phnom-penh.diplo.de">Link</a></td>
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<td>Embassy of Greece</td>
<td>30th Floor, Thai Wah Tower II, No. 21/159 South Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120, Thailand</td>
<td>+66 (0) 2679 1462</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:bagrem@ks15.th.com">bagrem@ks15.th.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.greekembassy.org">Link</a></td>
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<td>Embassy of Hungary</td>
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<td>+84 (4) 771 5714 / 771 5715</td>
<td>+84 (4) 771 5716</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hungemb@hn.vnn.vn">hungemb@hn.vnn.vn</a></td>
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<td>Tel: +66 (0) 2234 7436, 2234 7435, 2234 2123 Fax: +66 (0) 2639 6113, 22368144 Email: <a href="mailto:portemb@loxinfo.co.th">portemb@loxinfo.co.th</a></td>
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<td>Spain</td>
<td>23rd Floor Rajadapisek Road, Klongtoey, No. 193/98-99 Lake Rajada Office Complex, Bangkok 10110, Thailand</td>
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<td>Tel: +66 (0) 2661 8284-7 Fax: +66 (0) 266 9220 Email: <a href="mailto:emb.bangkok@maec.es">emb.bangkok@maec.es</a> Web: <a href="http://www.mae.es/Embajadas/bangkok/es/home">www.mae.es/Embajadas/bangkok/es/home</a></td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), No. 8 Street 352, Boeung Keng Kang I, Phnom Penh, Cambodia</td>
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<td>Tel: +855 (0) 23 212 259 Fax: +855 (0) 23 212 867 Email: <a href="mailto:ambassaden.phnompenh@sida.se">ambassaden.phnompenh@sida.se</a></td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>No. 27-29, Street 75, Phnom Penh, Cambodia</td>
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<td><strong>Agence Française de Développement (AFD)</strong></td>
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<td>Tel.: +855 (0) 23 426 360/ 23 362 490 Fax: +855 (0) 23 855 23 426 243 E-mail: <a href="mailto:AFDPhnomPenh@groupe-afd.org">AFDPhnomPenh@groupe-afd.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>Danish Development Cooperation Section (DANIDA)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Department for International Development DFID Cambodia</strong></td>
<td>c/o British Embassy No 27-29 Street 75, Srass Chak, Daun Penh Phnom Penh Cambodia</td>
<td>Tel.: +855 (0) 23 430 240 Fax: +855 (0) 23 430 254 E-mail: <a href="mailto:dfidincambodia@dfid.gov.uk">dfidincambodia@dfid.gov.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.dfid.gov.uk/countries/asia/cambodia.asp">www.dfid.gov.uk/countries/asia/cambodia.asp</a></td>
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<td><strong>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)</strong></td>
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<td>Tel.: +855 (0) 23 212 180 Fax: +855 (0) 23 212 783 E-mail: <a href="mailto:gtz-kambodscha@gtz.de">gtz-kambodscha@gtz.de</a></td>
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<td><strong>Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECI)</strong></td>
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<td>Tel.: +855 (0) 23 Fax: +855 (0) 23 E-mail: <a href="mailto:gonzalo@aecivietnam.org">gonzalo@aecivietnam.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.aecivietnam.org">www.aecivietnam.org</a></td>
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The Euro (€) is the currency of fifteen European Union countries, stretching from the Mediterranean to the Arctic Circle (namely Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Finland, Malta and Cyprus).

Slovenia was the first of the recently acceded new Member States to adopt the Euro as its currency (1 January 2007), followed by Malta and Cyprus (1 January 2008).

The other Member States (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden) will join the Euro area as soon as they fulfill the necessary conditions on the basis of the EU’s economic criteria, set to ensure price stability within the ‘Eurozone’, and following an established procedure.

UK and Denmark have a special status allowing them to decide when (and if) they will join the Euro area.

What are the advantages of the Euro for citizens?

- When traveling in the Euro area
  You only have to change money once; one currency is all you need now. For instance, when you visit a museum in Italy, you can pay the entrance fee using Euro coins left over from your stay in Greece; you can buy a meal in France with Euro banknotes you got from a cash dispenser in Spain; etc. All this will save both time and money.

- When shopping in the Euro area
  Prices are displayed in the same currency; they are easier to compare and help you make the right choice.

- When doing business with the Euro area
  There is no longer any risk of fluctuation between currencies. Interest and inflation rates are much lower. You buy, sell and borrow within a larger and more competitive market. Managing your business is easier and less expensive.

Euro Banknotes

Symbols of the Euro

On 1 January 2002, seven banknotes were introduced in 12 Member States of the European Union. On the front of the banknotes, windows and gateways symbolise the European spirit of openness and co-operation.

The 12 stars of the European Union represent the dynamism and harmony between European nations. To complement these designs, the reverse of each banknote features a bridge. The bridges symbolise the close co-operation and communication between Europe and the rest of the world.