

CAMBODIA



- [NATIONAL PROFILE](#)
- [DISASTER RISK PROFILE](#)
- [INSTITUTIONAL SETUP](#)
- [INITIATIVES](#)

1. NATIONAL PROFILE

1.1 General¹

Cambodia is geographically situated in Southeast Asian region and bordered with Vietnam to the east, Thailand to the west, and Lao PDR to the north and Gulf of Thailand to the south. Cambodia has the land area of 181,035 square kilometers. 500 kilometers of Mekong River bisects Cambodia, and roughly 80% of Cambodia's land is in lower Mekong basin, which their livelihood depend largely on agricultural production. Tonle Sap Lake, one of the world largest lakes, is situated in the mid-west of the country.

1.2 Geography and Climate¹

Located in mainland Southeast Asia, Cambodia spreads across an area of 181,040 square kilometers, bordering with Laos, Thailand, and Viet Nam and with a coastal region on the Gulf of Thailand. The country's coastline measures 435 km. Cambodia's climate divides into two periods: the monsoon-driven rainy season (May-October) which accounts for 80 to 90 percent of the country's annual precipitation, and the dry season (November–April) with cooler temperatures, especially from November to January. Cambodia's climate is affected by the summer monsoon, el Niño Southern Oscillation, la Niña, and south-westerly winds.

1.3 Socio-economic Profile^{2,3}

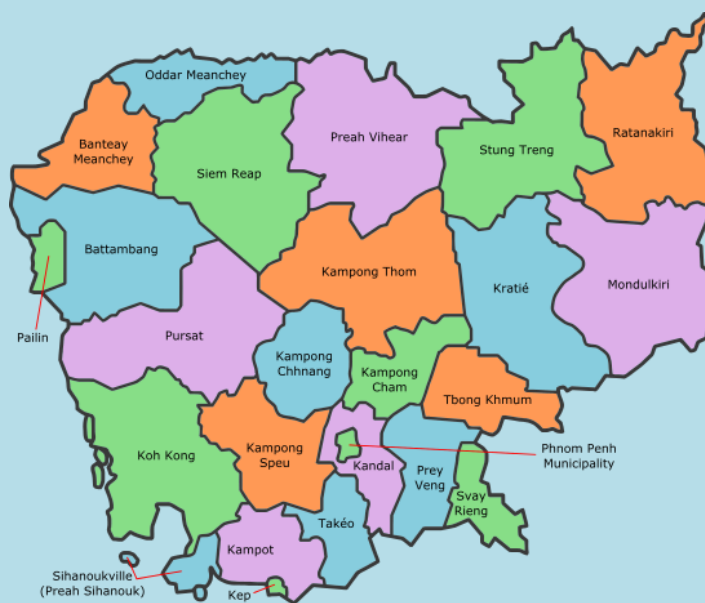
Socio-economic Indicators		
GDP: Gross domestic product (million current US\$)	2011	12830
GDP per capita (current US\$)	2011	897.0
GNI: Gross national income per capita (current US\$)	2011	838.0
Population (millions)	2014	15.14
Urban (% of population)	2014	20.34
Sex ratio (males per 100 females)	2012	96.0
Life expectancy at birth (females/males, years)	2010-2015	65.1/62.2

Expenditure on education (% of GDP)	2014	2.6
-------------------------------------	------	-----

1.4 Administrative Setup⁴

The capital (*reach thani*) and provinces (*khaet*) of Cambodia are first-level administrative divisions. Cambodia is divided into 25 provinces including the capital.

Municipalities and districts are the second-level administrative divisions of Cambodia. The provinces are subdivided into 159 districts and 26 municipalities. The districts and municipalities in turn are further divided into communes (*khum*) and quarters (*sangkat*).



Number	Province	Capital	Area (km ²)	Population
1	Banteay Meanchey	Sisophon	6,679	678,033
2	Battambang	Battambang	11,702	1,036,523
3	Kampong Cham	Kampong Cham	9,799	925,992
4	Kampong Chhnang	Kampong Chhnang	5,521	472,616
5	Kampong Speu	Kampong Speu	7,017	716,517
6	Kampong Thom	Kampong Thom	13,814	708,398
7	Kampot	Kampot	4,873	585,110
8	Kandal	Ta Khmao	3,568	1,265,805
9	Kep	Krong Kep	336	40,208
10	Koh Kong	Koh Kong	11,160	139,722
11	Kracheh	Kracheh	11,094	318,523
12	Mondulkiri	Senmonorom	14,288	60,811
13	Oddar Meanchey	Samraong	6,158	185,443
14	Pailin	Pailin	803	70,482

15	Phnom Penh	Phnom Penh	758	2,234,566
16	Preah Sihanouk	Sihanoukville	868	199,902
17	Preah Vihear	Tbeng Meanchey	13,788	170,852
18	Pursat	Pursat	12,692	397,107
19	Prey Veng	Prey Veng	4,883	947,357
20	Ratanakiri	Banlung	10,782	149,997
21	Siem Reap	Siem Reap	10,229	896,309
22	Stung Treng	Stung Treng	11,092	111,734
23	Svay Rieng	Svay Rieng	2,966	482,785
24	Takéo	Takéo	3,563	843,931
25	Tbong Khmum	Tbong Khmum		754,000

2. DISASTER RISK PROFILE⁵

2.1 Risk Exposure Profile

Flood and drought are the main physical hazards in Cambodia, linked its key sectors: agriculture and fisheries. About 80 percent of the Cambodia's territory lies within the Mekong River, flowing directly from the north to the Mekong Delta of Viet Nam in the south. The Mekong River has large fluctuations of water levels between the dry and wet seasons, causing a cycle of droughts and floods almost every year, damaging agricultural production and livelihoods and constraining Cambodian socio-economic development. It is estimated that floods kill about 100 people annually and cause agricultural losses of 100 to 170 million USD each year. The main types of floods are spills from the Mekong River aggravated by local rainfall, flooding from tributaries, flash floods, and heavy rains from typhoon in some areas. Related natural hazards are epidemics.

2.2 Disaster Risk

Cambodia is prone to flood and drought with 14 % of Cambodia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 12.2 % of its inhabitants are subject to potential losses from floods.

Major Disasters in Cambodia for the period 1982 to 2011 by number of people affected

Disaster	Date	Nu Total Affected	Damage (000 US\$)
Drought	June 1994	5,000,000	100,000
Flood	11/07/2000	3,448,053	160,000
Flood	15/08/2001	1,669,182	15,000
Flood	18/08/2002	1,470,000	100
Flood	30/09/1996	1,300,000	1500
Flood	22/08/1991	900,000	150,000
Drought	January 2002	650,000	38,000

Overview: Natural Disasters from 1980-2010

No of events:	31
No of people killed:	1,967
Average killed per year:	63
No of people affected:	16,679,643
Average affected per year:	538,053
Economic Damage	
(US\$ X 1,000)	536,110
Economic Damage per year	
(US\$ X 1,000)	17,294

2.3 Disaster Hazards

Cambodia's average annual disaster profile: 45% floods, 9% storm, 16% drought and 29% epidemic. Recurrent floods are caused by the southwest monsoon rains along the Mekong River, its tributaries, and the Tonle Sap Lake. Droughts occur especially in the Svay Rieng provinces, which are one of the most drought-prone provinces in the country. Sea Level Rise could pose a significant threat to marine coastal areas, already suffering from storm surges, high tides, beach erosion and seawater intrusion. Low-lying areas, including settlements, beach resorts; seaports, coastal fisheries, and mangrove forests could all be affected.

2.4 Disaster Exposure

In terms of location, floods affect primarily the provinces of Kandal, Kampong Cham, Kratie, Prey Veng, Stung Treng, Svay Rieng, and Takeo. Flash floods in tributaries around the Tonle Sap Lake affect others. In economic terms, the severe floods that occurred from 2000 to 2002 resulted in 438 casualties and caused damages amounting to US \$205 million. Floods and droughts are recognized by the government as one of the main drivers of poverty. For example, floods

accounted for 70% of rice production losses between 1998 and 2002, while drought accounted for 20%.

2.4 Disaster Vulnerability

Cambodia’s vulnerability is linked to its socio-economic characteristics as a post-conflict, low income country with some 80 percent of the population living in rural areas. Weak adaptive capacity poor infrastructure and limited institutions exacerbate the country’s vulnerability to climate variability and change. With increasing population in the Mekong floodplain, due to rural-urban migration, and urbanization of cities such as Phnom Penh and Siem Rea, urban vulnerabilities are accumulating in the context of lacking building codes, enforcement, and proper drainage in urban centers. Rural areas, accommodating 4/5 of the population and 90% of the poor, livelihoods linked to agriculture, fisheries and forestry are subject to increasingly more frequent floods and drought. ‘Deforestation and subsequent soil erosion; inadequate irrigation systems and water conservation measures to protect against drought; have all contributed to increase rural people’s vulnerability to natural disasters.

Vulnerability Index

	Vulnerability Index	Risk Absolute	Risk Relative	Mortality Risk Index	Legend
Multiple					Very Low Very High
Cyclone					Vulnerability Index: Estimated number of people killed per year (per mio. Exposed)
Flood					Risk Absolute: Average killed per year.
Landslide					Risk Relative: Killed per million per year.
Earthquake					Mortality Risk index: Average of both.

Top 10 Natural Disasters in Colombia for the period 1900 to 2014 sorted by numbers of killed⁶

Disaster	Date	No Killed
Flood	18-May-2000	96
Epidemic	Jul-2013	91

Mass movement wet	29-Sep-1974	90
Flood	04-Jan-1982	90
Flood	10-Oct-1973	9
Flood	Jan-1999	9
Flood	20-Sep-2000	9
Mass movement wet	22-Nov-2001	80
Flood	15-Mar-2012	8
Earthquake (seismic activity)	04-Mar-1995	8

Top 10 Natural Disasters in Colombia for the period 1900 to 2014 sorted by numbers of total affected people⁶

Disaster	Date	No Total Affected
Flood	Nov-1970	5,105,000
Flood	06-Apr-2010	2,791,999
Earthquake (seismic activity)	25-Jan-1999	1,205,933
Flood	15-Sep-2008	1,200,091
Flood	20-Oct-2007	1,162,135
Flood	Apr-2011	988,599
Flood	01-Sep-2011	498,924
Flood	15-Sep-2005	474,607
Flood	6-Mar-2007	443,173
Flood	11-Oct-2004	345,386

Top 10 Natural Disasters in Colombia for the period 1900 to 2014 sorted by economic damage costs⁶

Disaster	Date	Damage (000 US\$)
Earthquake (seismic activity)	12-Dec-1979	8,000
Flood	15-Mar-2012	62,000
Earthquake (seismic activity)	09-Feb-1967	600
Storm	17-Oct-1988	50,000
Flood	17-Sep-1981	5,000
Storm	15-Sep-1999	500
Flood	Dec-1969	500
Flood	Apr-1970	50
Storm	29-Jan-1968	50
Earthquake (seismic activity)	31-Mar-1983	410,900

3. INSTITUTIONAL SETUP⁷

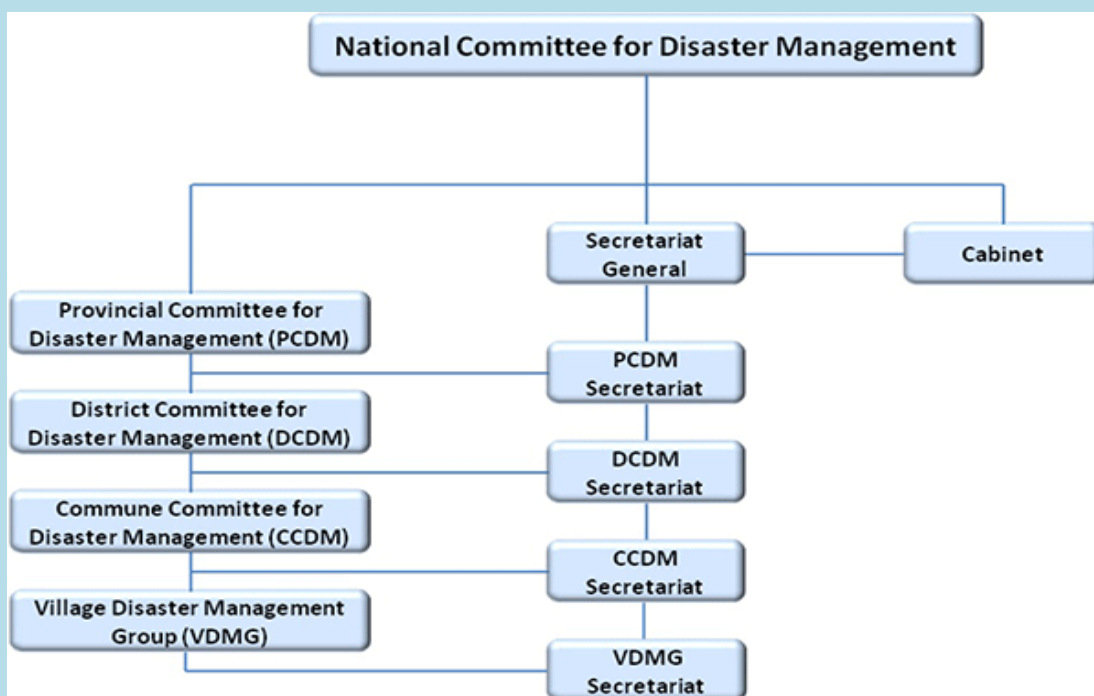
3.1 Legal System

Law on Disaster Management was drafted and will be submitted to the National Assembly for enactment by 2014.

Disaster management mechanism structure has been established from the national level down to the commune and village levels in conformity with Sub-decree No. 30 ANKR.BK, dated 9 April 2002 on the Organization and Functioning of the National and Sub-National Committees for Disaster Management; Sub-decree No. 61 ANKR.BK, dated 29 June 2006 on the establishment of the Commune Committee for Disaster Management (CCDM); Direction No. 315 NCDM, dated 21 July 2010 on the establishment of the Village Disaster Management Team (VDMT) for the implementation of CBDRM.

3.2 Organization

National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) is established for overall coordination for disaster management. Cambodia has set up necessary legal, policy and institutional foundations for disaster management. Headed by the Prime Minister, NCDM was set up in 1995 that consists of 22 members from different



Ministries, Cambodian Armed Forces, and Civil Aviation Authority as well as representatives of Cambodian Red Cross. The NCDM Secretariat, which is the locus of disaster management for the country, was set up to lead and coordinate disaster management affairs and to provide support to NCDM. As part of the decentralization process, disaster management institutions such as Provincial Committee for Disaster Management (PCDM), District Committee for Disaster Management (DCDM) and Commune Committee for Disaster Management (CCDM) have been set up to lead disaster management at their respective levels. Village Disaster Management Group (VDMG) is in place as the lowest level body for disaster management.

4. INITIATIVES

4.1 5-year Strategic Plan for Disaster Management, 2006-2010, inline with HFA, integrated into National Strategy Social Economic Development⁸

Goal 1:

Reduce the severity of impact of disasters in Cambodia through improving the capacity of the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) as a credible agency and focal point for multi-disaster-related efforts and issues in Cambodia;

Goal 2:

Institutionalize the National Policy for Disaster Management and provide implementation procedures related to Disaster Management.

Goal 3:

Establish an alternative or a reserve program on National Disaster Management that will effectively carry out immediate response to natural disasters and calamities at all levels of NCDM: commune, district, municipalities, cities and provinces;

Goal 4:

Establish an effective Management and Information System to Cope with disasters and calamities;

Goal 5:

Develop an understandable and user friendly risk management system to cope with disaster at the commune Build a national strategy of educating citizen and mainstreaming disaster management in reducing vulnerability of people with disaster.

4.2 Cambodia: National Progress Report on the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2007-2009)⁹

The preparation of this National Progress Report has been undertaken within the framework of the biennial 2007-09 HFA Monitoring and Progress Review process, facilitated by UNISDR and ISDR System partners.

The progress report assesses current national strategic priorities with regard to the implementation of disaster risk reduction actions, and establishes baselines on levels of progress achieved with respect to the implementation of the HFA's five priorities for action.

[Cambodia: National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action \(2007-2009\)](#)2009, NCDM, Cambodia – gov

4.3 Cambodia: National Report in Preparation for WCDR (2005)¹⁰

Title in original language: National committee for disaster management in Cambodia, Publication date: 2005

In 1995, as a result of the countries experience with regularly occurring disasters, the Royal Government of Cambodia established a National Committee for disaster management (NCDM). The NCDM's responsibilities are defined in terms of, not only with providing timely and effective emergency relief to victims of disasters, but also to developing preventive measures to reduce loss of lives and property.

[Cambodia: National Report in preparation for WCDR \(2005\)](#)

4.4 Plan

National Strategy Development Plan (NSDP) 2009-2013

- [Strategic National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction \(SNAP\) 2008-2013](#)
- National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction 2014-2018 (drafted & adopted by 2014)
- National Comprehensive Avian and Human Influenza Plan (Multi-Sectoral Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan)
- Community Based Disaster Risk Management Plan (CBDRM)
- National Contingency Plan for Flood and Drought (being revised)
- National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM)

References

¹<http://www.adrc.asia/nationinformation.php?NationCode=116&Lang=en&Mode=country>

² <http://data.un.org/CountryProfile.aspx?crName=Cambodia>

³ <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/KHM>

⁴ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cambodia>

⁵<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/12628/714530v20ESW0W0AN0appendices0June12.pdf?sequence=1>

⁶ <http://www.emdat.be/result-country-profile>

⁷<http://www.adrc.asia/nationinformation.php?NationCode=116&Lang=en&NationNum=06>

⁸http://www.adrc.asia/acdr/2006seoul/documents/006b_country_presen/Cambodia.pdf

⁹<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/progress/reports/v.php?id=9806&pid:223>

¹⁰ <http://www.unisdr.org/2005/mdgs-drr/national-reports/Cambodia-report.pdf>