WATER FORWARD

Cambodia Water Compact



Cambodia Water Security Compact

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About Compact

A Water Security Compact is a country-led commitment that sets out a clear, ambitious vision for improving water security and a practical roadmap for achieving it. It typically defines measurable goals (such as expanded access to water supply, sanitation and wastewater, flood protection, or climate resilience), the policy and institutional reforms needed, the investments the government commits to make, and the additional support required from development partners and the private sector. By aligning reforms, financing, and partners around shared targets, a Water Security Compact serves both as a strategic planning tool and a call to action, mobilizing key ministries, local communities, development partners, civil societies and the private sector in a collective effort to enhance water security for the Kingdom of Cambodia. It focuses on the targets the country is aiming for and the key areas of reforms being or to be undertaken.

Preamble

Water security is a cornerstone of Cambodia's national development, social stability, and climate resilience. Access to safe water supply and sanitation is essential to the health and dignity of all Cambodians. Reliable and productive water use sustains food security, rural livelihoods, and economic growth. Effective management of rivers, floodplains, and water resources safeguards the environment and strengthens resilience to floods, droughts, and climate change.

The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) has therefore elevated water as one of the five national priorities under the Pentagonal Strategy – Phase I (2023–2028), recognizing water as a strategic national asset that underpins Cambodia's Vision 2050 to become a high-income country. This priority reflects the Government's determination to address rising water demand, rapid urbanization, climate variability, and increasing pressures on water resources through decisive reforms and sustained investment across sectors.

The Cambodia Water Security Compact sets out the Government's clear and time-bound commitment to strengthen water security for the period 2026–2030. It articulates a unified national vision and a practical roadmap for action, structured around three mutually reinforcing pillars: Water for People, Water for Food, and Water for Planet. These pillars translate national policy objectives into measurable goals, priority reforms, and coordinated investments that deliver tangible results for citizens, farmers, and future generations.

The Compact serves as a platform for national leadership and collective action. It aligns policies, institutions, and financing around shared priorities; clarifies roles and responsibilities across ministries; and provides a common framework for engagement with development partners, the private sector, civil society, and local communities. Through this Compact, the Government signals its commitment to strong ownership, transparency, and accountability in the delivery of water sector reforms and investments.

Implementation of the Compact will be led by the RGC, through its line ministries and established coordination mechanisms to be guided by the principles of inclusion and meaningful participation. The Government commits to align partners and mobilize new financing at scale, including private and commercial financing to support the government's journey toward achieving water security for all Cambodians. Progress will be monitored against specific indicators to ensure results-based implementation, adaptive management, and sustained dialogue with stakeholders.

Through this Water Security Compact, Cambodia reaffirms its resolve to manage water wisely and equitably, as a foundation for inclusive growth, national resilience, and sustainable development.

1. Goals and Targets

"Water" is elevated as one of the five national priorities of the RGC stipulated in the Pentagonal Strategy – Phase 1 (2023-2028) building the foundation towards realizing Cambodia's vision 2050 to become high-income country. The following are Cambodia's commitments:

Water for People

The RGC aims to provide all Cambodians with safely managed water[1] and ensure 60% of the population have safely managed sanitation[2] by 2030,[3] meaning an additional 11.4 million people and 1.9 million people will respectively gain access to safely managed water supply and safely managed sanitation service between 2026 and 2030. In addition, the RGC commits to ensure that 50% of municipal wastewater is safely treated through the expansion of wastewater infrastructure and service in major cities and secondary towns.[4]

Water for Food

By 2030, the RGC, through the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MOWRAM), aims to achieve its target of bringing irrigated agricultural land up to 1.7 million hectares, benefitting an equivalent of 6.9 million people through modernized irrigation services and improved agricultural productivity, as stated in the National Water Resources Management and Sustainable Irrigation Roadmap 2019–2033.

Water for Planet

The Government commits to protecting 450,000 hectares of agricultural land from flood and drought damage, developing a comprehensive flood management strategy that combines risk-informed land-use planning, physical infrastructure improvements, and nature-based solutions, and improving emergency response procedures. This commitment also recognizes groundwater as a strategic resource, promoting its sustainable assessment, protection, and conjunctive use with surface water to enhance climate resilience and year-round water security. Through promoting river basin wide approach, the commitment has been indicated in the water resources policy setting the goal in sustaining agricultural production, supporting rural livelihoods, and managing water (both surface and groundwater) reliably across seasons both quantity and quality.

[1] Water from an improved source that is located on premises, available when needed, and free from fecal and priority chemical contamination.
[2] An improved sanitation facility where excreta are safely disposed of in situ or treated off-site, spanning the entire sanitation chain.
[3] Pentagonal Strategy Phase 1, Cambodia's SDG, National Wastewater and Fecal Sludge Management Action Plan 2025-2035
[4] National Wastewater and Fecal Sludge Management Action Plan 2025-2035

Table 1. Cambodia Water Security Compact Targets

Indicators	Baseline	Target (2030)
Water for People		
Increased access to safely managed water supply service	30% (2024)[5]	100%
Increased access to safely managed sanitation service	51.6% (2024)	60%
Increased proportion of treated wastewater	47% (2022)	50%
Water for Food		
Increased irrigation service productivity for agricultural sector	400 irrigation schemes functioning • Rice production: 3.15 tons per ha • Command area: 552,917 ha • Irrigation area: 697,150 ha	600+ of irrigation schemes (complete systems) • Rice production: 4.25 tons per ha • Command area: 739,861 ha • Irrigation area: 1,590,701 ha
Water for Planet		
Increased disaster risk reduction (flood and drought), and other mitigation activities	40-50/123 operational hydrological stations 12/40 automated weather stations operational Coverage:12% of the country within priority areas	90 automated hydrological stations, 51 automated weather stations, Coverage: at least 40 % of the country within priority areas
River basin management plan developed and implemented	8 (sub) river basin management plans 1 River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) implemented	27 of 33 river basin plans developed At least 5 RBMPs implemented

2. Priority Reforms to Achieve Water Security

To achieve the water security commitments, the RGC commits to the following set of reform actions across the three pillars.

[5] UNICEF-WHO Joint Monitoring Programme (2025)

Table 2. Reform Commitments to Achieving Cambodia's Water Security

Objective	Reform Actions
Water for People	
Achieve universal access to safely managed water supply services (with secure allocation and quality assurance)	1. **Update National Policy on Water Supply and Sanitation** to reflect regulatory reforms and service delivery models (2026). 2. **Develop a New Water Supply Law** that clearly delineates responsibilities for policymaking, regulation and service provision. 3. **Establish an autonomous water supply regulator** separating regulatory functions from policymaking and service provision (2026). 4. **Develop Sub-Decree on Water Allocation and Licensing** including allocation for domestic water supply, protection of drinking water sources, and service reliability standards. 5. **Strengthen licensing framework for water supply operations** through a sub-decree on conditions and procedures for granting clean water supply business licenses (2026). 6. **Develop regulation on clean water tariff determination** based on cost recovery and affordability principles through ministerial decree (2026). 7. **Establish a Clean Water Development Fund** through a sub-decree to support expansion and service quality improvements. 8. **Establish Cambodia National Water Utility** to consolidate technical support and performance benchmarking. 9. **Develop and Implement National Strategic Plan for Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (2026–2033).**
Increase access to safely managed sanitation services	1. **Improve wastewater fee collection** through combined billing with water supply services via sub-decree procedure for the collection of wastewater fees (2026). 2. **Interministerial decree on wastewater tariff determination** based on cost-recovery principles (2027). 3. **Develop National Wastewater and Fecal Sludge Management Action Plan (2025–2035)**. (completed) 4. **Improve long-term planning** for wastewater infrastructure expansion for large, medium, and small urban centers. 5. **Develop guidelines for Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)** in wastewater service

Objective	Reform Actions
Water for People	
Increase proportion of treated wastewater	1. **Strengthen regulatory enforcement and investment planning** under the wastewater and fecal sludge management framework

Objective	Reform Actions
Water for Food	
Increase irrigation service productivity and efficiency	1. **Update Water Resources Policy** with integration of water resources management at river basin scale. 2. **Develop Sub-Decree on Water Allocation and Licensing** to formalize water use rights for irrigation and improve allocation transparency. 3. **Revise Sub-Decree on the establishment and operation of Farmer Water User Communities (FWUCs)** to strengthen governance, accountability, and service delivery roles. 4. **Develop a National Dam Safety Framework** to ensure operational safety and water security for irrigation systems. 5. **Develop and update national standards for the design and construction of irrigation schemes** to ensure adequate and uniform irrigation services.
Modernize irrigation and agricultural productivity through sustainable delivery models	1. **Develop Public–Private Partnerships (PPP) / Private Sector Participation (PSP) roadmap for irrigation service delivery**, incorporating global good practices on performance-based contracts, asset management, and cost recovery. 2. Promote **combined solutions for gravity-fed systems and high-efficiency irrigation technologies**, including solar-powered pumping systems, while considering the associated risks in terms of overexploitation of the water resource, notably groundwater.

Objective	Reform Actions
Water for Planet	
Increase disaster risk reduction (flood and drought) and climate resilience	1. **Sub-Decree on Hydrometeorology** to strengthen hydro-meteorological services, data sharing, and early warning systems.

Objective	Reform Actions
Water for Planet	
Promote sustainable groundwater management and protection	1. **Sub-Decree on Groundwater Management** to regulate abstraction, licensing, monitoring, and aquifer protection, with explicit links to domestic water supply security and drought resilience.
Enhance river basin management planning and implementation	1. **Sub-Decree on the establishment of river basin committees and river basin management plans**, consolidating 39 sub-river basins into 5 major river basins under a national river basin master planning framework.

3. Activity Roadmap (2026-2030)

The RGC is committed to undertaking priority activities over the period between 2026 and 2030 across the three pillars:

Pillar 1: Water for People

Anchored in the Pentagonal Strategy – Phase 1, water Supply is treated as a national priority with an explicit headline goal of 100% access to water supply by 2030. To achieve this, the Government commits to developing and implementing water supply master plans; reviewing and establishing legal frameworks; and establishing a dedicated water supply regulator to manage, develop, and address sector challenges. The RGC also commits to enhancing the strategic role of the state while creating incentives for private sector investment in prioritized geographic locations, Special Economic Zones, industrial parks, clusters of micro/small/medium enterprises, and economic poles. Strengthening the operational performance of water supply utilities in municipal and provincial urban areas is also prioritized. Expanding clean water networks as part of city infrastructure master plans is an explicit urban infrastructure commitment.

The RGC commits to expanding urban flood drainage and wastewater development through city infrastructure master plans; introducing a dedicated wastewater law to reduce water pollution; strengthening policies for management of solid, liquid, gaseous, and hazardous wastes; and requiring wastewater treatment systems in Special Economic Zones.

Under Cambodia's Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0), the RGC is committed to mainstreaming climate risk assessments, developing and implementing a climate-resilient and inclusive water supply and sanitation response framework, undertaking measures to enhance climate resilience, and promoting investments and climate financing for the development of climate-resilient, low-carbon water supply and sanitation infrastructures and systems.

Pillar 2: Water for Food

The country's water resources and irrigation commitments are anchored in the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology's (MOWRAM) comprehensive policy architecture, most notably the National Water Resource Policy of 2004, the Strategic Framework for the Irrigation Sector of 2017, the National Water Resources Management and Sustainable Irrigation Road Map and Investment Program from 2019 to 2033, and the five-year Strategic Development Plan on Water Resources and

Meteorology from 2024 to 2028. These instruments collectively establish MOWRAM as the lead authority for water resources management, irrigation water supply, and flood and drought risk governance in Cambodia, operating in coordination with Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) and other line ministries through the Technical Working Group on Agriculture and Water (TWGAW). On irrigation infrastructure, the Government recognizes that existing systems, spanning over 2,355 schemes covering more than 1.5 million hectares of annually irrigated area, continue to operate at sub-optimal levels due to the lack of standardized design for irrigation and drainage, incomplete rehabilitation, inadequate operation and maintenance (O&M), and the compounding effects of climate change. In response, MOWRAM commits to the following: modernizing and automating irrigation systems to improve the reliability and efficiency of water supply; rehabilitating and upgrading primary, secondary, and tertiary canal networks; rationalizing irrigation investments to ensure water security for agriculture and rural development; and expanding irrigated areas for both rice and diversified crops, with targets of 150,000 additional hectares for rice and 2,500 hectares for other crops.

Pillar 3: Water for Planet

Water resource management is embedded within the Strategy's climate and environment pentagon (Pentagon 5). Key commitments include building water infrastructure including water management systems to ensure water security, environmental sustainability, and climate resilience; restoring water reservoirs and natural storage; carrying out scientific research on water security and sustainable use of natural resources; and strengthening laws, regulations, and policies related to water and natural disasters. The Cambodia Climate Resilient and Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Action Plan 2026–2030 commits to strengthening river basin governance across Cambodia's five priority basins including several that are hydrologically transboundary in nature, promoting multi-purpose water management, improving groundwater management and use and enhancing water governance financing. Complementing this, the Cambodia National Action Plan on Drought Management and Adaptation 2025–2030 prioritizes improved drought forecasting, early warning systems, and climate-resilient water infrastructure at national and regional level. MOWRAM's five strategic areas, administrative and human resource development; water resources management and sustainable irrigation (both surface and groundwater); flood and drought management; water resources data and meteorology; water quality management (including water pollution control from non-point and point sources in rivers and streams, and preservation and conservation of water resources — provide the operational framework for these commitments.

Under Cambodia's NDC 3.0, MOWRAM holds a central role in advancing climate resilience through a comprehensive set of commitments spanning water infrastructure, disaster risk management, and climate-informed governance. Additionally, MOWRAM supports climate risk action planning for floods, droughts, and heatwaves, integrates traditional water management practices into sectoral planning, and coordinates across line ministries to embed climate resilience into sub-national river basin management plans — collectively reflecting the RGC’s commitment to water security and climate adaptation as core national priorities under the Paris Agreement.

Table 3. Roadmap for Achieving Cambodia’s Water Security

Focus areas	2026 - 2028	2029 - 2030
Water for People		

Focus areas	2026 - 2028	2029 - 2030
Strengthening policy, institution and regulations in water supply and sanitation	- Establish water supply regulator *[MISTI]* - Develop new water supply law *[MISTI]* - Update national policy for Water Supply and Sanitation *[MISTI, MPWT, MRD]* - Establish fecal sludge management framework *[MPWT]* - Develop a ten-year national urban/sub-urban sanitation strategy and master plan identifying specific approaches for large, medium and small urban centers *[MPWT]*	- Strengthen regulatory enforcement in water supply *[MISTI]* - Strengthen provincial institutional framework for wastewater through setting up utilities /corporatized structures *[MPWT]*
Strengthening operational performance of service providers	- Develop digital water supply monitoring system *[MISTI]* - Study the establishment of Cambodian National Water utility *[MISTI]* - Assess the feasibility of aggregation and bulk water *[MISTI]* - Develop performance monitoring and benchmarking for wastewater service *[MPWT]*	- Implement aggregation of water supply service providers *[MISTI]* - Strengthen monitoring performance of water and sanitation service providers through digital platform *[MISTI, MPWT]*
Strengthening private sector participation	- Establish Clean Water Development Fund *[MISTI]* - Pilot PPP for aggregation and bulk water supply *[MISTI]* - Improve creditworthiness of water utilities *[MISTI]* - Conduct water supply tariff review in upon the establishment of water supply regulator *[MISTI]* - Implement credit enhancements for water supply through credit guarantee facility with Credit Guarantee Corporation of Cambodia (CGCC) and co-financing between state owned SME Bank and private	- Scale up PPP for water supply (aggregation, bulk water) *[MISTI]* - Pilot Non-Revenue Water Performance Based Contract *[MISTI, Utilities]* - Scale up credit enhancements for water supply sector *[MISTI, CGCC]* - Conduct wastewater tariff review towards improved cost recovery *[MPWT]* - Implement and scale up PPP for wastewater through Design–Build–Operate–Transfer (DBOT) and other models *[MPWT]*

Focus areas	2026 - 2028	2029 - 2030
	financial institutions for water supply projects *[CGCC, SME Bank]* - Strengthen revenue collection from user fee for wastewater service through combined billing with water supply *[MPWT]* - Pilot O&M/management contract for municipal wastewater *[MPWT]* - Develop guidelines for PPPs in wastewater and scope projects that can be undertaken on PPP mode *[MPWT]*	
Water for Food		
Rehabilitating, retrofitting, and repurposing medium to large scale multi-purpose water storage infrastructures	- Develop irrigation inventory and profiles to map out all the existing irrigation schemes *[MOWRAM]*	- Scale up investment projects for medium and large irrigation schemes adopting 3R approaches. *[MOWRAM]*
Preparing national standard for design and construction of irrigation schemes, and National standards for performance monitoring of irrigation schemes	- Develop a national irrigation Design, Operation, and Maintenance Standard - Develop National Irrigation Information and Monitoring Systems - Install early warning systems in flood and drought prone areas with operational procedures (embedding AI driven tools) *[MOWRAM]*	- Update the National Irrigation Design, Operation, and Maintenance Guidelines with AI-driven tools and data-informed approaches across the full lifecycle of irrigation systems. *[MOWRAM]*
Modernizing existing medium and large irrigation schemes and building new large irrigation schemes	- Update the National investment program modernizing medium and large multi-purpose irrigation schemes *[MOWRAM]*	- Conduct feasibility studies and engineering designs for selected priority irrigation schemes ready for investment opportunities. *[MOWRAM]*
Applying innovative, modern, and tested technologies to establish highly water productive and water efficient irrigation schemes (e.g., pressurized systems	- Upgrade the Cambodia Irrigation Scheme Information System (CISIS) database in combination with a field-based Irrigation Scheme Assessment Tool (ISAT) *[MOWRAM]*	

Focus areas	2026 - 2028	2029 - 2030
piped, lining of canal, pre-casted canals, laser levelling, drip irrigation, and artesian systems).		
Formulating a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for irrigation PPP/PSP	- Customize the irrigation SOP for PPP - Develop PPP in irrigation Transaction Model Design - Update sub-decree on establishment of Farmer Water User Community *[MOWRAM]*	- Pilot and scale up private sector participation models for small and medium-scale irrigation schemes *[MOWRAM]*
Applying farmer-led irrigation operations for small to medium irrigation schemes	- Strengthen and operationalize FWUCs through appropriate legislation - Build the capacity of the FWUCs for O&M of tertiary infrastructure and develop modalities for independent Farmer Led Irrigation. *[MOWRAM]*	- Restructure and professionalize FWUCs — including performance modality and implementation structure. *[MOWRAM]*
Providing specialized training for Provincial Department of Water Resources and Meteorology (PDWRAM) staff, FWUCs, and young-to-middle level Cambodian water professionals to strengthen their capabilities to implement water resources management tasks	- Develop capacity building program with tailored curriculum for PDWRAMs and FWUCs - Develop and implement Young Professional Program in Water Security and Climate Resilience *[MOWRAM]*	- Establish a service training center for irrigation engineering and O&M at regional offices - Deploy young professionals in water resources and irrigation to support PDWRAMs and FWUCs. *[MOWRAM]*
Water for Planet		
Preparing River Basin Management Plans that set high level, cross-ministry strategies to achieve sustainable development and management of water resources, and basin-wide water allocation rules for major water	- Consolidate 39 river basins into 5 major river basin groups - Prepare 1 out of 5 integrated river basin management plans (River Basin Secretariate-RBS)	- Prepare 2 out of 5 integrated river basin management plans (RBS)

Focus areas	2026 - 2028	2029 - 2030
users including the environment		
Establishing a national and transboundary water resources management information center providing facilities to store, analyze, and report on water resources data and information, and inform management decisions.	- Construct a national data and information center - Develop Water Resources Data and Information Protocol - Operate the national water resources data and information center with data sharing through Decision Support Systems (DSS). *[MOWRAM]* - Update the DSS systems for transboundary water resources data and information management *[MOWRAM/CNMC]*	- Upgrade to integrated DSS with integrated data monitoring, transferring, and reporting system (MOWRAM/CNMC) - Develop and enhance the operational capacity of a Mekong Delta Data and Information Center dedicated to promoting systematic transboundary data sharing, exchange, and collaboration *[MOWRAM/CNMC]*
Preparing National Flood Emergency Response Plans that show flood prone regions, and preparedness and mitigation measures (adopting the sub-decree on RBMP and guidelines)	- Develop flood and drought risk zone maps - Install new and upgrade existing early warning systems - Prepare a national flood emergency response framework in the high-risk river basins *[MOWRAM/CNMC]*	- Develop the National and Regional Guidelines on Early Warning Systems for Flood and Drought - Upgrade the National Flood and Drought Data Center in line with regional flood and drought management protocol *[MOWRAM/CNMC]*
Raising national IWRM awareness, strengthening policy and legal frameworks in coordination with other line ministries	- Update the Law on Water Resources Management - Develop Sub-Decree on Water Allocation and Licensing - Develop Sub-Decree on Groundwater Management - Develop Sub-Decree on Hydrology and Meteorology - Revise sub-decree on establishment of FWUCs with new structure arrangement *[MOWRAM]*	- Revise the National Water Resources Management Policy - Prepare and implement regulatory and legal framework dissemination plan across 25 provinces *[MOWRAM]*

4. Needed Investment

With current ambitions, the opportunity for investment in water security is substantial. For water supply, it is estimated that US$740 million will be needed to achieve service coverage within the

current private water operator's service areas, including US$478 million private capital expected to be mobilized. It is also projected that an annual investment of approximately US$92 million will be necessary from 2025 to 2030 in order to achieve the sanitation target.[6] While the investment in wastewater has traditionally been publicly financed, the RGC is actively seeking private sector participation in the investment and operations in the medium term.

The active portfolio among development partners and government programs represents a combined commitment of approximately US$850 million, relative to the estimated US$2 billion investment need identified under Cambodia's National Water Resource Management and Sustainable Irrigation Strategy for the period 2019 to 2033. While significant investments have already been mobilized by development partners, continued financial commitments from the Government, development partners, and active engagement by the private sector remain essential to support the Government in achieving the sector's long-term water security development objectives. The table below summarizes the investment obtained and pipelined.

Table 4. Ongoing Investments

[6] Sanitation Finance Strategy, 2024

Project	Implementing agency	Timeline	Size (US$ million)	Financier	Scalable solutions
Pillar 1: Water for People					
Water Supply and Sanitation Improvement Project (WaSSIP)	MISTI, MPWT	2019 – 2026	US$55M	World Bank	SS1 — Provincial piped water supply expansion and utility performance strengthening
Water Supply and Sanitation Acceleration Project (WASAC)	MISTI, MPWT	2023 - 2029	US$163M (Private capital mobilized: US$17.6M)	World Bank	SS1 — Urban/provincial water supply and sanitation expansion and institutional strengthening SS2 — Mobilizing US$17.6M in private sector financing in Battambang and Pursat provinces
Livable, Resilient, and Water-Secure Cities Investment Program (Multi-tranche Financing Facility — MFF, Tranche 1)	MISTI, MPWT, MLMUPC	2026 – 2031	~US$966M Tranche 1: US$298M	ADB, EU, AFD, Urban Resilience Trust Fund	SS1 — Urban water supply service optimization across 14 cities and 12 districts SS6 — Urban flood risk reduction, drainage management, and climate resilience
Provincial Water Supply and Sanitation Project (PWSSP)	MISTI, MPWT	2017 – 2025	~US$118.1M	ADB, AFD, EU	SS1 — Urban water supply expansion and utility performance improvement in Siem Reap, Battambang, Kampong Cham, and Sihanoukville
Second Urban Environmental Management in Tonle Sap Basin Project	MPWT	2018-2026	US$89.0M	ADB	SS1 — Urban water and sanitation service optimization in three provincial cities. SS6 — Flood risk reduction through construction of urban drainage and flood protection infrastructure in cities adjacent to the Tonle Sap ecosystem.

Fourth Greater Mekong Subregion Corridor Towns Development Project	MPWT	2018-2026	US$80.5M	ADB/ Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund	SS1 — Improvement of urban sanitation services through separation of sewage and stormwater, construction of wastewater treatment plants in three Mekong corridor towns. SS6 — Improvement of stormwater drainage and flood management to enhance urban climate resilience in rapidly growing corridor towns.
Livable Cities Investment Project	MPWT	2022-2028	US$182 M	ADB/JFPR	SS1 — Urban sanitation service improvement through expansion of wastewater, drainage, and solid waste services in three fast-growing secondary cities. SS6 — Flood risk reduction through construction of urban stormwater drainage systems in climate-vulnerable border and coastal towns.
Rural Water Supply, Sanitation, and Hygiene Improvement Sector Development Program	MRD	2024 – 2029	US$93.6M	ADB/JFPR	SS3 — Climate-resilient rural water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) provision
Nirodh Water Supply Expansion Project (I)	Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority (PPWSA)	2025 – 2032	US$143.5M (JPY 21,526M)	JICA	SS1 — Expansion of water supply production capacity and distribution network in Greater Phnom Penh to meet growing urban demand
Expansion of Water Supply Systems in Svay Rieng	MISTI	2022 – 2025	US$30.6M	JICA	SS1 — Expansion of water supply production capacity and distribution network in Svay Rieng town
Water Supply Expansion Project in Ta Khmau	PPWSA	2020 – 2025	US$32.0M	JICA	SS1 — Expansion of water supply production capacity and distribution network

Expansion of Phum Prek Water Supply System	PPWSA	2021 – 2027	US$40.8M	JICA	SS1 — Expansion of water supply production capacity and distribution network
Bakheng Water Supply Project — Phase III	MISTI, PPWSA	2024 – 2027	~Euro 252M	AFD, EU	SS1 — Expanding Phnom Penh's water production capacity to 1.2 million m^3/day by 2027, achieving 100% urban water service coverage in Phnom Penh
Takmao Sewerage Management System Project	MPWT	2024 – 2027	~US$123.8M	Korea Eximbank	SS1 — Urban sanitation and sewerage system improvement in Takmao town (Kandal Province)
Green Siem Reap Sewerage and Storm Drainage System Project – KHM-29	MPWT	2022-2027	US$97.22 M	Korea Eximbnak	SS1 — Urban Sanitation Service Improvement SS6 — Urban flood risk reduction through improved storm water drainage
Viability Gap Financing (VGF) support to private water operators (PWOs) in rural Cambodia	CAPRED, MISTI	2022 – 2027	US$2.1M (private sector leveraged US$4.4M)	Australia	SS2 — Bankable solutions for water supply in rural areas by providing viability gap funding
Water Revenue Finance Facility	SFF	2019-2030	US$26M	SFF	SS2 — Bankable solutions for water supply in rural areas by providing technical assistance and has lent US$16M to 35 PWOs at a little lower than market rate.
Access to Finance for Small Water and Electricity Operators in Cambodia Phase 2	PROPARCO, FTB	2022 - 2027	US$20M	PROPARCO, FTB	SS2 — Bankable solutions for water supply in peri-urban and rural areas through a US$20 million line of credit
Aggregation of private water operators through private investment	Private Operator (KWSH)	2012 - continued	2014 - continued	Investors and lenders	SS1— Provincial piped water supply expansion and utility performance strengthening SS2 — Bankable solutions for water supply in rural areas through investing and lending to Khmer Water Supply Holding (KWSH)

Pillar 2: Water for Food					
Cambodia Water Security Improvement Project	MOWRAM and MAFF	2024-2030	US$150 M (Loans: $145M and RGC: $5M)	World Bank	SS4 — Strengthening FWUCs and farmer-led water management SS5 — Rehabilitation and upgrading of irrigation and water supply systems SS6 — Climate risk resilience, drought and flood preparedness SS7 — Expanding hydrometeorological monitoring networks, updating water policies, and developing climate-informed river basin management plans
Irrigated Agriculture Improvement Project	MOWRAM and MAFF	2022 – 2027	~US$175.85 million	ADB, EIB, and RGC	SS4 — Strengthening Farmer Water User Communities and decentralized irrigation service delivery SS5 — Enhancing water delivery efficiency and climate resilience across four irrigation systems in Battambang, Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom, and Takeo provinces
Integrated Water Resources Management Project	MOWRAM	2024 – 2029	US$160 M (Loans)	ADB, AIIB, and RGC	SS5 — Modernizing irrigation systems and improving water delivery efficiency in Battambang and Pursat provinces SS6 — Reducing flood risks in the Pursat and Sangker River Basins SS7 — Strengthening climate-adaptive integrated water resources management and River Basin Committee capacities

Climate Adaptative Irrigation and Sustainable Agriculture for Resilience (CAISAR)	MOWRAM and MAFF	2025 – 2030	US$250 (Loan; GCF Grant: US$18M)	AIIB, IFAD, GCF	SS4 — Farmer-level climate adaptation and on-farm water use efficiency for 560,000+ smallholder farmers SS5 — Upgrading and climate-proofing water infrastructure in Kampong Speu, Kampong Chhnang, Kandal, and Pursat provinces SS6 — Building climate resilience and drought/flood risk reduction for rural farming communities
Southwest Phnom Penh Irrigation and Drainage Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (Phase II)	MOWRAM	2023 - 2026	US$67.85M (Loan)	JICA	SS4 — Improving irrigation service delivery and on-farm water management for farmers in Kampong Speu, Kandal, and Takeo provinces SS5 — Rehabilitation and improvement of irrigation and drainage infrastructure in the southwest Phnom Penh area
Pillar 3: Water for Planet					
Country Climate Resilient Sustainable Irrigation, and Water Flood and Drought Mitigation Project-Phase 1	MOWRAM	2025 - 2030	US$200 M (Loan)	AIIB and RGC	SS4 — Decentralized irrigation service delivery and farmer water management across 15 irrigation schemes SS5 — Climate-resilient irrigation modernization in Kampong Thom, Preah Vihear, Siem Reap, Oddar Meanchey, Banteay Meanchey, and Pursat provinces SS6 — Drought and flood mitigation through improved water storage and management

Irrigation Development and Flood Mitigation Project - KHM-19	MOWRAM	2024 - 2029	US$85.1M	Korea Eximbank	SS5 — Development and improvement of irrigation systems in Banteay Meanchey province SS6 — Flood reduction and water management infrastructure
Flood Diversion Infrastructure PHNOM PENH-PPFD	MOWRAM	2024 – 2027	US$278.6M (RGC public budget)	Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF)	SS6 — Reducing flood risks in Phnom Penh
Barvel Irrigation Development and Flood Mitigation Project	MOWRAM	2022 - 2029	US$98.7M	Korea Eximbank	SS5 — Irrigation system development in the Bavel area, Battambang province SS6 — Flood risk reduction and drainage improvement
Eastern Mekong Delta Integrated Water Resources Management Project	MOWRAM	2024 – 2029	US$94.3M	Korea Eximbank	SS5 — modernizing irrigation systems and strengthening climate-adaptive water resources management SS6 — floods and droughts risk reduction in the Eastern Mekong Delta region
Australia–Cambodia Partnership for Climate Resilience (ACP4Climate)	MOWRAM	2026-2030	AUD$24 million	DFAT	SS6- Resilient irrigation development, flood and drought climate resilient with inclusive and equitable water resources management

Table 5. Pipeline Investments

Project	Implementing agency	Timeline	Size (US$ million)	Financier	Scalable solutions
Pillar 1: Water for People					
Sewerage System Development in Ta Khmau Town Project 2nd Phase	MPWT	2026 - TBD	US$63M	Korea Eximbank	SS1 — Urban sanitation and sewerage system improvement in Takmao town (Kandal Province)
Urban Sustainable Water Supply Development Project	MISTI	TBD	TBD	AIIB	SS1 — Urban water supply system rehabilitation and expansion
Sustainable Water Supply in Siem Reap (SWSSR) Project	Siem Reap Water Supply Authority (SRWSA)	2026 onwards	~US$25M + Euro 6M	AFD, EU	SS1 — Expansion and improvement of piped water supply services in Siem Reap City, supporting long-term water supply master plan to 2050
Smart Water Management System Improvement in Phnom Penh	PPWSA	2025-2029 (TBD)	~US$50M (TBD)	Korea Eximbank	SS1 — Urban water supply performance optimization
Water Infrastructure & Smart Energy in Cambodia (WISE) Joint Programme	MISTI	2026-2029	US$20M private /concessional financing to be mobilized	Joint SDG Fund, UNICEF, UNCDF, Investors	SS2 — Bankable solutions for water supply in rural areas through establishment of a revolving blended finance facility and technical assistance to support licensed private water operators.
Livable, Resilient, and Water-Secure Cities Investment Program (Multi-tranche Financing Facility — MFF, Tranche 2)	MISTI, MPWT, MLMUPC	2027 – 2031	~US$966M Tranche 2: TBC	ADB and others	SS1 — Urban water supply service optimization across 14 cities and 12 districts SS6 — Urban flood risk reduction, drainage management, and climate resilience
Expansion and improvement of water Supply Service within the service areas of the private water operators	MISTI	TBD	TBD	Private partner, Development partners	SS1 — Expansion and improvement of piped water supply services SS2 — Bankable solutions for water supply in peri-urban and rural areas
Pillar 2: Water for Food					

Integrated water resources management—IWRM-phase II	MOWRAM	Requested: 2026 Implementation planned: 2027-2031	US$160M	ADB, AIIB, and RGC	SS5 — Modernizing irrigation systems and improving water delivery efficiency SS6 — Reducing flood risks SS7 — Strengthening climate-adaptive integrated water resources management and River Basin Committee capacities
Pillar 3: Water for Planet					
National Flood and Drought Management Phase 1	MOWRAM	Requested 2025 and to be implemented (2026-2030)	US$297 M (RGC public budget)	RGC	SS6 — Flood & Drought Risk reduction

5. Coordination Platform

RGC calls on partnerships with development partners, philanthropies, private sector stakeholders and civil society to support the government's journey toward achieving water security for all Cambodians. In the implementation of the Cambodia's Water Security Compact, the RGC will leverage on existing stakeholder coordination platforms in monitoring the progress, especially on the reform agenda set out in the Compact. The following coordination mechanisms will be capitalized.

Water for People

Stakeholder Coordination Group for Clean Wate Sector: Led by the Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation (MISTI), it is intended to serve as a platform for collaborative discussions, exchange of ideas and strategizing for effective involvement and interventions to address challenges in clean water supply sector. It also provides space for discussions and consultations on key reforms undertaken under MISTI. The development partners coordination group comprising only the non-government partners working on water supply also meet regularly to (i) share updates on the progress of their respective clean water supply portfolios; (ii) enhance sector coordination and investment activities in the clean water supply sector; and (iii) discuss sector challenges, develop common understandings, and provide strategic recommendations to MISTI for sector development and future direction.

Sub-Technical Working Group on Urban Sanitation and Wastewater (Sub-TWG UWS): Led by the Ministry of Public Works (MPWT), the Sub-TWG UWS is to respond to the needs of the wastewater and sanitation sector in a more strategic manner, by examining and reviewing existing sector policies and institutional frameworks, identifying bottlenecks in the sector and developing sustainable solutions to address them.

Technical Working Group for Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (TWG-RWSSH): Led by the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), the TWG-RWSSH serves as platform for coordination and strategic discussion in the rural water supply, sanitation and hygiene among stakeholders.

Water for Food and Planet

Technical Working Group on Agriculture and Water (TWG-AW): The TWG-AW is the primary sector-level coordination platform for water resources and agriculture. Established in 2004, it is co-chaired by senior officials from MoWRAM and MAFF and co-facilitated on the development partner side by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). It brings together relevant line ministries, development partners, civil society, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to coordinate policy, strategy, and investment in the agriculture-water nexus.

Development Partner Coordination Group for the Water Resource Sector: The platform was designed as a dedicated space for donors to discuss areas of concern, identify gaps, and prevent duplication of investments in Cambodia's water sector. The group acts as a communication channel to facilitate dialogue with the government and has been credited with increasing coordination, highlighting potential collaborations, and enabling knowledge sharing across the water-food-energy nexus.

Tri-Sectoral Working Group (Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology–Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries–Ministry of Rural Development): A more recent inter-ministerial mechanism, this working group brings together the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and the Ministry of Rural Development to foster integrated planning across water management, agriculture, and rural development. It has developed a Concept Note for a coordinated strategy for 2026–2030, with pilot joint interventions in six communities planned for 2025. This platform reflects growing recognition that water security, agricultural productivity, and rural livelihoods cannot be addressed in isolation.

Annex: List of Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AFD	Agence Française de Développement
AIIB	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
CAISAR	Climate Adaptive Irrigation and Sustainable Agriculture for Resilience
CaWSIP	Cambodia Water Security Improvement Project
CAPRED	Cambodia–Australia Partnership for Resilient Economic Development
CGCC	Credit Guarantee Corporation of Cambodia
CISIS	Cambodia Irrigation Scheme Information System
DBOT	Design–Build–Operate–Transfer
DSS	Decision Support System
EDCF	Economic Development Cooperation Fund
EIB	European Investment Bank
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FWUC	Farmer Water User Community
GCF	Green Climate Fund
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KWSH	Khmer Water Supply Holding
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance
MFF	Multi-Tranche Financing Facility
MISTI	Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation
MLMUPC	Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
MoWRAM	Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology
MPWT	Ministry of Public Works and Transport

MRD	Ministry of Rural Development
NDCM	National Committee for Disaster Management
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
PDWRAM	Provincial Department of Water Resources and Meteorology
PPP	Public–Private Partnership
PPWSA	Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority
PSP	Private Sector Participation
PWO	Private Water Operator
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
RWSSH	Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SFF	Stone Family Foundation
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SS	Scalable Solution
TWG-AW	Technical Working Group on Agriculture and Water
TWG-RWSSH	Technical Working Group on Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene
UWS	Urban Wastewater and Sanitation
VGF	Viability Gap Financing
WASAC	Water Supply and Sanitation Acceleration Project
WaSSIP	Water Supply and Sanitation Improvement Project
WSS	Water Supply and Sanitation

