

PRESS RELEASE

Phnom Penh, March 25, 2021

KOICA Provides 2 Million USD to Formulate a Master Plan of Mekong Delta-IWRM in Cambodia

Phnom Penh: Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) signs a Record of Discussions virtually with Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology on Project for Establishment of Master Plan of Eastern Mekong Delta-IWRM (Integrated Water Resources Management) in Cambodia. This virtual signing ceremony is organized on March 25, 2021.

The Record of Discussions is signed by Mr. Rho Hyunjun, Country Director of KOICA Cambodia office and H.E. Ponh Sachak, Secretary of State of Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MoWRAM).

This project aims at mitigate the damages caused by natural disasters such as floods in wet season and droughts in dry season and increase agricultural productivity for revitalization of national & regional economic development. In addition, this project also object to improve quality of life for the resident in the project area based on the rise in farmers' income.

Under USD 2 million of grant aids from the Republic of Korea, the project will be implemented for 24 months (2021-2023) in Prey Veng and Svay Rieng provinces. The main components of project comprise 1) Establishment of master plan for Eastern Mekong Delta – IWRM, 2) conducting Preliminary feasibility study and 3) supporting capacity development. The project will develop long term development plan and will conduct preliminary feasibility study as the further recommendation and inputs for MoWRAM. The human resources both policy level and technical level will be provided with oversea and local trainings. Additionally, Korean Experts will be dispatches to join hand with Cambodian experts to implement this project as well as to share experience to Cambodian workforce.

Excellency Ponh Sachak mentioned that this project is an essential need of Cambodian because the master plan is an important input for Cambodia in agriculture water sector, especially in Mekong Delta region of Cambodia. It is a road map for Cambodia to manage water with effectiveness and efficiency **while the water resources will be managed for not only in agriculture sector but also for drinking water and for other sectors.** Mr. Rho Hyunjun, mentioned that water is a pillar in KOICA Country Partnership Strategy and KOICA commits to support this sector. “The Mekong region has a special place under New Southern Policy that seeks stronger cooperation with Southeast Asia through the three pillars of people, prosperity and peace.” KOICA Country Director added.