



**Australian Government**

**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

# AUSTRALIAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN CAMBODIA

David Bloch – First Secretary, Head - Economic Cooperation Unit,  
Australian Embassy  
Auscham, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

## THINGS TO COVER

1. Mekong-Australia Partnership
2. Cambodia – Australia Partnership for Resilient Economic Development
3. Economic diplomacy – forward focus
4. Partnerships for Infrastructure – (if time)

## OVERALL OBJECTIVES

1. Economic recovery, resilience and regional integration
2. Enhanced bilateral trade and investment

# MEKONG AUSTRALIA PARTNERSHIP

1. Boosting human capacity development
2. Enhanced economic resilience
3. Enhanced environmental resilience
4. Cybersecurity
5. Enhancing trade and investment links
6. Strengthening foreign investment and management of critical infrastructure

## SOME EXAMPLES OF EARLY MAP ACTIVITIES –

- Agro-Industry Investment Parks; Agro-Investment Promotion; Low-Emissions Rice
  - Mekong-Australia Water and Irrigation Centre
  - Support to implement Consumer Protection Law
  - Off-grid solar, renewable energy integration
  - Cybersecurity bootcamps and training on enhancing foreign investment management
  - Plastics Hub
  - Nature-based solutions (urban, coastal, fisheries, etc)
  - Social inclusion on climate change / disaster resilience
- (Come back to business engagement)*

# CAMBODIA – AUSTRALIA PARTNERSHIP FOR RESILIENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



## Policy Support Facility

(Servicing MEF including in collaboration with other agencies, GFG model)

*Eg: policy research, analysis and drafting (and domestic/int'l partnerships), surveys and data sets, economic modelling and value chain analysis, support with action plans, twinning, dialogue and consultation exercises, etc.*



Circular interaction between two levels – practical experience informing policy development; and capacity to support policy implementation.



Trade / investment /  
SME – Enhancing  
market access pillar



Agriculture /  
Agroprocessing  
pillar



Improving  
infrastructure Pillar



Gender and  
Inclusion

# ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

Planned focus and activities in a few areas –

- Mining; agriculture and agroprocessing; education; water sector (some linked to devel't program)

- Support for companies entering market – e.g. fintech; renewables, etc.

-Early conversations with Auscham on potential promotion events next year (e.g. Australian F&B; role of Australian business)

-MAP business pillar

- Primarily Vietnam focused – but, opportunities for potential expansion (trade missions; campaigns; industry hub, grants)

Other opportunities / potential focuses for economic diplomacy / collaboration with Austrade?