

## PART A : BASIC PROJECT INFORMATION

*(Must be completed in all cases)*

1. PROJECT NAME: **Agriculture Service Program for Innovation, Resilience and Extension (ASPIRE)**
2. PROJECT DATES:
- PROJECT START: **3/5/2015**
- ESTIMATED COMPLETION: **9/30/2022**
3. TOTAL PROJECT COST: **\$67,280,000**
4. RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY: **Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries**
- RESPONSIBLE UNIT: **ASPIRE Secretariat**
- អង្គភាពទទួលខុសត្រូវ:
5. PROJECT STATUS: **Completed**

### *DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION*

6. TYPE OF PROJECT: **Investment project**
7. SOURCE OF PROJECT FUNDING: **Mix of RGC, Grant and Loan**
8. THE POLICY AREA OF THE PENTAGON STRATEGY PHASE I THAT THIS PROJECT FALLS UNDER:V  
**Side 2. Promotion of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, Startups, Entrepreneurship, and Development of Informal Economy**
9. THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROJECT TO ACHIEVE THE ABOVE POLICY:
- 1) Average household agricultural production value of 144,000 targeted smallholder households increased by 20%  
2) Value of household assets of increased by 25% (including for climate-vulnerable households)  
3) Contributing to support Agricultural Extension Policy.
10. SUPPORT TO CAMBODIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPEMENT POLICY:
- Does this Project support to the implementation of the Cambodia Industrial Development Policy? **No**

11. SECTOR:

**Agriculture, Fisheries & Land Management:** **Fisheries**  
**excluding seasonal Crop production**

**Research and Extension Services**

**Livestock**

12. PROJECT LOCATION: (Describe the location of the project and its components.)

**Takeo, Kampong Speu, Ratanak Kiri, Pursat, Koh Kong, Kandal, Prey Veng, Otdar Meanchey, Kampong Thom, Battambang, Kratie, Banteay Meanchey, Kampong Cham, Preah Sihanouk, Stung Treng, Preah Vihear, Siem Reap, Mondul Kiri, Kep, Kampong Chhnang, Svay Rieng, Tbong Khmum, Kampot, Pailin,**

13. PROJECT OBJECTIVE: (Describe the major purpose of the project.)

**The development objective is to establish an “enhanced Cambodia model of agriculture services which is demonstrated as effective for assisting a diversity of smallholder farmers to contribute to broad-based economic growth through profitable and resilience farm businesses and is adopted as policy by 2021”**

14. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Provide a description of the project and all its components.)

ASPIRE is a 7-year program of the Royal Government of Cambodia. The Program became effective with the signing of the Financing Agreement between the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) and IFAD on 5th March 2015. The Program Implementation Date is June 2015 and was officially launched on 8-9 October 2015. The Program Completion Date is 31 March 2022 and the Financing Closing Date is 31 September 2022.

The overall development goal of the ASPIRE Program is to reduce poverty and to increase resilience of 144,000 poor and vulnerable smallholder farmers in Cambodia by increasing an average household agricultural production value by 20% and value of household assets by 25%.

The lead implementing agency of the ASPIRE programme is the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). The program is devised into 4 components with multi-subcomponents. The program is currently being implemented in 24 provinces of Cambodia through the Program Budget mechanism.

The Program is devised into 4 components and into various sub-components. These are:

**1. COMPONENT 1: EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

Sub-component 1.1 – Policy Coordination and Development

Sub-component 1.2 – Policy Research and Analysis

Component 1 is jointly implemented by Supreme National Economic Council (SNEC) of Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) and by the Department of Planning and Statistics (DPS) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF).

**2. COMPONENT 2: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR EXTENSION SERVICES**

Sub-Component 2.1 – Improving Extension Quality and Knowledge

Sub-Component 2.2 – Strengthening Human Resources for Extension

This component is jointly implemented by MAFF's General Directorate of Agriculture (GDA) the Department of Agriculture Extension, Forestry and Fisheries (DAEFF), Royal University of Agriculture (RUA) and Prek Leap National Institute of Agriculture (NIA).

**3. COMPONENT 3: IMPROVED EXTENSION SERVICES**

Sub-Component 3.1 – Provincial Sub-Program

Sub-Component 3.2 – Innovations for Climate Resilience Agriculture

Sub-Component 3.3 – Mass Media Campaign on Extension Activities

Component 3's subcomponent 3.1 Provincial Sub-programme is implemented through the Programme Budget (PB) mechanism coordinated by DPS and DAF of MAFF. The sub-component is implemented by provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (PDAFF), while Sub-Component 3.2 – Innovations for Climate Resilience Agriculture is managed by RUA.

**4. COMPONENT 4: INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORTING CLIMATE RESILIENCE AGRICULTURE**

Component is focuses on the construction of climate resilient infrastructures to support smallholder farmers. The component is managed and implemented by the National Committee on Sub-National Democratic Development (NCDD-s) of the Ministry of Interior. The component is being implemented through the commune planning mechanism where activities are integrated into the component planning process.

All ASPIRE programme components are managed and supported by the Project Management Unit's ASPIRE Secretariat based at the MAFF.

15. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION: (Give reasons why this particular project is considered worthwhile.)

- Improve agricultural production for smallholder households in rural areas of the country.
- Link farmers and agriculture products and commodities with market, reduce poverty, increase income and improve livelihoods of farmers.
- Farmers can organize themselves into agriculture cooperative to improve their farm business.
- Reduce climate risks and be climate change adaptive and resilient.

16. BENIFITS: (Who will benefit, directly and indirectly, from the project?)

**Direct beneficiaries: 144,000 rural smallholder farmer households would benefit from the programme. They would be become farm business resilient and improve their production and increase their income.**

**Indirect beneficiaries: 200,000 farmer households**

17. FEASIBILITY STUDY

Is a Feasibility Study for the project required? **Yes**

If YES, has it been carried out? **Not yet**

18. SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENT IMPACT: (Briefly describe the effects of the project, if any, on the people and the surrounding enviroment. Will the project assist in alleviating poverty?)

**The overall arching development goal of the ASPIRE Programme is to reduce poverty and to increase resilience of rural poor and vulnerable smallholder farmers in Cambodia through the adoption of agriculture climate resilient and smart technologies to improve productivity, increase profitability and increase competition. Farmer will be more adaptive to climate risks, improve water usage and soil management to sustain their farming capacity to produce food.**

19. CLIMATE CHANGE

a. Is any activity or output of the project related to Climate Change? **Yes**

If Yes, please indicate **Adaptation**

b. How is the project relevant to Climate Change?

Please select a Climate Change related sector of the project and fill up the contribution of the climate change related expenditure compared to the total project cost.

Climate Change-Related Sector	Percentage	Climate Change Relevance
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## 20. DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Is any activity or output of the project related to Disaster Risk Reduction? **Yes**

If Yes, please indicate

**Preparedness**

21. GENDER ANALYSIS: (How does the project affect the roles of the men and women in the project area? Will women be actively involved in the implementation of the project?)

**The program is supporting the roles of the men and women in agriculture. All aspects of the programme is gender inclusive where women represents about 45% in all activities- including programme beneficiaries, woman leadership in agriculture cooperatives, value chain business clusters and the recruitment of commune extension workers.**

22. CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT: (Does the Ministry have the skills and experience required to implement the project?)

**The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and it's ministerial partners have enough human resources capacities and experience required to successfully implement the programme. However, technical consultants were recruited to provide capacity strengthening of field staff during the initial project implementation.**

23. STATUS OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: (Provide a brief update on the progress of the project to date. Discuss any major problems causing delays in project implementation.)

**The ASPIRE Programme has been making steady progress toward achieving it's intended programme goal, development objectives, outcomes and outreach targets, covering all 24 target provinces in the country. An independent firm, SBK, conducted two endline surveys for baseline cohort 1 and cohort in 2019 and 2020 respectively and found that ASPIRE are reach outcome indicator where farmers have increased their production value within 3 years by 16% and household asset increased by 30%. ASPIRE Key achievements as of 31 December 2020 are stated as follow:**

- 123,363 households reached (50% are women headed households).
- 32,723 Households reporting adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient technologies and practices.
- 3,049 extension staff received training on Extension TOT as defined in the MAFF's HRD Strategy.
- 575 tension materials uploaded into extension portal, 163,037 viewed and 43,287 downloaded.
- 91,465 smallholder farm businesses with increased profits through applying techniques learned through participation in ASPIRE extension activities.
- 46,411 persons trained in production practices and/or technologies on crop and 43,201 in livestock.
- 1,920 Business Clusters formed with 61,700 members (42% women).
- Partner with 1,904 local buyers/traders.
- Work with 1,834 input suppliers.
- 245 Ag cooperative supported.
- Partnered with 656 lead farmers (207 women)
- Work with 675 Commune Extension Workers, 649 District Agriculture Offices in 24 provinces.
- 230 climate resilient infrastructures constructed to support smallholders.
- 84,217 ha of Farmland under water-related infrastructure constructed/rehabilitated.
- 109,658 Households supported with increased water availability or efficiency.
- ICT Chamka App developed and operational with over 6,000 farmers registered, 387 have used direct dial up extension service technical support and 351 farmers have used virtual market platform to purchase agriculture inputs.

**All ASPIRE supported business clusters are operating well and constitute across the four agriculture subsectors: crops, animals, forestry, and fisheries. Business/market networks have been formed with many local traders/buyers and marts. Products from farmers, supported by ASPIRE, are available in such high-end markets as Aeon Malls, Khmer Organic, Happy Farm, Natural Garden, Makro etc. Partnerships with private firms or input suppliers have been extensive, which includes local buyers/traders who are members of the business clusters.**

**Despite the impact of Covid-19 throughout 2020, the ASPIRE programme has carried out activities, taken health safety preventative measures into account, and completed all activities as planned. The programme adopted both digital technologies and deployed field teams through all PDAFFs to work unflinchingly to provide technical and market support farmers. The year 2020 saw the programme reached 18,814 rural smallholders.**

24. PROJECT PRIORITY: (Please indicates the priority ranking of the project decided by the ministry/agency.)

**1**

25. DONOR INVOLVEMENT: (Provide any information on current or potential donor involvement in the project.)

**IFAD: International Fund for Agricultural Development**

**PART B : PROJECT COSTS AND FUNDING SOURCES**  
(In US\$'000)

INVESTMENT COST	2021		2022 Budget	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate	2025 Estimate	3yr Total 2023-2025	Recurrent Cost Est.
	Budget	Actual						
<b>Operational Expenditure</b>	491.0	0.0	108.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Salaries	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Materials + Admin	491.0	0.0	108.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	15,352.0	0.0	1,569.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Consultancy (i.e. TA) + Admin	3,403.5	0.0	959.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equipment+ Furniture	1,620.4	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Training	435.5	0.0	29.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	9,892.6	0.0	550.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	15,843.0	0.0	1,678.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FUNDING SOURCES	2021		2022 Budget	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate	2025 Estimate	3yr Total 2023-2025	
	Budget	Actual						
<b>Project Revenue</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
<b>Government Funding</b>	2,455.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Cash Input	2,455.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Other Resources	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
<b>Donor Funding</b>	8,941.6	0.0	1,678.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
IFAD	8,941.6	0.0	1,678.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
<b>TOTAL COMMITTED FUNDING</b>	11,397.0	0.0	1,678.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
<b>FUNDING REQUIRED</b>	4,446.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
(Total Cost - Funding Available)								

**Seen and Approved by  
Minister**

(Signature)

Date :