

Questions and Answers on Cultural Rights and Sustainable Development

I. The Cultures of Development

This first part aims at gathering information about the vision, values and aims of development, and about those who are involved in defining the strategies and evaluating progress in their achievement.

1. What is your understanding of what “development” should aspire to?

- “Development” should aspire to fulfillment of people’s needs and well-being in a sustainable and inclusive manner.

2. How is development defined in your country? If it exists, please provide the definition of development used in your Government’s/ organizations’ strategies or policies towards (sustainable) development.

- “Development” is the enhancement of people’s living qualities and conditions that everyone could enjoy inclusively, harmoniously and sustainably regardless of their ages, colors, ethnicities, races, groups, communities, culture, beliefs and religions.

3. Has your country developed and adopted a (sustainable) development strategy? If so, please indicate what the main development model is, the aims that are communicated and monitored.

- Cambodia has developed and adopted a sustainable development strategy in the synergy of global, regional, and local context-based development model (top-down and bottom-up approaches are in use). As a member state of the UN (United Nations) and ASEAN (Association of the Southeast Asian Nations), Cambodia has adopted all 7 Sustainable Development Goals in the UN’s 2030 Agenda and added the 8th goal of its own priority-clearance of unexploded ordnance and mine. All SDGs have been well contextualized into Cambodian context through responsible ministries and institutions.

4. Who are the main stakeholders defining, driving and monitoring the (sustainable) development process? Please provide information on the various levels or sectors of stakeholders involved.

- The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC), development partners, civil societies, and private sector are the main stakeholders in defining, driving and monitoring the sustainable development process.
- The Ministry of Planning represents the RGC to involve all stakeholders regularly in annual meetings to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the sustainable development.

5. Are there participatory process influencing and informing the definition and evaluation of (sustainable) development policies? If so, how?

- Line ministries, local communities (including indigenous communities), and relevant stakeholders were involved in influencing and informing the definition and evaluation of sustainable development policies
- Through participatory process, diverse experiences, ideas, reflections, lessons-learnt and perspectives have been shared, discussed, and formulated into Cambodia sustainable development policies with particular definitions and evaluation based on local context.

6. Have the development priorities or the assistance provided by international organizations impacted negatively on some aspects of your country's (sustainable) development policies?

- N/A

II. The Cultural Rights Dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals

This part of the questionnaire aims to gather experiences on how cultural resources and cultural rights have been considered in the strategies and programs aiming to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) generally as well as for specific goals.

7. In designing the strategy to achieve the SDGs, what consideration has been given to their cultural dimensions and to cultural rights? Which aspects have been considered?

- Main aspects to be considered within cultural dimensions in designing strategy to achieve the SDGs are as follows:
 - **National Regulations:** Cambodia's Constitution, Law on the Protection of Cultural Heritage, Law on Copyrights and Related Rights, Royal Decree on Living Human Treasures System of Cambodia, Prakas (Ministerial Decree) on Code of Ethics for Artists, Prakas on Collective Management Organization, Prakas on the Management of Export and Import of Antiquities.
 - **International Regulations:** 2003 UNES Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, 2005 UNESCO's Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works in 1886 and the amendment in 1979, Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances, Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled, etc.
 - **Existing Policies:** Cambodian Sustainable Development Goals (CSDG) 2016-2030, Rectangular Strategy-Phase IV and National Strategic Development Plan of the Royal Government of Cambodia 2019-2023, National Policy for Culture, etc.
 - **Main Aspects of Cultural Rights/Human Rights:**
 - **Respect, Protect and Promote the Rights to Participate in Cultural Lives**
 - **Organize Cultural Events and Programs to Foster Participation and Dialogue:** Events and programs to be organized to support and encourage participation and dialogues among private sector, civil society organizations, and stakeholders to take even more active roles in cultural preservation, promotion and development.
 - **Promote Inclusivity and Equity of Participation in Cultural Events and Programs:** Women (gender), children, youth, old-aged people including living human treasures, indigenous people, and vulnerable people (orphans and disable persons) to be encouraged and facilitated to participate in cultural events organized at both national and sub-national levels, local community level with special attention and collaboration with indigenous ethnic groups.
 - **Protect and Promote the Rights to Creativity in Cultural Sector**
 - **Develop Human Capital in Culture and Arts:** Education and trainings in cultural sector to be strengthened in terms of quality and quantity with

the purpose to develop knowledge, vocational skills, and job creation in order to contribute to poverty reduction and economic development.

- **Protect and Promote Copyrights and Related Rights:** The enforcement of laws and regulations related to copyrights, related rights, and those mentioned in previous points (national regulations and international regulations).
- **Support New Creations:** Workshops, festivals, trainings, programs, and relevant events to be held to support and to enhance Cambodian talents, particularly the young ones, to play more active roles in cultural industries and creative economy through the creation of new cultural products and services.
- **Protect and Promote the Rights to Access to, to Enjoy and to Benefit from Cultural Heritage and Arts**
 - **Registration of Cambodian Cultural Heritage into UNESCO's Lists:** World Heritage, Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, Creative Cities Network, and Memory of the World.
 - **Sustainable Development:**
 - Emphasis on the rights of the future generations to access to cultural heritage like what the present generations do
 - Job creation and poverty reduction
 - Community-based development: provide education and training to community, support cultural practices in community, preserve local and traditional knowledge, etc.

8. How was the planning, implementation and monitoring of the strategy adapted to the cultural values, world views, practices and identities of the concerned persons? How was respect for diversity integrated in the process ?

- Planning, implementation, and monitoring of the strategy adapted to the cultural values, world views, practices and identities of the concerned persons (respect for diversity integration in the process) are as follows:
 - **Initial Studies on Traditional Practice System:** this study is focusing on people's daily livings such as traditional belief, community management, land use, natural resources harvesting, etc.

- **Consultation with Local Authority, Community and Concerned Stakeholders:** the consultation is carried out through many processes from the beginning to the end.
- **Planning:** plan is developed based on the results of consultations and in closed collaboration with national and international experts in respect to tradition, culture and livelihood of the community. The plan once adopted is disseminated to local authorities and communities to promote awareness and participation.
- **Implementation and Monitoring:** the plan is carried out through the same process of the planning with participation of all stakeholders to assure transparency and accountability, and bring benefits to community as a whole.

9. How were the persons concerned involved ?

- The concerned persons were involved through open and closed dialogue platforms organized by the Royal Government of Cambodia.

Their diverse cultural resources, knowledge and capacities in various contexts capitalized ?

- N/A

Has the strategy to achieve the SDGs been designed in a way that is culturally adequate and inclusive ?

- The strategy to achieve the SDGs has been designed in a way that is culturally adequate and inclusive as per the actual context of Cambodia.

10. Have international development and financial agencies taken into account cultural rights in sustainable development initiatives ?

- N/A

11. Where cultural resources and creative capacities were leveraged in achieving the SDGs, what were in your experience the results, successes, weakness, or lessons learned ?

- N/A