



CAMBODIA:

## Supporting the growth and development of marine fishery exports

### Context

In 2008, the global demand for fish import was close to USD 105 billion (since then it has been growing at roughly 7 to 8 per cent each year) and developing countries accounted for 50 per cent of global exports (34 per cent for Asia).

For Cambodia, the fish trade represents a major source of foreign currency that benefits millions of fishermen, processors, and others involved in micro-level production and commodity supply chains. The Royal Government considers the fisheries export as a top priority and has reflected this in its 2013 Trade Integration Strategy.

However, Cambodia's access to international markets continues to depend on the country's capacity to meet the regulatory requirements of importing countries. At the moment, except for a few large processors the sector is mostly dominated by medium or small processors with limited resources and know-how.

To address these challenges, UNIDO launched a new project worth more than USD1.3 million to assist Cambodia in improving the capacity of the export of marine fishery products.

### Main approach

The project will help small and medium processors and exporters, including by providing them with technical support to improve their export readiness through market identification and development. It will also help develop national standards for marine products and create a new Apex Association for all marine fisheries product processors. Lessons learned from the project will be disseminated to a larger community of producer associations in three targeted coastal provinces: Preah Sihanouk, Kampot, Kep and Koh Kong.

### Development goal and impact

The Marine Fisheries Product component of the project will target two main development impacts: the increased competitiveness of the sector's export and job creation.

The increased competitiveness of Cambodian marine fisheries exports will result in the opening of new markets (geographical and products) and improved pricing of the exports. Estimates suggest that up to six million people may benefit from full-time, part-time or seasonal employment in the fishery sector. The development of the sector will also support Cambodia's efforts to meet its MDGs through increased job opportunities and improved income of producers.

### At a glance

Project title: Export Diversification and Expansion Program
Part II (CEDEPII): Marine Fishery Component
Duration: 3 years
Location: Preah Sihanouk, Kampot, Kep and Koh Kong provinces
Budget: USD 1,303,942
Donor: Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF)
Counterpart agency and implementing partners: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries through, Department of Fisheries Post Harvest Technologies and Quality Control of Fishery Administration, government agencies and relevant private sectors

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