



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



G20 GLOBAL
LAND INITIATIVE

Cambodia



Overview

Background

Cambodia is part of mainland Southeast Asia, bordered by Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam and with a coastal region on the Gulf of Thailand. The Mekong River is a prominent geographical feature of the country, flowing from Laos in the north to the Mekong Delta of Vietnam in the south; feeding into the Tonle Sap Lake. The Tonle Sap is a vital natural resource, covering almost 10% of the nation's surface area during the peak of the Southwest Monsoon season and constituting the nation's primary protein source. Cambodia's topography includes the low-lying central plains of the Mekong, which are surrounded by mountainous and highland regions. The population of Cambodia is approximately 16.5 million people (2019). While 76% of the population currently lives in rural areas, Cambodia is experiencing a rapid rate of urbanization. Cambodia's population relies heavily on agriculture and fisheries, providing 25% of

GDP and employing 49% of the country's labor force.

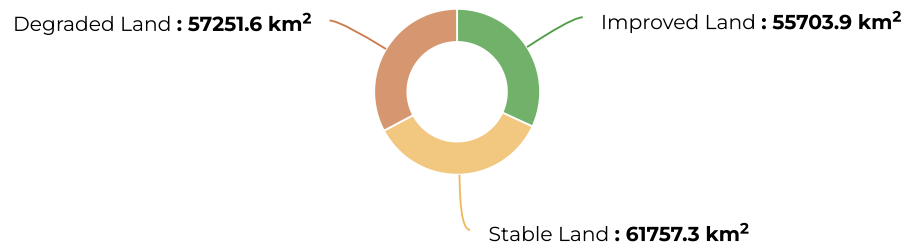
Industry and services form rapidly growing sectors of the economy. Cambodia faces high disaster risks from flood and drought, due both to high levels of exposure and vulnerability. The rate of undernourishment in Cambodia remains high, at around 15%, as does the national poverty rate. Natural resource dependence is also high, and the changes in the dynamics of the Mekong River, expected due to the largescale damming which is ongoing in most of the Mekong countries, may have negative ramifications for precarious livelihoods in Cambodia. Cambodia remains highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change due to its high dependency on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, water resources, forestry, fisheries, tourism, etc., which form the critical foundation of its economic growth and support the livelihoods of a great significant majority of its population.

Credits: [World Bank](#)

Summary Chart

Current State

Land degradation between 2001 and 2015 - SDG 15.3.1 (km²)

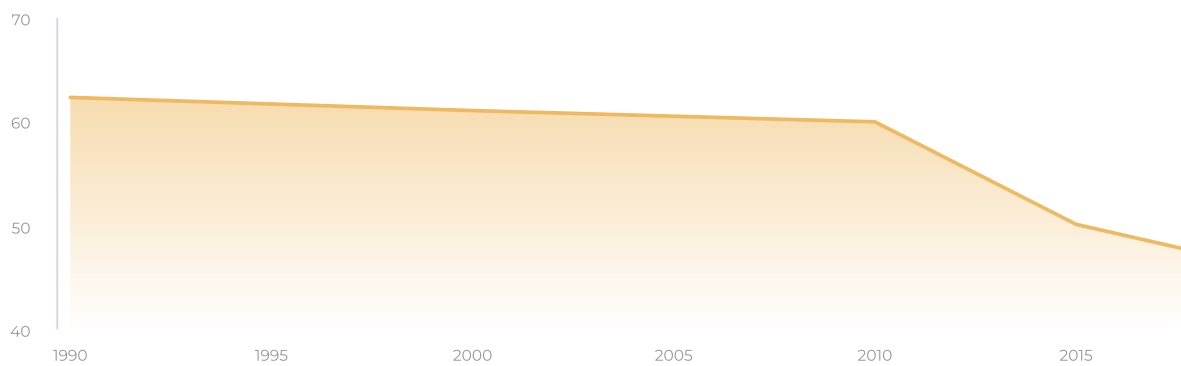


Credits: trends.earth

Forest area

45.7 % land

-23.8 % change over last 10 years

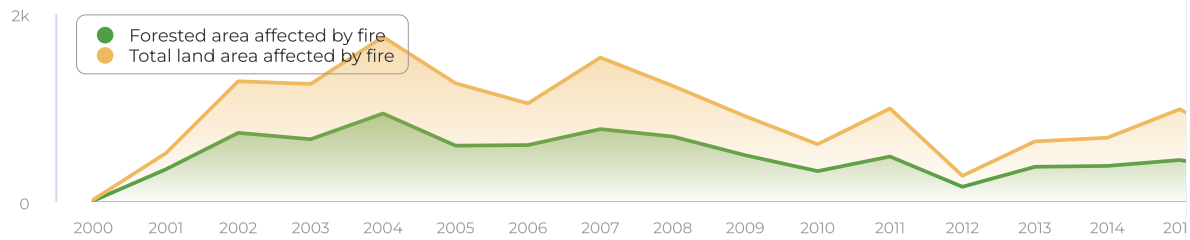


Credits: FAO



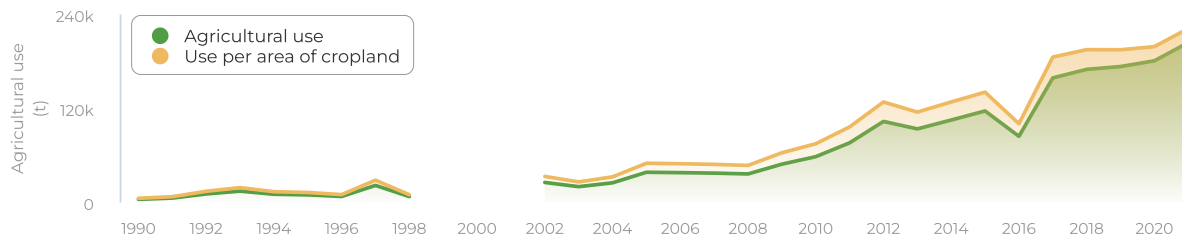
Stressors

Area affected by wildfires (kha)



Credits: FAO

Use of nutrients



Credits: FAO

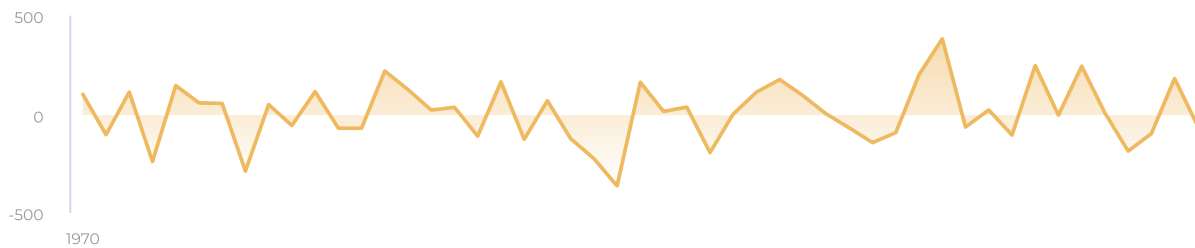
Trends

Annual temperature anomalies against 1901-1920 (°C)



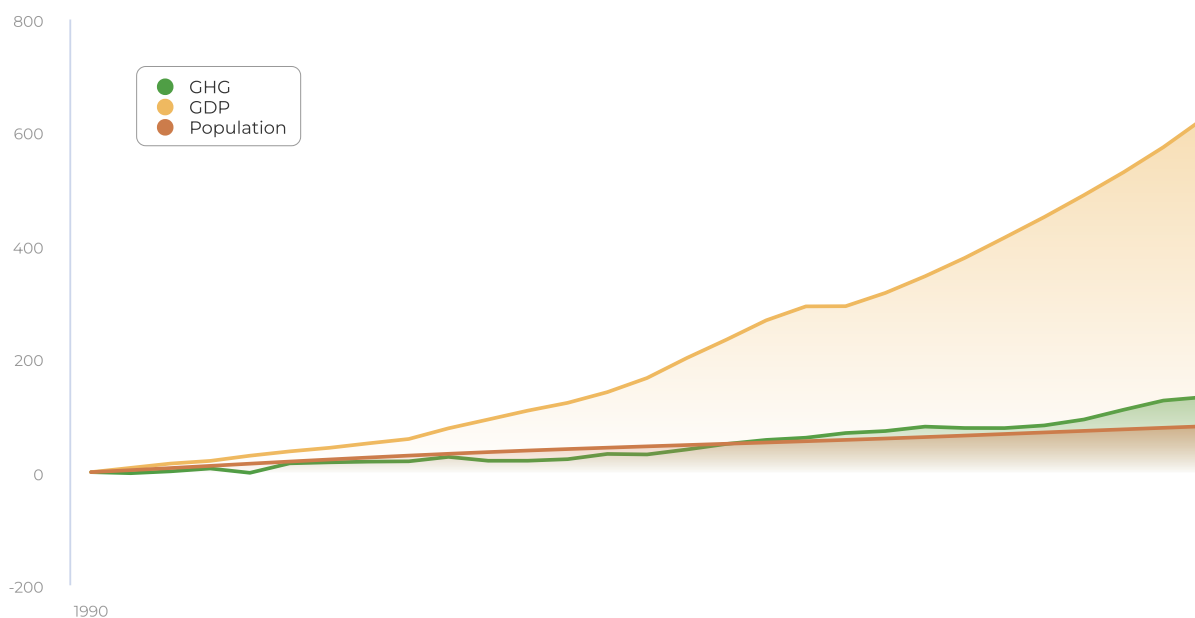
Credits: Climatic Research Unit (University of East Anglia) and Met Office

Annual precipitation anomalies against 1901-1920 (mm)



Credits: Climatic Research Unit (University of East Anglia) and Met Office

Population / Gross domestic product / Greenhouse Gases - change in % since 1990



↗ Impacts

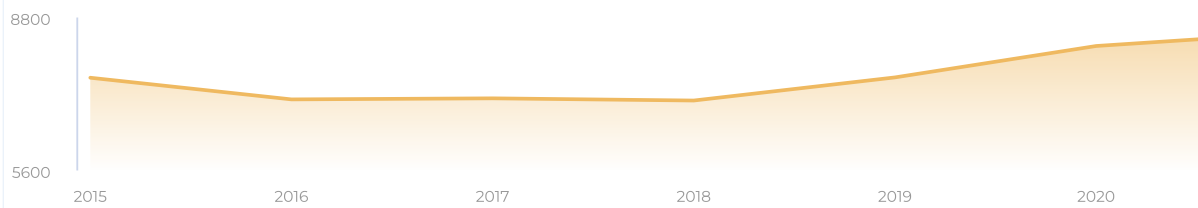
Human displacements caused by climatic hazards



Credits: Climatic Research Unit (University of East Anglia) and Met Office

Number of severely food insecure people - SDG 2.1.2

8.5K people



Credits: FAO

💡 Solutions

Proportion of terrestrial protected areas

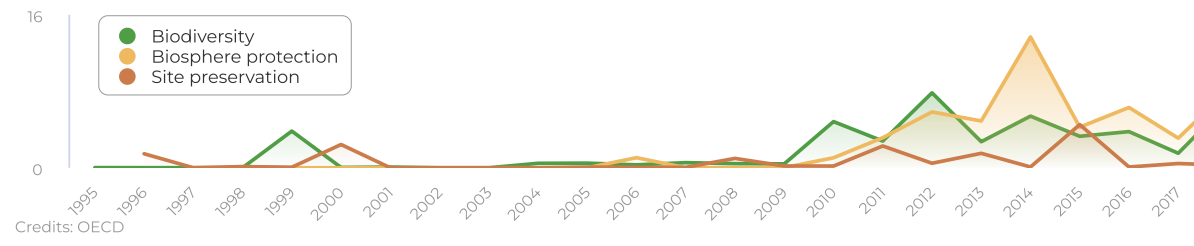
39.7 % of total land area

2024

Credits: UNEP-WCMC

Official Development Assistance flows

Biodiversity sector (million USD)



Commitments

3,055,700
hectares

LDN

Land Degradation Neutrality

0
hectares

NBSAP

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans under the Convention on Biological Diversity

1,134,200
hectares

NDC

Nationally Determined Contributions embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

0
hectares

Bonn Challenge

Bring 150 million hectares of degraded and deforested landscapes into restoration by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030

Treaties

Treaty	Signature	Ratification	Party status
Minamata Convention on Mercury	2013-10-10	2021-04-08	Ratification
Paris Agreement	2016-04-22	2017-02-06	Ratification
Nagoya Protocol	2012-02-01	2015-01-19	Ratification
Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol		2013-08-30	Accession
Rotterdam Convention		2013-03-01	Accession
Stockholm Convention	2001-05-23	2006-08-25	Ratification
Cartagena Protocol		2003-09-17	Accession
Kyoto Protocol		2002-08-22	Accession
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	2002-06-11	2002-06-11	Acceptance
Basel Convention		2001-03-02	Accession
Ramsar Convention	1999-10-23	1999-06-23	Ratification
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification	1994-10-15	1997-08-18	Ratification
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	1973-03-03	1975-07-04	Ratification
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change		1995-12-18	Accession
Convention on Biological Diversity		1995-02-09	Accession

