

# CAMBODIA

## DISASTER INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND DATABASE



*Presented by: Ross Sovann,  
Disaster Management Advisor to the National  
Committee for Disaster Management,  
in The Workshop to Improve the Compilation of  
reliable data on disaster occurrence and impact  
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# Kingdom of Cambodia

In the heart of the  
**ASEAN**

Bordered by Thailand,  
Laos, Vietnam and The  
Gulf of Thailand

Area: 181,035 sq. Km.  
Capital: **Phnom Penh**, 3  
municipalities and 20  
provinces





# Primary Natural Disasters...

Mekong River: world's 12th longest river system. Total length of 4,500 km, a drainage area of 795,000 sq. km and an average annual runoff of 475,000 million cubic meters.

500 km of  
Mekong  
River bisects  
Cambodia

85% of  
Cambodia's  
land is in  
lower  
Mekong  
basin

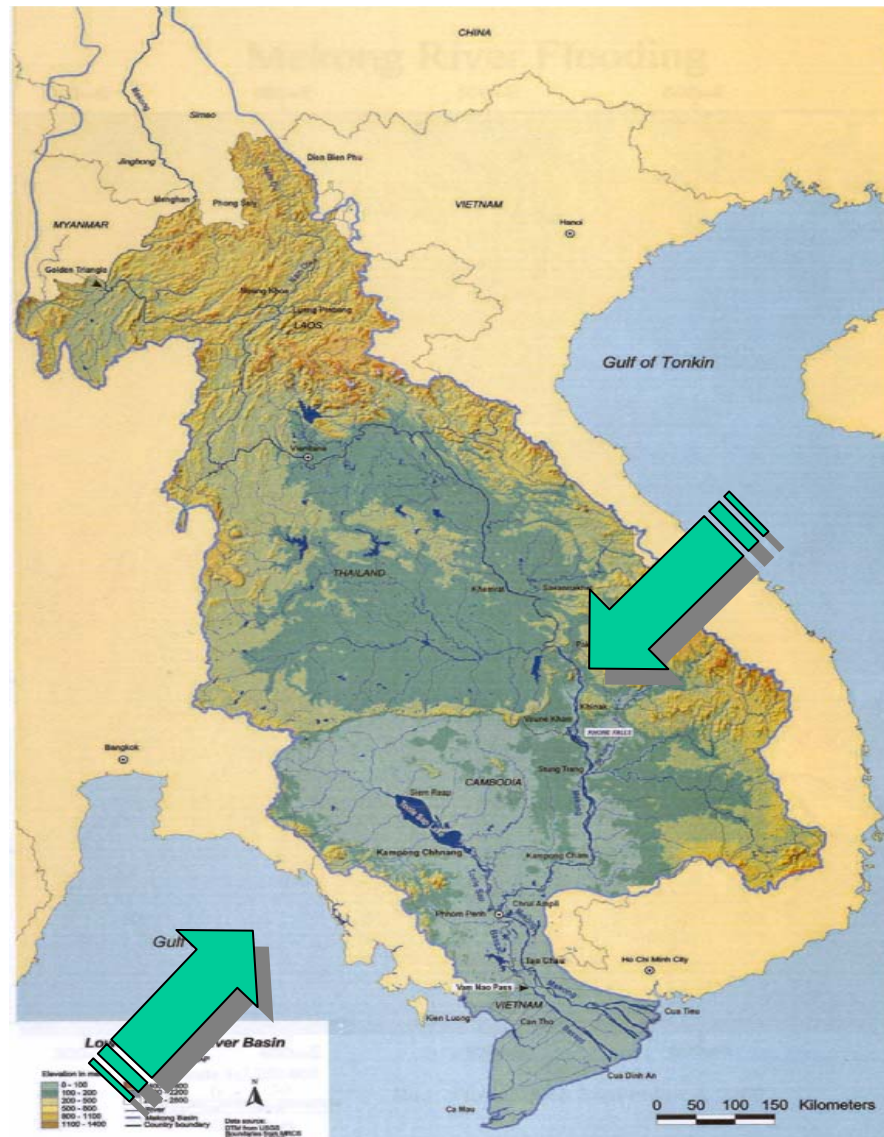


# CLIMATE: The Monsoon

Annual rain fall varies from 1,100mm to more than 4.000mm per year

*Southwest Monsoon mid May to end of Oct. brings 75% to 80% of the annual rainfall*

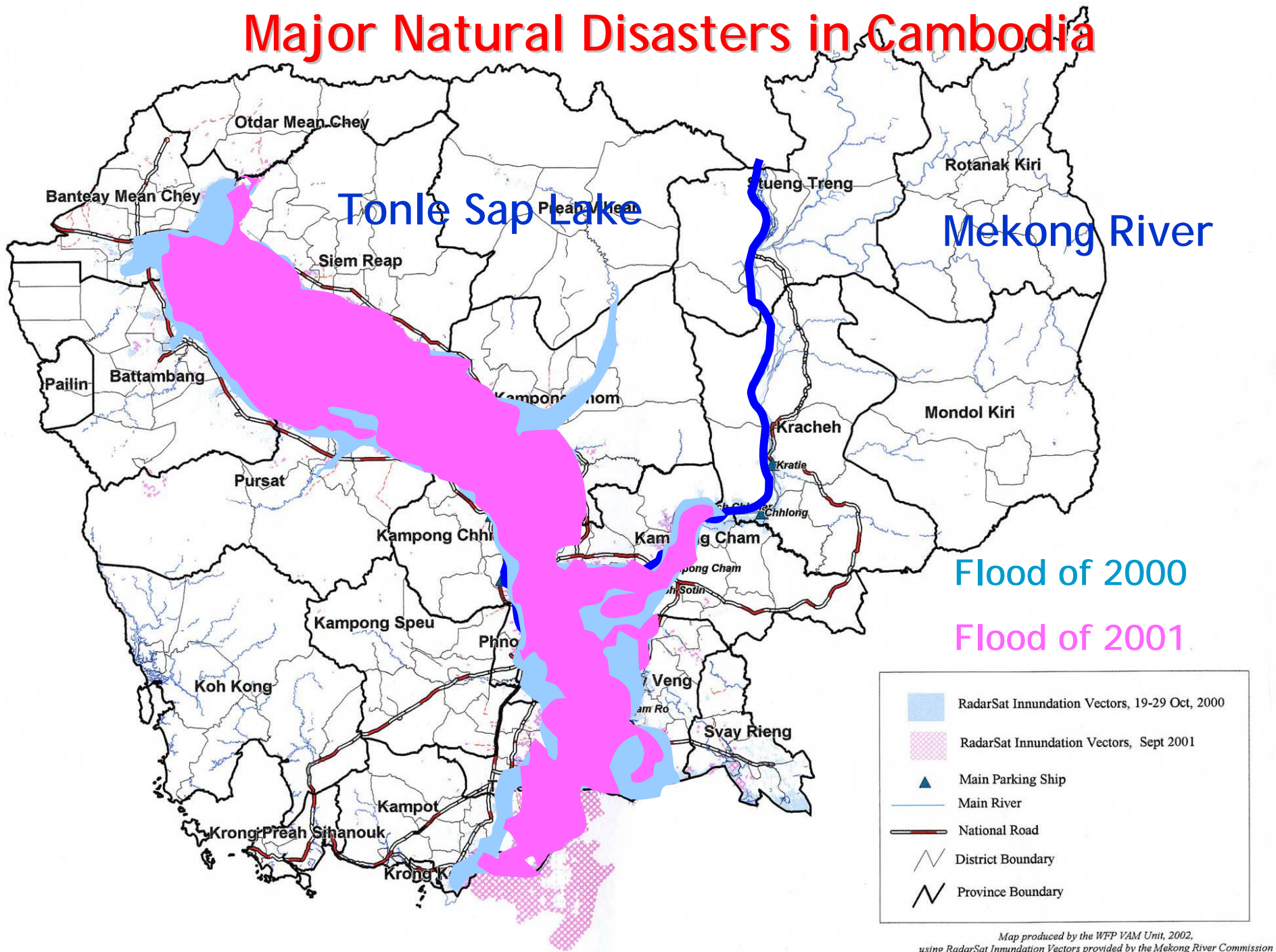
*Northeast Monsoon Beginning of Nov to end of Apr with dry wind called hot season*



**Monsoon usually swell up the Mekong Basin**



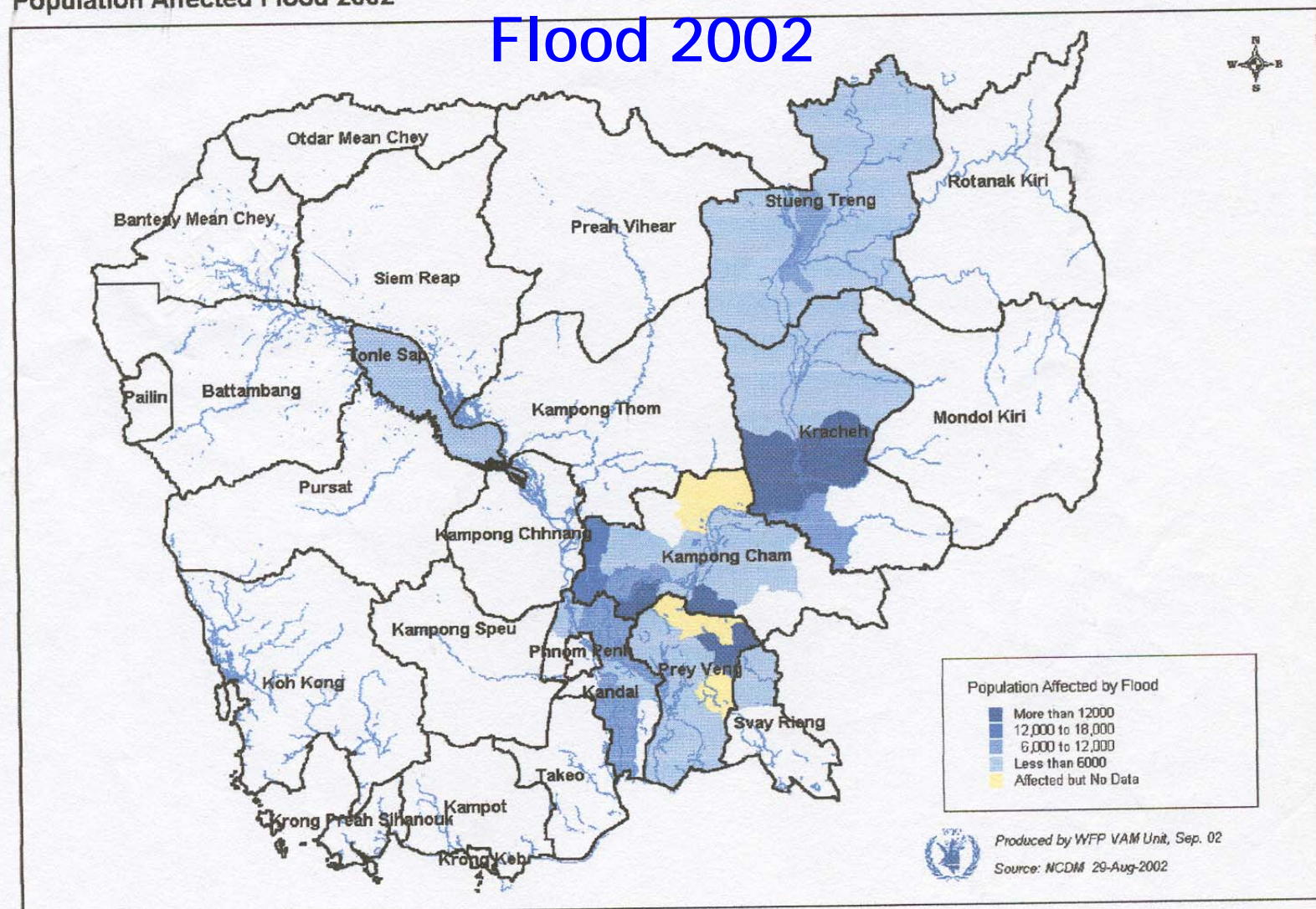
# Major Natural Disasters in Cambodia



Map produced by the WFP VAM Unit, 2002,  
using RadarSat Innundation Vectors provided by the Mekong River Commission

Population Affected Flood 2002

# Flood 2002





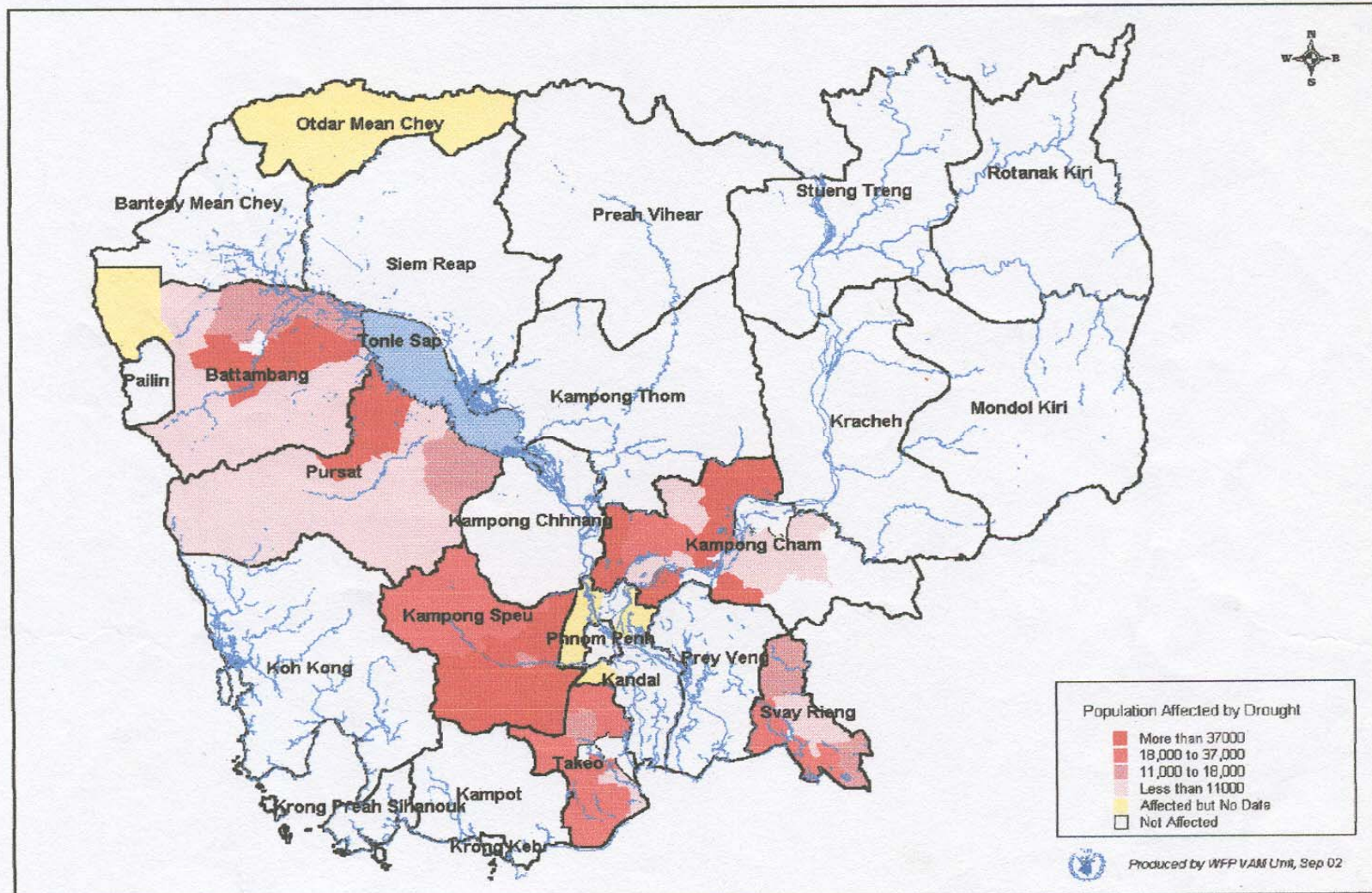


Mekong River in rainy season



# Drought 2002

Population Affected By Drought 2002





## 2. Drought



- In recent years, there has been an imbalance in the distribution of monsoon rainfall which has resulted in **drought** in some parts of the country
- A short dry spell of 20 to 30 days during the rainy season (**May - November**) can result to extensive damage to crops
- Prolonged drought was experienced in 1997 to 1998 and consecutive drought in 2001, 2002, 2004 and 2005

# The Royal Government of Cambodia



## NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT (NCDM)





Ministerial level Agency, chaired by the Prime Minister that formed to assist the Royal Government in:

Mission:

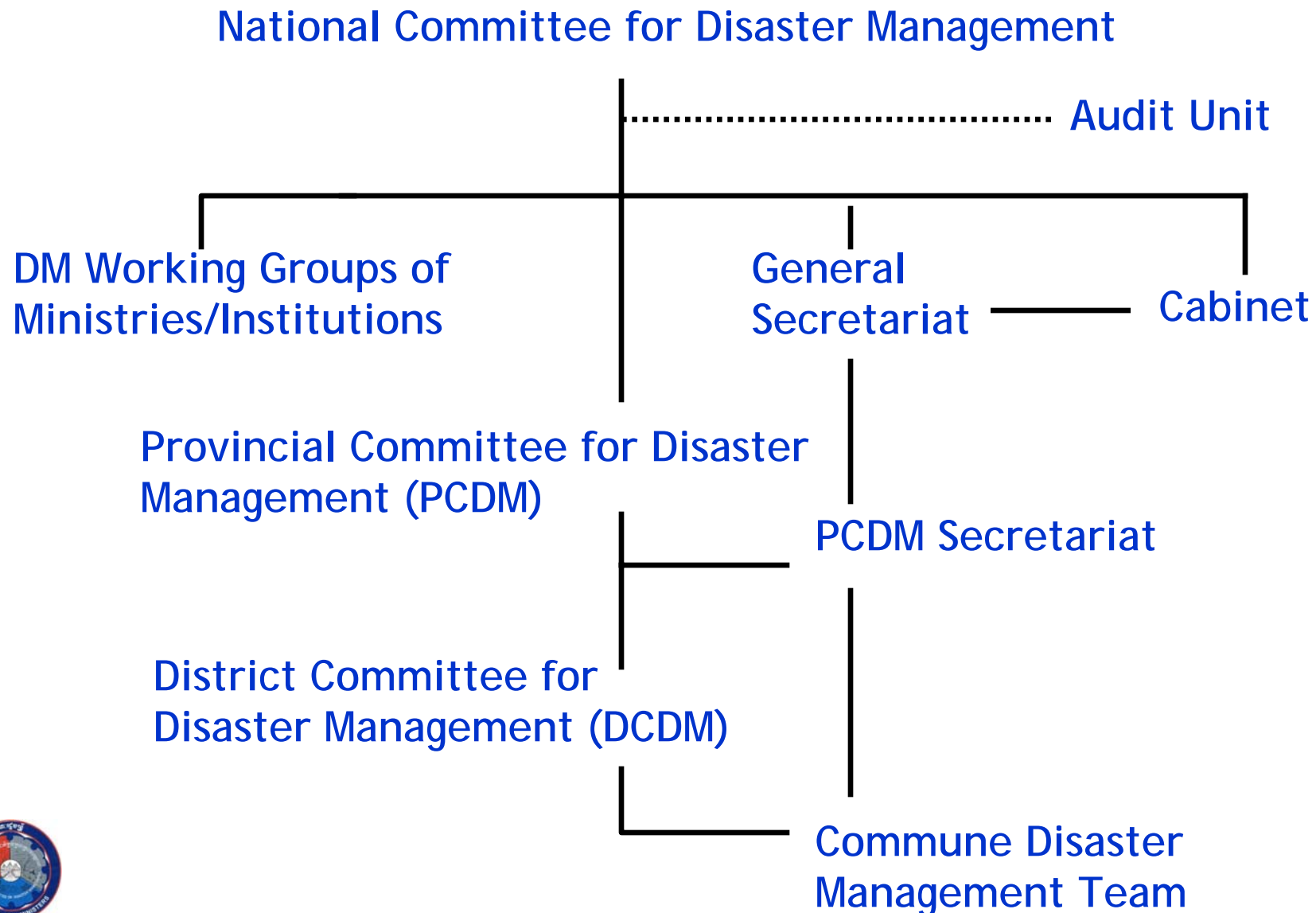
To lead the Disaster Management in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Functions and Responsibilities:

1. Manage data of disaster risk and develop report on the disaster situation;
2. Proposal on reserves of resources for Disaster intervention in Emergency Response;
3. Capacity Building and human resource development on disaster management;
4. Coordination in implementation of disaster management policies;
5. Exchange and sharing information;
6. Coordination and mobilization of resources for disaster response;



# NCDM Organizational Structure





# NCDM Organizational Structure

National Committee for Disaster Management

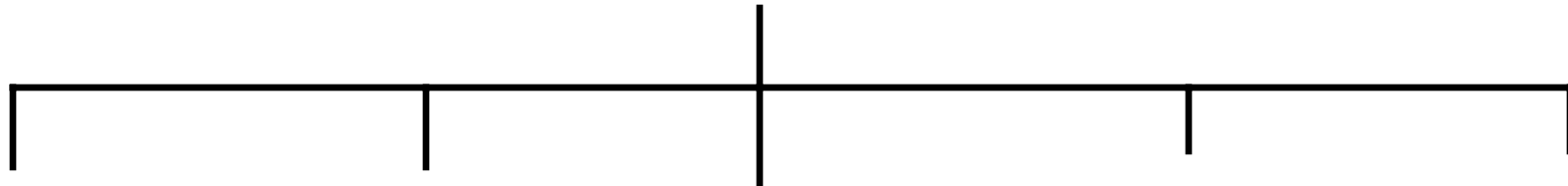


Executive Committee

(President, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Vices President, Secretary General)



NCDM General Secretariat



Administration  
and Finance  
Department

Information &  
Relations  
Department

Emergency  
Response &  
Rehabilitation  
Department

Preparedness  
and Training  
Department

Search and  
Rescue  
Department



## Current Activities:

1. Capability Building Activities - Trainings and capacity building to Government Officials (Provincial, district, commune and village level) and staffs of IOs, NGOs Partners collaborating with NGOs, IOs and some Regional Agencies (ACDM, ADPC, ADRC...);
2. Emergency Relief Assistance - Mobilization of resources and provision of relief goods to affected people working with Ministries, authorities, IFRC, UNDMT, OCHA, IOs and some NGOs;
3. Disaster Risk Reduction - Community based disaster risk management in collaboration with NGOs Partners: Training, education, dissemination and micro non-structural mitigation projects; as integral part of community based development





# Status of Disaster Information Management:

## 1. Last development

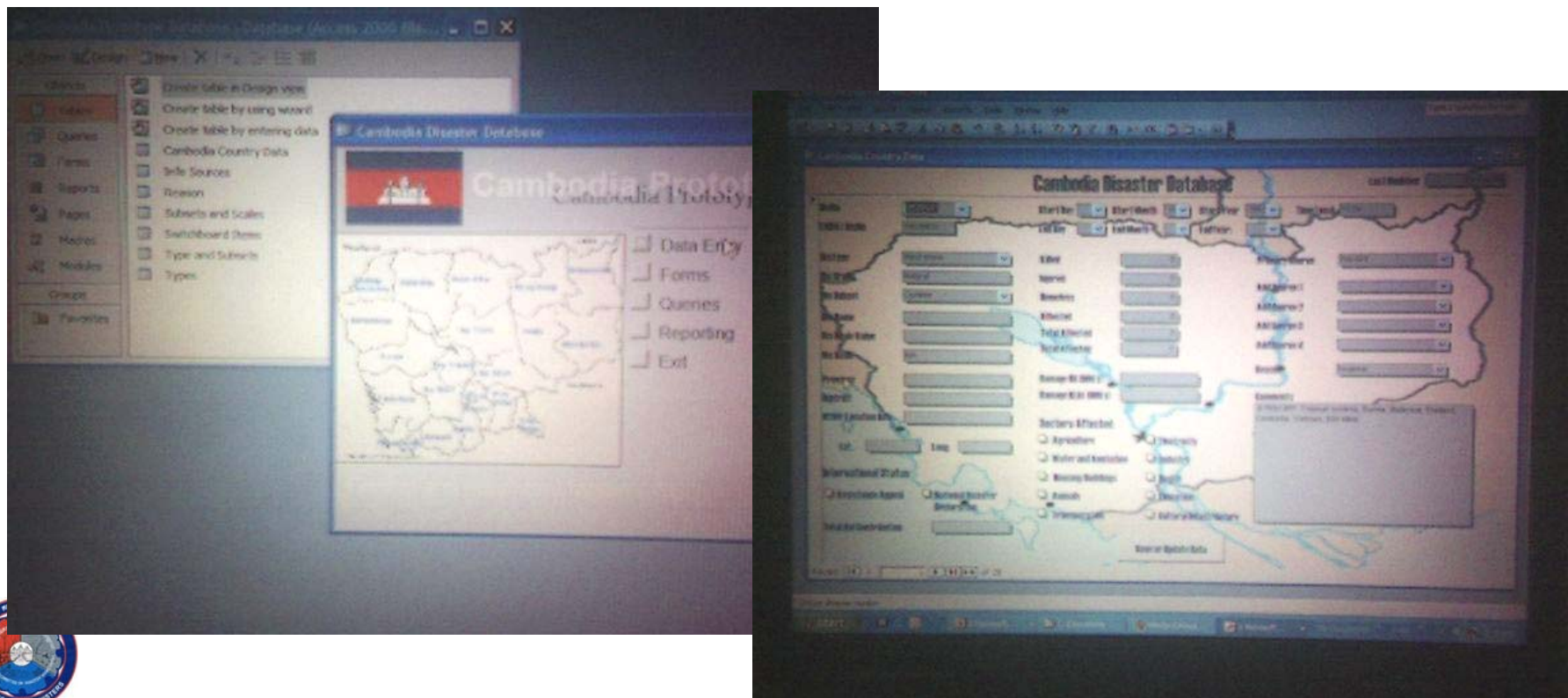
- An attempt to build the capacity of NCDM's disaster management information through a proposed 2-year NCDM Institutional Capacity Building Plan (2001) by UNDMT assistance with technical support from IDRM:
  - Structure of Disaster Information Management within the NCDM General Secretariat proposed;
  - Guideline and data collection tool developed;
  - National and Provincial Training Courses on Damage and Need Assessment conducted;



# Status of Disaster Information Management:

## 1. Last development (cont'd)

- A Short term capacity building on disaster database –  
There was an initiative of building Cambodia National Disaster Information Database in NCDM with Technical Support from CRED through the Ministry of Health in 2003;



# Status of Disaster Information Management (Cont'd):

## 2. Current status

- There are sectoral databases that produced and managed by different ministries and agencies of the Government;
- No disaster management database program in Cambodia;
- Only one NGOs named Action Contre La Faim (ACF) has been implementing Community Based Data Collection in Kampong cham Province;

គណៈកម្មាធិការជាតិកាត់បន្ថយហានិភ័យ គណៈកម្មាធិការជាតិ  
the Forecast of Mekong water level at Kampong Cham meteorological station

ថ្ងៃ ~ ខែ	កំពស់ទឹកនៅខេត្តកំពង់ចាម	ឡើង ↑	ស្រក ↓	ប្រភព
ថ្ងៃនេះ	11.08 14.90 m			
ថ្ងៃស្អែក	12.08 15.07 m	017 cm	cm	
ថ្ងៃខានស្អែក	13.08 15.15 m	008 cm	cm	
ថ្ងៃខានស្អែក ១	14.08 15.22 m	007 cm	cm	
ថ្ងៃខានស្អែក ២	~ . m	cm	cm	
ថ្ងៃខានស្អែក ៣	~ . m	cm	cm	

គណៈកម្មាធិការជាតិកាត់បន្ថយហានិភ័យ  
Project funded by ECHO

ACTION HUNGER  
Project implemented by AAH

MRC  
Forecast





# DISASTER INFORMATION MANAGEMENT IS A PRIORITY AREA OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

## Strategic Plan

5-year Strategic Plan for Disaster Management, 2006-2010,  
inline with HFA, integrated into National Strategy Social  
Economic Development

### Goal 1:

Reduce the severity of impact of disasters in Cambodia through improving the capacity of the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) as a credible agency and focal point for multi-disaster-related efforts and issues in Cambodia;

### Goal 2:

Institutionalize the National Policy for Disaster Management and provide implementation procedures related to Disaster Management



**Goal 3:**

Establish an alternative or a reserve program on National Disaster Management that will effectively carry out immediate response to natural disasters and calamities at all levels of NCDM: commune , district, municipalities, cities and provinces;

**Goal 4:**

Establish an effective Management and Information System to Cope with disasters and calamities;

**Goal 5:**

Develop an understandable and user friendly risk management system to cope with disaster at the commune level;

**Goal 6:**

Build a national strategy of educating citizen and mainstreaming disaster management in reducing vulnerability of people with disaster;



# What are the key challenges?

## National...

- Absence of a national policy on disaster management in general;
- Absence of disaster management legislation;
- Lack of appreciation on disaster risk management institutions;
- Lack of understanding of the importance of database/information based decision making of the decision maker
- Lack of appreciation and commitment to database and disaster information management promotion and use;
- Inadequate resources, manpower, professions and skills;
- Understanding of different level stakeholder (politician, technical planner and workers) database;





# Recommendations

- Donor Commitment to the development of national capacity on disaster information management and database;
- Supports from national and regional institutions on the process of capacity building; TA, hardware and software;
- Support country level building strong Government's institution for disaster information management and databases;
- Advocate to decision maker to use database and reliable disaster information for decision making;
- Training and education



# **Impact of good information management**

**Effective Risk Reduction Strategy**

**Maximization of Limited Resources**

**Focus Beneficiary Targeting**

**Clearly Defined Roles and Responsibilities**

**Effective and Efficient Utilization for both  
decision and actions**

**Identified actors on different aspects of Disaster  
Management**







**ORKUN**  
**Thank You**