

CAMBODIA

Rural WASH: addressing daily challenges in rural areas

Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Improvement Sector Development Program

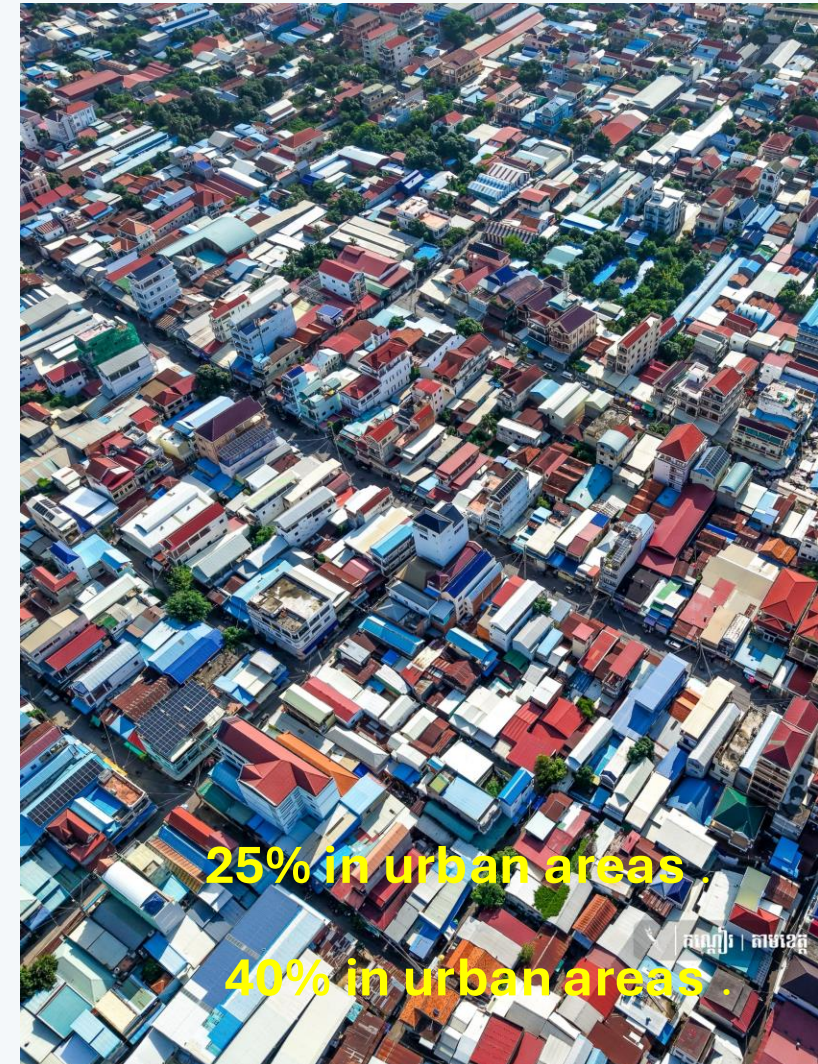
ADB e-Market presentation

Deepen Policy reform • Expand Climate-resilient and inclusive rural WASH infrastructure • Strengthen government capacity to sustain sector reform

Samol Ya | September 2026



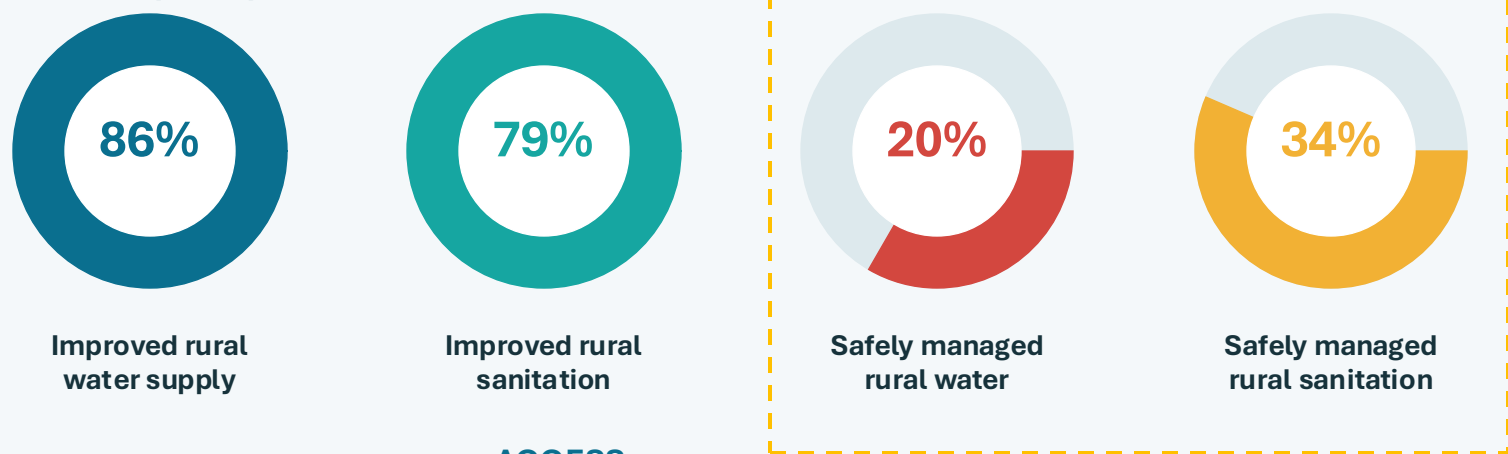
Cambodia Population in 2022 and 2030 projection: 60%+ in rural areas



(Pictures from the government's ministries facebook pages): Phong commune in Kampong Speu province vs. Chbal Ampov in Phnom Penh city

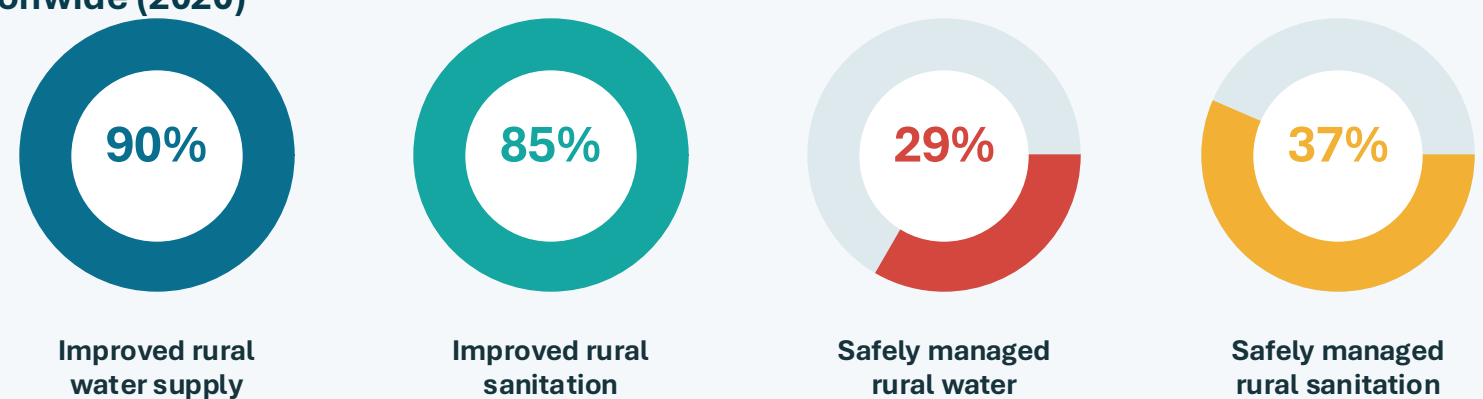
Access to RWSH is improving, but safely managed services remain far behind the National Strategic Plan (NSP)/ Cambodia SDG targets (universal access)

Rural Areas (2020)



Nationwide (2020)

ACCESS

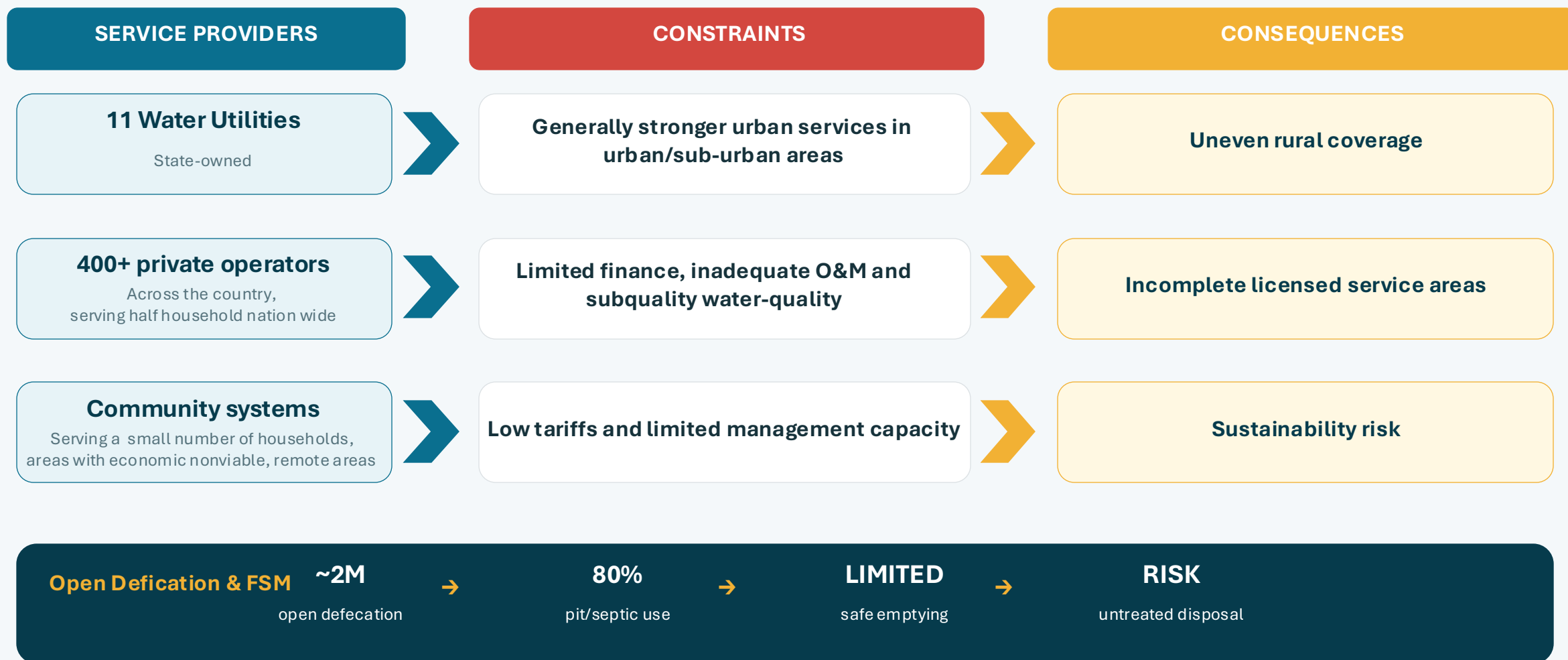


CLIMATE HAZARDS AMPLIFY THE GAP

- 1 DROUGHT**
Reduced water availability
- 2 FLOOD**
Contamination and disease risk
- 3 EXTREME HEAT**
Dry up water sources

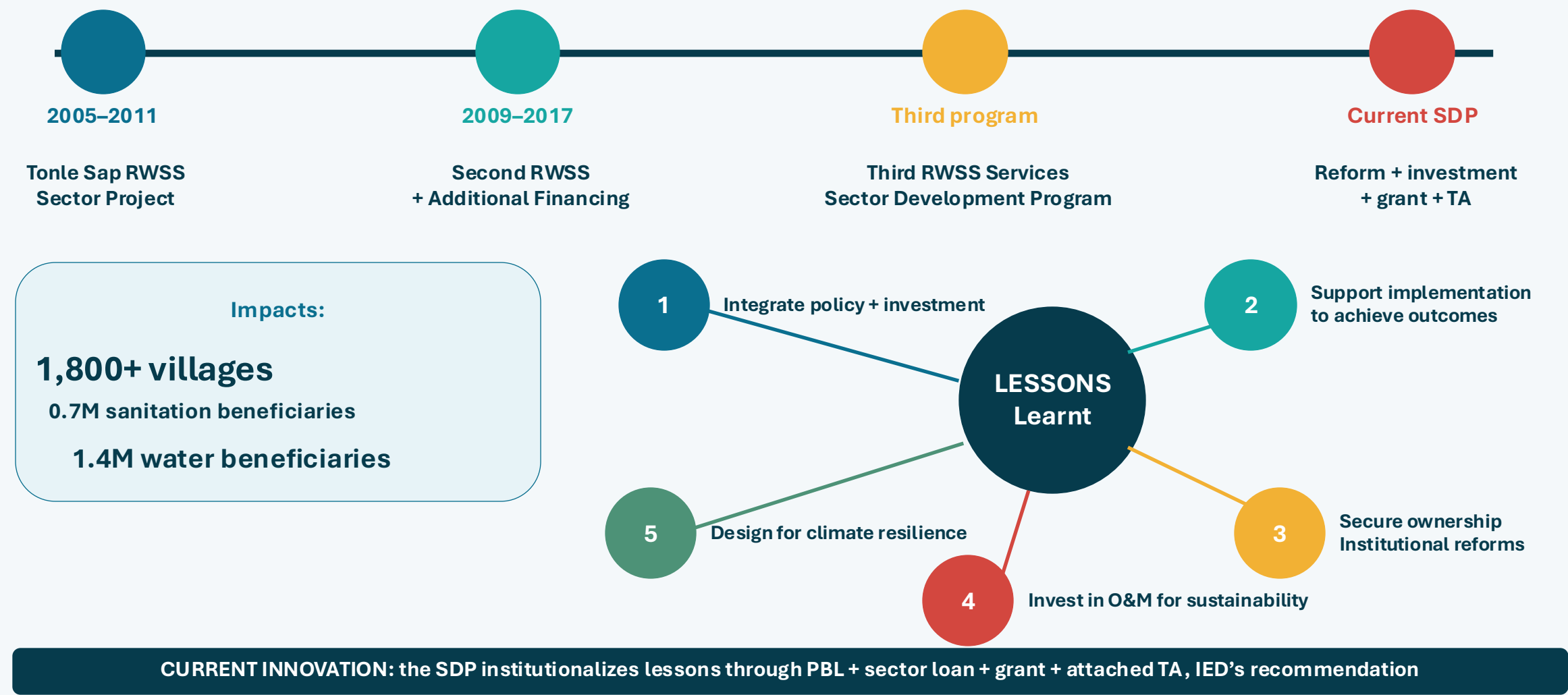
Disparities existed and safely managed services was low

Water quality and services compromised by poorly regulated service providers



POLICY INNOVATION NEEDED: clearer mandates • stronger regulation • sustainable tariffs • safe fecal sludge management (FSM)

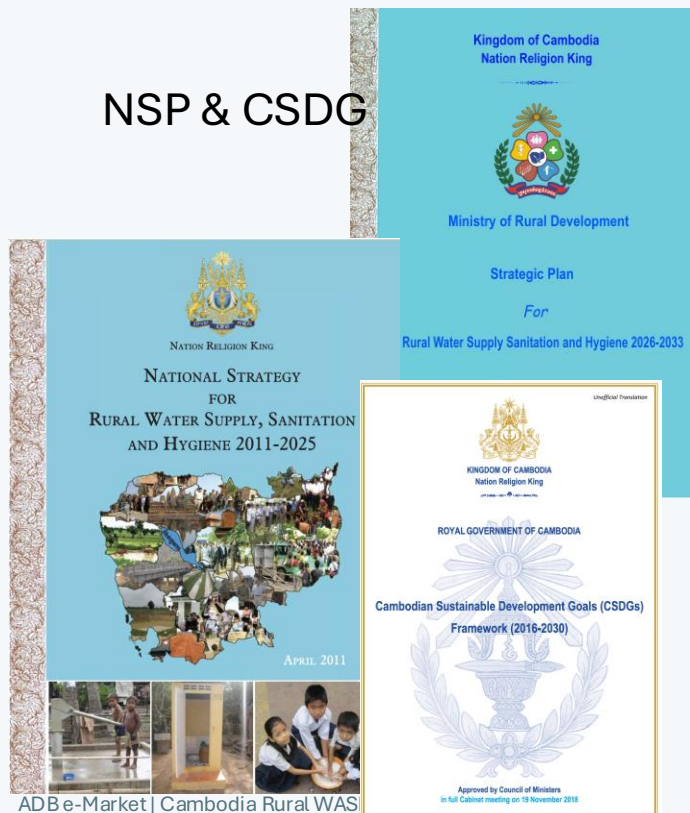
Three previous ADB interventions



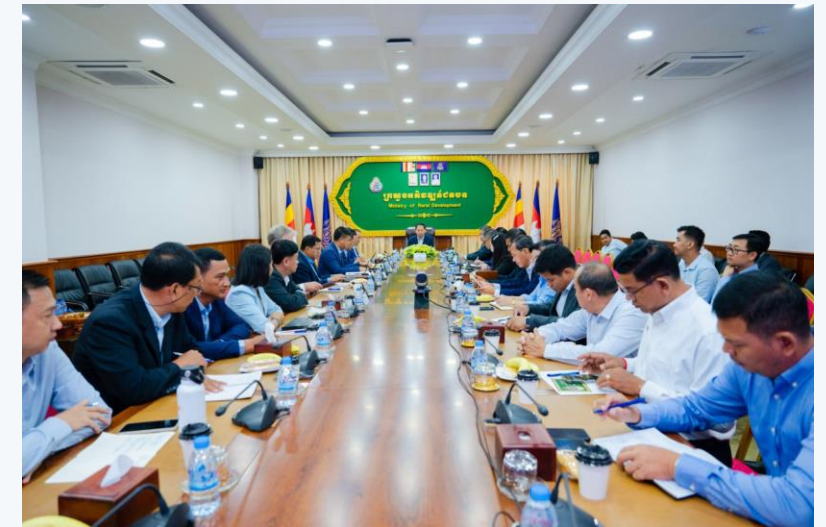
3 Reasons to select SDP for this ADB intervention.

- (i) The government has a clear and solid sector development plan and strategy in its NSP (2014–2025)/2026–2033 and SDGs,
- (ii) The project has small subprojects in villages across a wide geographic area, and
- (iii) The MRD has effectively implemented previous similar ADB-supported sector investment projects.

NSP & CSDG

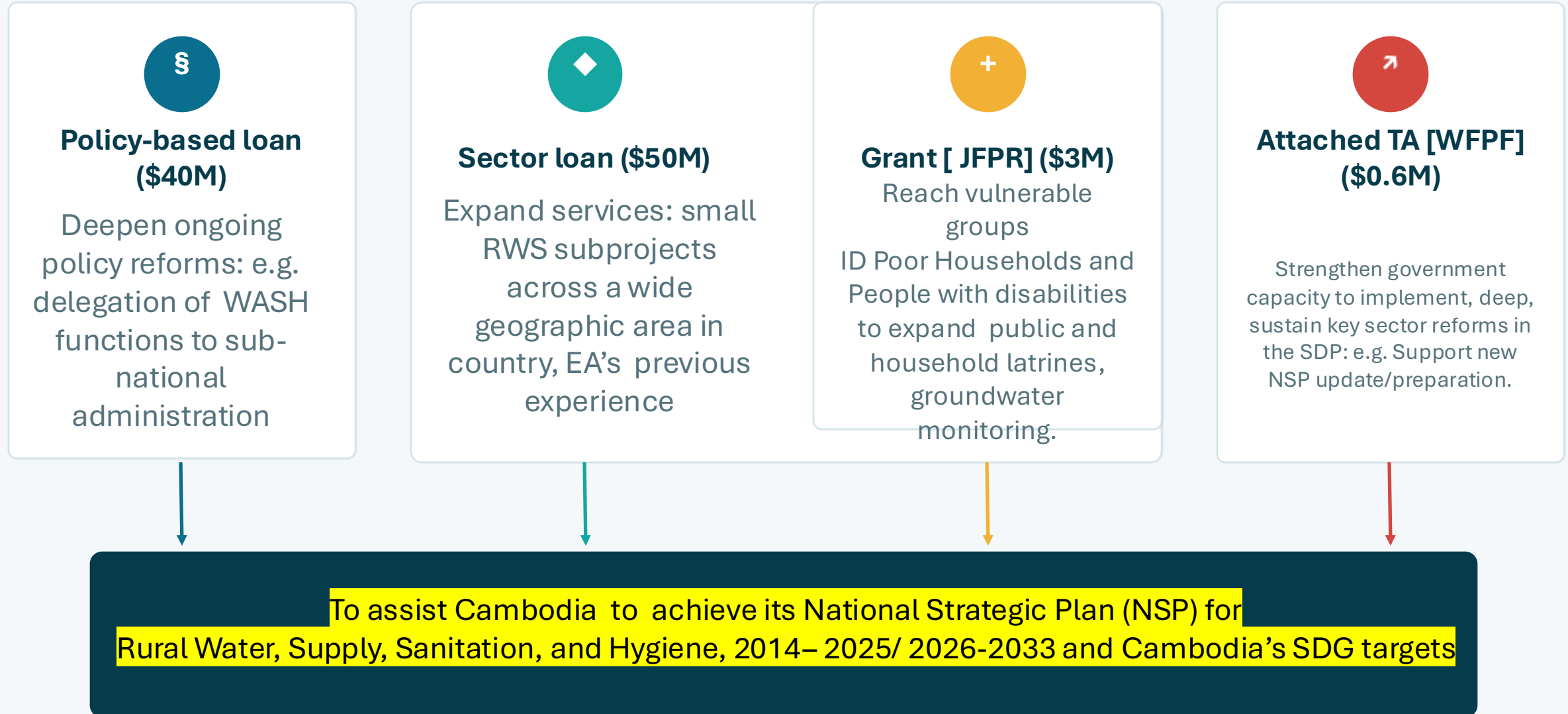


SDP: 400+ villages/9 provinces with MRD as Executing Agency (EA)



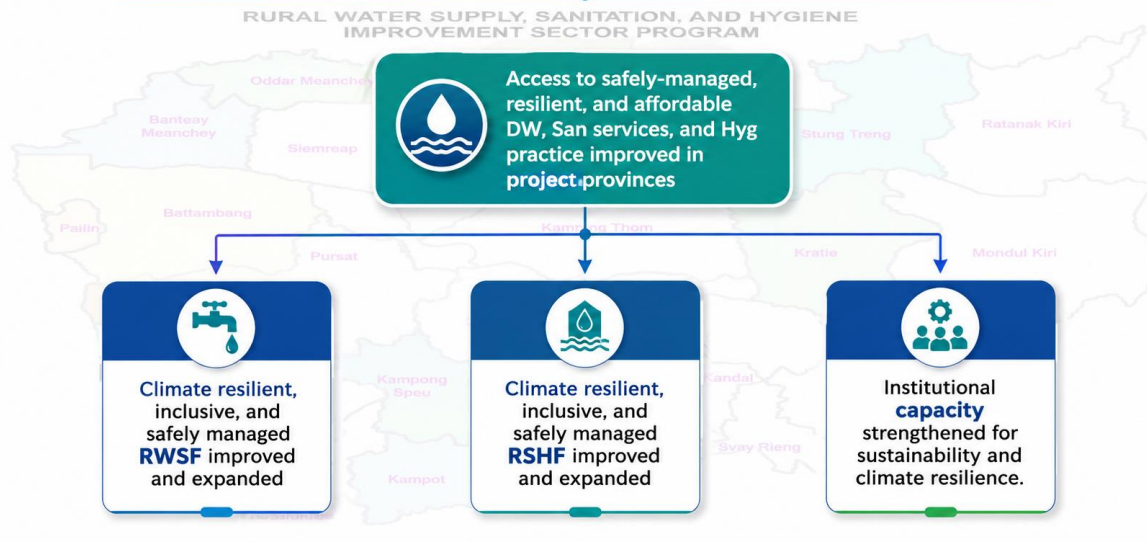
MRD as EA for 1800 villages with 3 previous projects.
(Picture: MRD's review of draft NSP 2026- 2033)

SDP with instruments to address policy and investment constraints



The program scales reform into last-mile service delivery

DESIGN MONITORING FRAMEWORK – Outputs – Outcome



★Geographic focus: Border provinces and coastal areas

Banteay Meanchey • Battambang • Kampong Speu • Kampot • Kratie • Oddar Meanchey • Pailin • Preah Vihear • Stung Treng

9

Provinces

50

Communes

400

Villages

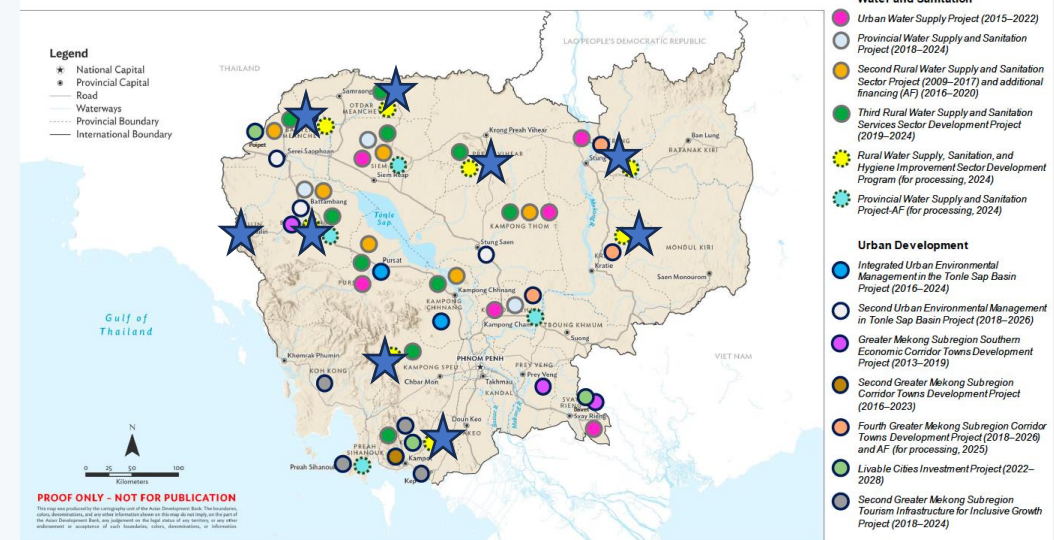
88,000

Households expected to benefit by 2030

\$93.6M

ADB loans and grants approved

CAMBODIA



A diversified technology mix responds to local water & sanitation conditions



4,000+

Drilled wells

Hand, electric and solar
pumping



28+

**Community ponds/
Small piped systems**

Treatment and standposts
for communities



110+

10 -m³ tanks

Public schools/community
health centers
Community-scale service



78,000+

Rainwater jars

Household water security
1 household = 5 jars



100+ Public latrines



4,100+ HH latrines

→ 4,000+ and 110 communal water supply facilities & 110 public school and health centers

→ 4,100+ and 110 communal water supply facilities & 110 public school and health centers

Design principle: new standards, designs, and policies completed or adopted under the PBL addressing, applying higher service standards than in current rural systems in Cambodia and strengthened consideration of climate resilience.

Impacts so far

1

Completed PBL

- 9 Policy Actions completed by 2024. Continue monitoring 2025-2029. e.g clean water law adopted.
- Impacts for all villages across Cambodia.

2

Rural water supply delivery

- 1000+ water supply facilities ongoing or Completed. 1 Drilled well= 15 families at least.
- 82 schools and 12 community health centers

3

Rural Sanitation delivery

- 1200+ household latrines
- 37 schools and 3 health centers

4

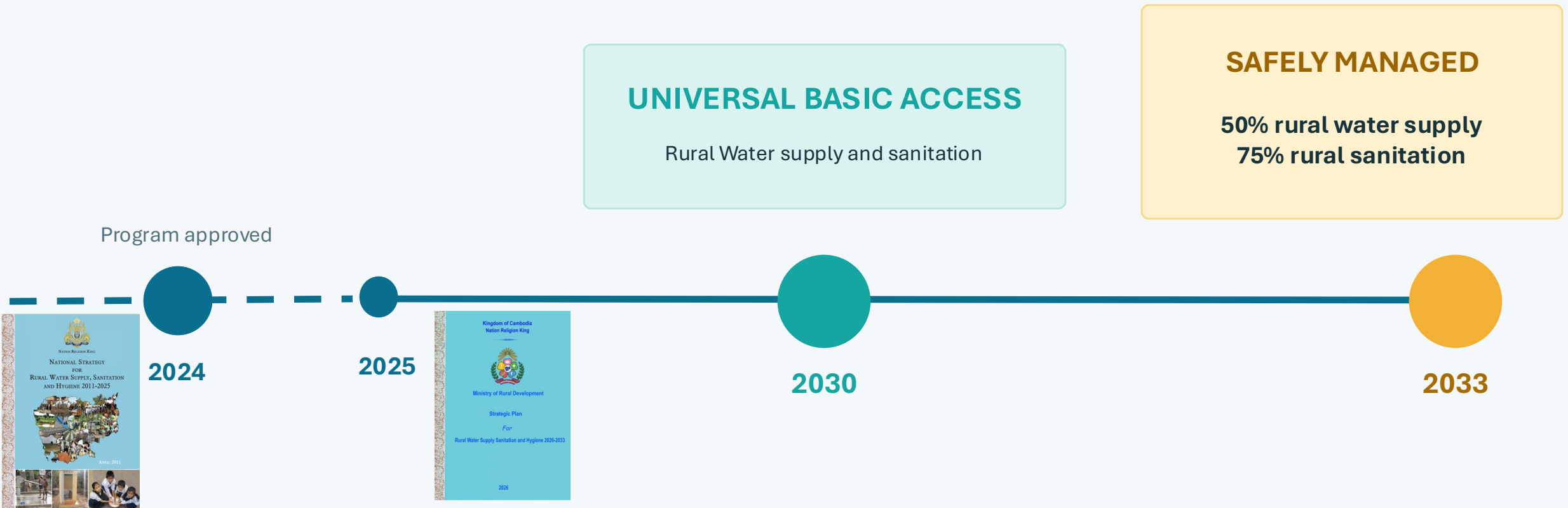
Capacity strengthening for sustainability

- 1,000+ Water user groups WUGs and 18 Water Management committee established with 40% women members
- Training for trainers for behavior changes conducted
- ODF verification teams established



(Pictures from MRD facebook page)

The program's TA: New National Strategic Plan (2025-2033)



The SPD deepens reforms now so the sector can achieve universal basic access to rural WASH by 2030 and safely managed access to rural WASH by 2033.

THREE TAKEAWAYS

- 1 **Reform and investment must move together.**
- 2 **TA strengthen policy commitments into institutional capability.**
- 3 **The model offers a practical pathway to achieve basic access and safely managed services in rural areas.**

Cambodia's experience on SDP : finance the reform, build the systems, and deliver WASH to meet the national strategic plan for RWSH and Cambodia SGD targets by 2030.

Thank you

