



Training Concept Note

Training on Green Finance, CO₂ Calculations and Carbon Credits

Duration	1 day (in-person)
Proposed date/venue	March 20, 2026. Venue: Tonlebasac Restaurant Function-Catering Center
Programme	EmPower: Women for Climate-Resilient Societies (Capacity Building Stream)
Convened by	NCDDS, ARDB and National Actors, with technical assistance from UNEP
Target participants	ARDB staff, and financial institutions staff

I. Background and Rationale

So far, under the EmPower program, the National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development Secretariat (NCDDS) has carried out numerous activities and established key policies, including integrating "women's entrepreneurship and renewable energy" into the 3-Year Rolling Investment Plan across two provinces. This integration encompasses initiatives such as the development of the EmPower Fund Guidelines, the establishment of the EmPower Credit Facility in partnership with the Agricultural and Rural Development Bank (ARDB), and the provision of Financial Literacy and Business Entrepreneur Incubation training. Additionally, NCDDS has partnered with organizations like SRET, AIMS, and ASPIRE to implement renewable energy investments through five livelihood interventions.

Furthermore, NCDDS has co-funded projects with beneficiary groups, which include solar solutions for individual water pumps serving 11 households, solar electricity for a clean water social enterprise in Pou Pi village led by women, solar systems for chicken incubation and electric water pumps for vegetable cultivation by one woman-led enterprise, solar hybrid systems for cold storage and a cold storage truck for one social enterprise, and renewable energy retail operations for three retailers.

Despite these achievements, several gaps remain that the program needs to address, such as integrating gender equity and human rights into banking strategies, operations, and the design of financial products. There is also a need for improved access to financial mechanisms for women, vulnerable groups, and indigenous peoples, as well as enhanced coordination among sub-national agencies. Cambodia faces growing climate risks that affect households, agriculture, SMEs, and women-led livelihoods. At the same time, there are clear opportunities to reduce emissions and build resilience through clean and climate-resilient solutions such as solar, energy efficiency, clean cooking, biogas, climate-smart agriculture, and circular economy approaches.

Many stakeholders still need a shared, practical understanding of:

- The difference between mitigation and adaptation, and how these connect to business and livelihood decisions
- What green finance means in practice, including how green loans are designed, assessed, monitored and quantified climate impacts.
- How to estimate and communicate CO₂ benefits credibly
- What carbon credits are, what they can and cannot do, and how they relate to projects and financing

This one-day introductory training will create a common foundation for ARDB, NBC, ABC, CMA and Financial Institutions to use consistent concepts, identify eligible green investments, and support uptake of green loan products and climate-resilient enterprise development.

II. Overall Objective

To provide ARDB, NBC, ABC, CMA and Financial Institutions with a clear and practical introduction to climate mitigation and adaptation, green financing and green loans, CO₂ calculations, and carbon credits, enabling informed decision-making and stronger identification of viable green investments.

III. Specific Objectives

1. Build shared understanding of climate change basics, including mitigation vs adaptation and Cambodia-relevant examples.
2. Introduce the fundamentals of green financing, including why financial institutions offer green products and what makes a loan green.
3. Present types of green loans relevant to ARDB and Cambodia, including common eligibility and verification approaches.
4. Strengthen participant understanding of CO₂ calculations at a practical level (simple methods, key assumptions, and common pitfalls).

5. Provide a clear overview of carbon credits and carbon markets, including what qualifies, typical project types, and integrity considerations.
6. Apply learning through short case examples credit appraisal and institutional application by ARDB.

IV. Target Participants (Indicative)

- ARDB: staff from relevant departments such as credit, risk management, business strategy, branch management, credit monitoring, and management
- National Bank of Cambodia
- Association of Banks in Cambodia
- Cambodia Microfinance Association
- Financial Institutions

V. Methodology

- Short presentations with guided discussion (simple, non-technical language)
- Cambodia-relevant examples and mini case studies (enterprise and community)
- Practical exercise on identifying green investments and matching them to loan types
- Simple CO₂ calculation walkthrough using a basic template (illustrative numbers)
- Q&A and action-oriented discussion on pipeline development and next steps

VI. Expected Outputs and Outcomes

Outputs

- Participants have a shared baseline understanding of mitigation, adaptation, green finance, CO₂ estimation, and carbon credits
- A simple CO₂ calculation template shared with participants (basic use for communication and reporting)
- A short list of potential green investment ideas and indicative loan categories (pipeline starter list)

Outcomes

- Stronger confidence among ARDB and Financial Institution staff and partners to explain green finance and green loans clearly
- Improved ability among financial institution staff to attract investments that qualify for green financing

- Better coordination between NCDDDS, ARDB and Financial Institutions generate and support a pipeline of bankable, climate-aligned projects

VII. Agenda

- **Venue: Tonlebasac Restaurant Function-Catering Center**
- **Date: March 20, 2026.**

Time	Session	Lead Facilitator
08:00-08:30	Registration and networking	NCDDDS Team
08.30-09.00	Opening Remarks	- Remarks by UNEP - Remarks by ARDB - Opening Remark by NCDDDS
09:00-09:20	Objectives, agenda, participant expectations	UNEP
09:20-10:05	Climate change basics: what it means for Cambodia, key terms, mitigation vs adaptation	UNEP
10:05-10:45	Practical examples: Climate Change mitigation in detail – Green Technology options	UNEP
10:45-11:00	Coffee break	
11:00-11:45	Green financing fundamentals: what makes finance green, how lenders define and track green lending	UNEP
11:45-12:30	Types of green loans (ARDB-relevant): categories, eligible investments, typical appraisal/verification approach – GUEST Speaker	ARDB and UNEP
12:30-13:30	Lunch	
13:30-14:30	CO ₂ calculations (practical): basic methods, assumptions, simple example calculations, limitations	UNEP
14:30-15:15	Carbon credits and carbon markets: what they are, how projects qualify, integrity basics, do's and don'ts	UNEP
15:15-15:30	Coffee break	
15:30-16:20	Group exercise: identify a green investment, match to loan type, outline expected climate benefit (mitigation/adaptation + indicative CO ₂)	Facilitator: UNEP & NCDDDS
16:20-16:50	Plenary share-back and discussion: pipeline ideas, constraints, support needs	Facilitator: NCDDDS & ARDB
16:50-17:00	Wrap-up, evaluation, and next steps	UNEP and ARDB
17:00-17:05	Closing Remark	NCDDDS

VIII. Participants

No.	Organization	Position	Person
1	The National Bank of Cambodia (NBC)	Representatives of the NBC	3
2	The Association of Banks in Cambodia	Representatives of The Association of Banks in Cambodia	2
3	The Cambodia Microfinance Association	Representatives of the Cambodia Microfinance Association	2
4	Agricultural and Rural Development Bank (ARDB)	Representatives of ARDB	15
5	Financial Institutions Financial Institutions	ACLEDA PLC.	1
		ABA	1
		FTB	1
		KB Prasac PLC.	1
		CP Bank PLC.	1
		Sathapana	1
		Chomroeun PLC.	2
		AMK PLC.	1
		Amret	1
		LOLC (Cambodia) PLC.	1
		Mohanokor PLC.	1
		Camma Limited	1
6	Development Partners	UNEP	3
7	Partner	PIN	02
8	National Institution	NCDDS & Facilitator	6
Total			47