Flash Report on the Cambodian Economy

April 2013

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Phnom Penh, Cambodia

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<th>Highlights</th>
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<td>This report highlights a number of economic indicators of Cambodia and its partners. It compares recent figures with those of earlier periods.</td>
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<td>In the fourth quarter of 2012, total fixed asset investments in industry approved by the Council for the Development of Cambodia decreased by 20 percent from a quarter earlier to USD196.5 m, but year on year increased by 12.3 percent.</td>
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<td>Total foreign visitor arrivals in February declined 5.0 percent from a month earlier (20 percent increase year on year). Holiday arrivals went down 5.0 percent (20 percent rise year on year) and “other” arrivals by 24 percent (4 percent year on year). Business arrivals remained unchanged from the previous month, but year on year increased by 21 percent.</td>
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<td>In February, the total value of construction approvals dropped by 0.1 percent from the previous month (1.6 percent year on year). Prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 0.2 percent (1.9 percent year on year) and of clothing and footwear by 0.3 percent (3.8 percent year on year). Prices of housing and utilities decreased by 0.1 percent from a month earlier (1.8 percent rise year on year).</td>
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<td>In March, the price of diesel fuel went down 1.8 percent from the preceding month (2.9 percent year on year) to KHR5103.2/litre and of gasoline by 1.6 percent (3.0 percent year on year) to KHR540.8 bn, from import and export taxes by 49.2 percent year on year) to USD44.7 m.</td>
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<td>Imports of construction equipment in February dropped 3.6 percent. In February, the consumer price index (all items) rose by 0.3 percent (3.8 percent year on year). “other” by 32 percent (94.8 percent rise year on year).</td>
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In February, the price of Thai rice dropped by 5.1 percent from a month earlier to USD707.6/tonne, but year on year increased 2.2 percent. The price of rubber rose by 4.5 percent from the preceding month to USD2800/tonne, but year on year declined 10.3 percent. The price of tapioca went up 4.6 percent (4.8 percent decline year on year) to USD306/tonne. In the same month, the price of Vietnamese rice decreased by 3.8 percent from a month earlier (10.2 percent year on year) to USD440/tonne. The price of rubber rose by 0.9 percent (3.6 percent drop year on year) to USD2740/tonne and of cashew nuts by 1.7 percent to USD6000/tonne, but year on year declined by 13.2 percent.

Exports of Thai rice in February went down 22.3 percent from the preceding month (20.2 percent year on year) to USD319.3 m and of natural rubber and similar natural gums by 2.7 percent (11.8 percent year on year) to USD791.5 m. Exports of tapioca rose by 4.6 percent from the previous month (2.3 percent year on year) to USD214.8 m. In the same month, exports of Vietnamese rice went down 13.3 percent from a month earlier (20 percent year on year) to USD176 m, of rubber by 53.7 percent (45.8 percent year on year) to USD137 m and of cashew nuts by 64.4 percent (44.7 percent rise year on year) to USD42 m.

In January, exports of the US rose by 42.2 percent from a month earlier (44.8 percent year on year) to USD185.9 bn. Exports of the euro zone were unchanged from the preceding month, but year on year increased 2.7 percent. Japanese exports went up 5.1 percent from the preceding month to USD57.6 bn, but year on year dropped by 18.2 percent. In the same month, Malaysian exports increased by 2.2 percent from a month earlier (1.9 percent year on year) to USD19.2 bn. Imports dropped by 11.7 percent from the previous month to USD15.6 bn, but year on year rose by 1.9 percent.

In March, the price of USA 2/4 rice went up 3.2 percent from the preceding month (22.9 percent year on year) to USD644/tonne. The price of Thai 100 percent B rice dropped by 4.5 percent (6.0 percent year on year) to USD577/tonne. The price of soybeans (US No. 1) went down 1.0 percent from a month earlier to USD556.5/tonne, yet year on year rose 6.4 percent. The price of maize (US No. 2) increased by 1.3 percent (9.6 percent year on year) to USD307.8/tonne. The price of rubber declined 8.2 percent from the previous month (24.7 percent year on year) to USD2861.8/tonne. In March, the price of crude oil (OPEC spot) dropped by 5.6 percent from a month earlier (13.5 percent drop year on year) to USD106.4/barrel, of gasoline (US Gulf Coast) by 0.7 percent (8.7 percent decrease year on year) to USD0.76/litre and of diesel fuel (low sulphur No. 2) by 6.0 percent (8.1 percent decline year on year) to USD0.79/litre.
Main Economic Activities and Consumer Prices in Cambodia

**Fixed Asset Investment Approvals by CDC***
- **Industry**
  - 2010 Q1–2012 Q4

  *Including expansion projects.

  Source: Council for the Development of Cambodia

**Foreign Visitor Arrivals**
- February 2012–February 2013

  Source: Ministry of Tourism

**Phnom Penh: Value of Construction Approvals**
- February 2012–February 2013

  Source: Municipality of Phnom Penh

**Consumer Price Index**
- (December 2006=100)
  - August 2011–February 2013

  Source: National Institute of Statistics

**Phnom Penh: Gasoline & Diesel Prices**
- January 2012–March 2013

  Source: CDRI

**Interest Rates on 12-Month Bank Deposits**
- December 2011–December 2012

  Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC
Exchange Rates, Money and Credit

Riels per US Dollar
January 2011–March 2013

Source: National Bank of Cambodia

Riels per THB & VND
January 2012–March 2013

Source: National Bank of Cambodia

Monetary Survey (%)
December 2011–December 2012

Source: National Bank of Cambodia

Domestic Credit (%)
December 2011–December 2012

Source: National Bank of Cambodia

External Development Assistance Disbursement
Health
2001–11

Source: The Cambodia Development Effectiveness Report 2011, CDC
External Trade and National Budget Operations

Cambodian Imports
December 2011–February 2013

- Steel
- Cement
- Construction equipment

Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC

Cambodian Exports
December 2011–February 2013

- Other textile products
- Shoes
- Clothing (all kinds)

Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC

Imports: Energy
December 2011–February 2013

- Gasoline
- Diesel
- Fuel oil

Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC

Current Budget Balance
October 2011–December 2012

Source: MEF Bulletin

Current Budget Revenue
October 2011–December 2012

- Non-tax
- Import and export taxes
- Domestic taxes

Source: MEF Bulletin

Current Budget Expenditure
October 2011–December 2012

- Other services
- Subsidies and social assistance
- Wages

Source: MEF Bulletin
Provincial Food Prices

Food Prices in Siem Reap Province
January 2012–March 2013

Food Prices in Battambang Province
January 2012–March 2013

Food Prices in Kompong Cham Province
January 2012–March 2013

Food Prices in Kampot Province
January 2012–March 2013

Food Prices in Svay Rieng Province
January 2012–March 2013

Food Prices in Kompong Speu Province
January 2012–March 2013

Source: CDRI
Provincial Goods Prices in Cambodia

Cambodia: Rice Prices in Three Provinces

Source: CDRI

Cambodia: Fish Prices in Three Provinces

Source: CDRI

Cambodia: Pork Prices in Three Provinces

Source: CDRI
Goods Prices, Exports and International Tourist Arrivals to Partners of Cambodia

**Thailand: Prices of Rubber, Rice and Tapioca**
December 2011–February 2013

- **Rice**
- **Rubber**
- **Tapioca**

Source: Bank of Thailand, *Foreign Trade and Balance of Payments*

**Vietnam: Prices of Rubber, Rice and Cashew Nuts**
December 2011–February 2013

- **Rice**
- **Rubber**
- **Cashew nuts**

Source: General Statistics Office of Vietnam

**Thailand: Exports**
December 2011–February 2013

- **Rice (left)**
- **Natural rubber and similar natural gums (left)**
- **Tapioca (right)**

Source: Customs Department of Thailand

**Vietnam: Exports**
December 2011–February 2013

- **Rice (left)**
- **Rubber (left)**
- **Cashew nuts (right)**

Source: General Statistics Office of Vietnam

**Thailand: International Arrivals**
December 2011–February 2013

- **South Asia**
- **Europe**
- **East Asia**

Source: Thailand Office of Tourism Development

**Vietnam: International Arrivals**
December 2011–February 2013

- **Others**
- **Business**
- **Tourism**

Source: Estimates by General Statistics Office of Vietnam
Economic Activity and Inflation Rates of Selected Economic Partners of Cambodia

Year-on-Year Growth of Main Exports: Japan
December 2011–February 2013

Goods Exports: US, Euro Zone & Japan
December 2011–February 2013

External Trade: Malaysia
December 2011–February 2013

Inflation Rates: US, Euro Zone & Japan
(percent price change from a year earlier)
December 2011–February 2013

Inflation Rates: China, Hong Kong & South Korea
(percent price change from a year earlier)
December 2011–February 2013

Inflation Rates: Selected ASEAN Countries
(percent price change from a year earlier)
December 2011–February 2013

Sources and data provided as per visual representation in the report.
Cambodia Economic Flash Report – April 2013

Exchange Rates and Commodity Prices in World Markets

**KRW & HKD per USD**  
November 2011–March 2013  
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York

**EUR & JPY per USD**  
November 2011–March 2013  
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York

**THB & SGD per USD**  
November 2011–March 2013  
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York

**International Rice Price Index & Export Prices**  
November 2011–March 2013  
Sources: Osiriz/InfoArroz

**Prices: Soybeans, Maize & Rubber**  
November 2011–March 2013  
Source: Food and Agriculture Organisation

**Prices: Gasoline & Diesel Fuel**  
November 2011–March 2013  
Source: US Energy Information Administration
Exports of Cambodian rice jump 115 percent in first two months of year

Cambodia exported 52,750 tonnes of milled rice in the first two months of this year, a 115 percent increase from the same period last year, according to data from the Ministry of Economy and Finance. The export value amounted to USD40.2 m (a 125 percent rise year on year). The EU continued to be the top destination for Cambodian rice, accounting for 56.2 percent of the total export quantity, followed by other countries (22.1 percent), ASEAN countries (21.1 percent), and the US (0.6 percent). No rice was exported to Japan, a gap that Cambodia should fill.

In 2012, Cambodia exported 231,688 tonnes of milled rice, a 30 percent rise from 2011. Its value reached USD164.4 m, a 54.3 percent increase from the previous year. In the same period, exports to the EU rose by 21.2 percent and to ASEAN countries by 119.9 percent.

Since the launch of the rice policy in 2010, the export quantity has accumulated to 514,388 tonnes, approximately half of the target. Thus, more work needs to be done to achieve the difficult target of 1 million tonnes.

Links to others economic news

1. “IMF forecasts Cambodia's GDP growth at 6.7 pct this year”

2. “Cambodia's trade with U.S. down 2 pct in first 2 months”
   (http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/business/2013-04/16/c_132313606.htm)

3. “Cambodia's city port reports 34 pct rise in cargo shipment in Q1”