

# CAPFishCAPTURE

## POST-HARVEST FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT

Programme for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in the Fisheries Sector (CAPFish) is an EU funded fishery programme with the overall objective to contribute to the achievement of the Royal Government of Cambodia's long-term vision of social and economic development, food security and poverty reduction.

UNIDO is delegated by EU and the Fisheries Administration to implement a part of the CAPFish programme, which is the CAPFish Capture: Post harvest Fisheries Development.

The project's specific objective is to contribute to the development of post-harvest fisheries. It aims at inclusive post-harvest fisheries value chain development, focusing on strengthening the institutional capacity of Competent Authority for establishing official control systems and subsequently supporting the development of post-harvest fisheries. This is done through capacity building in terms of skills development, food safety system implementation, matching investment support and building business support mechanisms for sustainability of the sector.

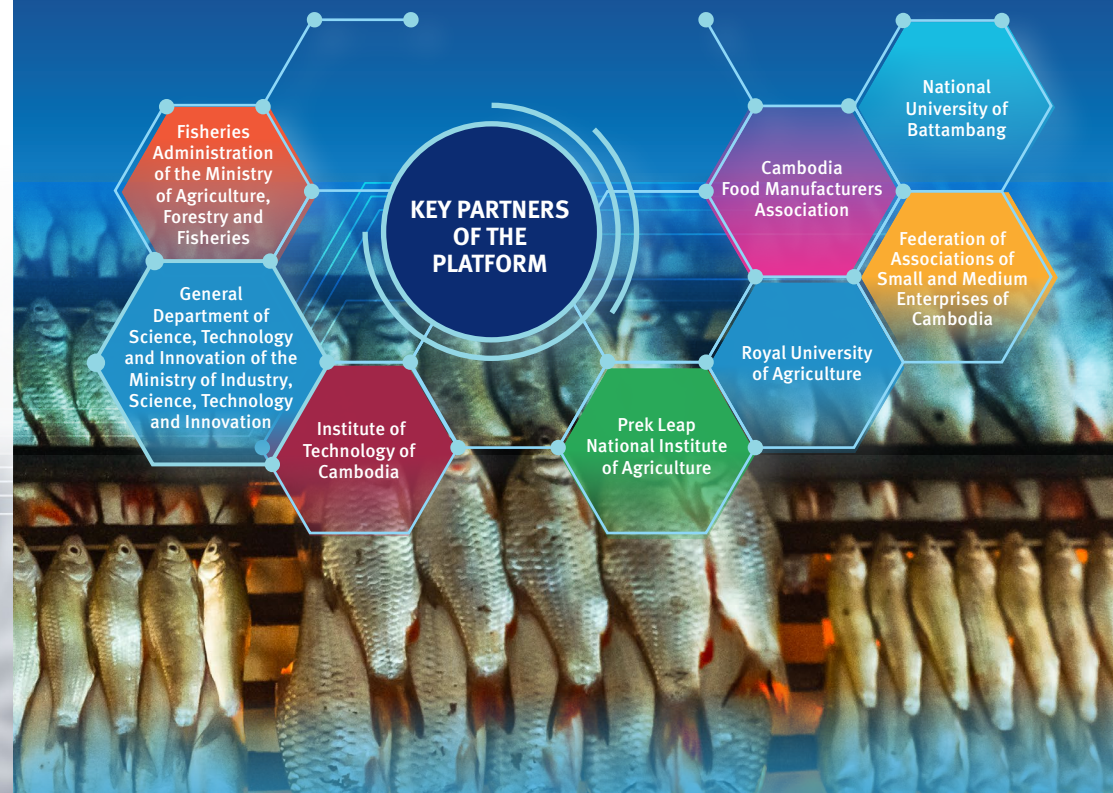
One of the sustainable support mechanisms is to bring government institutions, and academic institutions in particular, to support research and product innovation which is much needed for the development of fisheries sector.



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## KEY PARTNERS OF THE PLATFORM

The platform is composed of key government ministries, academic institutions, and the private sector. At the initial setup of the platform, such institutions, also considered as the founding members. However, membership remains open for relevant institutions.



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# CAPFishCAPTURE

## FOOD TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PLATFORM



Partnering toward the development of R&D and innovation services for diversification of Cambodia's fishery products

## CAPFISH-CAPTURE 'S INITIATIVE FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERY POST-HARVEST DEVELOPMENT

Fishery sector has huge potential in contributing to the economic base diversification, given the abundance of resources it has and the value addition potential it inherits. However, the sector has not been able to fully reap the economic benefits of these resources.

Fishery businesses are not performing at its full potential. Products being processed utilizing fishery resources in Cambodia are limited in value addition and product diversification, while the country is known to have abundance of raw materials. Furthermore, there seems to be a lot of imported fisheries products on Cambodian market which could have been produced locally. This clearly implies that fishery resources are under utilized.

There are a number of constraints to elevating the economic contribution of the sector. Those include, among others, the lack of knowledge on advanced handling or processing technology, weak research and innovation system, poor knowledge on consumer needs and market trends, and poor food quality culture.

Moreover, the curriculum and research priorities of the universities are also not sectoral need based and are of little help to the sector. This clearly indicates the lack of linkages between academic institutions and the industry.

For all these reasons, Food Technology, Research and Innovation Platform, an innovative public-academia-private partnership, is set up to strengthen national innovation system, thereby contributing to realizing economic base diversification strategy. Specifically, the platform will serve industry by enabling research and innovation towards product diversification, reducing production costs and losses, and enhancing post-harvest processing quality and productivity.



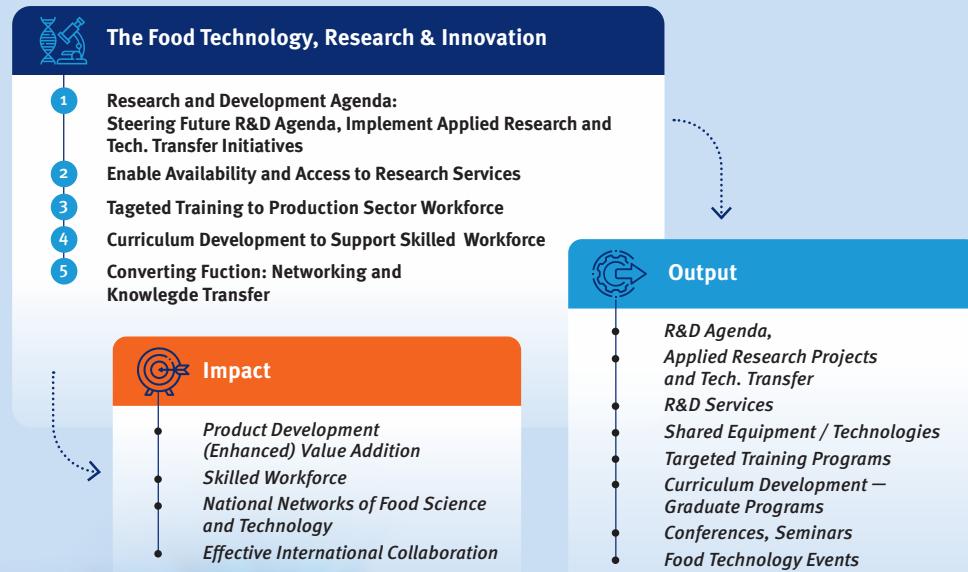
The Science, Technology and Innovation Ecosystem of Cambodia, ESCAP, 2021

## THE FOOD TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PLATFORM

The Food Technology, Research, and Innovation Platform is setup as an innovative, multi-stakeholder collaborative mechanism between government organizations, higher education institutions, and industry, to promote research and innovation and knowledge transfer, in response to the needs of the

private sector. This partnership, by harnessing and further bolstering capacities in applied research of higher education institutions in Cambodia, is initially planned to serve the post-harvest fishery production sector with the vision that it would be further extended to serve the food production sector overall, as part of plans to sustain its impacts.

To achieve its main objective as a promoter of research and innovation solutions for the production sector, the Platform will be facilitating the delivery of 5 key commitments.

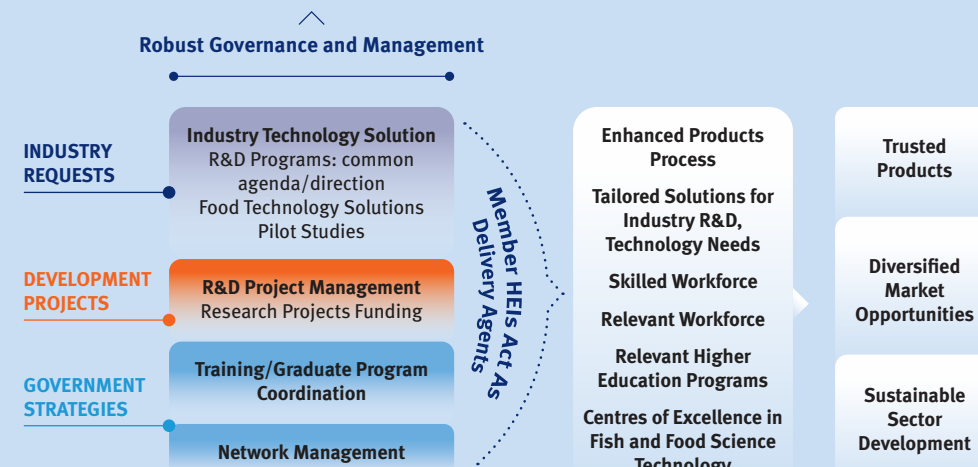


Proposed interventions of the Food Technology, Research and Innovation Platform.

## VISION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

To ensure the sustainability of the Platform as an ongoing mechanism focused on promoting R&D and innovation in the food / agri-food production sector, members of the Platform agree to operate the Platform in a manner that will support its incremental evolution towards a self-funded organisation, that

will continue to promote collaboration amongst the same set of stakeholders and partners and focus on promoting knowledge and technology transfer and R&D investments in the food and agri-food production sectors.



Long Term Vision of the Role of the Platform as a sustainable coordinator and promoter of a R&D, Technology & Innovation agenda in the fish/food-agri-food industry sector

Economic base diversification has long been one of Cambodia's growth strategies. Industrial Development Policy 2015 – 2025 targets, amongst other, to promote the export of processed agricultural products, including fishery products, to reach 12% of all exports by 2025.

