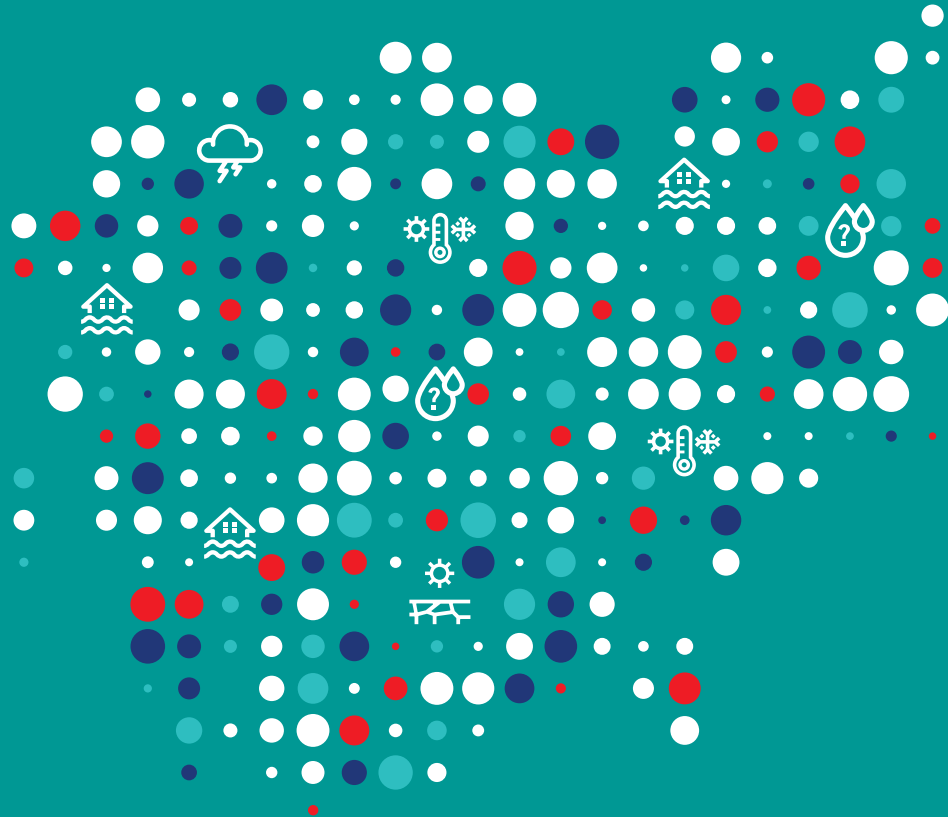




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The NGO Forum on Cambodia



CAMBODIA'S CITIZENS CLIMATE BUDGET FOR 2017

HOW DOES THE GOVERNMENT USE PUBLIC FUNDS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE?

Cambodia's Citizens Climate Budget (2017)

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WHAT IS THE CITIZENS CLIMATE BUDGET (2017)— AND WHY DOES CAMBODIA NEED ONE?



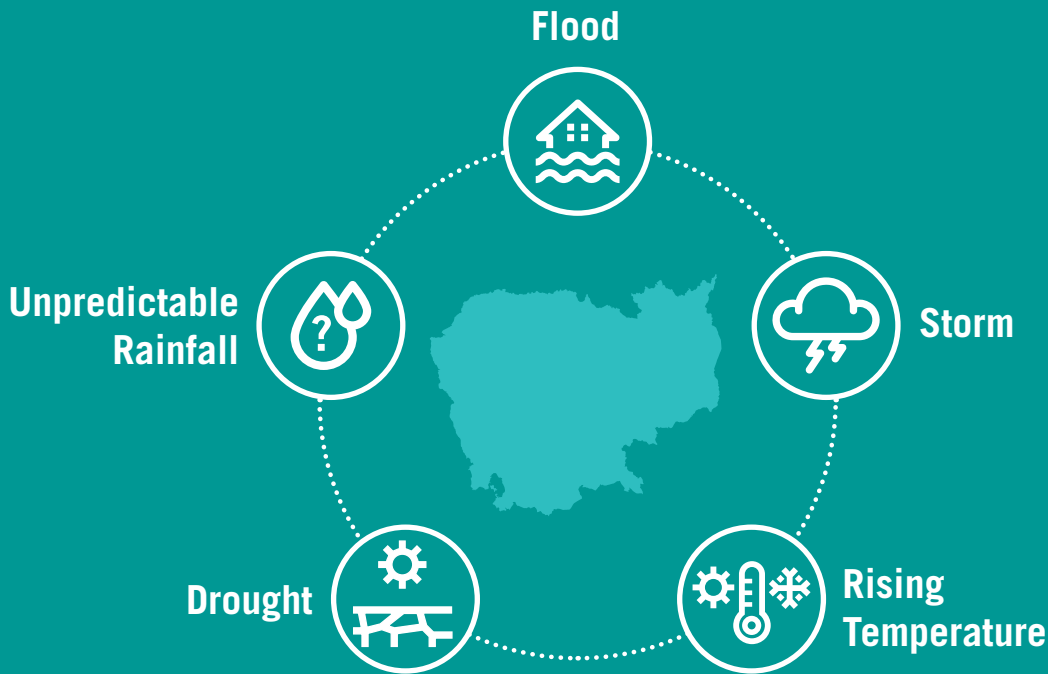
Climate change (CC) is the biggest threat Cambodia's people and economy face. Much of the government's response to the causes and impacts of climate change will depend on how it raises and spends public money through the budget.

To ensure that the government makes the right budget decisions on climate action and is held to account for meeting the climate change challenges, civil society organizations, citizens, and others should have opportunities to participate in decision making, monitor spending on the ground, and hold the government accountable for managing public money. To do this, people and their organizations need access to complete, timely, detailed, and understandable information on the government's budget plans.

The NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) is producing and publishing this Citizens Climate Budget (CCB) report to both inform the public about how the government is addressing climate change through its budgets and to provide the government with a model of how it can take up its responsibility to make this type of information available each year as the budget is being planned and implemented.

This report presents information on the national budget for climate change in key related ministries based on official data from Cambodia's budget laws, the Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review 2017, and other government sources and reports.

CAMBODIA FACES MAJOR RISKS FROM CLIMATE CHANGE



Climate hazards like these can destroy homes and other property; reduce the ability of farmers to produce food; increase the spread of disease and other health risks; and lead to higher costs for families, businesses, and the government, seriously threatening Cambodia's people and economy.

NEARLY 1 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS (HHS) SUFFERED FROM EXTREME WEATHER FROM 2000-2017

 **743,301 HHS**
Flood

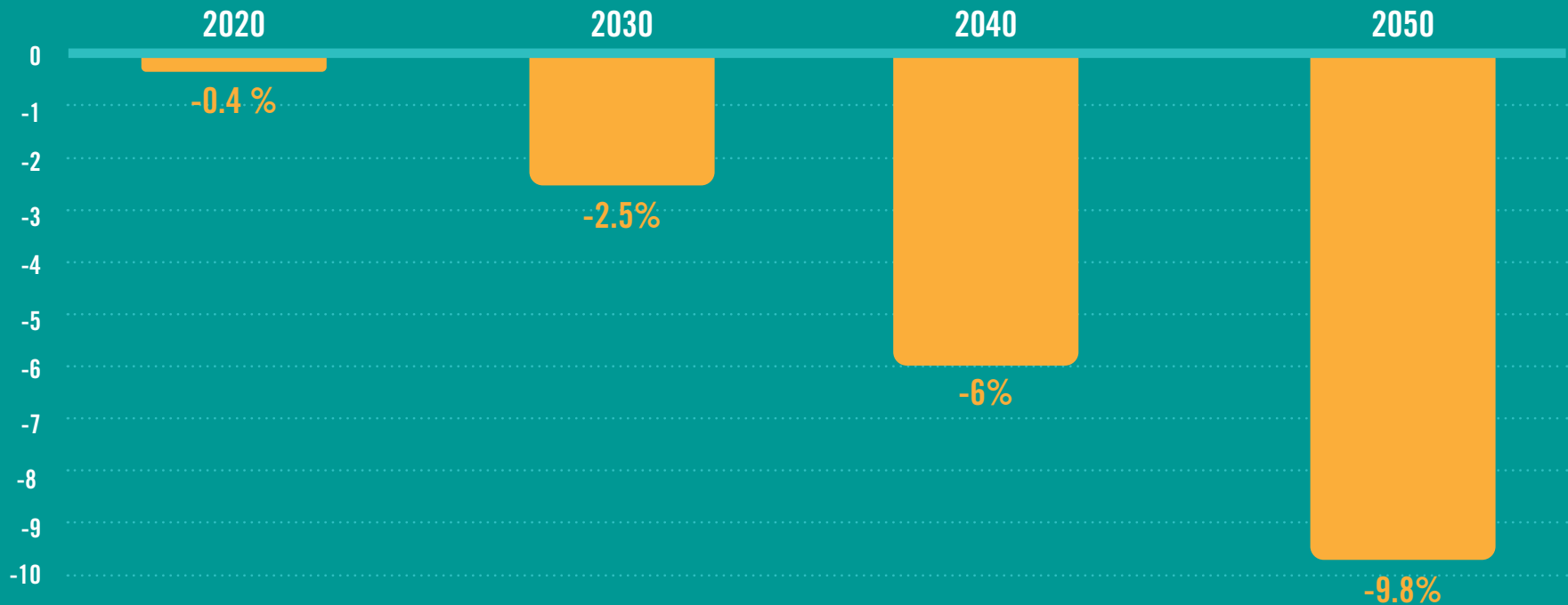
 **420,008 Ha**
Drought

 **180,000 HHS**
Storms

HOW BIG OF AN IMPACT COULD CLIMATE CHANGE HAVE ON CAMBODIA'S ECONOMY?

Unless greater efforts are taken to respond to climate change, Cambodia's plans to become a "upper middle income" country and to lift people out of poverty are at great risk.

CURRENT EFFORTS TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE MAY NOT BE ENOUGH TO STOP LOSSES IN GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP)



(Loss in projected GDP growth from climate change)

Source: Cambodia Ministry of Economy and Finance and National Council for Sustainable Development

Note: Gross Domestic Product is the total value of the goods and services that are produced. It is the main measure of the health of a country's economy.

HOW WILL CAMBODIA'S GOVERNMENT RESPOND TO CLIMATE CHANGE ?

The government has a big role to play in both reducing the causes of climate change and protecting people and the economy from its negative impacts. In Cambodia, adapting to changes in climate is the priority and includes actions like providing farmers with drought-resistant seeds, helping people to rebuild homes and livelihoods after weather disasters, and strengthening weather forecasting and early warning systems.

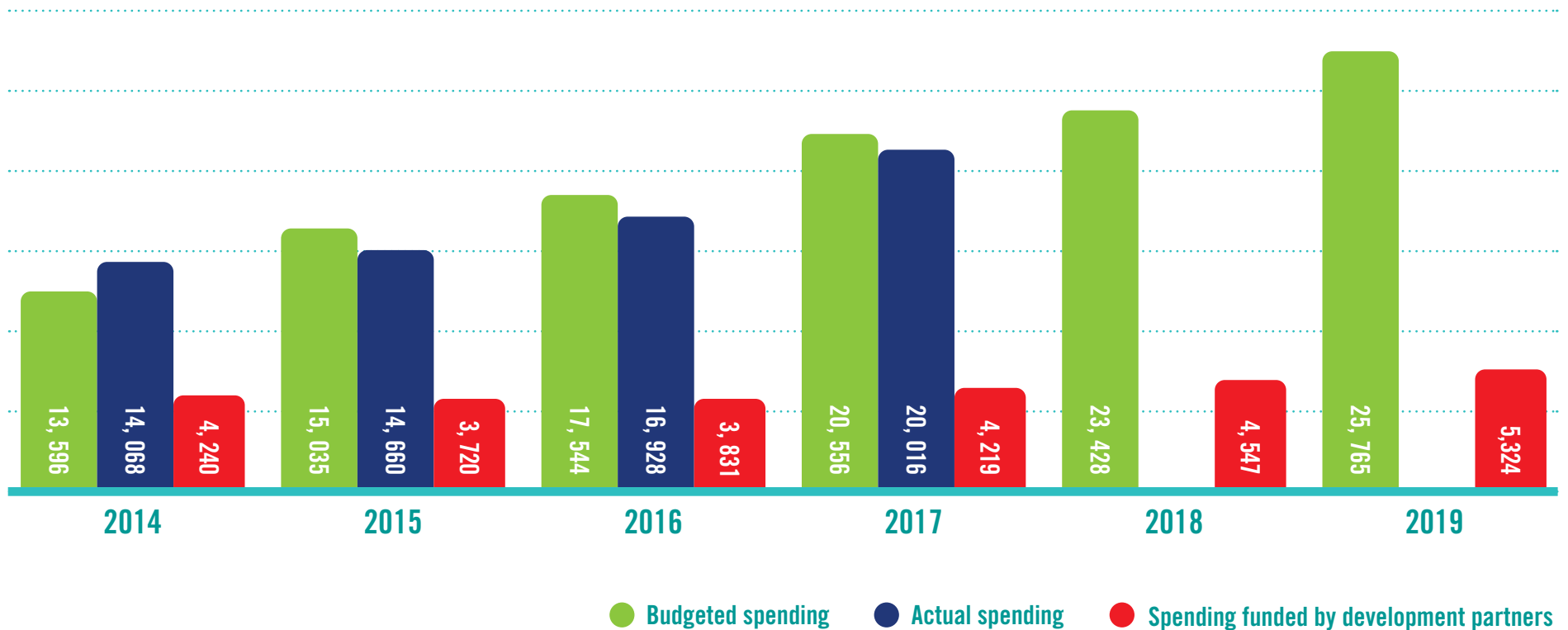


In the Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan, the Royal Government of Cambodia set the following goals for responding to climate change

- 1 Promote climate resilience through improving food, water, and energy security
- 2 Reduce sectoral, regional, gender vulnerability, and health risks to climate change impacts
- 3 Ensure climate resilience of critical ecosystems (Tonle Sap Lake, Mekong River, coastal ecosystems, highlands, etc.), biodiversity, protected areas, and cultural heritage sites
- 4 Promote low-carbon planning and technologies to support sustainable development
- 5 Improve capacities, knowledge, and awareness for climate change responses
- 6 Promote adaptive social protection and participatory approaches in reducing loss and damage due to climate change
- 7 Strengthen institutions and coordination frameworks for national climate change responses
- 8 Strengthen collaboration and active participation in national regional and global climate change processes

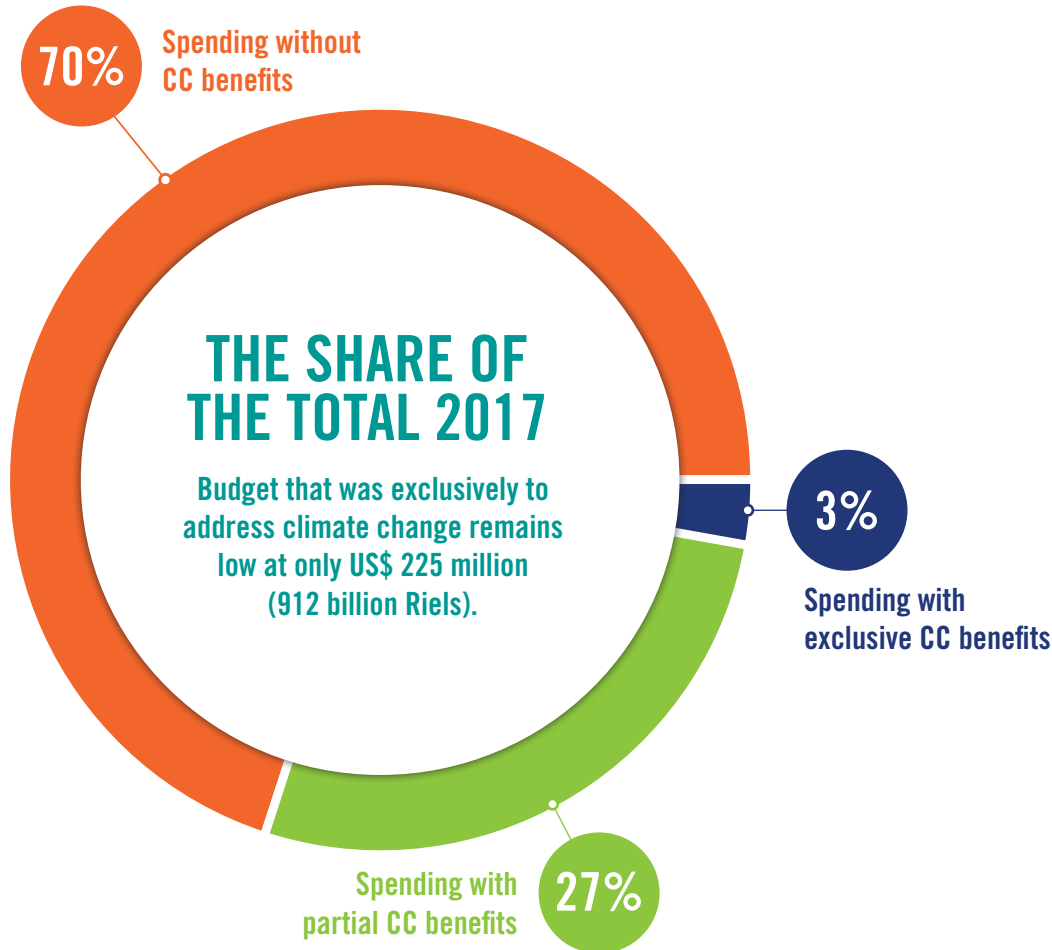
HOW MUCH PUBLIC MONEY IS AVAILABLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO RESPOND TO CLIMATE CHANGE?

TOTAL NATIONAL BUDGET HAS NEARLY DOUBLED SINCE 2014, PROVIDING CRITICAL FUNDS TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE (IN BILLION RIELS)



Source: Budget Law, 2014-2019

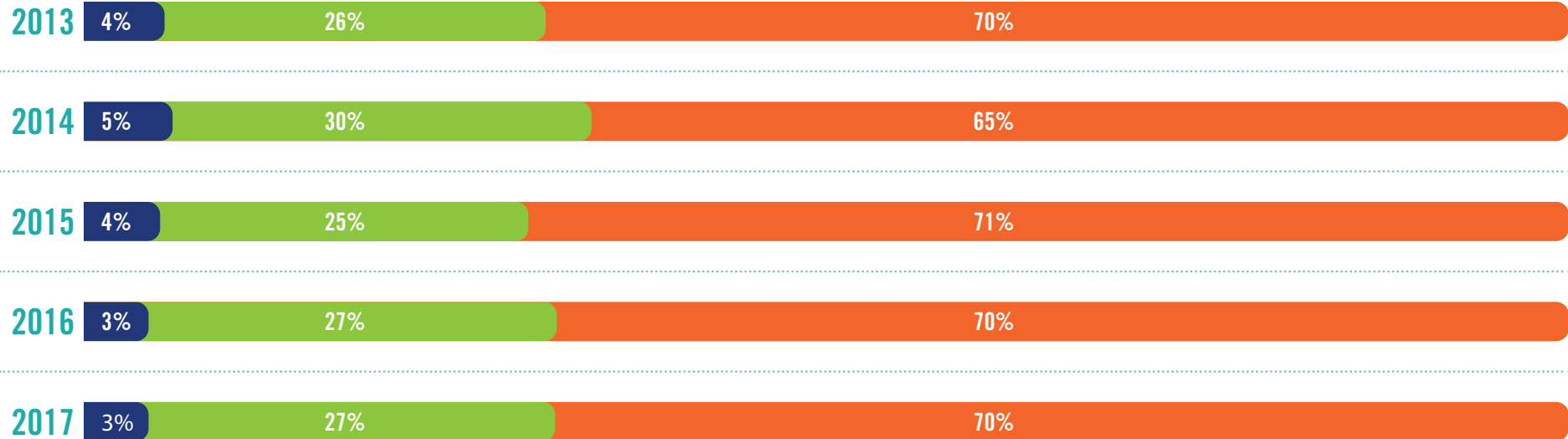
HOW MUCH PUBLIC SPENDING IN 2017 HAD A FOCUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE?



Some government spending is exclusively focused on climate change and would not be needed if climate change was not happening. An example of spending that has **“exclusive climate change benefits”** is the building of a sea wall to protect coastal communities from rising sea levels.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE TREND IN SPENDING ON CLIMATE CHANGE?

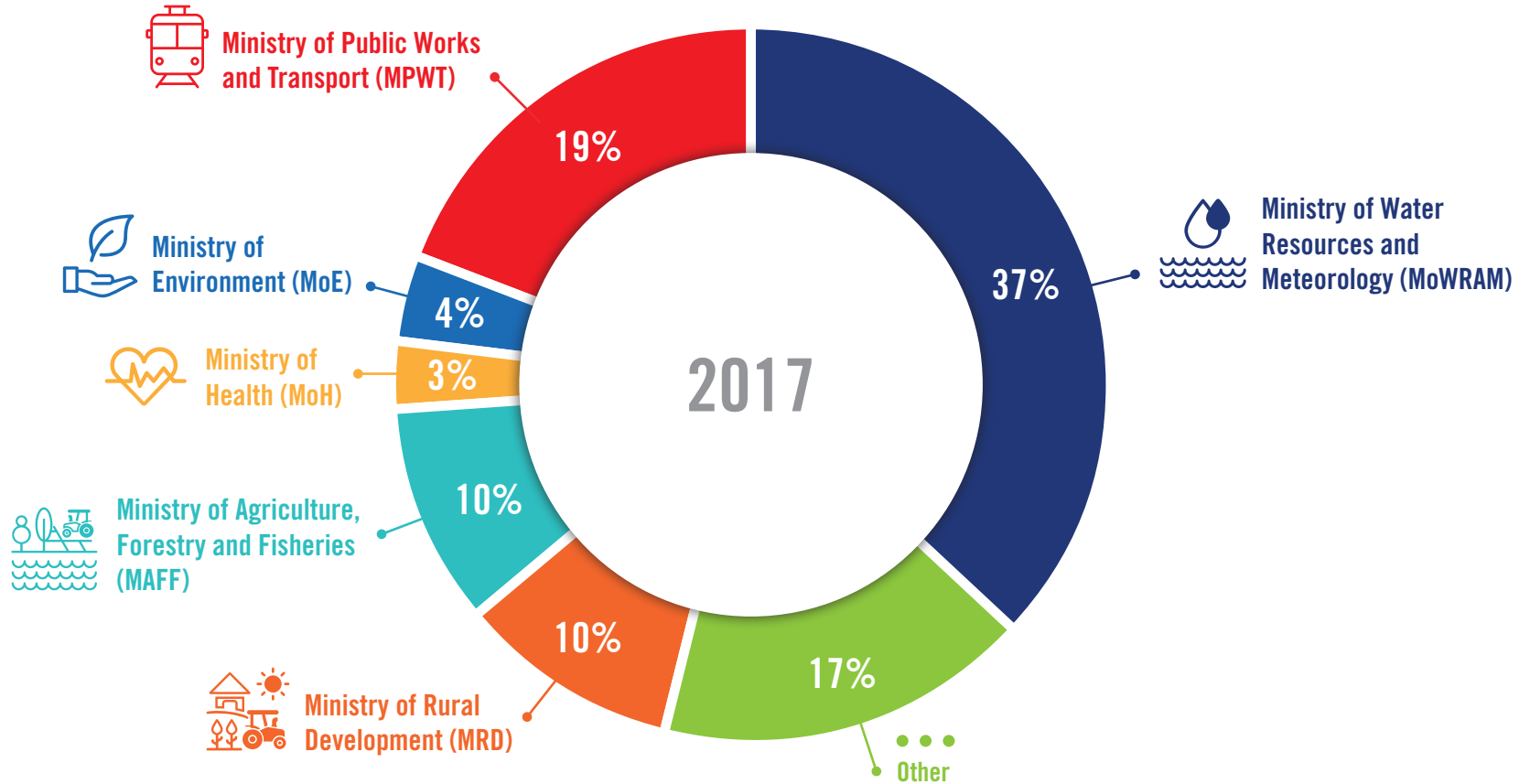
GOVERNMENT SPENDING WITH EXCLUSIVE CC FOCUS REMAINED LOW FROM 2014 TO 2017
(DOMESTIC AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS EXPENDITURE AS SHARE OF TOTAL BUDGET)



● Exclusive CC benefit ● Partial CC benefit ● No CC benefits

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

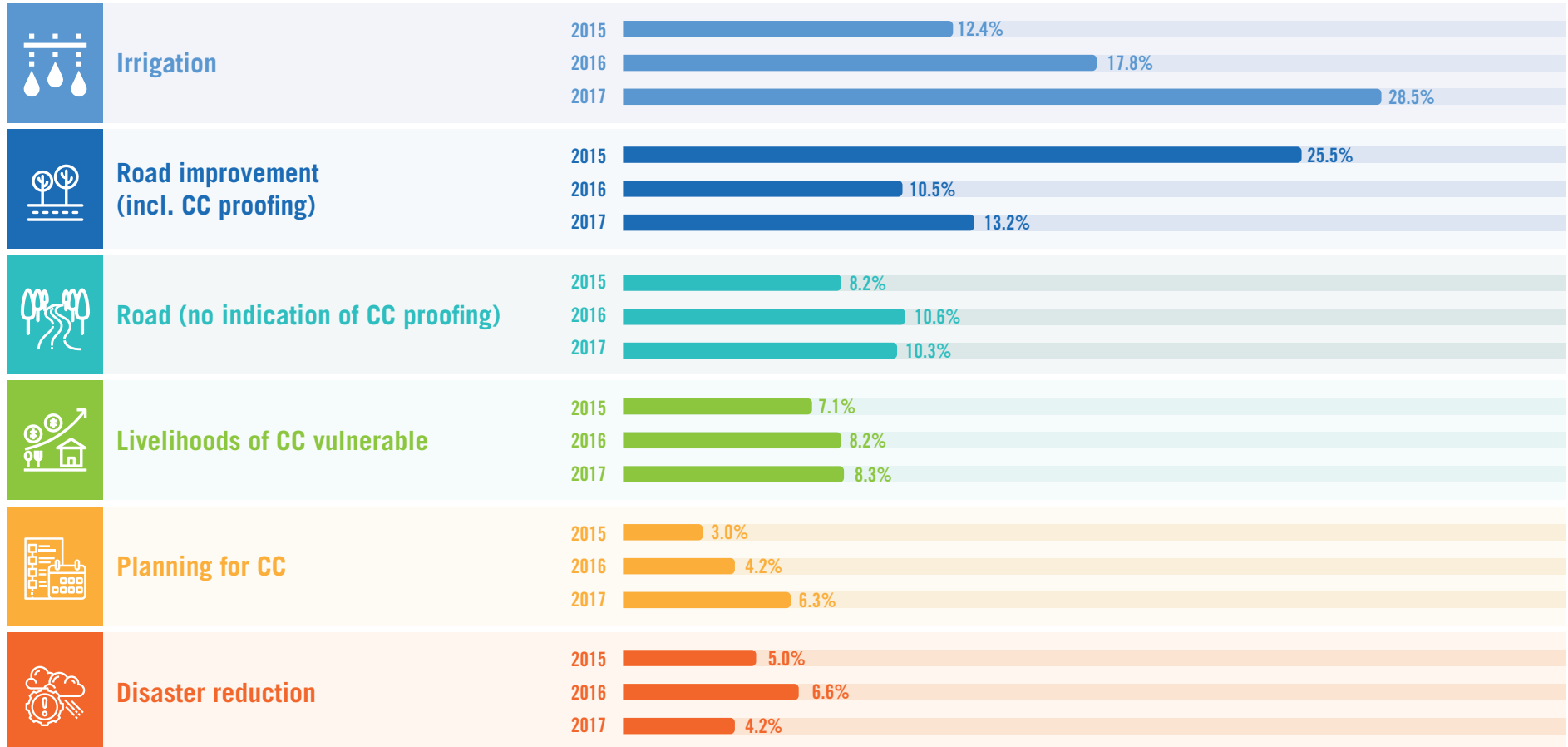
OVER HALF OF ALL CLIMATE CHANGE SPENDING IN THE 2017 BUDGET WENT TO TWO KEY MINISTRIES (MPWT AND MoWRAM)



HOW IS THE MONEY BEING USED?

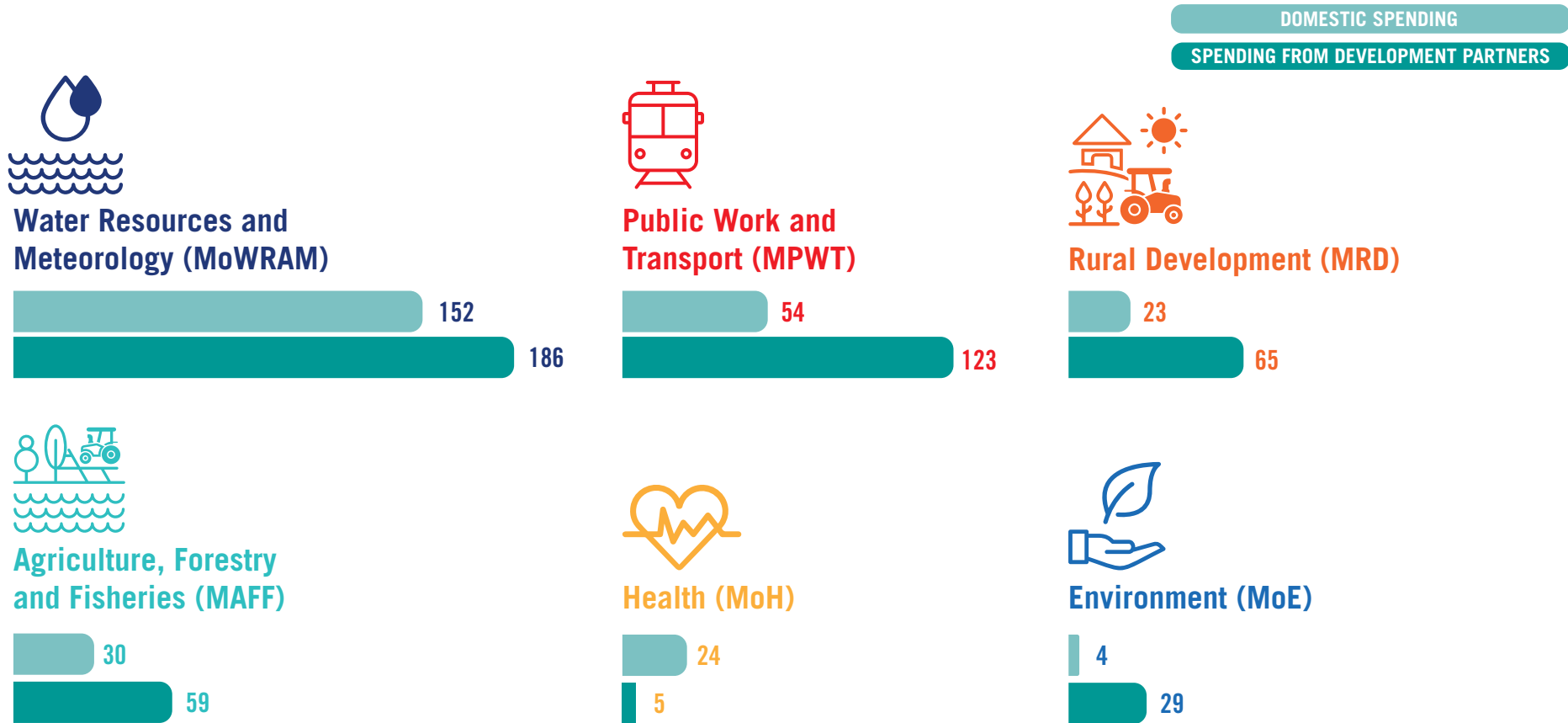
Most climate change spending is for irrigation and roads

SECTORS' SHARE OF TOTAL CLIMATE CHANGE SPENDING



IS THE GOVERNMENT INCREASING ITS SHARE OF SPENDING?

Though Cambodia has been increasing its spending on climate change, relying too much on unpredictable development partners funds threatens its ability to deal with climate change (in Billion Riels)



WHY ARE WOMEN MORE VULNERABLE TO CLIMATE CHANGE, & WHAT RISKS DO THEY FACE?



The government is not making much information available on how it is addressing women's climate vulnerability through the budget. This information is critical as women and girls are at much greater risk of harm from climate change impacts.

IS CLIMATE CHANGE SPENDING ADDRESSING GENDER ISSUES?



Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance, CPEIR 2017

WHAT CAN THE GOVERNMENT DO TO STRENGTHEN ITS RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE?



1

The government should increase the expenditure with exclusive CC benefits since Cambodia is facing major risks from CC.

2

The government should provide simple updated information with gender mainstreaming related to CC impacts, budget allocation, and actual spending with partial CC benefits.

3

The government should regularly prepare a Citizens Climate Budget that presents how public money is being raised and spent to address CC in simple language and graphics to be more easily understood by people.

4

Relevant ministries should provide space for dialogue with nongovernment organizations to strengthen the public budget process to address climate change at both national and sub-national level, including opportunities to participate in decision making and monitoring spending on the ground.

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