



# **CAMBODIA'S VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA**

**Delegation of the Royal Government of Cambodia  
16 July 2019**



# Cast iron commitment to the SDG Agenda

- Early adopter & enthusiastic supporter of SDGs
- Strong MDG performer, provides solid foundation for future progress
- Aligns with Cambodia Vision 2050 for an inclusive & sustainable High Income Cambodia
- SDGs offer a guide to continued developmental transformation
- Institutionalized within the Cambodia SDG Framework (the CSDGs)

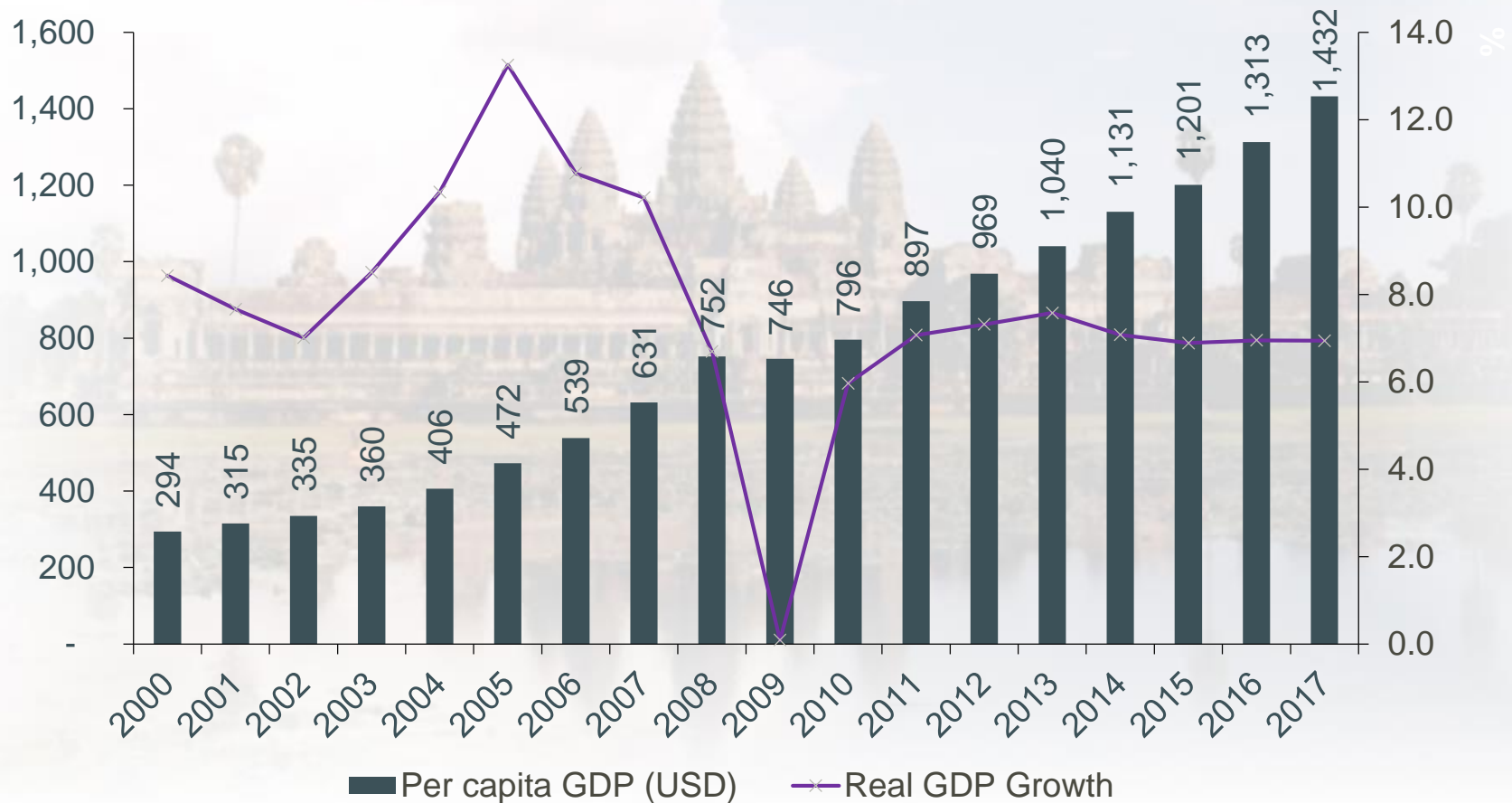


## Context

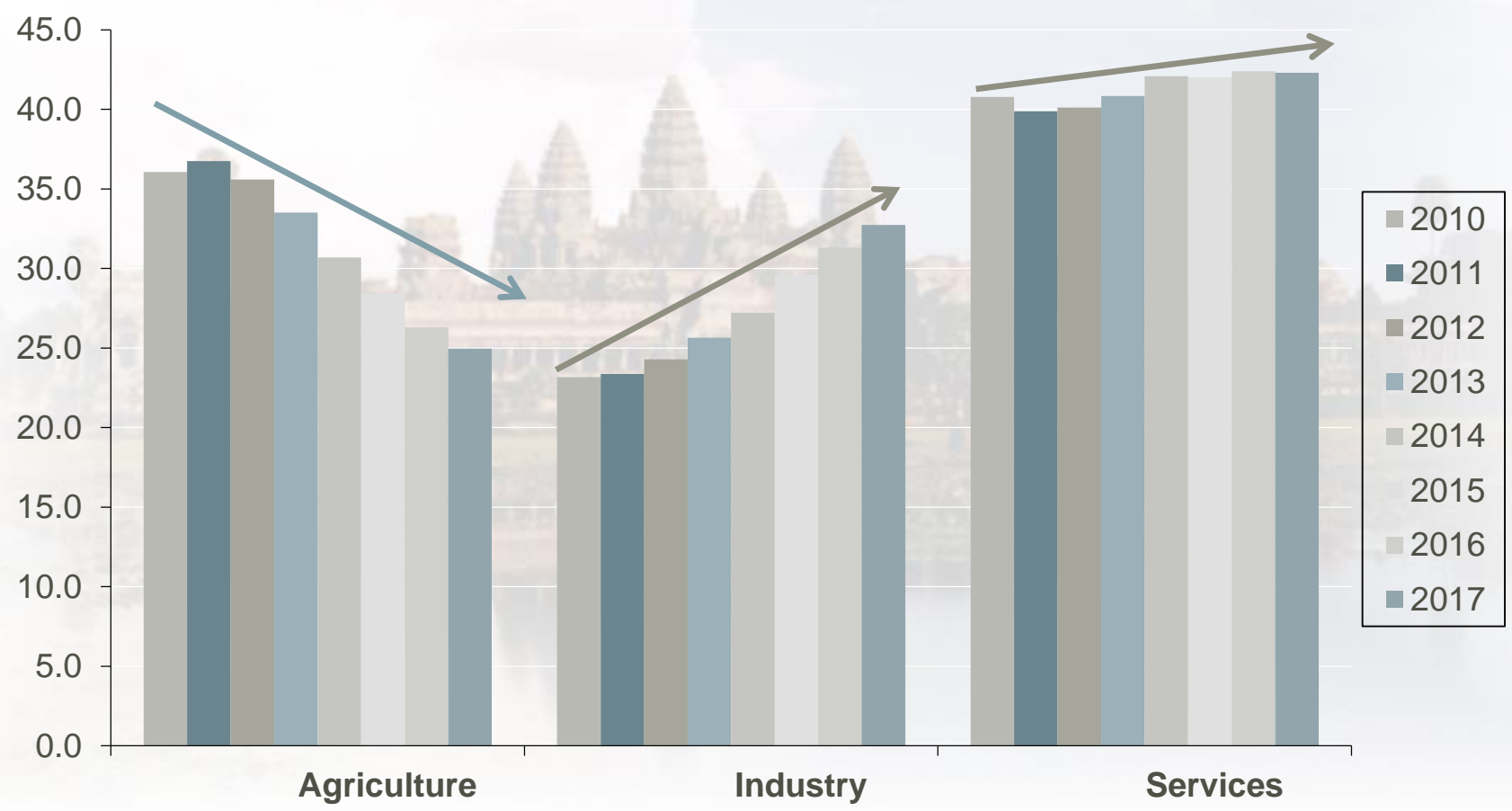
- Remarkable national rehabilitation and reconstruction after decades of internal conflicts, 1970s genocide
- Economic transformation – over 7% growth per annum for two decades and Progressive industrialization
- High & rapid poverty reduction – from over 50% in 2004 to less than 10% in 2018
- Exceptional MDG performance, majority of goals met, some ahead of time
- Rapid Human development improvement – global top ten, strongest rate of improvement in Asia-Pacific



# Cambodia's exceptional growth record



# Remarkable structural transformation & industrialization





# Thorough & extensive VNR process



## VNR strengthened policy planning & M&E

- **Intrinsic value in consultation process:** dissemination, validation & course adjustment. Enabled endorsement from Prime Minister
- **Partnering arrangements have a development dividend:** Joint implementation work, including private sector & communities
- **Major delivery gains from marrying goals to national objectives,** priorities in line with the National Plan
- **Importance of “breaking down silos”** to reflect the indivisibility, inter-dependence & complexity of the goals
- **New policies need to ensure no one is left behind:** “going the last mile” to reach marginalized; responding to demographic change & scaling-up service provision for vulnerable groups
- **Reaching out to other UN member states** showcasing Cambodia’s efforts but also listening & learning



# Systems & capacity strengthening are top priorities for the Government

- CSDGs (17+ de-mining goal) adopted, institutionalized M&E framework & reporting
- CSDG framework aligned with Vision 2050, complementary to national development objectives
- Key policies focusing on equity & inclusion, alongside ongoing economic success

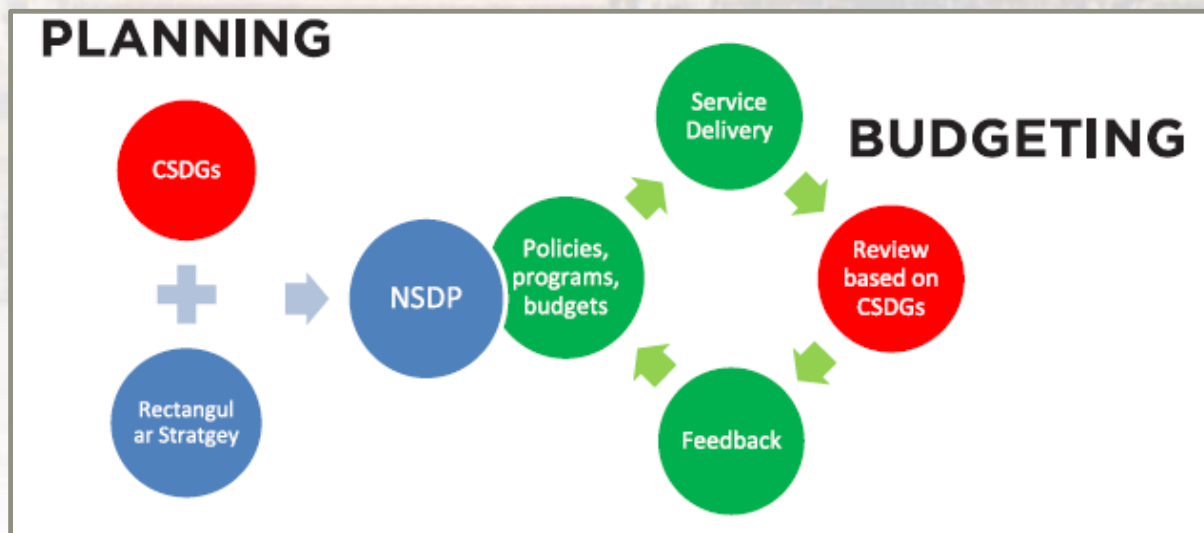






## Integration of CSDGs: 2 channels

- Matrixed to the Rectangular Strategy, within the National Strategic Development Plan
- Innovative use of CSDG targets & indicators within performance based budgeting

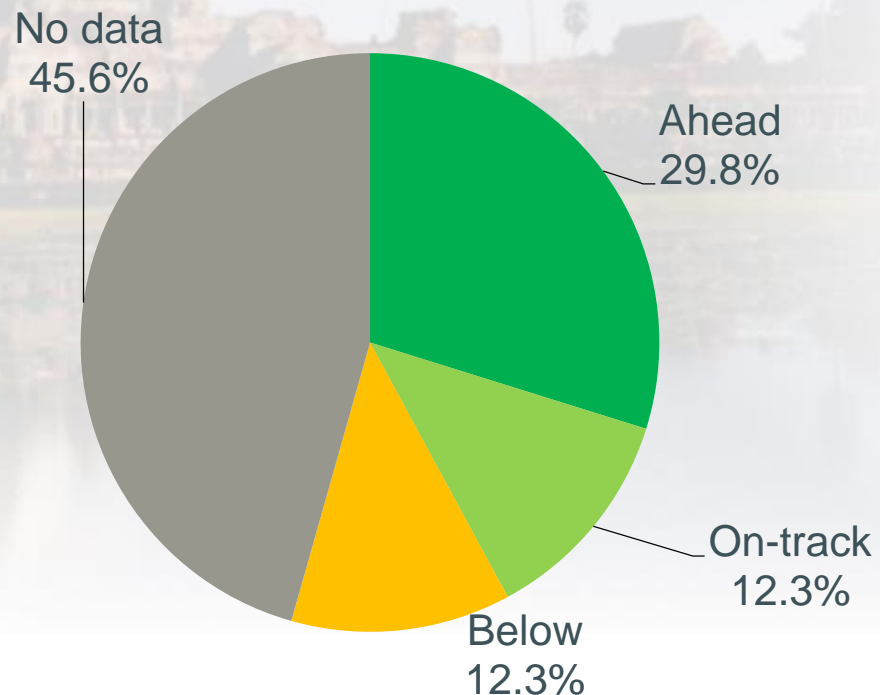
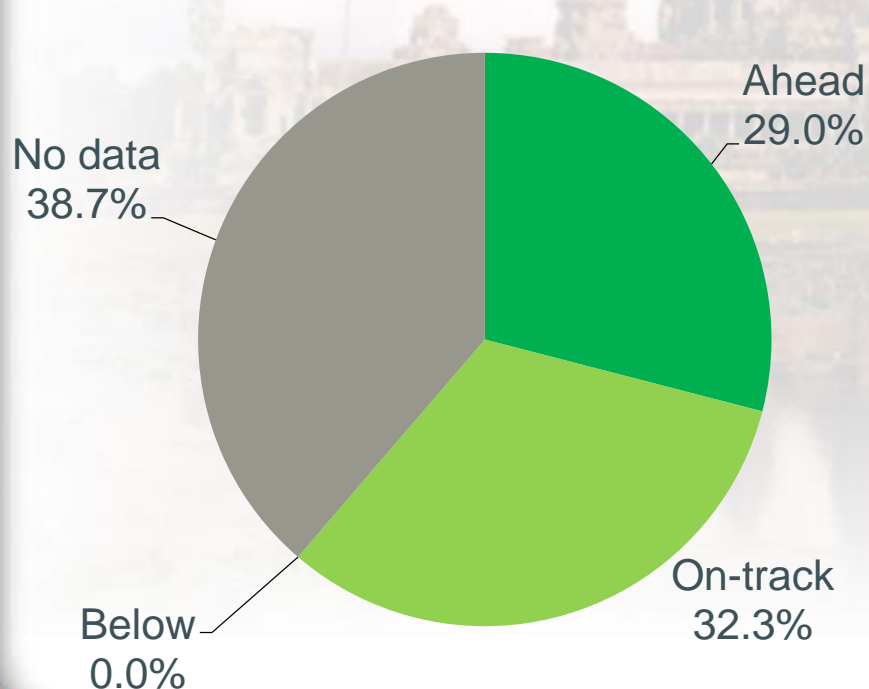




# Initial CSDG progress is strong

**Six VNR priority goals: 60+%  
ahead or on track**

**Remaining 12 goals : Only  
12% below track**





## Delivery challenges & next steps

- **Recognize the level of ambition in CSDGs & Vision 2050** - approach cannot be “business as usual”
- **Resourcing/ financing the CSDGs is vital:** strong domestic revenues but declining ODA & growing public expectations
- **Data & M&E needs to be right for context:** Limited sources, target/ measure what is possible, review framework & institutional arrangements
- **Management and capacity reforms are vital:** Accelerate institutional development and performance management