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Flash Report on the Cambodian Economy

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បកស្រាយតារាងសំខាន់ៗ

សេចក្ដីសង្ខេបនេះ គូសបញ្ជាក់ពីបំរែបំរួលនិន្នាការនៃសូចនាករសេដ្ឋកិច្ចមួយចំនួនរបស់កម្ពុជា និងប្រទេសជាដៃគូ។ អត្ថបទនេះ ផ្ដល់ការប្រៀបធៀបពីបំរែបំរួលតួលេខនៃខែថ្មីៗនេះ ជាមួយនឹងខែមុនៗក្នុង ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ និងឆ្នាំ២០០៧។

នៅត្រីមាសទី៤ ឆ្នាំ២០០៧ តំលៃនៃអនុមតិវិនិយោគលើទ្រព្យសកម្មជាប់លាប់ក្នុងវិស័យឧស្សាហកម្ម កើនយ៉ាងខ្លាំង ដល់ ៦៩,១លានដុល្លារ ធៀបនឹង ៤០,៧លានដុល្លារ នៅត្រីមាសមុន។ រីឯអនុមតិគំរោងសាងសង់មានកំណើនយ៉ាងខ្លាំងចំពោះគំរោងភូមិគ្រឹះ និងផ្ទះ ដោយកើនពី ១,២ លានដុល្លារ ដល់ ១៦លានដុល្លារ ខណៈដែលគំរោងសាងសង់ដទៃទៀតមានការធ្លាក់ចុះគួរកត់សំគាល់ រួមទាំងសំណង់ផ្ទះល្វែងផងដែរ។

នៅខែមករា ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ ចំនួនទេសចរបរទេសមកដល់កម្ពុជា កើនពី ១៨៨.០០០នាក់ ដល់ ១៩៨.០០០នាក់ ដែលវានៅតែជាចំនួនច្រើនជាងប្រភេទភ្ញៀវមកកម្ពុជាក្នុងគោលបំណងដទៃទៀត។ ចំនួនភ្ញៀវមកកម្ពុជាក្នុងគោលបំណងពាណិជ្ជកម្ម ធ្លាក់ចុះយ៉ាងខ្លាំង រីឯចំនួនភ្ញៀវមកក្នុងគោលបំណងផ្សេងៗ ធ្លាក់ចុះតិចតួចប៉ុណ្ណោះ។

នៅខែមីនា ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ ថ្លៃសាំង និងម៉ាស៊ូត កើនយ៉ាងខ្លាំង គឺ ៥,១% និង ៩,៦% ធៀបនឹងខែមុន។ ធៀបនឹងខែដូចគ្នា ឆ្នាំមុន ថ្លៃសាំងកើន ២៧,៦% និងថ្លៃម៉ាស៊ូត កើន ៣៩,៧% ។ នៅខែមីនា ២០០៨ ថ្លៃទំនិញផ្សេងៗ ដូចជា អង្ករ សាច់ជ្រូក និងសាច់គោ នៅ៦ ខេត្ត រួមមាន សៀមរាប បាត់ដំបង កំពង់ចាម កំពត ក្រចេះ និង កំពង់ស្ពឺ បន្តកើនឡើង លើកលែងតែត្រីទឹកសាប ដែលនៅមានតំលៃថេរ។

នៅចុងឆ្នាំ២០០៧ អត្រាការប្រាក់លើកំចីរយៈ១២ខែ សំរាប់ប្រាក់រៀល និងប្រាក់ដុល្លារ នៅថេរដដែល គឺ ២២,៣% និង ១៦% ។ នៅខែមីនា ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ ប្រាក់រៀល ធ្លាក់ថ្លៃបន្តិចទល់នឹង ដុល្លារUS និងប្រាក់ដុងវៀតណាម ប៉ុន្តែឡើងថ្លៃបន្តិចទល់នឹងប្រាក់បាតថៃ។

យោងតាមអង្កេត នៅខែមករា ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ រូបិយវត្ថុទូទៅ (M2) មានកំនើន ៦៤,៥% រីឯរូបិយវត្ថុទូទៅ M1 មានកំនើន ៦៨,៧% ។ នៅអំឡុងពេលដូចគ្នា ឥណទានក្នុងស្រុកមានកំនើន ២៤០,៨% រីឯឥណទានក្នុងវិស័យ

Highlights

This brief aims to highlight changing trends in a number of economic indicators of Cambodia and its partners. It compares variations in figures of the current month with those of earlier months in 2008 and in 2007.

The fourth quarter of 2007 saw a dramatic rise in fixed asset investment approval in the garment industry, reaching a record high USD69.1 million, up from USD40.7 million of the previous quarter. For construction approvals, there was a substantial surge in value of villa and house construction from USD1.2 million to USD16 million, while there was a noticeable decline in the value of various other constructions, including flats.

In January 2008, foreign tourist arrivals remained dominant among other groups, increasing from 188,000 persons to 198,000 persons. There was a significant decline in business visitor arrivals, while other visitor arrivals showed a slight fall.

March 2008 saw a considerable spike in gasoline and diesel prices. Gasoline and diesel prices were up by 5.1 percent and 9.6 percent by comparing with the previous month. A comparison of prices during the same month last year shows that the gasoline price rose considerably, by 27.6 percent, while the diesel price rose by 39.7 percent. During the same month, prices of other commodities such as rice, pork, and beef in six selected provinces, namely Siem Reap, Battambang, Kampong Cham, Kampot, Kratie and Kampong Speu, continued to surge, with the exception of fresh water fish, which were steady.

By the end of 2007, 12-month interest rates on loans in both riels and US dollars remained unchanged at double-digit rates of 22.3 percent and 16 percent respectively. In March 2008, a slight depreciation of riel against the US dollar and Vietnamese dong was evident, but there was meagre appreciation of riel against Thai baht.

On the monetary survey, in January 2008 the growth rate of broad money (M2) was 64.5 percent, while the growth rate of M1 was at 68.7 percent. During the same period, growth of domestic credit was at 240.8 percent, followed by

ឯកជន មានកំណើន ២០៩,១% ។ ការនាំចូលដែក ធ្លាក់ចុះយ៉ាងខ្លាំង ពី ១៣,៥ពាន់លានរៀល នៅខែវិច្ឆិកា ឆ្នាំ២០០៧ មកត្រឹម ៨,៤ពាន់លានរៀល នៅខែធ្នូ ឆ្នាំ២០០៧ រីឯការនាំចូលស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍ និងបារី ក៏ធ្លាក់ចុះដែរ។ នៅខែធ្នូ ឆ្នាំ២០០៧ ការនាំចេញសរុប ថយចុះបន្តិច ដោយសារតែការនាំចេញក្នុងវិស័យកាត់ដេរ ថយចុះអស់ ៤,១% ។

អតិរេកថវិកា បន្តកើនឡើងដល់ ១៥០ពាន់លានរៀល នៅខែតុលា ឆ្នាំ២០០៧។ ប៉ុន្តែ ចំណូលពន្ធបានពីពាណិជ្ជកម្មក្នុងស្រុក និងអន្តរជាតិ និងចំនូលមិនមែនពន្ធបានពីប្រភពដទៃទៀត ធ្លាក់ចុះពី ៤០៣ពាន់លានរៀល មកត្រឹម ៣៤២ពាន់លានរៀល។ រឿងនេះ បង្ហាញពីការថយចំនាយចរន្តរបស់រដ្ឋ និងចំណាយលើសេវាកម្មផ្សេងៗ នៅខែតុលា ឆ្នាំ២០០៧។

នៅខែកុម្ភៈ ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ ថ្លៃអង្ករ និងកៅស៊ូនៅទីផ្សារថៃ និងវៀតណាម បង្ហាញពីក្តីសង្ឃឹមដល់កសិករ។ អង្ករ និងកៅស៊ូលក់ថ្លៃ ៤៣១ដុល្លារ/តោន និង ២៣៨០,២ដុល្លារ/តោន នៅផ្សារថៃ និង ៤២៣,៨ដុល្លារ/តោន និង ២៣២២,៦ដុល្លារ/តោន នៅផ្សារវៀតណាម។ រីឯពោត ឡើងថ្លៃដោយលក់បាន ២៩៣ដុល្លារ/តោននៅផ្សារថៃ ហើយគ្រាប់ស្វាយចន្ទីនៅផ្សារវៀតណាម ចុះថ្លៃបន្តិច មកត្រឹម ៤៨៣៣,៣ដុល្លារ/តោន ។ នៅអំឡុងពេលដូចគ្នា ការនាំចេញអង្ករ កៅស៊ូ និងគ្រាប់ស្វាយចន្ទីរបស់វៀតណាមមានការកើនឡើងយ៉ាងខ្លាំង រីឯការនាំចេញផលិតផលទាំងនោះរបស់ថៃ មានការធ្លាក់ចុះ។

នៅខែកុម្ភៈ ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ អតិផរណាមានកំនើននៅក្នុងប្រទេសមួយចំនួននៅទ្វីបផ្សេងៗគ្នា។ ជប៉ុន មានអតិផរណា ១% ចិន ៨,៥% ហុងកុង ៦,៣% សឹង្ហបុរី ៦,៥% និង ថៃ មាន ៥,៤% ។ ផ្ទុយទៅវិញ នៅសហព័ន្ធអឺរ៉ុប និងប្រទេសមួយចំនួន ដូចជា សហរដ្ឋអាមេរិក កូរ៉េខាងត្បូង និង ម៉ាឡេស៊ី មានអតិផរណាថេរ រឺថយចុះ បើធៀបនឹងខែមុន។ នៅខែមេសា ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ ដុល្លារUS ឡើងថ្លៃទល់នឹងរូបិយវត្ថុមួយចំនួន ដូចជា ដុល្លារហុងកុង ប្រាក់វ៉ុនកូរ៉េខាងត្បូង ប្រាក់យ៉េនជប៉ុន និងប្រាក់បាតថៃ ប៉ុន្តែវាធ្លាក់ថ្លៃទល់នឹង អឺរ៉ូ និង ដុល្លារសឹង្ហបុរី។

នៅខែមីនា ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ សណ្តែកសៀង និងប្រេងឆា នៅទីផ្សារអន្តរជាតិ លក់ថ្លៃ ៤៤៦,២ដុល្លារ/តោន និង ១១៣២,៨ដុល្លារ/តោន រីឯសាំង និង ម៉ាស៊ូត លក់ថ្លៃ ០,៦៣ដុល្លារ/លីត្រ និង ០,៧២ដុល្លារ/លីត្រ។

that of private sector credit at 209.1 percent. There was a considerable drop of steel imports from KHR13.5 bn in November to KHR8.4 bn in December 2007, followed by cement and cigarette imports. Total exports experienced a slight decline in December 2007 as a result of the 4.1 percent decline in garment exports.

The budget surplus remained on the rise, reaching KHR150 bn in October 2007. Nonetheless, during the same period, revenues from domestic and international trade taxes and other non-tax sources dropped from KHR403 bn to KHR342 bn. This reflected the decline in current government expenditure and expenditure on other services in October of the same year.

In February 2008, prices of rice and rubber in Thai and Vietnamese markets showed promising prospects for farmers. Prices of rice and rubber were at USD431 per tonne and USD2,380.2 per tonne respectively in the Thai market, while those of rice and rubber in the VN market were at USD423.8 per tonne and USD2,322.6 per tonne respectively. Additionally, the maize price was up, at USD293 per tonne in the Thai market, and the price of cashew nuts in the VN market dropped slightly to USD4,833.3 per tonne. During the same period, Vietnamese rice, rubber and cashew nut exports increased markedly, while Thai exports of those commodities experienced reverse trends.

In February 2008, inflation in some countries across various continents was on the rise. Japan was at 1 percent; while China, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Thailand were at 8.5 percent, 6.3 percent, 6.5 percent, and 5.4 percent, respectively. By contrast, the EU and countries such as the US, South Korea and Malaysia, experienced stable or even lower rates of inflation comparing to the previous month. In April 2008, the US currency appreciated against currencies of such countries as Hong Kong, South Korea, Japan, and Thailand, but depreciated against the EURO and the Singapore Dollar.

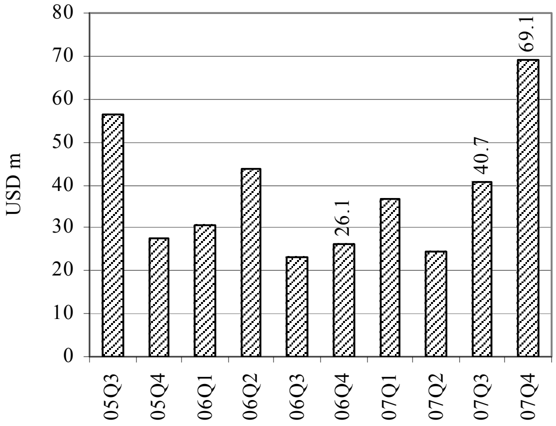
In March 2008, prices of soybean and palm oil at the international market were at USD446.2 per tonne and USD1132.8 per tonne, while prices of gasoline and diesel were at USD0.63 per litre and USD0.72 per litre.

សកម្មភាពសេដ្ឋកិច្ចសំខាន់ៗ និង ថ្លៃទំនិញរបស់កម្ពុជា

Main Economic Activities and Consumer Prices of Cambodia

Fixed Asset Investment Approvals for Garment Sub Sector

2005 Q3–2007 Q4

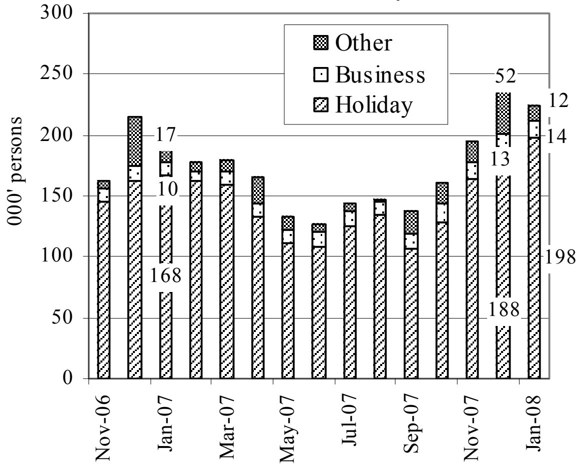


Including expansion projects.

Source: Council for the Development of Cambodia

Cambodia: Foreign Visitor Arrivals

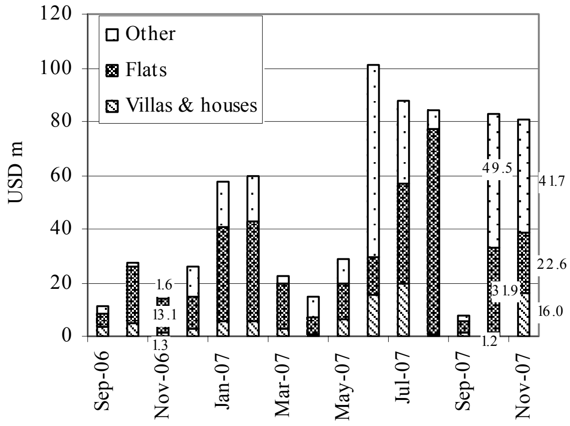
November 2006–January 2008



Source: Ministry of Tourism

Phnom Penh: Value of Construction Approvals

September 2006–November 2007

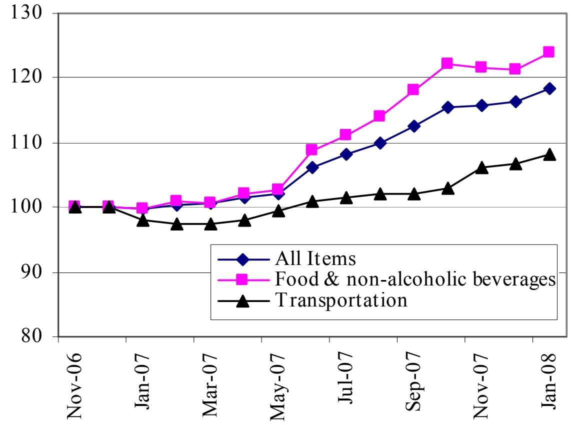


Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC

Cambodia: Consumer Price Index

(July–December 2006=100)

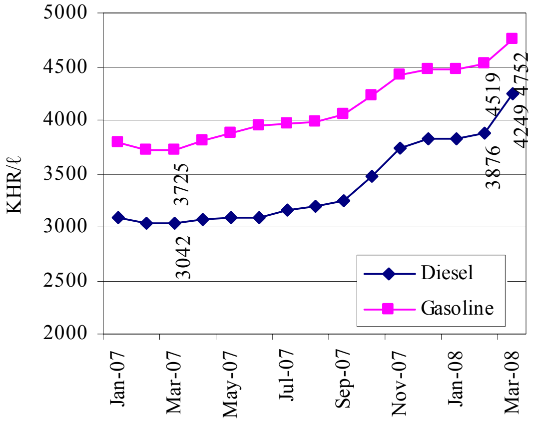
November 2006–January 2008



Source: National Institute of Statistics

Phnom Penh: Gasoline & Diesel Prices

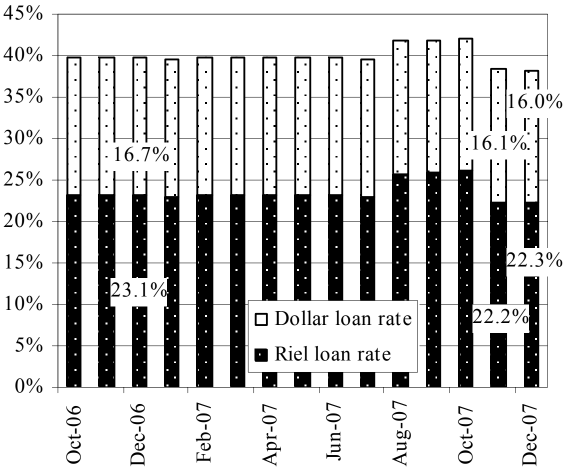
January 2007–March 2008



Sources: CDRI

Interest Rates on 12-Month Bank Loan

October 2006–December 2007

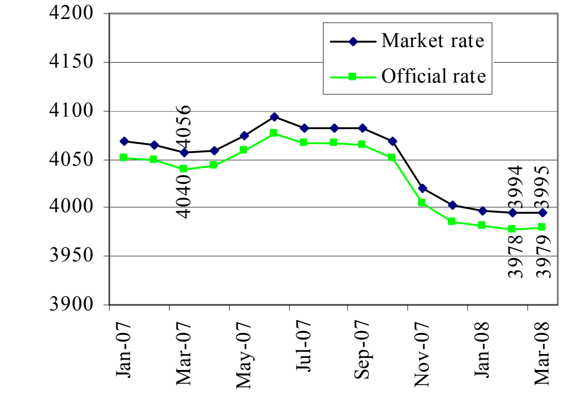


Source: Economic & Monetary Statistics, NBC

ស្ថានភាពអត្រាប្តូរប្រាក់ និង ជំនួយអភិវឌ្ឍន៍ពីក្រៅប្រទេស

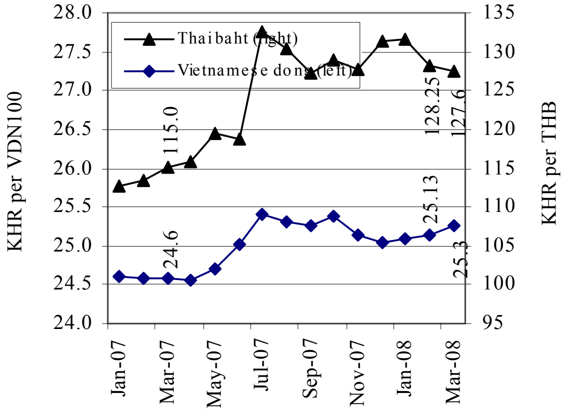
Exchange Rates and External Development Assistance

Riels per US Dollar
January 2007–March 2008



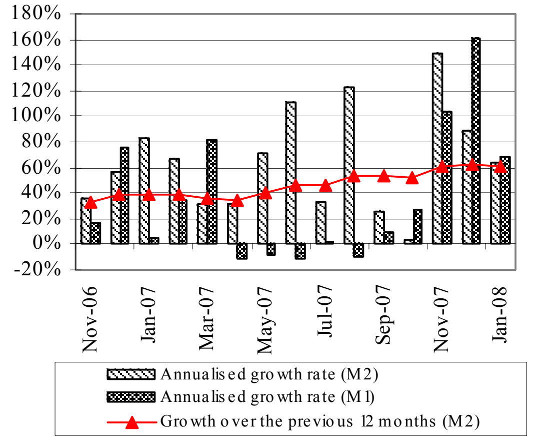
Sources: National Bank of Cambodia

Riels per THB & VND
January 2007–March 2008



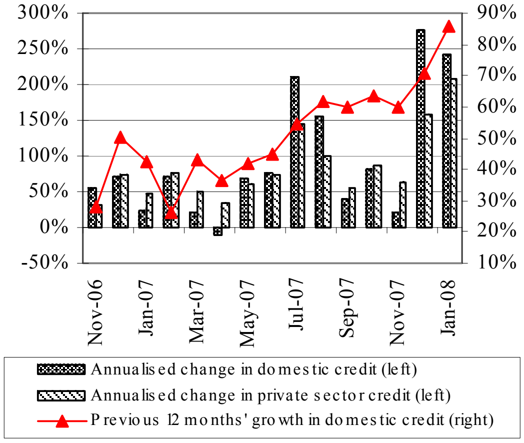
Source: National Bank of Cambodia

Monetary Survey
November 2006–January 2008



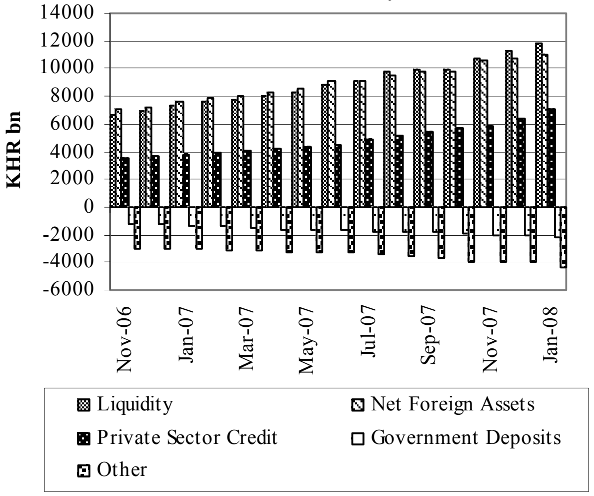
Source: National Bank of Cambodia

Domestic Credit
November 2006–January 2008



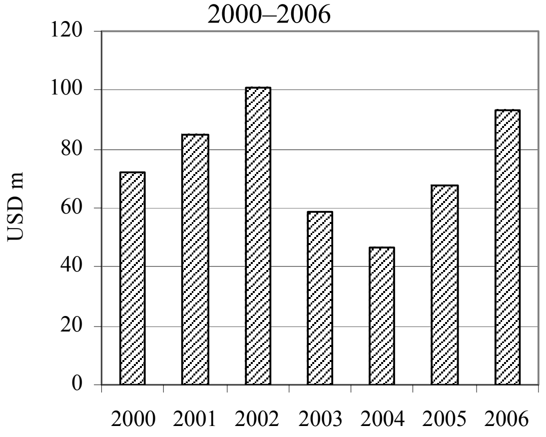
Source: National Bank of Cambodia

Monetary Operation
November 2006–January 2008



Source: National Bank of Cambodia

External Development Assistance Disbursement: Governance & Administration
2000–2006

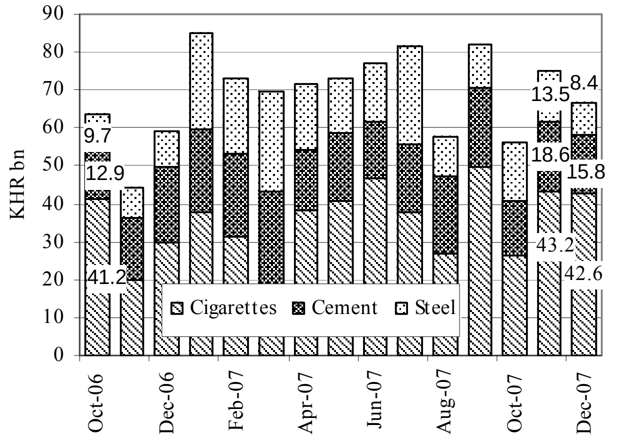


Source: Cambodia Aid Effectiveness Report 2007, CDC

ពាណិជ្ជកម្មក្រៅប្រទេស និង ការអនុវត្តន៍ថវិកាជាតិ

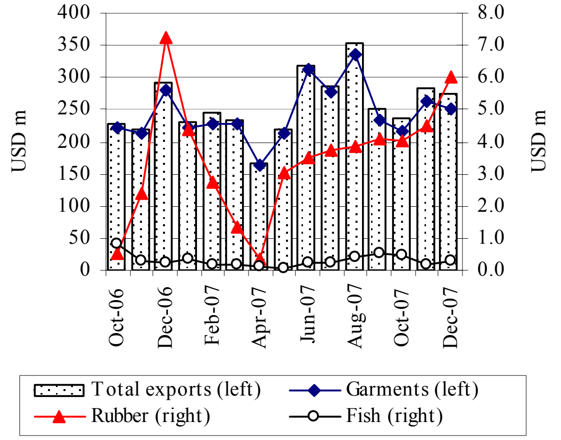
External Trade and National Budget Operation

Imports: Cigarettes & Construction Materials
October 2006–December 2007



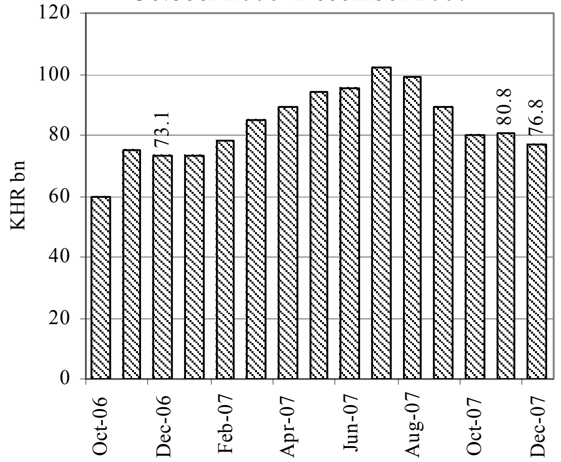
Source: *Economic & Monetary Statistics, Monthly Bulletin of NBC*

Cambodia: Main Exports
October 2006–December 2007



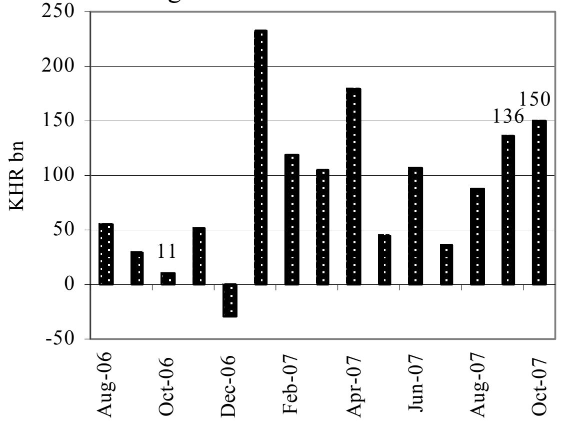
Source: *Economic & Monetary Statistics, Monthly Bulletin of NBC*

Imports: Petroleum Products
October 2006–December 2007



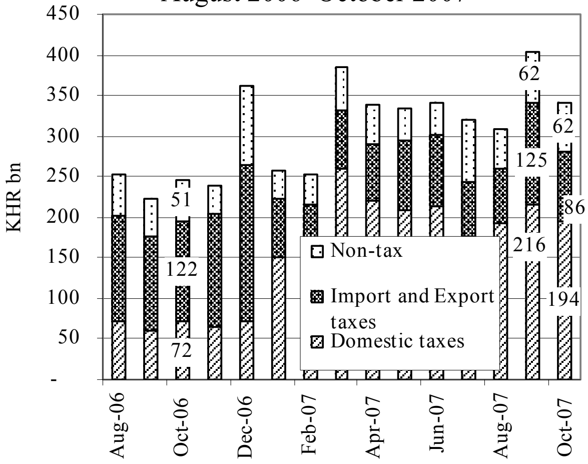
Source: *Economic & Monetary Statistics, Monthly Bulletin of NBC*

Current Budget Operations
August 2006–October 2007



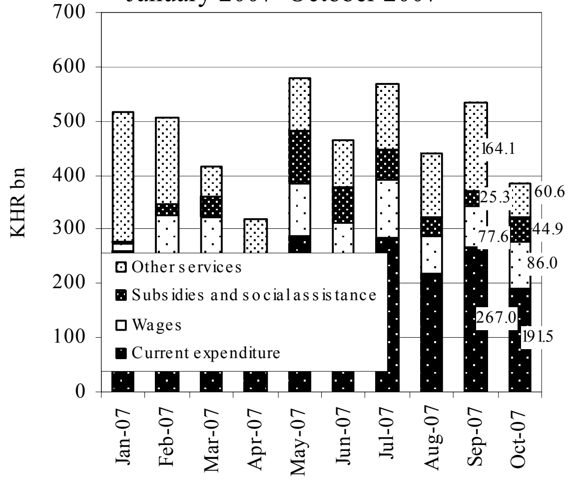
Source: *MEF website*

Current Budget Revenue
August 2006–October 2007



Source: *MEF website*

Current Budget Expenditure Components
January 2007–October 2007



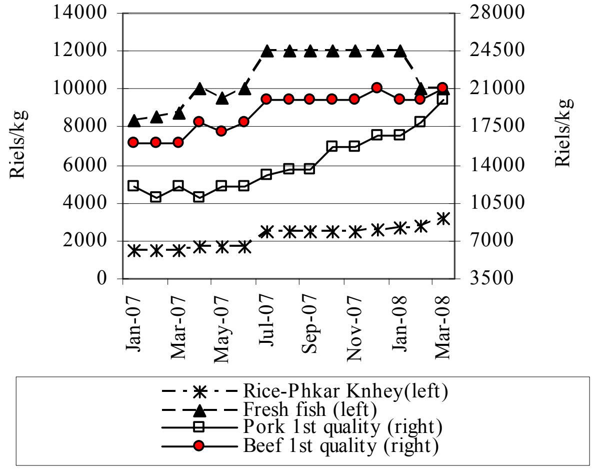
Source: *MEF website*

ថ្លៃទំនិញនៃប្រទេសកម្ពុជា: តាមបណ្តាខេត្ត

Goods Prices in Cambodia by Provinces

Cambodia: Food Prices in Siem Reap Province

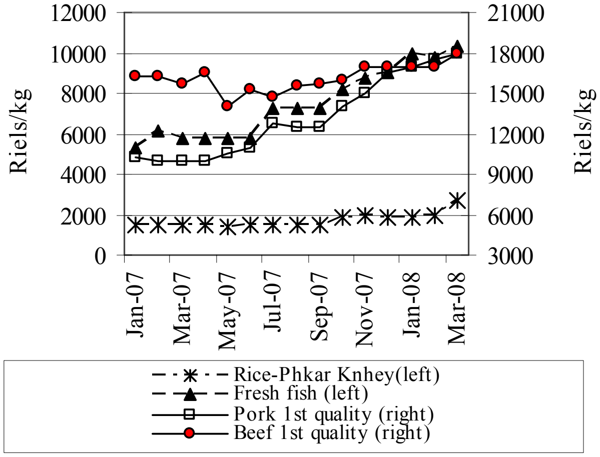
January 2007–March 2008



Source: *CDRI*

Cambodia: Food Prices in Battambang Province

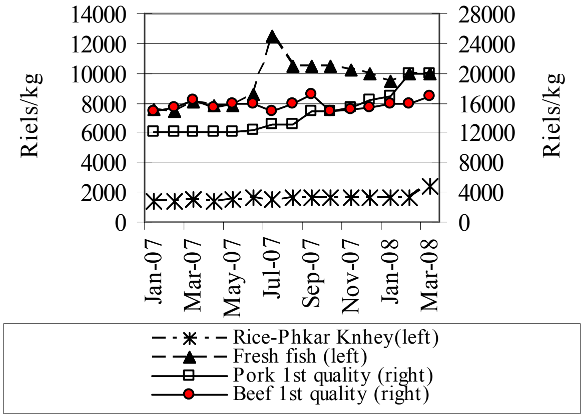
January 2007–March 2008



Source: *CDRI*

Cambodia: Food Prices in Kg. Cham Province

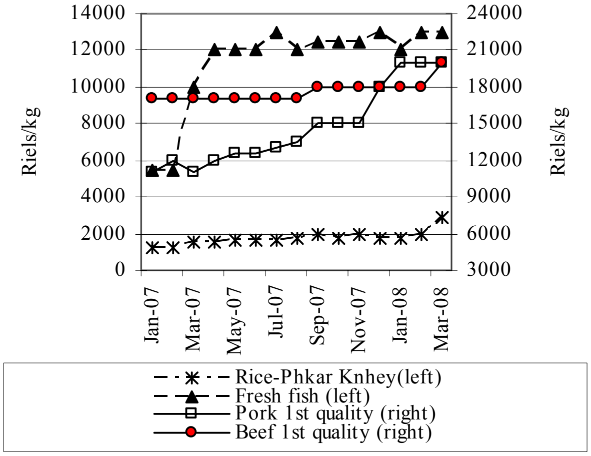
January 2007–March 2008



Source: *CDRI*

Cambodia: Food Prices in Kampot Province

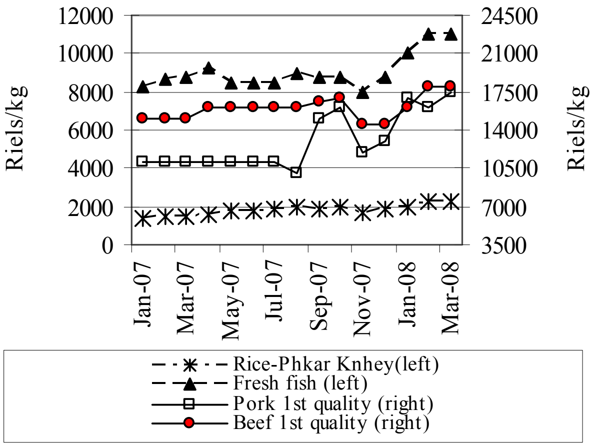
January 2007–March 2008



Source: *CDRI*

Cambodia: Food Prices in Kratie Province

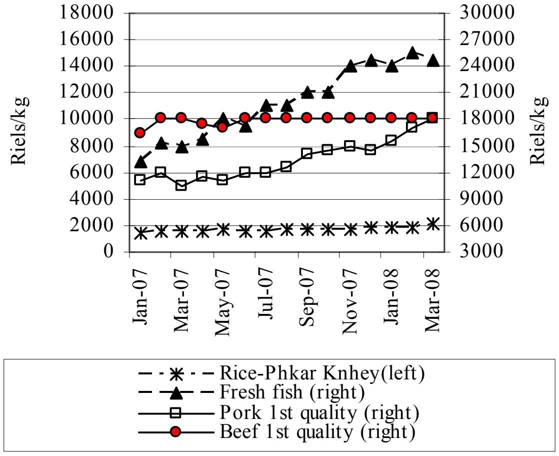
January 2007–March 2008



Source: *CDRI*

Cambodia: Food Prices in Kg. Speu Province

January 2007–March 2008

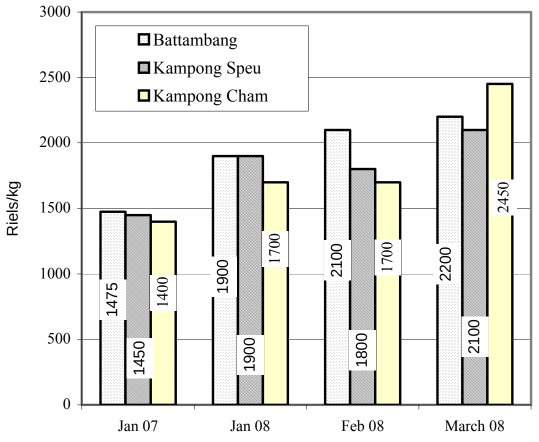


Source: *CDRI*

ថ្លៃទំនិញតាមបណ្តាខេត្តនៃប្រទេសកម្ពុជា: តាមមុខទំនិញ

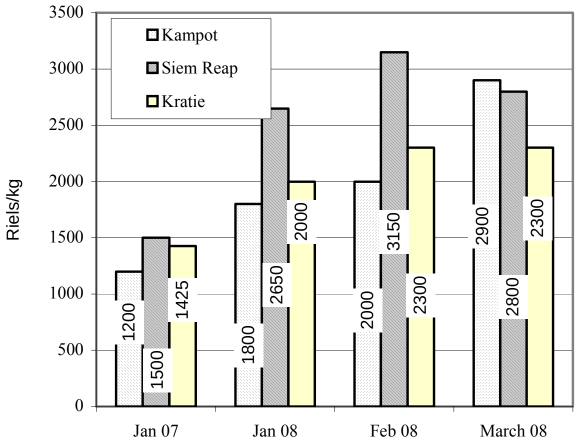
Provincial Goods Prices in Cambodia by Products

Cambodia: Rice Price in Three Provinces
(Selected months)



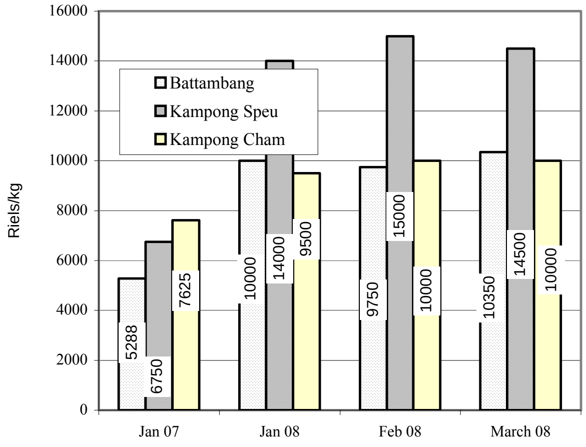
Source: *CDRI*

Cambodia: Rice Price in Three Provinces
(Selected months)



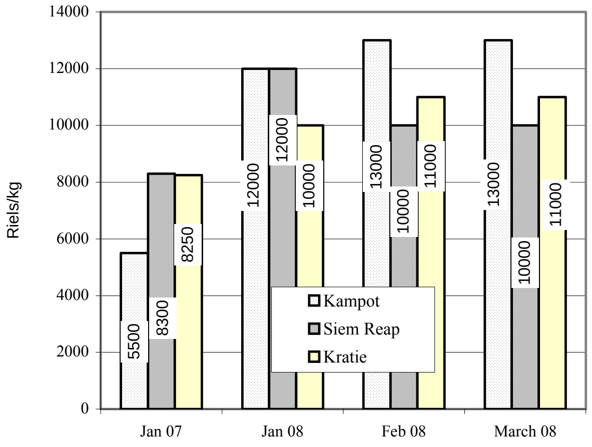
Source: *CDRI*

Cambodia: Fish Price in Three Provinces
(Selected months)



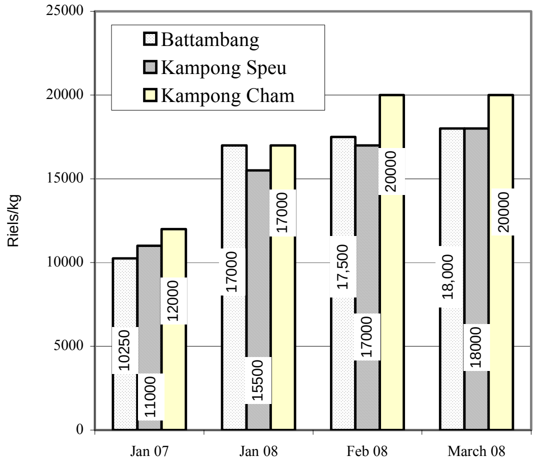
Source: *CDRI*

Cambodia: Fish Price in Three Provinces
(Selected months)



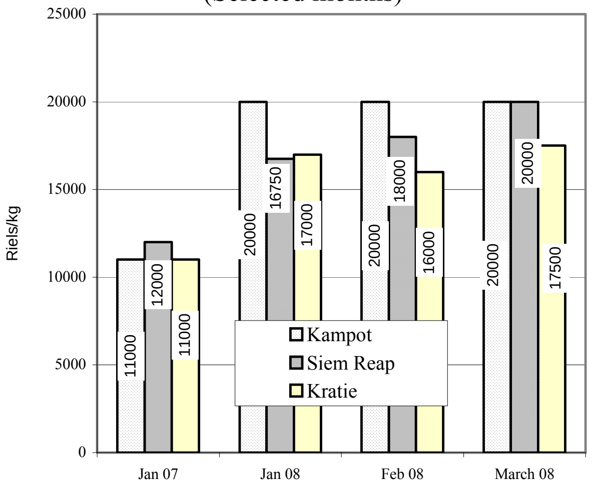
Source: *CDRI*

Cambodia: Pork Price in Three Provinces
(Selected months)



Source: *CDRI*

Cambodia: Pork Price in Three Provinces
(Selected months)



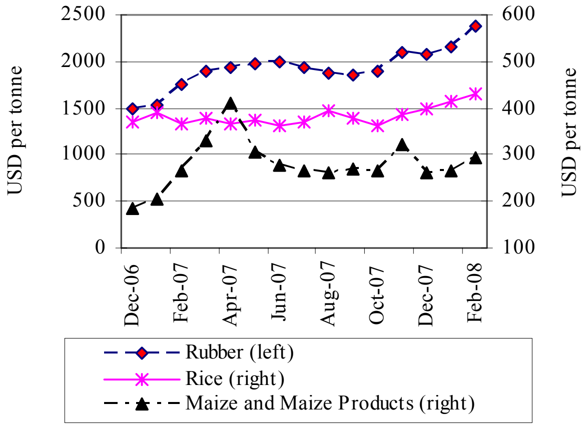
Source: *CDRI*

តំលៃទំនិញ ការនាំចេញ និង ចំនួនទេសចរអន្តរជាតិនៅក្នុងប្រទេសជាដៃគូរបស់កម្ពុជា

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

Thailand: Prices of Rubber, Rice and Maize

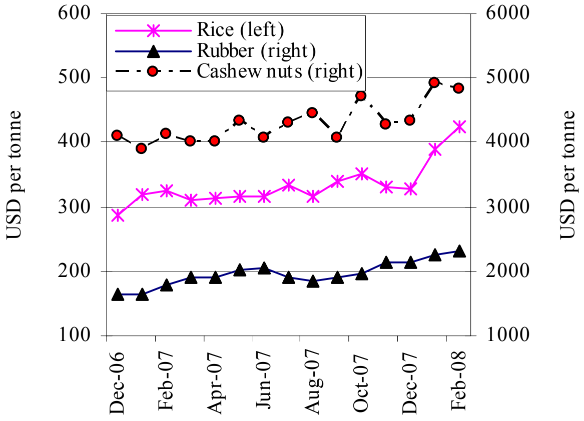
December 2006–February 2008



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

Vietnam: Prices of Rubber, Rice and Cashew nuts

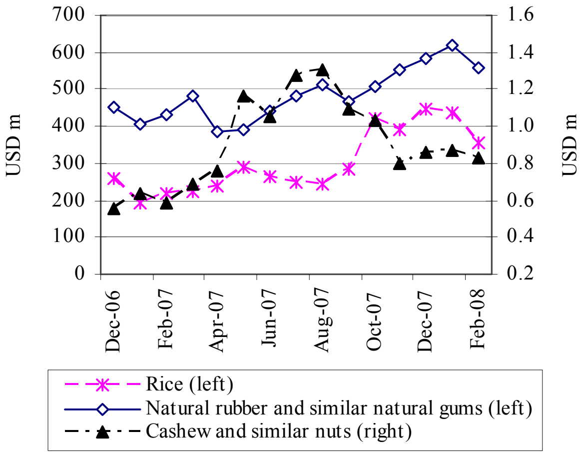
December 2006–February 2008



Source: *General Statistics Office of Vietnam*

Thailand: Exports to the World

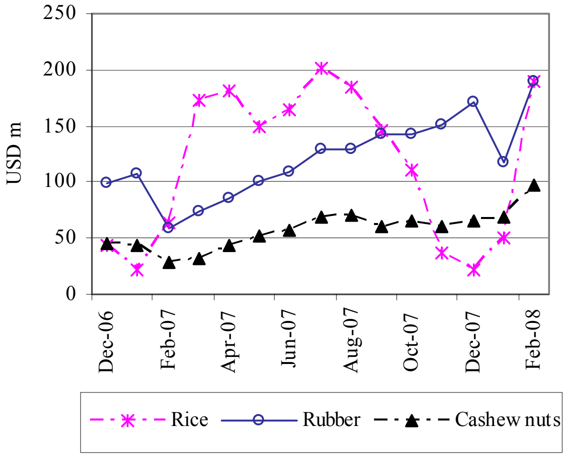
December 2006–February 2008



Source: *The Customs Department of Thailand*

Vietnam: Exports to the World

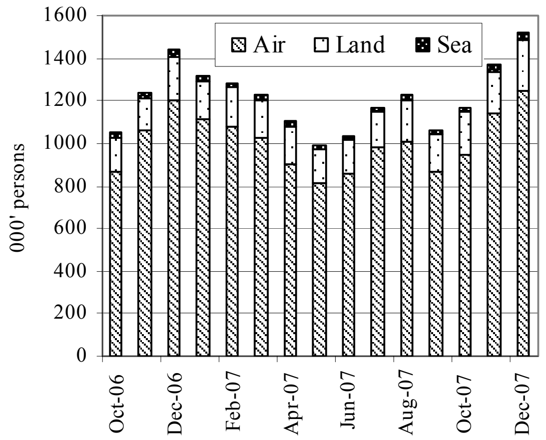
December 2006–February 2008



Source: *General Statistics Office of Vietnam*

Thailand: International Tourist Arrivals

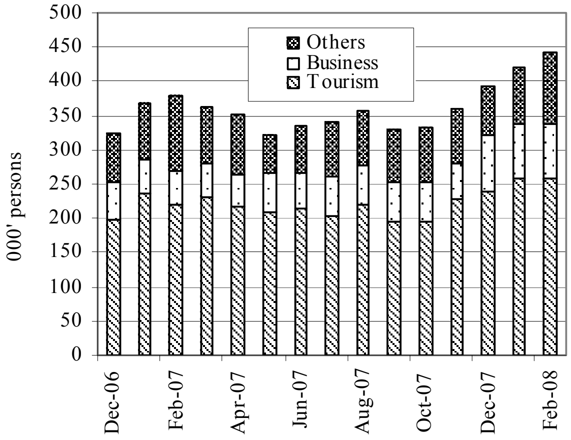
October 2006–December 2007



Source*: The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT)*

Vietnam: International Tourist Arrivals

December 2006–February 2008



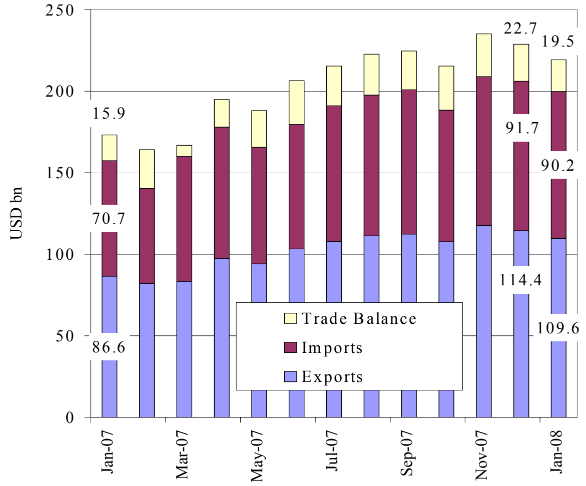
Source: *General Statistics Office of Vietnam*

សកម្មភាពសេដ្ឋកិច្ច និង ស្ថានភាពអត្រាអតិផរណានៃបណ្តាប្រទេសជាដៃគូរបស់កម្ពុជា

Economic Activity and Inflation Rates of Selected Economic Partners of Cambodia

External Trade: China

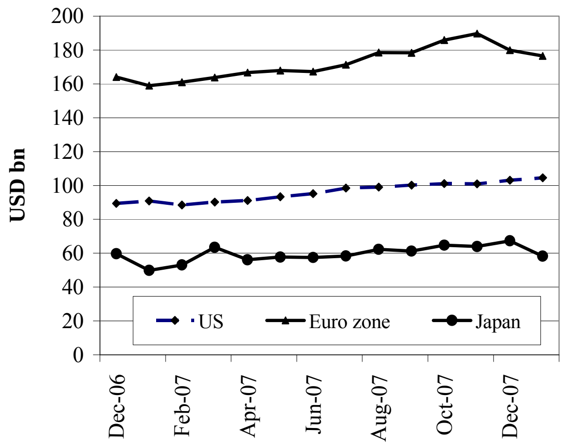
January 2007–January 2008



Sources: National Bureau of Statistics of China

Goods Exports: US, Euro zone & Japan

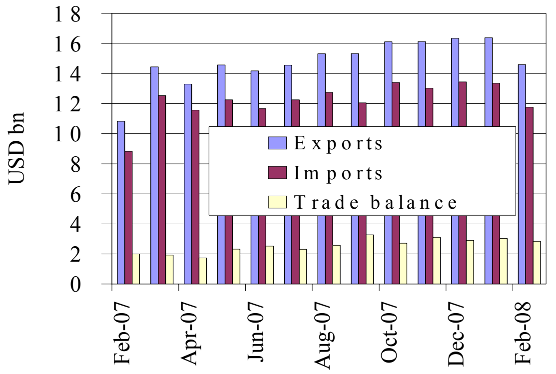
December 2006–January 2008



Surces: BEA, Eurostat and OECD

External Trade: Malaysia

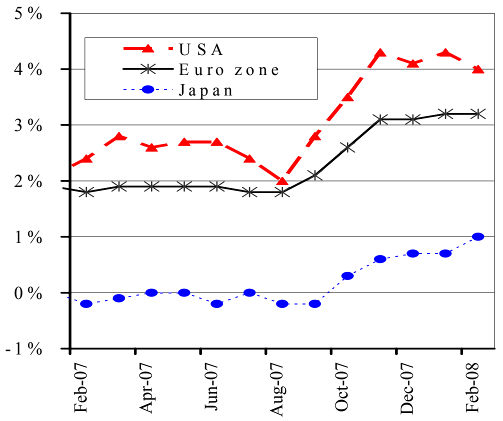
February 2007–February 2008



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Inflation Rates: US, Euro zone & Japan

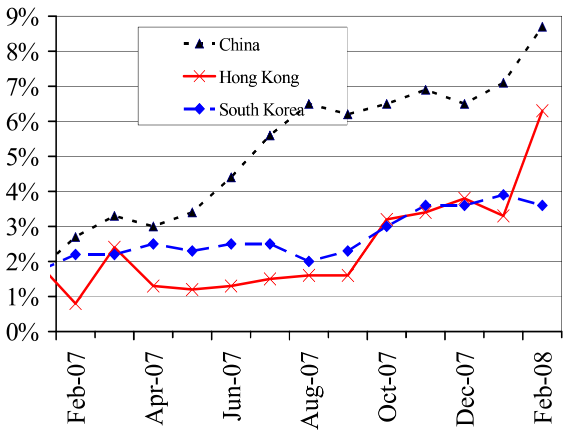
(price change from a year earlier)



Note: The latest data available are for January 2008.
Sources: IMF and *Economist* (27 March 2008)

Inflation Rate: China, Hong Kong & South Korea

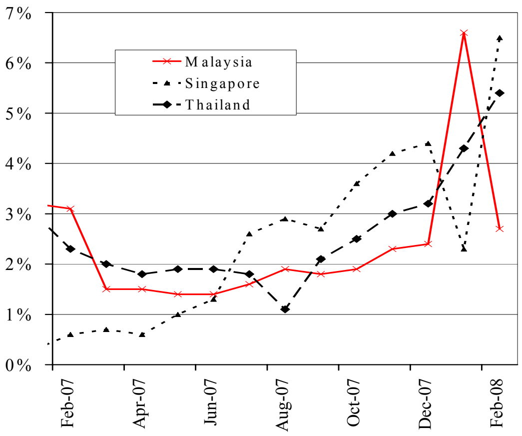
(price change from a year earlier)



Note: The latest data available are for January 2008.
Sources: IMF and *Economist* (27 March 2008)

Inflation Rate: Selected ASEAN Countries

(price change from a year earlier)



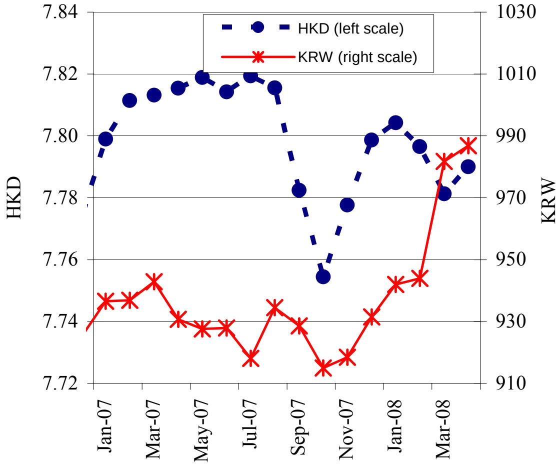
Note: The latest data available are for January 2008.
Sources: IMF and *Economist* (27 March 2008)

អត្រាប្តូរប្រាក់ និង ស្ថានភាពតំលៃទំនិញលើទីផ្សារអន្តរជាតិ

Exchange Rates and Commodity Prices in World Markets

KRW & HKD per USD

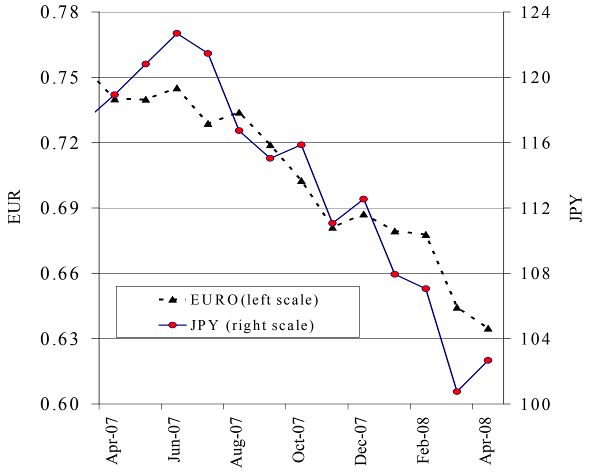
January 07–April 08 (monthly average)



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York

EUR & JPY per USD

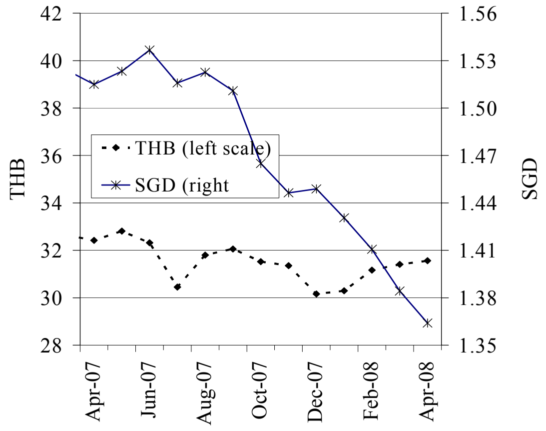
April 07–April 08 (monthly average)



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York

THB & SGD Per USD

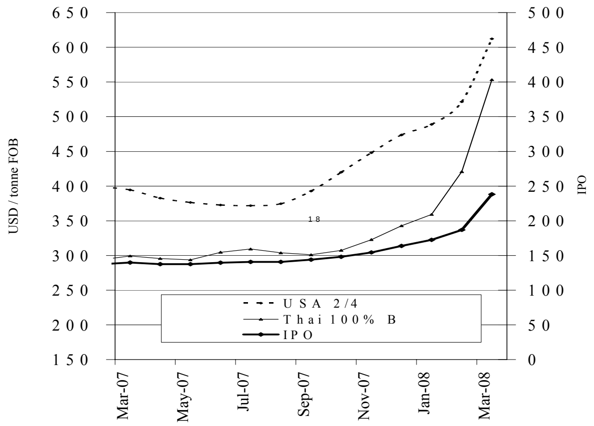
April 07–April 08 (monthly average)



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Rice: International Prices Index & Export Prices

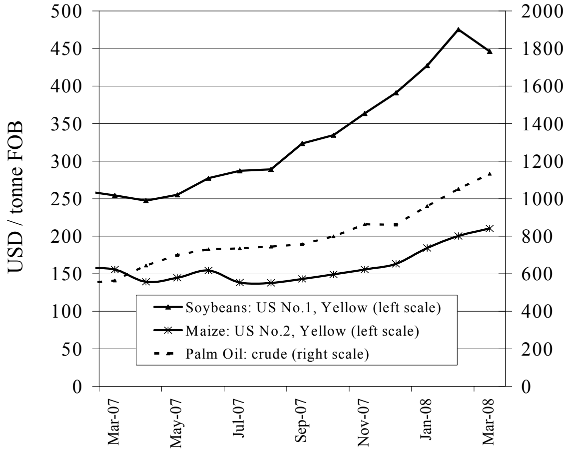
March 2007–March 2008



Sources: Osiriz/InfoArroz and InterRice.

Prices: Soybean, Maize & Palm Oil

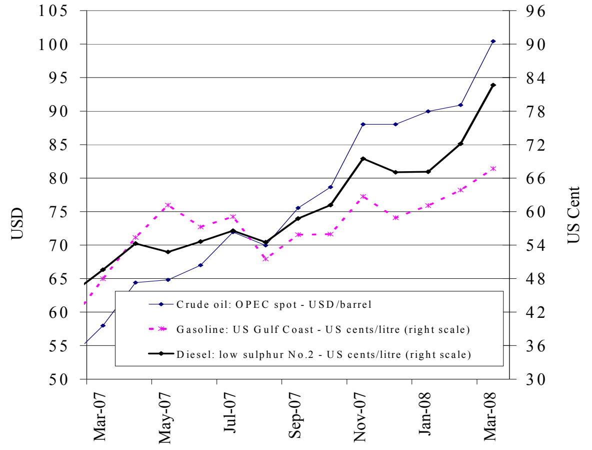
March 2007–March 2008



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Prices: Crude Oil, Gasoline & Diesel

March 2007–March 2008



Source: US Energy Information Administration

ព័ត៌មានសេដ្ឋកិច្ច

Economic News

ព័ត៌មានសេដ្ឋកិច្ចសំខាន់ៗប្រចាំខែមេសា:

ជប៉ុន និងអាស៊ាន បានចុះហត្ថលេខាលើកតិកាសញ្ញាពាណិជ្ជកម្មសេរី: យោងតាមព័ត៌មាននៅថ្ងៃច័ន្ទ បានអោយដឹងថា ប្រទេសជប៉ុន និងសមាគមប្រជាជាតិអាស៊ីអាគ្នេយ៍ (អាស៊ាន) បានចុះហត្ថលេខារួចរាល់លើកិច្ចព្រមព្រៀង ស្តីពី ការលុបចោលរនាំងពាណិជ្ជកម្ម រវាងជប៉ុនជាប្រទេសសេដ្ឋកិច្ចធំជាងគេទី២ និងសមាជិកទាំង១០ របស់អាស៊ាន។ កិច្ចព្រមព្រៀងនឹងដំណើរការជាផ្លូវការនៅចុងឆ្នាំ២០០៨ ហើយនៅថ្ងៃច័ន្ទនេះ ប្រទេសម៉ាឡេស៊ី ជាសមាជិកអាស៊ានចុងក្រោយគេដែលចុះហត្ថលេខា។ ផ្អែកលើកិច្ចព្រមព្រៀងនេះ ដែលបានអនុម័តរួចរាល់នៅខែវិច្ឆិកា មានប្រហែល ៩០% នៃពាណិជ្ជកម្មរវាងជប៉ុន និងអាស៊ាន មិនត្រូវបានយកពន្ធទេ នៅក្នុងរយៈពេល ១០ឆ្នាំខាងមុខ។

កម្ពុជាសង្ឃឹមថានឹងអាចនាំចេញអង្ករ ៨លានតោន នៅមុនឆ្នាំ២០១៥: នៅថ្ងៃសុក្រ សារព័ត៌មាន ឌឺ មេគង្គថៃមស៍ បានចុះផ្សាយថា កម្ពុជារពឹងថានឹងអាចនាំចេញអង្ករ ៨លានតោនក្នុងមួយឆ្នាំ នៅមុន ឆ្នាំ២០១៥។ នៅក្នុងសារព័ត៌មានដដែល ឯកឧត្តម ចាន់ សារ៉ុន រដ្ឋមន្ត្រីក្រសួងកសិកម្ម រុក្ខាប្រមាញ់ និងនេសាទ បានមានប្រសាសន៍ថា "យើងនឹងលើកទឹកចិត្តដល់កសិករឱ្យធ្វើស្រែ ២-៣ដងក្នុងមួយឆ្នាំ ហើយនឹងពង្រឹងប្រព័ន្ធធារាសាស្រ្តបន្ថែមទៀតដើម្បីបង្កើនផលិតកម្មស្រូវ"។ ឯកឧត្តម បានបញ្ជាក់ប្រាប់អ្នកចូលរួមការតាំងពិព័រណ៍ផលិតផលកសិកម្មនៅខេត្តកំពង់ឆ្នាំង កាលពីថ្ងៃព្រហស្បតិ៍ថា កម្ពុជាមានដីសំរាប់ធ្វើកសិកម្មចំនួន ៣លានហ.ត ។ លោក Yang Saing Koma នាយកប្រតិបត្តិនៃមជ្ឈមណ្ឌលកម្ពុជាដើម្បីសិក្សា និងអភិវឌ្ឍន៍កសិកម្ម យល់ស្របថា គេអាចបង្កើនទិន្នផលស្រូវបាន។ យោងតាមស្ថិតិផ្លូវការ កម្ពុជាមានអតិរេកផលស្រូវជាង ២លានតោន ដោយទិន្នផលសរុបមាន ៦,៧២លានតោន នៅក្នុងឆ្នាំ២០០៧។ នៅកម្ពុជា អង្ករល្អៗ លក់ក្នុងតំលៃ ប្រហែល ១ដុល្លារ/គ.ក។

ព័ត៌មានសេដ្ឋកិច្ចដទៃទៀត:

១. "សេដ្ឋកិច្ចកម្ពុជានឹងថយចុះបន្តិចនៅឆ្នាំ២០០៨: សហប្រជាជាតិ"

២. "អាស៊ានចាត់វិធានការលើការឡើងថ្លៃអង្ករ"

៣. "អ្នកដឹកនាំប្រទេសនៅអនុតំបន់ទន្លេមេគង្គ ព្រមព្រៀងគ្នាលើផែនការអភិវឌ្ឍន៍រយៈពេល៥ឆ្នាំដ៏មានមហិច្ឆតា"

៤. "កម្ពុជានឹងបង្កើតក្រុមហ៊ុនអាកាសចរជាតិ"

April's Economic News Highlights:

Japan, ASEAN finished inking free trade pact: Japan and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations said Monday they had finished signing a deal to remove trade barriers between the world's second-largest economy and the 10-member bloc. The deal, which is set to come into effect later this year, was formally signed Monday by Malaysia, the last of the 10 members of the ASEAN bloc to sign off. Under the pact, which was finalised in November, approximately 90 percent of trade between Asia's largest economy and the ASEAN bloc will be tariff-free within 10 years. (*Source:* AFP)

Cambodia hopes to export 8 mn tonnes of rice by 2015: minister: Cambodia expects to be able to export eight million tonnes of rice per year by 2015, the Khmer-English language newspaper the *Mekong Times* on Friday quoted Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries Chan Sarun as saying: "We will encourage farmers to crop twice or three times a year and further strengthen irrigation systems in order to increase rice production," the minister told visitors to an exhibition of natural agricultural products held on Thursday in Kampong Chhnang province, stressing that the country has three million hectares of agricultural land. Yang Saing Koma, executive director of the Cambodian Center for Study and Development in Agriculture, agreed that the harvest could be boosted. According to official statistics, Cambodia had a surplus of over two million tonnes of paddy rice from a total harvest of 6.72 million in 2007. High-quality rice currently sells for around one U.S. dollar a kilogram in Cambodia. (*Source: Xinhua)*

Links to other economic news:

1. "Cambodia economic growth to slow in 2008: UN" (http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5hl0CG0widOwr0XkwKiu6RsPeVOPQ)
2. "Asean acts over rice prices" (http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/94f06680-19e6-11dd-ba02-0000779fd2ac.html?nclick_check=1)
3. "Mekong leaders agree on ambitious 5-year development plan" (http://www.adb.org/cambodia/default.asp)
4. "Cambodia to get national airline" (http://www.phnompenhpost.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=530&Itemid=53)