



# Can Tho

Can Tho City (pop. 1.25 million) is a rapidly growing urban area in the Mekong River delta, emerging as a regional hub for aquaculture, food processing, and associated exports. Although growing dynamically, the city faces multiple threats to sustainable development, particularly related to chronic flooding, mainly caused by extreme rainfall and high tides. Unplanned development and increasing population density in at-risk areas further exacerbate exposure to inundation hazards. Each year, more than 200,000 people and 69 percent of the city's footprint are affected by flooding, causing direct economic damages of more than US\$150 million annually and also representing a public health concern.

## WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES?

**01** Investments in flood control and in upgrading drainage & wastewater systems will lift development barriers in Can Tho's prime locations, proximate to the historic city center and along the city's waterfront

**02** Investments in raised transport links, including bridges and embanked roads, will improve connectivity in the flood-affected areas and open new economic opportunities in those areas

**03** Resettlement of slums occupying highly vulnerable overflow areas into formal housing in the low-risk areas will address social and public health concerns and will open up the waterfront for rehabilitation and upgrade

**04** The City has already received unsolicited proposals from private investors to develop properties and businesses in Can Tho's waterfront, including with bespoke flood protective and connectivity solutions funded by investors

CRP facilitates a dialogue between city officials and private investors with the aim to organize and structure a fair and transparent process of disposition of development rights in the high-potential areas of Can Tho's urban core. This process will entitle private investors to cover a portion of area-wide infrastructure upgrades, flood-protective measures and resettlement costs.

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

✓ A new resettlement district of 54-hectares has been established in a flood-protected part of the city

✓ The World Bank provides a USD 250 million loan to finance flood preventive and connectivity measures, along with the technical assistance package for spatial planning, fiscal risk management instruments, and social protection

✓ A flood-prone area of 2,675 hectares has been identified as a pilot intervention area for resilience investments

✓ SECO provides USD 10 million for technology and systems to better manage the built environment planning, fiscal risk management instruments, and social protection

✓ CRP hired financial advisory to explore the land value capture opportunities in the pilot area as a financing mechanism that would allow the city to recover the costs of flood-protective measures and resettlement

✓ The city has launched a resettlement program and committed USD 62 million to cover initial resettlement costs

