

Community Health and Safety Plan

Date: January 31, 2023

CEPF Grant 113649

Grantee:

Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT)

Project Title:

**Empower local communities towards fisheries resources
sustainability in Tonle Sap Lake**

Project Location:

Kampong Thom and Pursat provinces, Cambodia's Tonle Sap Lake

Grant Summary

1. Grantee organization: Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT)
2. Project title: Empower local communities towards fisheries resources sustainability in Tonle Sap Lake
3. Grant number: CEPF - 113649
4. Grant amount (US dollars): USD 150,000
5. Proposed dates of grant: April 1, 2023
6. Countries where activities will be undertaken: Cambodia
7. Summary of the Project:

Project Rationale:

Fishing is of paramount importance both in the Cambodian economy and in the nutrition and living conditions of the population. This is particularly true of the rural communities of the Tonle Sap, the largest freshwater in Southeast Asia during the rainy season. Together with the tributaries and the huge floodplain forests, the Tonle Sap forms a water-covered area the size of 15,000 km² during the rainy season. Life on and around Tonle Sap is completely dominated by fishing and seasonal fluctuations in water levels at Tonle Sap Great Lake. Many people live in floating villages. About 90% of the inhabitants depend directly and exclusively on the exploitation of fish stocks. Many others are indirectly dependent on fishing, e.g. through boat building. In Cambodia, local fishing is carried out by Community Fisheries (CFIs). There are a total of 516 of these Community Fisheries Organizations (CBOs) nationwide. Since June 2020 to December 2022, with financial support from CEPF, FACT has been implementing a project "Strengthening Capacity of Community Fisheries to Manage Fisheries Resources around Tonle Sap Lake, Cambodia (110385)" in the prospective focal communes included Phatsanday, Kampong Kou, and Me Teuk. Besides financial support from CEPF, since January 2019, FACT has been also implementing another four-year (2019-2022) project "Improvement of the livelihood of fishers through protection and management of natural resources at Tonle Sap wetlands complex in Cambodia", which funded by German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through a German NGO partner Global Nature Fund (GNF) in Phatsanday commune where situated in Kampong Svay district of Kampong Thom province. The ongoing CEPF-financed project (110385) has importantly strengthened capacity of committees of the Three focal CFIs through internal meetings and one-time-each training workshop, updated mandates and Management Plans (MPs) of the focal CFIs, and improved local fisheries resources through financial support for regular patrol at the established/strengthened Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) or Protected Areas (PAs). FACT represents the interests of the local focal fishing communities and others under Cambodian law. The CFIs are responsible for the management and conservation of the protected area under Cambodian law.

However, living condition of the members of the focal CFIs is still an issue, leading to inactive participation in the local fisheries resources conservation and development while costs of the local fisheries resources conservation and development activities such as patrol are still very dependent on external funding agencies or development partners. That's why, the Project will therefore make even more significant contribution to ensuring the sustainability of both focal CFIs and local fisheries resources conservation and development.

Despite there have been major efforts made to improve the conservation and management of natural/fisheries resources and development in the fishing communities of the floating villages by various stakeholders, including the Fisheries Administration, authorities at all levels, in particular the commune councils, and NGOs such as FACT, there are still increasing challenges threatening the way of life of the Tonle Sap people and requiring targeted countermeasures. The greatest challenges at present are illegal fishing, the clearing of floodplain forests as breeding grounds for fish, climate change, the development of hydropower projects in the upper Mekong, which will result in a change in the hydrological regime in the Tonle Sap, and the generally weak enforcement of existing legal norms. Illegal fishing and law enforcement.

Despite the fact that the Royal Government of Cambodia cancelled all major commercial fishing concessions in the Tonle Sap in 2012, fish stocks are being plundered by illegal fishing activities due to weak enforcement of legal norms and an underdeveloped legal framework. A study found that the fisheries resources in the lake are particularly damaged because fishermen use illegal fishing gears such as latest-generation trawls, in particular surface trawls and bottom trawls, giant throw nets and other modern illegal fishing techniques. These fishing practices are incompatible with the traditional and resource-conserving fishing techniques prevailing at Tonle Sap. The enforcement of existing fisheries management legislation remains a major challenge, leading to maladministration in almost all water catchment areas throughout Cambodia, including fishing areas in the focal CFis. Fishermen from outside often invade the fishing areas of the CFis to fish illegally. They often use speedboats. The resources of the local competent authorities for criminal prosecution are low. There are not enough officials and the budget provided by the national government is not even sufficient to finance the conservation work on the site. Due to local poverty, local people also fish illegally. Here it is very difficult for FiA to take effective action. There is therefore a concrete need to strengthen both sustainable organizational and technical capacity to committees and members of the focal CFis in order to provide possibilities to them to diversify incomes from other sources rather than fishing.

Another danger is the debt trap in which parts of the local population, especially fishermen, are trapped. It is the result of cash credit traders tempting unsuspecting locals to take out cash loans on very unfair terms. Overall, the local economy is not very diversified, with 90% of community members earning their income directly from fishing. Others are indirectly dependent on fishing, e.g. through boat building. There is a lack of alternative economic activities, which leads to a high vulnerability of the local population to fluctuations in catches and yields from fishing and to great dependence. There is an urgent need to diversify local income opportunities, especially for women who remain at home on the lake because of the long absences of men, and for widows whose husbands drowned fishing on Tonle Sap Great Lake. To this end, a repayable grant fund will be set up and managed by the village community Savings Group under the supervision of FACT. In addition to developing an ecotourism offer, Phat Sanday has the potential to create income and financial independence, especially for women, in the area of fish processing, fish raising, and handicrafts. FACT has already had many years of positive experience in other communities with the Savings Group model and the repayable subsidies. The grants can be used to create urgently needed positive approaches and examples of income opportunities other than fishing. The creation of an ecotourism facility (boat trips, homestay) also demonstrates the potential in this emerging industry and provides the first impetus in the focal CFis.

The development of ecotourism has great potential for job creation in rural Cambodia. It is assumed that the number of people directly employed in tourism in Cambodia will increase from 1.2 million at present (13.9% of the total workforce) to 1.85 million in the next 10 years. The tourism sector in Cambodia records an annual growth of over 4% in direct employment and 6% in direct income. In 2017, direct and indirect revenues from tourism accounted for 32.4% of Cambodia's total gross domestic product. This means that the contribution of tourism revenues to Cambodia's gross domestic product, and thus the importance for the domestic economy, is proportionately higher than in other countries in Asia such as Sri Lanka and Vietnam, for example (source: Cambodian Tourism Statistics): World Travel and Tourism Council: Travel & Tourism Economic Impact Cambodia 2018). The number of visitors from Germany recently recorded annual growth rates of 9% (source: Federal Foreign Office). The development of soft tourism, which, in contrast to mass tourism on the coasts, conserves natural resources and involves local communities, plays a special role in combating poverty and sustainable development. For this reason, several smaller initiatives are already being implemented under the auspices of the World Tourism Organization UNWTO as part of the "ST-EP - Sustainable Tourism-Eliminating Poverty" programme. The floating villages of the focal CFIs at Tonle Sap are particularly suitable as destinations for excursions, with the opportunity to get to know the unique way of life of the fishermen and the impressive fauna of the wetlands of the core areas of the Tonle Sap biosphere reserve, which is located in the immediate vicinity. An example of an ecotourism facility in the form of boat trips organised by local fishermen is already in Kampong Phluk further north at Tonle Sap. There, mainly foreign tourists but also local groups of pupils and students are brought from the landing stage in large boats (20-30 passengers) into the flooded floodplain forest, where they are picked up by the local fishermen in small boats and taken further into the floodplain forest. In this way, local fishermen - especially the elderly and young people - can earn up to 5 US dollars a day, of which one fifth goes into the development of the local community and the protection of natural resources. On some days, 10 large boats with up to 300 excursionists arrive. This enormous potential in this growth market is to be promoted within the framework of the project in the focal CFIs and the first concrete approaches for the population are to be developed. Since FACT often receives large groups of students and pupils as well as international visitors, they can also use the focal CFIs offer to get to know and study the riparian forests and traditional fishing at the Tonle Sap.

Deforestation of the alluvial forests

Seasonally flooded floodplain forests play a crucial role in maintaining the aquatic ecology of the lake, especially as a critical habitat for fish. They protect the core lake during the dry season and act as a huge breeding ground during the rainy season. However, deforestation for privatisation or agricultural purposes is another major challenge threatening the lake's natural resources. According to the study "Flood Forests, Fish, and Fishing Village, Tonle Sap, Cambodia" of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the clearing of more than 50 percent of the alluvial forest around the Tonle Sap has significantly reduced the bank buffer and thus the limitation of sediment input as well as the expansion of fish breeding sites. In 2011, the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology, together with Tonle Sap Authority, protected 675,876 hectares of floodplain forests. However, this law has never been strictly implemented and enforcement is inadequate. There is an urgent need here to curb illegal activities such as deforestation in the focal CFIs by carrying out regular boat patrols. At the same time, it is

necessary to inform the local population about the existing regulations and restrictions on use. Here, too, it is necessary to clearly mark the boundaries of the protected areas.

Impacts of climate change

It is expected that the situation of the Tonle Sap people, most of whom make their living from fishing, will be exacerbated by climate change and the associated changes in the hydrological regime of the Mekong in the form of more severe droughts with low water levels and increased heavy rainfall. These greater fluctuations in precipitation and water levels as well as the expansion of the Tonle Sap will have a negative impact on the reproduction of fish stocks as stress factors. The adaptability of local people with their life and income models largely determines to what extent they can cope with the consequences of climate change. In general, the adaptability of the Tonle Sap is very weak and the one-sided dependence on fishing yields is very high, with the poorest part of the population clearly being the most dependent. The reasons for the poor adaptability are the still insufficient consideration of the concerns of the fishermen - especially those in the floating villages at Tonle Sap - on the national political agenda, the lack of systematic, state support for adaptation to climate change, the lack of bundling of various private and state initiatives and the lack of opportunities to diversify the livelihoods at Tonle Sap.

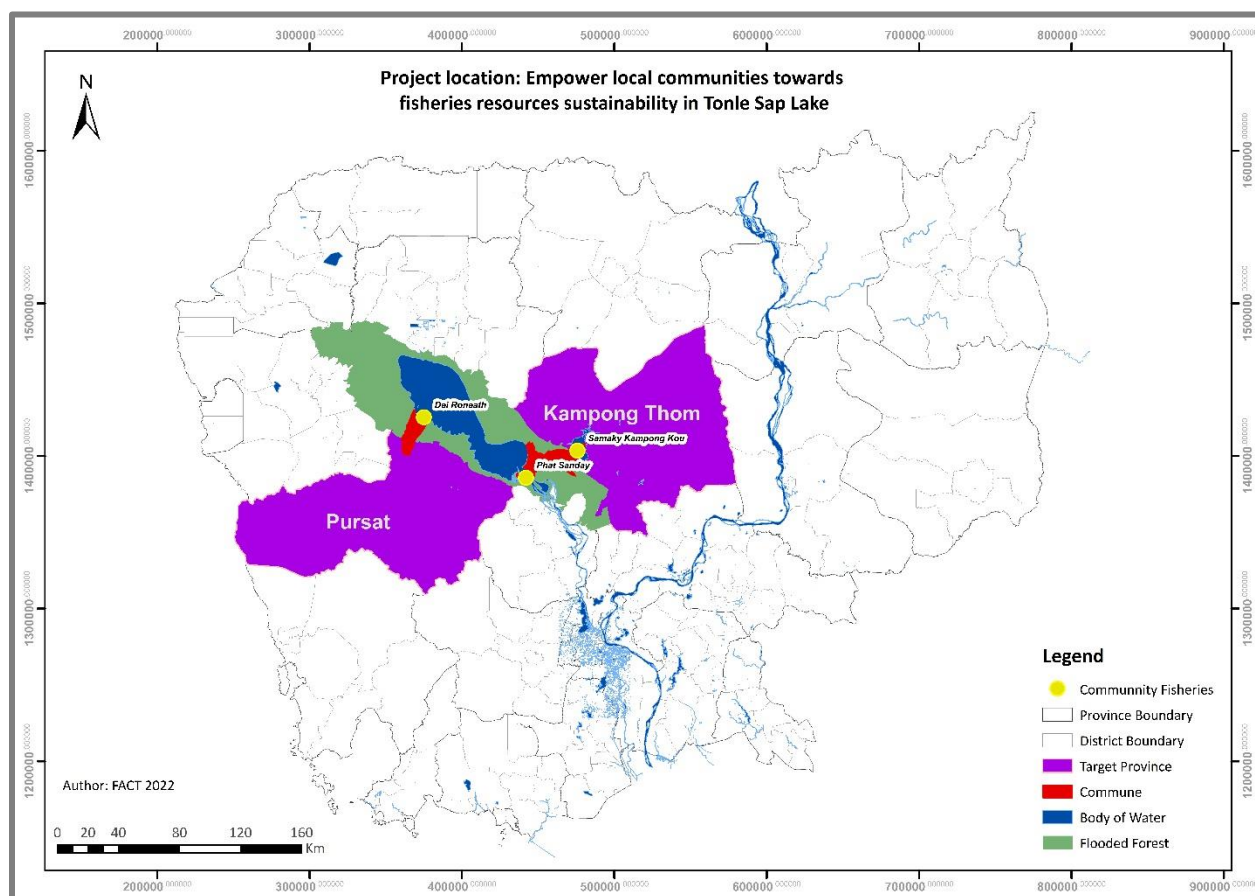
Impacts from the development of hydropower plants in the upper Mekong River Basin So far, eleven hydropower plants have been proposed for construction in the Mekong main stream. Two of the eleven projects will be in Cambodia and nine more in the Lao PDR. The Don Sahong and Xayaburi dams in Laos are the most controversial power plants with the greatest impact on the downstream hydrological regime, where the Tonle Sap is located. Recently, another planned dam, Pak Beng, underwent a very poorly organised public consultation process in the Lao PDR. A fourth dam, Pak Lay, had been proposed by the Laotian government as part of a consultation process and was due to start construction in 2022. These dams will have a cumulative and massive impact on the hydrological regime of the Mekong and will have a huge impact on the living conditions of fishermen at Tonle Sap. One example is the intermittent migration of numerous migratory fish species from the Tonle Sap to their spawning grounds on the Upper Mekong. Here it is enormously important to strengthen the organizations of local fishermen so that they can better voice their urgent concerns to their own government and to international networks dealing with the consequences of hydropower use.

Project Approach:

The project will work with three Cfis, including one in Pursat, and two in Kampong Thom provinces (See map below). Our key project approaches are to improve the conservation and development of fisheries resources and livelihood enhancement via integrated gender and climate change adaptation into the project implementation. Specifically, this project aims to achieve: **Component 1:** Improve the sustainable organizational and technical capacity of the focal Community Fisheries Committees to effectively and sustainably conserve and manage the local fisheries resources. **Component 2:** Improve the livelihood of the members of the focal Cfis through community-based ecotourism (CBET) and other livelihood diversified income sources; and **Component 3:** Improve fisheries resources conservation and

development. In addition, FACT will work with various stakeholders to achieve this project, including Community Fisheries, the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (PDAFF), the Provincial Department of Environment (PDoE), Fisheries Administration Cantonment, sub-national administration and local authorities.

Moreover, FACT will continue to connect target Cfis to national networks, including the Cambodia Fisheries Network (CFN) and Coalition of Cambodia Fishers (CCF). Moreover, FACT considers cross-cutting issues, i.e., gender equality, climate change and social inclusion, as keys to success. In the community committee structure, FACT will promote women leaders, youth, the elder and poor and disadvantaged groups in fishery resource management. Thus, the re-election of the CFi will encourage women in the management structure and promote them in the livelihood enhancement group.



In order to address the problems identified above, the Project is broken into **Three Components**:

- 1) Improved sustainable organizational and technical capacity of the focal Community Fisheries Committees to effectively and sustainably conserve and manage the local fisheries resources;
- 2) Improved livelihood of the members of the focal CFis through community-based ecotourism (CBE) and other livelihood diversified income sources;

3) Improved fisheries resources conservation and development

Component 1: Improve sustainable organizational and technical capacity of the focal Community Fisheries Committees to effectively and sustainably conserve and manage the local fisheries resources

Deliverable 1

Deliverable 1.1: Prakas/Decision of Establishing/running technical working groups by concerned provincial governor(s).

Activities

Activity 1.1.1 (A1.1.1). Conduct consultation meeting with national Fisheries Administration.

During preparation phase in quarter 2-3 of 2023, FACT will conduct two consultation meetings with Department of Fisheries Conservation and Department of Community Fisheries Management and Development of national Fisheries Administration (FiA) in order to introduce the project to them and seek their collaboration and support for the implementation of the project in both Kampong Thom and Pursat provinces. We will also discuss about representatives from the two departments in the national and provincial-based project Technical Working Group (TWG) in Pursat. For Kampong Thom province, under financial support from other sources (BMZ through a German-based NGO partner Global Nature Fund-GNF, FACT already established a project TWG and the TWG was acknowledged by a provincial governor through his Prakas/Decision dated February 2020. Two representatives from the two departments are also vice-chairs of the TWG. From June 2020 until December 2022, with co-financial support from another CEPF-funded project (110385), FACT have kept hosting the TWG.

Activity 1.1.2 (A1.1.2). Conduct stakeholder consultation meetings in Pursat province.

During preparation phase in quarter 2-3 of 2023, FACT will conduct a consultation meeting all relevant stakeholders such as Pursat Provincial Departments of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (PDAFF), Environment (PDoE), Tourism (PDOT), Provincial Fisheries Administration Cantonment (FiAC), Bakan district authority, Me Teuk commune council, Conservation International (CI), Akphivath Neary Khmer Organization (ANKO) in order to introduce the project to them and seek their collaboration and support for project implementation in Dei Roneath where situated in Me Teuk commune, Bakan district and Pursat province. The meeting will also discuss on the existing working mechanism/structure if there is any such as Technical Working Group (TWG). There is any working mechanism/structure such as the TWG in place, FACT integrate the project implementation into the existing platform. Otherwise, FACT will collaborate with the stakeholders to establish the new TWG. Dei Roneath is also one of the Four focal Fish Conservation Areas of another CEPF-funded project (110385) for June 2020-December 2022.

Activity 1.1.3 (A.1.1.3). Conduct project launch workshop.

During preparation phase in quarter 2-3 of 2023, FACT will conduct a project launch workshop in Kampong Thom province. The workshop aims at introducing the project to all relevant stakeholders from national, Pursat, and Kampong Thom provinces and seek their collaboration and support to implement the project in the Three focal communes of Kampong Thom and Pursat provinces. Representatives from Ministry of Environment, national Fisheries Administration and provincial concerned departments government institutions, authorities, and focal communities from the two provinces as well as other national and international development partners/NGOs working in the two provinces of around 120 people, including 30-35% of whom are women and youth, will be invited to the workshop.

Deliverable 1.2 Training reports of CFI organizations and committees are strengthened with technical capacity

Activities

Activity 1.2.1 (A1.2.1). Conduct capacity building need assessment.

During quarter 2-3 in 2023, with its own in-house experts, FACT will conduct capacity building need assessment. Since the focal communes are also the focal communes of the ongoing (until December 31st 2022) CEPF-funded project (110385), FACT will review the ongoing endline study report which was conducted in late 2022 and then convene a number of meetings with the focal groups in order to validate the results and re-confirm with the target groups about the capacity building need assessment,

Activity 1.2.2 (A1.2.2). Provide/strengthen sustainable organizational and technical capacity development.

Based on result from A1.2.2, In cooperation with government competent authorities -example national FIA, provincial Department of Environment, Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, FACT provide capacity building trainings to the focal communities on relevant subjects which recommended by A1.2.1. It's expected that around 10-15 CFI committee members and general are invited to each of the trainings. At least one training per year is provided in each of the focal communes.

Component 2: Improve livelihood of the members of the focal CFIs through community-based ecotourism (CBET) and other livelihood diversified income sources

Deliverable 2

Deliverable 2.1 Business plans (CBET and other Green Business Hubs-GBHs) and reports of the meetings of focal groups are developed and produced

Activities

Activity 2.1.1 (A2.1.1). Conduct a baseline study.

During quarter 2-3 in 2023, together with its own in-house experts, FACT will employ a consultant team leader, field supervisor, and a data remunerator in order to lead in conducting the baseline study in the three focal communes. The main objectives of the study are to identify the existing and most potential income sources and then provide capacity building/livelihood skill to the identified and selected members of the focal CFis and provide revolving fund to them in order to run/strengthen their businesses. Since FACT has been working in the focal communes more than a decade and based on our observation, we found that the existing and most potential livelihood sources included ecotourism, fish processing, water-hyacinth crafted souvenir, revolving fund, etc. However, the details will be very dependent on the results of the baseline studies.

Activity 2.1.2 (A2.1.2). Establish/strengthen Green Business Hubs.

During quarter 3 in 2023, based on the results from the baseline study (A2.1.1), FACT collaborate with Ministry of Tourism (MOE), National Committee for Management and Development of Tourism Community and Ecotourism (NCTCE), Tonle Sap Lake Ecotourism Network (TEN), National Fisheries Administration, concerned provincial departments in Kampong Thom and Pursat provinces, and/or local authority to convene meetings with the committee and some other potential members of the focal CFi in order to establish Green Business Hubs (GBHs). During the meetings, FACT will also present the results of the baseline study. It's expected that at least 2-3 GBHs will be established/ strengthened in each of the focal communes and around 10-15households are in each of the GBHs and directly benefit from the project. Thus, there will be at least 6-9GBHs in total established/strengthened and around 90-135GBHs will directly benefit from the project through training, directly engaging in the diversified livelihood activities, and receiving the revolving fund to run/strengthen their businesses.

Activity 2.1.3 (A2.1.3). Develop business plans

Building up on the results from the A2.1.2, FACT will collaborate with local authorities and, if necessary, few of the stakeholders listed in A2.1.2 to keep convening a series of meetings with the focal CFis and established/strengthened GBHs to develop the business plans.

Activity 2.1.4 (A2.1.4). Provide capacity building/livelihood skill

During quarter 3 in 2023, based on the results from the baseline study (A2.1.1), FACT collaborate with some and/or all of the stakeholders listed in A2.1.2 to provide to provide capacity building/livelihood skill to the identified and pre-selected members of the focal CFis. It's expected that around 90-135households in total will be invited to attend the trainings.

Activity 2.1.5 (A2.1.5) Send representatives of the GBHs from the focal CFis/communes to attend events, exhibition of community-based products, of Tonle Sap Ecotourism Network (TEN) and annual National Ecotourism Forum. The events of the TEN included semi-annual and annual forums, including exhibition. The representatives will bring their local products such as honey, water-hyacinth crafted handicraft/souvenir, vegetables, processed fish, etc..., to sell the forum exhibitions of the forums.

Deliverable 2.2 Agreements and lists of CFi members who receive revolving fund/small grants

Activities

Activity 2.2.1 (A2.2.1). Announce the revolving fund

FACT will convene meetings with local authorities and members of the GBHs in order to set up or review/strengthen saving groups and inform them about the revolving fund. FACT will also review and update its own criteria prior to the meetings and then introduce to them. The existing criteria included each member who is approved to get the fund must have permanent address in the focal commune; must have a clear business plan acknowledged by chief of the focal CFi, chief of the focal GBH, and commune chief; must pay back the revolving fund on annual basis and re-apply for the fund; must pay interest on monthly basis; etc. Based on practices, the percentage of the interest is between 2-3%/month and will need to be agreed among the focal CFi committee and/or GBH committee and endorsed by FACT. The interest 2-3%/month is low and still internally and directly benefit from the interest eared while the interest of the loan from middle-men or private is between 5-20%/month. The floating fishers don't own any land or property that could be used as a collateral to deposit at bank/micro-finance with low interest rate of around 1.5-2%/month. That's why, the bank/micro-finance do not lend the loan to the floating fishers. The interest earned from the revolving fund will be fairly distributed for admin cost of both CFi and GBH (example: 30%); contributing to fisheries resources conservation cost (example: 30%); and using to increase the capital of the revolving fund (example: 40%). Again, the distribution of the interest earned will be discussed and agreed among the CFi and/or GBH committees and endorsed by FACT. The revolving fund will be provided from FACT to the established/strengthened saving groups and then the member can make a request for a certain amount of the revolving fund to FACT through the CFi and/or GBH committee, Saving Group committee, and commune chief to FACT.

Activity 2.2.2 (A2.2.2). Set up account at bank/micro-finance/financing agent.

In order to promote transparency and trust as well as safety, FACT will identify and collaborate with the local and available bank/micro-finance/financing agent such as Aceda bank, Wing, LOLC, or Prasac, etc in order to set up accounts for the established/strengthened Saving Groups. There will be an Agreement or MOU between FACT and the selected bank/micro-finance/financing agent countersigned. For some reasons, the member of the GBH who is approved to get the revolving fund is also required to set up a bank account and then we will process the requested revolving fund through the established account.

Activity 2.2.3 (A2.2.3). Review the revolving fund applications.

FACT will establish an adhoc revolving fund committee. Upon receiving the requests for the revolving fund from the members of the GBHs, the committee will convene meeting(s) to review the applications and then make final decision on how many applications and how much the revolving fund for each application should be provided.

Activity 2.2.4 (A2.2.4). Provide revolving fund to the members of the focal GBHs.

Upon the results from A2.2.3, FACT will provide the revolving fund to the selected members of the focal GBHs. An agreement between the CFi/GBH committee and the member will be made. FACT and commune chief will also sign on the agreement. *Please also see A2.2.1 for further details.*

Component 3: Improve fisheries resources conservation and development

Deliverable 3

Deliverable 3.1 Analysis of Fish catch monitoring reports are produced

Activities

Activity 3.1.1 (A3.1.1). Conduct fish catch baseline study

Using the reports of the fish catch evaluation of the CEPF-funded project 110385 (project implemented in June 2020-December 2022) and BMZ/GNF-funded project (project implemented in January 2019-December 2022 only in Phatsandy), with its own inhouse experts, FACT conduct another fish catch baseline study. As part of this A3.1.1, we will also identify and produce a inventory list of the globally threatened fish species.

Activity 3.1.2 (A3.1.2). Review the fish catch monitoring team and the existing fish catch protocol.

During quarter 2-3 in 2023, with its own inhouse experts, FACT review and strengthen the existing fish catch monitoring team. The experts will refresh the capacity of the team. Then, the experts will also review the existing fish catch monitoring proposal which developed by IUCN and FACT in 2013. The team was established and strengthened during the CEPF-funded project 110385 for period June 2020-December 2022.

Activity 3.1.3 (A3.1.3) Conduct monthly fish catch monitoring.

During the project implementation and building on another CEPF-funded project 11085 (June 2020-December 2022, FACT will keep conducting the fish catch monitoring at the three focal Fish Conservation Areas (FCAs) of the three focal CFis. Using the same protocol to keep carrying the activity to ensure that results can be compared across the three focal sites. The A3.1.3 will also importantly record and document the globally threatened fish species, including taking positive and concrete action protect the species. and The results from the fish catch study and monitoring will be documented and broadly disseminated among relevant stakeholders such as donors, development partners, NGO partners, communities, authorities, FiA,...

Deliverable 3.2 Reports of SMART patrol are produced.

Activity 3.2.1 (A3.2.1). Provide capacity building on SMART patrol to FACT's in-house experts.

During quarter 3 in 2023, FACT will collaborate with Conservational International (CI) in order to provide capacity building on SMART patrol to FACT's inhouse experts. So far, with our own capacity, the inhouse experts already capacity building on SMART patrol, using Kobo App, to the committees and patrol team at the four sites of the CEPF-funded project 110385. However, it's so important that FACT should have the inhouse experts trained by specialized NGO partner, in particular CI. So far, FACT have consulted with CI about the SMART patrol training.

Activity 3.2.2 (A3.2.2). Provide capacity building on SMART patrol to committees and patrol team

Upon receiving training on SMART patrol from CI, the newly well-trained FACT's inhouse experts will keep providing capacity building on the SMART patrol to the committees and patrol team at the three focal sites. The training will also focuss on the globally threatened fish species.

Activity 3.2.3 (A3.2.3). Provide support on SMART patrol.

FACT will provide financial support to the three focal CFis such as food and gasoline to the committees and patrol team in order to motivate them actively and regularly patrol at the focal FCAs, using the SMART patrol tools. FACT will provide allowance/incentive per focal CFi per month. FACT will buy and provide equipment to the CFi such as one GSP, one SMART phone, and one digital camara per CFi.

Deliverable 3.3. Reports of fisheries resources development are produced

Activity

Activity 3.3.1 (A3.3.1) Construct Fish Attraction Device

FACT will support to construct Fish Attraction Device as well as other fences, can be made of either wire or cable with floating barrels or wooden fences, etc..., to avoid from invasion of illegal persons into the FCA, in particular at Phatsanday.

Deliverable 3.4. Reports of project governance meetings among concerned stakeholders are produced.

Activities

Activity 3.4.1 (A3.4.1). Conduct quarterly meeting among CFi committee (FACT's) and CPA committee (Naturelife's).

Based on consultation between FACT and Naturelife during the full proposal development workshop which was held by CEPF on December 6-9, 2022, both FACT and Naturelife will collaborate to co-convene quarterly meetings among CFi committee from ex. commercial fishing lot 2 (supported by FACT) and CPA committee (supported by NatureLife). The main objective of the meeting is to provide opportunity to the committees to meet, discuss, and share lesson learned, best practices, and challenges in the fisheries resources management, and then provide

recommendations to each other for improvement of the project implementation. Both FACT's targeted CFI and Naturelife's targeted CPA are situated in Phatsanday commune, Kampong Svay district and Kampong Thom province. Members of the CPA are also members of the CFI. The meeting will discuss on and take more concrete measures to protect the globally threatened fish species. Committee members of the both grassroots CFI and CPA will keep informing to and educating the local fishers to not fish or catch the globally threatened fish species. In case, the committee members will encourage the local fishers who catch the globally threatened fish species to release the species back in the lake/river.

Activity 3.4.2 (A3.4.2) Conduct meeting among FACT's and Naturelife's management and colleagues.

Based on consultation between FACT and Naturelife during the full proposal development workshop which was convened by CEPF on December 6-9, 2022, both FACT and Naturelife will collaborate to co-convene at least two meetings per year in order to meet, discuss, and share lesson learned, best practices, and challenges and then provide recommendations for future project implementation. Both FACT's targeted CFI and Naturelife's targeted CPA are situated in Phatsanday commune, Kampong Svay district and Kampong Thom province. Members of the CPA are also members of the CFI.

Activity 3.4.3 (A3.4.3). Co-host/host two separate national and provincial-based project Technical Working Group (TWG) in both Kampong Thom and Pursat provinces.

During the project timeline, FACT will keep hosting the project TWG in Kampong Thom province and co-hosting/hosting the one in Pursat province. There will be two project TWG meetings convened per year in each of the province. Thus, for the whole project timeline, there will be Ten TWG meetings totally convened, Five in Kampong Thom province and another Five in Pursat province.

Chairperson (provincial deputy governor), vice-chairs, and members of each of the **Two** TWGs of around 15-20 people who are representatives from Department of Fisheries Resource Conservation and Department of Community Fisheries Management and Development of National Fisheries Administration, all concerned provincial government departments/institutions - including provincial hall, PDAFF, PDOE, PDOT, FiAC, two district halls-Kampong Svay district of Kampong Thom province and Bakan district of Pursat province, commune council from the focal communes -community representatives from the focal communes, FACT, and other development partners who working directly in the focal communes will be invited to each of the TWG meetings.

The main objectives of the meeting are to report the progress of the project implementation and challenges -example illegal fishing, land encroachment, cooperation/co-management, law enforcement - and then jointly and timely address the challenges. The TWG meeting will also serve as a platform to collaborate on project implementation of both FACT and NatureLife who receiving grants and implementing projects in Phatsanday commune.

Activity 3.4.4 (A3.4.4). Conduct annual study tour.

FACT will host annual study tour/exposure visit to any potential site in Cambodia. The main objectives of the event are to give opportunity to TWG members as well as beneficiaries from Components 2 and 3 to learn about fisheries resources co-management, good governance in fisheries resources co-management, work of outstanding community/model site focusing on both fisheries resources management and development and livelihood improvement of their members from diversified income sources and then reflect with their work on grounds and make it improved in the future. Members from the two TWGs as well as community representatives from the two focal provinces and communes of around 30-35 people, 30% of whom is women/youths, will be invited to the annual exposure visit. There will be **Three** exposure visits totally convened throughout the project timeline.

Deliverable 3.5 Reports, including Case study/success stories, of events to promote the project sustainability are produced

Activity 3.5.1 (A3.5.1) Send representatives of the focal CFis to attend monthly meetings of the focal commune councils.

FACT will send the representatives of the local CFis to attend monthly meetings of the commune councils. The main objective of carrying out this A3.5.1 is to report the work, including progress of the work and lesson learned as well as challenges, of the CFi to commune council meetings and then request for support and intervention from local concerned stakeholders who attend the monthly commune council meetings, including commune council, village chiefs, police, and military police, etc. It's also very important to keep informing the commune councils that now FACT together with FACT-hosted national networks included Cambodia Fisheries Network (CFN), NGO Coalition on Fisheries (NGO-CF), and The Coalition of Cambodia Fishers (CCF) are advocating to national government, in particular through the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Economics and Finance, in order to allocate the commune budget for community-led fisheries resources conservation and livelihood related development. Agenda of the meeting will also include the globally threatened fish species by motivating all participants, including commune councils, village chiefs, local armed forces, CFi and CPA committees, and villagers to jointly protect and further educate the local fishers to protect the globally threatened fish species, by not hunting and releasing them back in the lack once they catch the species.

Activity 3.5.2 (A3.5.2) Send representatives from the focal CFis to attend commune investment plan (CIP) processes, including district integration workshop as final stage of the processes. The main objective of carrying out this A3.5.2 is to keep advocating to the sub-national authorities as well other development partners (DPs) in order to integrate the CFi-led Management Plans and GBH Business Plans (as stated in Component 2) of the focal CFis into the CFis and ensure that the plans are either fully or partially financed by the national government

Activity 3.5.3 (A3.5.3) Send representatives of the focal CFis to attend national and sub-national (Tonle Sap-level) public forums which convened by FACT at both national and sub-national levels through another project which financed by other donors. Through another CEPF-funded project (110351), CEPF also used to co-finance the forums during project period of June 2020 – March 2023 (including no-cost intension). Thus, building up on this, FACT will keep convening the forums and then send the representatives from the focal CFis to attend. The main objective of

the national public is to keep following up on the request to allocate 10% of the commune budget for CFi-led fisheries resource conservation and livelihood development activities made by members of FACT-hosted Cambodia Fisheries Network (CFN) through the first national public forum co-convened by Ministry of Interior (MOI) and FACT in December 2019. The main objective of the sub-national public forum is to jointly raise and address the fisheries related issues among all concerned stakeholders.

Gender inequality and inequity

Gender inequality and inequity still remain a big concern (as cross-cutting issue). The Project still needs to pay more attention on promoting the gender inequality and inequity. Since FACT's establishment in 2003, a number of initiatives were undertaken and have served as foundations for the Prospective Project to keep addressing the gender issue. It is a long process until Cambodian women have the same opportunity for education, taking up more leadership roles, and their potentials will be fully utilized.

Promoting gender activities in fishery resource management are so potential for sustainable development. Women can play a great role in protecting fishery resources in effective and sustainable manner. Women and men have to work as a partner to discover their need and solve it together. Thus, women and men have equal right to access and benefit from the fishery resources as well as ownership in fishery protection. To accomplish the gender issue, FACT will need to mainstream and integrate it in all project activities. Additionally, gender policy for the Three focal CFIs needs to be established and effectively implemented.

8. Date of preparation of this document: January 27, 2023

9. Risks to community health and safety: This section will assess the risk of each activity to community health and safety, against criteria of probability and severity, and describe in detail all higher risks.

During the project implementation, some risks might occur related to the community patrols. Since the conservation areas were established, the fish stock has considerably increased in the conservation areas, especially in the drying season. Local fishers will increase fishing efforts and try to enter the conservation areas for fishing. This activity would require an increase in the number of patrols. Some fishers are arrogant to the community patrols because community patrol teams perform their roles to protect the fishery resources that don't allow fishers to commit any fishing in the conservation areas.

Therefore, the conflict between community patrols and fishers to try to commit fishing in the conservation area would have occurred considerably. The fishers would also threaten community patrols, which would be verbally and physically affected. The conflict generally happens during the stringing of fishing grounds during the dry and close fishing seasons. In addition, the risk at night patrol would be higher than during the day. It was observed in Phat Sanday Community Fisheries that illegal fishers have illegally used an innovative gun that

would cause the patrolling team at risk to their lives or severe injury during their patrolling mission.

10. Risk mitigation measures: This section will describe the measures that will be taken to mitigate all higher risks. Mitigation measures will be presented following the mitigation hierarchy, which requires that risks are anticipated and avoided where possible. Where avoidance is not possible, risks should be minimized to acceptable levels. Any risks that remain following avoidance and minimization should be mitigated.

FACT will provide support first aid kits to the patrol teams and coaching on first aid practising. The community will orient them to put safety a priority. For example, they are allowed to patrol with at least two-three people and are supplied with sufficient patrol equipment. During the patrol, they must wear a life jacket and bring materials, including flashlight, telescope and raining coat.

In addition, the patrol teams are not allowed to confront arrogant illegal fishers; in contrast, they have to record their identity and photograph (if any) and report to the fishery official and local authorities. Some illegal fishers might run away from the patrol team; therefore, the team should not follow the illegal fishers to avoid incident risk. In short, they should be flexible to curb illegal fishing activity.

The patrol teams are recommended to collaboratively work with the fishery officials, commune police and other local authorities to conduct patrol. If there is an absence of government officials, they should verbally inform them to be aware of the community patrol activity. The daily patrol report will use the Smart patrol device to comprehensively document the patrol activity and produce a concise report to fishery stakeholders to discuss and recommend effective patrol.

11. Measures to avoid risk of communicable disease: This section will describe the measures that will be taken to avoid the risk of transmission of communicable diseases (e.g., COVID-19) to communities at the project site(s).

In general, FACT will inform the target community fisheries about precautions against infected communicable diseases during the disclosed community health and safety plan. In addition, FACT continues to inform the target communities and key stakeholders, especially participants, on the prevention measures to avoid any risk of transmitting communicable diseases, including Covid-19, in the activity implementation. Moreover, in activity implementation, FACT staff will closely observe and advise participants and project staff to carefully apply the prevention measures, e.g., washing hands regularly, wearing a mask, keeping social distancing, snacks separately, and limiting the number of participants. In some cases, online events will be considered to arrange the meetings. Regarding FACT staff, they will be a refresher on the procedure and prevention measures to ensure the target groups and staff are free from infected disease.

12. Emergency preparedness plan: This section will present an outline of your emergency preparedness and response plan for emergency situations affecting community health, safety and security that could be caused by project activities, if relevant.

FACT will continue strengthening the recourse mechanism that has already been placed at Phat Sanday, Kampong Kor and Dei Roneath. Some community people, especially CFI

committees, have been aware of it. However, FACT needs to provide refresher orientation on how to use it more effectively in a case related to community health and safety.

FACT has created three telegram groups: community committee, project technical working group and project staff. The community committee are allowed to quickly report any project activities affecting the community in written or verbal. Some affected cases might be discussed between the project staff and the community committee before solving them. However, some cases might need project TWG to provide proper solutions; for example, fishers move their floating house into the conservation areas without prior information to the community.

Project TWG will use it as a platform to engage relevant stakeholders to discuss community health and safety. CFI representatives will be invited to join meetings and provide an opportunity to raise the concern about the project implementation to the meetings to seek proper solutions. At two times per year, this TWG will be convened.

13. Measures to mitigate risks relating to security personnel: If the project involves support to security personnel (park guards, community rangers, etc.), this section will describe the measures you will take in relation to hiring, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring the action of security personnel, to ensure they do not engage in unlawful or abusive acts against local people. Where security personnel are, themselves, community members, risks to their health and safety should be considered under Sections 9 and 10.

FACT will work with Community Fisheries committees and their members to protect the fishery resources by providing support (gasoline, food and equipment) for patrols. They will be provided coaching sessions on first aid and emergency responses. FACT will provide training on Smart patrol to the patrol team to record the daily patrol more scientifically and to be transparent to the donor, FACT, government officials and community people.

In addition, FACT will provide the strengthening capacity of the community fisheries. This activity will include the roles and responsibilities of the committees, internal rules and regulations, and fisheries law. To avoid unlawful, the committee should not patrol alone; they should go with a team, especially get fishery officials and local authorities involved.

14. Timeline and resources: This section will present an implementation timeline for each measure listed in Sections 10 to 13, together with an estimate of resource needs.

N.o	Measures	Timeline	Resources	Remark
1	A.1.1.3. Conduct project launch workshop	2023	\$1,562.50	In the project launch workshop, FACT will inform participants about the community health and safety plan.
2	A1.1.2. Conduct stakeholder consultation	2023	\$814.00	FACT will continue to refresh the participants' community health and safety plan. If any affected

	meetings in Pursat province			community people complain, the meeting will discuss solving it.
3	A1.2.2. Provide/strengthen sustainable organizational and technical capacity development	2023	\$1,883.40	FACT will inform the CFI committee and local authorities about the community health and safety plan. First aid and emergency response techniques will be included in these meetings. Roles and responsibilities and internal regulation will be oriented to the CFI committee to avoid any unlawful.
5	A3.2.3. Provide support on SMART patrol	2023 2024 2025	\$16,200.00	FACT will consider supporting patrol equipment if it is necessary/needed to avoid the risk to the patrol teams.
5	A3.4.3. Co-host/host two separate national and provincial-based project Technical Working Group (TWG) in both Kampong Thom and Pursat provinces	2023 2024 2025	\$5,148.00	FACT will continue to refresh the participants' community health and safety plan. If any affected community people complain, the meeting will discuss solving it.

15. Monitoring and evaluation: This section will outline the steps you will take to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the measures listed in Sections 10 to 13.

The FACT team will regularly monitor the proposed action plan listed in Section 14 and approaches applied from sections 10 to 13. The activity reports will be produced and shared based on the proposed timeline to track the plan's effectiveness. The challenges, solutions, lesson learnt, and recommendations from the monitoring will be documented and applied to ensure the effectiveness of the project implementation and safeguard the target communities are safe from the project implementation. The issues happening at the target communities will be brought to report, and seek a proper solution at the commune level and provincial technical working group (TWG) if there is a necessity.

16. Disclosure: CEPF requires that community health and safety plans are disclosed to affected local communities and other stakeholders. Please describe your efforts to disclose this plan.

FACT will disseminate the community health and safety plans to the affected local community and stakeholders. The project inception workshop will be one of the mechanisms to disclose the action plan of this project. In the workshop, we will open for clarification on implementing the community and safety plan. In addition, we will review and monitor the plan during meetings with target communities; and a refresher about the plan will be presented and discussed in those meetings.