

Involuntary Restrictions - Process Framework

WWF Greater Mekong – Vietnam Programme

For CEPF small grant application “***Sustainable community-based conservation of the priority population of Grey-shanked Douc, Vietnam.***”

A. PROJECT BACKGROUND

Que Phuoc and Phuoc Ninh Communes, Quang Nam Province, hold the largest known population of Grey-shanked Douc (CR). This project seeks to identify a long-term sustainable conservation strategy for the douc population, which will also benefit the local communities. Six villages inhabit the project area, all belonging to the Kinh group.

Specifically, this project will: 1) clarify the extent of Grey-shanked Douc distribution in Que Phuoc and Phuoc Ninh Communes, to inform and establish monitoring protocols and conservation activities; 2) build capacity of local partners in survey and monitoring; 3) determine the feasibility of establishing eco-tourism as a long-term and sustainable approach to the conservation of this core population of Grey-shanked Doucs; 4) evaluate the effectiveness of Village Patrol Teams; and 5) contribute to environmental education and awareness-raising in the project area.

If eco-tourism is established at this site, with further funding (not from CEPF), restrictions on illegal, unsustainable and destructive hunting of primates will be established. However, we expect local communities to be in support of hunting restrictions, as a result of receiving direct and long-term benefits from doucs through eco-tourism establishment. Local communities will also actively participate in douc and other Threatened primate (e.g. gibbons) protection, from outside hunters. The specific details of the conservation incentive agreement (financial revenue through eco-tourism in exchange for douc conservation) will be determined through extensive participatory consultation with local communities, with the facilitation and collaboration of local authorities.

B. PARTICIPATORY IMPLEMENTATION

Participatory consultation with local communities in the project area will be undertaken. District and commune FPD will attend and facilitate these meetings, WWF will have overall responsibility for directing the meetings and ensuring good outputs are obtained.

Meetings will determine local interest and capacity in establishing eco-tourism and to discuss how best this can be achieved. Key to the project’s success is establishing a model which provides protection to the doucs (e.g. community members to agree not to hunt Threatened primates/carry out illegal logging and assist in patrolling) and also provides benefits to the local communities linked to conserving wildlife (e.g. employment opportunities, vocational training, VPT operations, a community fund). Formal agreements will need to be established, detailing the incentives that will be introduced in return for conservation activities. If these agreements are not

followed, community members may be subject to some kind of penalty (e.g. fine, no access to community fund for X time), which will again be discussed and agreed during community consultations.

C. CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY OF AFFECTED PERSONS

No affected persons are considered eligible for mitigation/compensation measures as no involuntary restrictions will be placed on activities which are not clearly illegal, unsustainable and destructive.

D. MEASURES TO ASSIST THE AFFECTED PERSONS

No affected persons are considered eligible for mitigation/compensation measures as no involuntary restrictions will be placed on activities which are not clearly illegal, unsustainable and destructive. Thus, no further consultations are necessary under World Bank Safeguards agreed with CEPF, and no Plan of Action is necessary.

However, follow-up actions from this project may benefit *ineligible* persons, by providing a long-term sustainable source of finance to local communities (and employment opportunities for individuals) through eco-tourism, which is strongly tied to douc conservation as eco-tourism cannot be successful or sustainable at this site unless illegal, unsustainable and destructive hunting and harvesting practices cease.

E. CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND COMPLAINT MECHANISM

Grievances and conflicts raised by affected communities can be brought to District FPD, or WWF staff in the project area, by individuals, communities or civil society groups. WWF will have responsibility to ensure these grievances are dealt with and will work with project partners to achieve this. Mediation can occur through representatives from People's Committees, project partners but perhaps particularly through civil society groups involved in the project (e.g. Farmer's Union, Women's Union), to ensure restrictions, eligibility criteria and mitigation measures are understood and appropriate to local communities. Grievances can be addressed through informal discussions, planned meetings or participatory workshops as appropriate.

F. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

WWF are responsible for ensuring the implementation of survey and monitoring activities, the ecotourism assessment and exchange visits, funded by CEPF and AMNH. District and commune FPD are responsible for assisting in implementation by taking part in the training, survey and monitoring, facilitation during community consultations and providing administrative and logistical support.