

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Mother Nature Organization
Project Title:	Empowerment of Khmer Daeum communities in the Areng Valley
Date of Report:	07 th of July 2015
Report Author and Contact Information	Alejandro Gonzalez Davidson

CEPF Region: Indo-Burma

Strategic Direction: SD8: Strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels.

Grant Amount: \$13,853

Project Dates: 1st of June 2014 until 31st of May 2015

Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):

One of the main successes of the project was the ability of Mother Nature's activists to, as planned, draw into the campaign not just other local civil society groups but also representatives of other grassroots campaigns, journalists, pro-nature members of parliament, and, eventually, even top decision makers within the government.

Although most of these visited the Areng Valley only temporarily and thus their presence and input was small, other groups were fully involved and their experience, knowledge and passion were critical to the successes of the project.

The NGO Cambodian Youth Network visited the valley on a regular basis and implemented several advocacy projects there, such as the creation of a youth group. There was also the youth grassroots group: Khmer Moha Nokor, who were equally crucial in helping Mother Nature and the local communities achieve their target (especially in terms of media attention), the Independent Monk Network for Social Justice, who visited the Areng valley to conduct tree blessing ceremonies which were widely picked up by both national and international media; and the legal expert groups Samrith and CLEC, who provided extremely valuable advice to community members.

It was the presence and timely intervention of all of these groups, and the diversification of activities this brought, which made the campaign almost unstoppable for the pro-dam groups.

Conservation Impacts

Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.

If one takes a look at what was originally thought of during the preparation of the Lol, at a time when the campaign was by no means effectively off its feet, and compares it with the results achieved throughout the project, one can safely say that the results and impacts of the project have been excellent and way beyond our original expectations. One of the goals of the project, to network with other grassroots movements in order to inform the local communities as to what their rights were in relation to the proposed dam, achieved outstanding results. Over 15 different groups (NGOs, youth groups, representatives of other communities, etc) visited the valley during the time frame hereby described and helped out with training, public discussion forums, legal advice to local community leaders, dissemination of information, monitoring, etc. Although this influx of people did also bring unforeseen outcomes, not all of them entirely satisfactory, their presence and knowledge they imparted was one of the key issues behind the success of the campaign in effectively ensuring that the input of the local communities was taken into consideration as part of the decision making process behind the proposed hydro-dam.

Secondly, the goal of bringing further national and international media attention to the valley was without doubt the most successful part of the campaign.

Although the tree blessing ceremonies we had planned and specified in the Lol did also help bring national and international media attention to the issue, it was mostly the innovative use of social media (especially Mother Nature's own Facebook page) which eventually helped spark the interest of the most influential national media outlets. Other events related to the campaign which took place in the valley and in the city of Phnom Penh (peaceful gatherings, bicycle ride, etc) also helped elevate the Areng dam and the campaign to stop it as one of the main discussion topics in Cambodian society. The deportation of Mother Nature's director and founder, Alejandro Gonzalez Davidson, and the massive media storm this created, was seen by some the final nail in the coffin as the government had no choice but to bend to public outcry and declare any decision to build the dam postponed until at least 2018.

The third goal we had included as part of this project, the creation of a successful community based eco-tourism project in the Areng valley, aimed at creating an alternative development for the valley as well as bringing new skills and income to the local population, was in many ways both a success and a cause for concern.

Mother Nature's tourism project, the Wild KK Project, run in cooperation with the local communities brought small groups of visitors in a low impact and culturally sensitive manner to the valley, made many local community members become proud of the beauty of their homes and thus more prone to protect it from being destroyed. Although the financial impact on the local communities was not remarkable, it also proved to the local people that, if replicated in a manageable way in the future, a tourism project in the valley could eventually become an alternative source of income and a source of much needed skills and knowledge.

The problem arose as several large groups of tourists / visitors, mostly young Cambodians wanted to see and experience the now extremely famous valley of Areng, started flooding in large groups. This surpassed the capability of Mother Nature and of the local communities, and soon problems started arising.

Mother Nature and the local communities, together with partnering NGOs and other groups involved in the campaign, expect this problem to become much more manageable in the foreseeable future. Furthermore, as the dam has all but been scrapped by the government at

national level, we believe that the district / provincial authorities will now feel more inclined to also participate in the management of the growing number of tourists who are visiting the valley.

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal):

Project Goal: Cambodian civil society organizations (including Mother Nature, and emergent grass-roots community-based organizations) have the capacity to effectively represent the local indigenous population of the Areng Valley, and coordinate collective responses to threats posed by proposed hydropower development.

Actual Progress Toward Long-term Impacts at Completion:

Mother Nature original goal was to, throughout the completion of this project, acquire the skills, knowledge and expertise needed in order to effectively represent the local communities of Areng while at the same time coordinate responses to threats to the valley as a whole. Back when we started the project, Mother Nature's activists lacked not just information / knowledge etc on the project but was not in a position to represent the population of the Areng valley. The rapport with the communities was not present at sufficient levels, mostly due to the fact that we did not have enough members involved in a full time manner. The grant we obtained from IUCN allowed us to cover the monthly stipends for a few extra members, which in turn meant they the ability to stay in the valley on a full time basis, opening up the door to much needed trust between us and the communities.

The grant also allowed us to go on visits out of the valley (for example to relocation sites in other parts of the country) together with representatives of the communities, broadening our knowledge as activists and also allowing us to be clear on our presentation of the issues at stake once we returned to the valley. Other activities we participated in as part of this project, such as attending workshops in Phnom Penh or inviting other NGOs to the valley, reinforced this further.

Secondly, the role of Mother Nature as a coordinator at times of urgency, such as when a group of engineers showed up in the valley without valid documentation, was fulfilled very successfully by our activists. We were able to, thanks mainly to the good relationship we have with different NGOs and youth groups, rally the needed support to have a considerable presence of people in the valley, which in itself managed to empower / inform the local communities and monitor the situation so that the company found it impossible to commit further violations. These groups included lawyers, legal advisers, activists, citizen journalists, human rights monitors, and eventually members of parliament. The presence of these groups also had other benefits; it made mainstream and social media outlets further attracted to the Areng Valley issue, and also further empowered the local communities, especially the representatives who had in the past felt alone and powerless.

All in all, the goal was achieved and very successfully at that.

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal):

Objective 1: The members of Mother Nature have the capacity to effectively protect the interests of the communities of the Areng Valley in the face of threats related to proposed hydropower development.

Objective 2: The work of Mother Nature and other Cambodian NGOs in the Areng Valley is effectively coordinated, and mutually supportive.

Objective 3: Community leaders of the Areng Valley are empowered to lead the emergence of grass-roots community-based organizations.

Actual Progress Toward Short-term Impacts at Completion:

As stated above, one of the objectives of the project was to effectively protect the interests of the villagers of Areng. It could be argued that there is no one in a better position to defend the interests of the villagers than local community members themselves, but truth is the urgency of the situation would have most likely brought failure to the campaign had there not been outside organizations like ours involved. This was achieved through a combination of activities, already described above in detail, which allowed our activists to: a) know in detail the situation at grassroots level; b) build crucial rapport with communities; c) take strategic decisions that were not just culturally sensitive but also fell in line with what the majority of the community was, which was able to participate in the decision-making process behind the proposed dam.

In relation to the role of our activists as coordinators to the whole campaign, there were both positive and negative results. During the first months of the project, when the number of groups involved in the campaign was still small, we found it easier to manage the situation and make sure that each of the groups was not replicating other groups' work or acting in a culturally insensitive manner.

As the campaign received higher and higher media attention, the number of groups involved increased. A considerable number of these groups went to the Areng valley to help out of their own volition, without wanting to or being able to ask Mother Nature for advice. This created issues, especially within the fragile indigenous community of the valley, which started becoming more and more confused as to what the aims and intentions of the groups was. There was also the issue of having several groups visiting the valley doing all the same thing, which in some villages of the valley started creating resentment and was needless to say a waste of time / resources for all those involved.

At the same time, it was precisely the presence of so many different and independent groups which made it hard to the pro-dam groups to effectively cheat the communities into thinking of the hydro-dam as unstoppable and, most importantly, to threaten the community leaders who were willing to speak out on behalf of all.

The third objective of the project was the empowerment of community leaders / representatives with the ultimate aim of having the local communities create their own effective grassroots movements / organizations. Although we did not expect these community-based groups to have been created and fully functioning by the end of this project, two groups, a youth group and a women's group, which have taken an increasingly important role in the advocacy side of the campaign, have already been created. Although these groups are not fully independent right now, there does seem to be enthusiasm in the local communities to have them lead the new struggles being faced locally, which are mainly related to obtaining land titles and development not just of the above-mentioned project but also of the health and education sector.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: The dam would have flooded between ten and twenty thousand hectares (the entire valley) and severely degraded the critical ecosystems present downstream from the proposed reservoir. Furthermore, as seen in other already constructed dams in the Cardamom Mountains, the long construction period would have caused havoc in the mountains around the valley. While it is hard to give an exact figure for the amount of hectares the project managed to protect, we can give an estimate of at least twenty to twenty-five thousand hectares.

Species Conserved: The Valley is home to more than 30 wildlife species classed as endangered, with 2, the Siamese Crocodile and the Dragon Fish, classed as critically endangered. It is also home to countless species of fauna and flora, all of which would have been severely affected or become locally extinct had the dam not been stopped.

Corridors Created: While the project did not create any new corridors for wildlife, we can confidently say that, as the proposed hydro-dam seems to have been all but officially cancelled, we managed to conserve countless crucial corridors used by many different species of wildlife, some of them rare and a few critically endangered.

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives.

Please see above.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Please see above.

Project Components

Project Components: *Please report on results by project component. Reporting should reference specific products/deliverables from the approved project design and other relevant information.*

Component 1 Planned: Mother Nature staff and local community representatives attend meetings and training workshops in Phnom Penh in order to improve their knowledge and understanding of legal matters and advocacy strategies related to hydropower development.

Component 1 Actual at Completion: During the 12 months period this project took place, around 6 of our members attended at least three meetings / workshops, with two of our members attending at least eight meetings. The original goal of having 3 members attend at least 2 meetings workshops each was surpassed.

Component 2 Planned: Mother Nature staff and members visit relocation and hydropower development sites in other parts of Cambodia (in coordination with other Cambodian CSOs), in order to improve their understanding of this issue at a national scale.

Component 2 Actual at Completion: Our goal of having at least 4 of our members visit at least 4 relocation sites was also achieved, as five of our activists visited more than 3 relocation sites. Two other activists also visited at least 1 relocation site.

Component 3 Planned: As part of our aim to have community leaders empowered so that they can eventually create their own grassroots groups / movements, we planned to coordinate for the participation at least 5 community leaders as well as 5 community members to attend a minimum of one workshop / meeting each.

Component 3 Actual at Completion: This goal, as the others above, was successfully achieved, with at least 4 community leaders attending more than 4 meetings / workshops in which issues related to advocacy / hydropower and large scale development projects were discussed.

Were any components unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

All of the objectives and goals stated in the 'Deliverables and Timelines' section of the contract were achieved, in most cases surpassing what we had originally expected.

Please describe and submit (electronically if possible) any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

The best lessons are always those that failures, or unforeseen obstacles, present to us. In designing the project mentioned in the Lol, one of the pillars of the idea was to replicate the strategy that had been applied in Thailand by Buddhist monks, whom had blessed trees in under-threat jungles as a way to deter the trees from being cut down, to unite the local communities in fighting for the common good, and also to help highlight the presence of those trees to the outside world. While this method did work, to various degrees, in the Thai context, implementing it in Cambodia was a different story. It required extensive consultation with Buddhist monks not just from the capital of Phnom Penh but also from remote areas, such as the Areng Valley itself.

Although the desire by monks whom we interviewed to become engaged in the protection of the country's environment was evident, the concept of being engaged directly in the jungles and bless the trees (to convert them into monks) was unheard of. We did, after trying very hard, find an engaged monk who was aware of the need to be actively engaged in the protection of nature and whom understood that new approaches to conservation needed to be taken.

Finding other NGOs (groups recognized by the Ministry of Interior as non-governmental organizations or associations) was equally hard before the project started being implemented, not because of a lack of engagement on their side but rather because of a lack of economic remuneration for the members of that NGO and the lack of recognition at that stage of where the Areng Valley was. Staff of several of the NGOs and associations approached by MN staff refuted the chance to go and get engaged in helping the Areng Valley as they were not receiving any of the kind of remuneration they were used to when working with other groups (mission, per diems, etc) and because the valley was too far and it took too long to get there. This problem, by no means small, ended up being a blessing in disguise, as it forced us to start relying on young Cambodian volunteers (university students, etc) who ended up being one of the project's strongest assets.

Third, the design of the eco-tourism project of the Areng Valley, the Wild KK Project, was riddled with obstacles too, mainly due to the fact that MN had not been able to obtain the necessary funds to purchase material needed to get the project off its feet (such as kayaks, bicycles). There was also the fact that the human resources and needed skills / knowledge were simply not there from the point of view of the local communities, something which we had no choice but to solve by bringing in on board an activist who had extensive experience as a tour guide in the Cardamom jungles.

Fourth and last, was the most important aspect of the project: related to how MN was to (without any significant financial contributions) attract the three or four full time members of staff it needed in order to implement the project. Again, out of this problem (we were in no position to give anything resembling a salary) something truly remarkable happened, described below in detail.

Project Implementation: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

- As described already, the implementation of tree blessing ceremonies as a way to counteract the threat to the proposed hydroelectric dam had more shortcomings than successes, and was seen in a negative way by the local communities. It soon became apparent, after the first pilot tree blessing were performed by local Buddhist monks and MN staff, that communities were not understanding this approach and in some cases against it. The original idea behind this, that the local communities would use the tree blessings as a way to gather and discuss strategies in order to stop the dam, backfired. No doubt spurred on by anti civil society / pro dam elements within the valley (for instance, commune chiefs and police), communities ending up believing that the trees had been blessed so that the local spirits of the area (neak ta in Khmer) would become angry and bring misfortune to the valley dwellers. One of the lessons learnt was that it would have been much better if the idea had been presented by the local monks to their fellow villagers after the monks had encountered similar tree blessing ceremonies in other parts of the country. The idea, though, did kick off and has been replicated in other parts of the country by monks as well as youth activists in for example, Prey Long.
- As mentioned above, MN had to start the project with very limited financial means. Actually, apart from the few small donations that an Australian NGO (Rainforest Information Center) had sent us, the NGO was fully dependent on the savings two of its founding members could devote to it. As no salaries were being paid, costs were kept low and activists had no choice but to live and stay with the communities, which further reduced costs and opened up vital relationship between MN staff and local community leaders. This ended up being a strong point of the campaign (and lesson to be learnt for other activist NGOs) as informing the communities as to what their participatory rights were in relation to the dam became much easier and the lies and threats by the pro dam elements mentioned above were easily counteracted. The fact that MN was paying no salaries (just paying very basic living allowance to activists) might have put off a few able minded people from joining us, but truth is that we eventually found a number of devoted youth activists who were more than happy to join our NGO in order to protect the valley and help expose its potential destruction on social media.
- A similar scenario unfolded when trying to get other NGOs to come to the valley and partner with MN as part of the project. This mostly failed until, again, we decided to start inviting engaged young activists to go and visit the valley. With passion and commitment, and not expecting any economic remuneration, they became the face of the campaign and one of the main reasons why the campaign to stop the proposed dam succeeded.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

- A lesson that sticks out of all the ones worth mentioning was the one that learnt regarding the use of our own social media in order to inform the Cambodian public about the beauty of the valley and the immense threat it was under. Again, this was borne out of an obstacle, the lack of interest or ability by mainstream media outlets (Khmer and English speaking) to visit the valley or to report on the issue. Through the use of our smart phones and hand held cameras, with little to no knowledge on video editing and production, MN spearheaded what was without the slightest shadow of doubt the most successful use of social media for an environmental campaign. Millions watched our videos and shared them, important media outlets eventually had no choice but to start reporting on this issue, and the Areng Valley, and the need to protect it, became a cool thing to do. The government could no longer ignore that and was forced to abandon all plans after the nation was able to, again through the use of social media, its revulsion at the thought of the valley being destroyed.

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of the CEPF investment in this project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
Hundreds of individuals	A	\$20,000	Individual donations to the campaign by Cambodians

****Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:***

- A*** *Project co-financing (Other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B*** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project.)*
- C*** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Sustainability/Replicability

Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.

There were two key elements subject to replicability planned as part of this project. First of all, the tree blessing ceremonies, and second, the community based eco-tourism project. Both presented challenges to the project and both brought success and undesired results.

The tree blessing ceremonies were indisputably a success in terms media attention, both inside Cambodia and internationally. They helped tremendously as, after the first articles / videos / radio-based reports appeared on the media, other so far dormant actors started getting involved in the campaign. This media attention played a crucial role in pushing members of the government at provincial and, to a growing extent, at ministry level, start making public statements about the dam. It is worth remembering that in a country like Cambodia, where public statements on government-sponsored large-scale development projects are rare, this is by no means a small feat.

It was also our plan to see the blessing of the trees being replicated across the valley and eventually across the entire Central Cardamom Protected Forest mountain range. The aim was back then to minimize the chances that these trees (rare, old, cultural or ecologically sensitive) would be cut, perhaps even start the foundations of a nation-wide 'tree data list'. However, the main challenge to the expansion to the idea of blessing trees was the community's reaction to it.

The majority of residents in the Areng Valley have religious beliefs that mix animism with Buddhism. When the first tree blessing ceremonies started taking place, local people felt that it was an unheard of, even un-Buddhist practice, and were hesitant to take part. The fact that monks from the outside directed these ceremonies, and not the local monks, also created the feeling in some of the people that the practice had been imposed from the outside and that their opinions had been neglected. Some community members felt as if trees being blessed was culturally wrong, as 'trees blessed made the local spirits angry' and thus more prone to 'harm people' as 'the spirits no longer have a place where they can stay and be quiet'.

Mother Nature, in consultation with the local communities, decided to eventually halt the tree blessings so that the relationship between us was not further jeopardized.

Regarding the community-based tourism program, the results were way beyond our expectations, which in itself presented new opportunities as well as challenges. Mother Nature's aim was to, alongside the communities, create a successful and low impact community-based eco-tourism project in the valley so that the foundations for an alternative development method for the valley could be set up, and so that local communities could see by themselves that having responsible tourism in the area could be a source of pride to the communities, provide much needed networking opportunities, bring publicity to the valley through social media, bring income, etc.

While it is true that these above-mentioned goals were largely met, the media attention and publicity that the valley and the campaign to save it had been so large that we are now experiencing a new and unforeseen problem, described in more detail below.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

As the media attention towards the campaign grew, especially when the government started threatening the founder of Mother Nature with deportation from Cambodia due to his relentless activism, the desire of Cambodians to see the beauty of the valley with their own eyes also grew. After the founder of Mother Nature was eventually deported, there was an explosion of hundreds of people visiting the valley. The area was not ready to welcome such large and unexpected number of guests to the valley, as it has too few of the facilities needed, such as toilets, showers, electricity, drainage, food, beds, equipment, etc.

Several unexpected issues aroused that created discontent among the community. For instance, a lot of the visitors to the valley were bringing in food and their own cooks from the outside, blaming it on the shortage of food for guests and on the alleged lack of time of local people to cook for the guests. Also, guests were getting there by using their own transport, and not, as Mother Nature and the communities had been doing, by relying on local motorbikes for transport. There were also issues with guests going to ecologically sensitive areas without local guides, which not only stopped local people from receiving some income but also could have increased the chances of accidents such as snake bites, etc, happening.

While Mother Nature can be partly blamed for not anticipating that the Areng Valley campaign would receive such high amount of media attention, we think it would be unfair to place the blame of this sudden and unanticipated rise in the number of guests, and the issues that have arisen in the communities, on our organization.

Mother nature aims to obtain a medium sized grant so that this increase in the number of guests (Cambodians in their majority) to the valley can be a) effectively managed; b) turned into a positive factor that can help not just protect the valley against future large-scale development projects but also help develop the entire Central Cardamom Protected Forest into a hub for quality research / tourism.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

As the Areng valley is home to the Khmer Daeum (Jong) indigenous communities, IUCN / CEPF asked Mother Nature to create a set of social safeguard polices.

One of the multi-strategy approaches aimed at empowering the communities was achieved by providing timely and clear information in relevance to the proposed hydro-electric dam and the

rights the local people had to oppose it or to participate in the decision making process. As part of this, interaction between outsiders and valley residents needed to take place.

We anticipated that this interaction might not make some members of the valley happy, a supposition which turned out to be true only in relation to community members who were a part of the ruling party apparatus and thus had little choice but to be seen as pro-dam. These people (commune chief, police, etc) were given direct orders from their superiors to put obstacles to any outsiders who visited the valley with the slightest 'anti-dam agenda'. The majority of the people in the valley welcomed and actually sought the presence of informed and well intentioned outsiders as they provided not just much needed information about the dam and their rights but also made them more inclined to express their views in relation to the dam.

Mother Nature and the other groups made it a priority to ensure that the dissemination of information was carried out in a culturally sensitive manner, asking for feedback from them at all times and having a strict set of guidelines in place for visitors.

There were also some concerns regarding the project's reinforcement of non-traditional community organizations that might have been seen as jeopardizing the existing ones, mainly the district authorities. This did not turn out the case, as communities welcomed the stance taken by the community-based groups that Mother Nature reinforced, as they were seen as fully devoted to taking the concerns and the wellbeing of the communities into consideration as opposed to the commune council, who were widely perceived to be only serving the interests of their superiors.

Another of the points we highlighted was the potential positive and negative impacts the community based eco-tourism project was going to have in the valley. We have already expressed this in the "Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved." section.

Fourth, regarding the empowerment of women in the Areng valley and the possibility that it could jeopardize the tendency to have males decide matters that affected the entire community, we have found that our concerns were unfounded. The community as a whole, not just its female members, was more than happy to see women take an active interest in the concerns of the community and were perceived by our activists to be even more effective than their male counterparts in the advocacy of the community.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

The future of conservation lies not with NGO staff members who have regular office-based jobs, but with passionate activists whom, if properly supported (but not financially rewarded!) can and do achieve amazing results. These people are engaged, they care about Cambodia's massive level of environmental degradation, and are willing to take risks and go through levels of discomfort which other Phnom Penh based people simply wouldn't. Having said that, these activists need to be properly assisted and trained, introduced to other networks, and need to absorb / be introduced to some of the experiences and vast knowledge that other more experienced NGO staff have.

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepfn.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

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Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

(Enter Grant Term)

Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved during the grant term (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	Yes		20,000 ha	Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one. Central Cardamom Protected Forest
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	No			Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Partially			Half of the Areng Valley is inside the Central Cardamom Protected Forest, an area over 400,000 ha in size home to numerous rare / endangered species of fauna and flora. Had the hydro-dam not been stopped by our campaign, the entire protected forest (and the management plan currently in place to protect it) would have been severely jeopardized.
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	No			
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	Yes			Although the impacts of the community-based eco tourism project were very small, as only a few groups of a maximum of 7 guest per group were taken to the valley, the idea has finally taken off and is already being replicated by others.

If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table

Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics							Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit													
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Increased Income due to:				Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization...etc.	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance.	Other
									Adoption of sustainable natural resources	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services									
Chumnoab	X	X	X				X		X	X									X	X	
Prolay	X	X	X				X		X	X									X	X	
Total																					

If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit: