

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Cambodian Rural Development Team
Project Title:	Sustainable Development to Support Wise Use and Conservation of the Wetland Ramsar Site in Stung Treng, Cambodia
Date of Report:	June 30, 2013
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CEPF Region: Indo-Burma

Strategic Direction: 2. Develop innovative locally led approaches to site-based conservation at 28 key biodiversity areas. Sub-direction 2.1 is particularly relevant: “Establish innovative stakeholder-based conservation management and caretaking initiatives at 28 key biodiversity areas.”

Grant Amount: US\$80,016

Project Dates: 1 April, 2011 to 30 April, 2013

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

Partner Organisation, WorldFish Center: have high expertise in fishery and aquaculture. WorldFish was responsible for facilitating the policy level support on site management at national level and piloting the implementation of this management plan at selected areas, capacity building for stakeholders, and strengthening existing community fisheries. In addition, continued regular contact and meetings between the two organizations is a main responsibility and result in a successful and coordinated output.

Partners WWF: have worked along the Mekong River and have high experience on biodiversity conservation and natural resources management. WWF partners shared expertise, money supporting and experiences to develop an innovative and effective approach to conservation and natural resource management. The partners WWF communicated throughout the implementation of the project to maximize the complementary nature of our work and minimize redundancy. WWF assisted in building relationships with provincial and national government authorities, and have a supervisory role to ensure that all work undertaken by CRDT fits with their long-term conservation goals.

Other NGOs, networks and coalitions: CRDT contacted all organizations working in this area. In particular, CRDT liaised with the River Coalition in Cambodia (RCC), Mlub Baitong, CEPA, NGO Forum, CCC and the Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT). Communication between NGOs working in this area is vital in order to share experiences and coordinate activities to achieve the project's goal. CRDT are also local partners of the Wetlands Alliance Program and liaise with WAP partners to exchange knowledge and understanding of critical issues along the Mekong to ensure our staff understand and is able to implement effective community based projects in support of wetlands conservation efforts.

Conservation Impacts

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

The project has contributed to save or improve and maintain natural resources and the government's ban on gill net fishing, for which they did not provide any strategies for villagers to pursue alternative livelihoods. CRDT has a Development livelihood program in Ramsar site, Stung Treng Province. This project has allowed CRDT to provide sustainable livelihoods to further beneficiaries and communities dependent on natural resources and living in Ramsar site.

This report compiles the progress of activities in the two years of the project undertaken in Ramsar site in Stung Treng province that have been identified as priorities for assistance to beneficiaries due to their extensive poverty, their locations adjacent to natural resources management, saving deep pool fish habitats as well as deep pool dolphin habitats. While the co-funding between CRDT and WWF funds have been used primarily to reduce pressure to natural resources, it also allowed them to help reducing poverty for communities living along Upper Mekong River in Stung Treng.

According to the monitoring and evaluation report, the time people in the targeted communities spent fishing was reduced by 25% which is fit to the expected result. The major reasons were because most target communities were busy with CBOs' work (saving, vegetable, rice, and livestock productions), cash crop productions, and decreased amount of fish in stock (river). The time people in the target communities spent exploiting forest resources decreased by 69% which is significantly different from the expected result (25%). It was the main contribution from the project to engage the target communities into further livelihood activities. Cash crop production was also a main activity that reduced the time communities went to the forest. But these activities can cause deforestation for agricultural land in the protected areas if there is no proper plan for land use. The target communities felt more empower to take action for conservation by 94% which is much higher than the expected result. According to the final monitoring report, most respondents said that they had more understanding of natural resource conservation from the project. So, based on the result above the project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.

Overall the project has effectively met its proposed short-term impacts in terms of improvement of food, livelihood security, disposable income, and health; increasing capacity and manage independently sustainable livelihood activities and engage in government planning and consultations; increasing local co-operation with conservation activities through decreased reliance and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources; and having the ability and motivation to use the wetlands areas wisely and independently and take local action on conservation issues. However, the understanding of the objective and process of CIP/CDP among community members remained limited and it will need further capacity building in a future project as it is very important for CBOs to raise fund to support their priority need and sustain their livelihood once the project is ended. In addition, the understanding of making compost from organic waste was also still limited in which most of communities burned all their wastes including organic wastes. This also requires to be improved in a future intervention. Exploitation of natural resources in terms of NTFP, wildlife, timber, and fish has been reduced among target communities through decreasing times to go to forest (by 69%) and fishing (by 25%). It was the main contribution from the project which engage the target communities to improved livelihood activities on rice, chicken, pig productions other small business by using loans from saving group. In addition, the communities (94%) felt more empower to take action for conservation. Moreover, 99% of them understood the use of wetland natural resource wisely in which they were able to raise actions for conservation such as participating on applying fishing law, patrolling against illegal fishing activities and reporting to Community Fishery, chief of village, commune councils, polices and relevant NGOs about illegal fishing activities.

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

To ensure the wise use of the critical wetland area of the Stung Treng Ramsar site (CEPF Priority Site: Kratie to Lao PDR) by its inhabitants and other stakeholders, through reducing natural resource dependency by the provision of alternative livelihoods and by raising awareness about the importance of wetland conservation

Actual Progress Toward Long-term Impacts at Completion:

The project result is progressing towards reaching its objectives and goal. In fact, it is currently generating positive impact on the conservation of the critical biodiversity and habitats of the Ramsar section. All 15 community based organizations (CBOs) are active in livelihood development activities, and generated a significant reduction of their natural resource dependency. In addition, all CBOs were empowered to increase their voices with local authorities by participating with the commune planning processes. Please see the Monitoring Evaluation Report attached.

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

Nine communities in three communes in Stung Treng province that lie within the Ramsar site of the Mekong will have:

- Improved food and livelihood security - in terms of quality, quantity and diversity, from non-natural resource dependent sources (60% of people in the targeted communities reporting home consumption of alternative livelihood produce, 35% reporting an impact on health/hunger/food availability, and people in the targeted communities experience an average increase of disposable income by 15%, as measured by CBO records and annual monitoring survey)
- Increased capacity to engage in and manage independently sustainable livelihood activities and engage in government planning and consultations (15 CBOs are still functioning at the end of the project, and 50% have participated in Commune planning processes by the end of the project.)
- Increased local co-operation with conservation activities through decreased reliance and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources due to the successful maintenance, management and expansion of CRDT sustainable development activities (25% of time of people in the targeted communities spent fishing and exploiting forest resources reduced by the end of the project and 50% of people in the targeted communities feel more empowered to take action for conservation)
- Ability and motivation to use the wetlands areas wisely and independently take local action on conservation issues (General population show a 20% increase in awareness of environmental issues, as measured by CBO records and annual monitoring survey).

Actual Progress Toward Short-term Impacts at Completion:

Based on the project team monthly survey and through the CBOs report from April 2011 to April 2013, the food security has improved from 60% (baseline survey) to 65% in the target communities (15 CBOs with 297 members, whose households, in turn, contain 1,820 people). The CBOs reported using vegetables and chickens from alternative livelihood products for their home consumptions. Thus this allowed them to increase 5 % of their food security. Food and livelihood security have gradually increased since the project started. In total, 15 livelihood CBOs with a total of 297 members were established by the project and are mainly involved with saving activity, chicken, vegetable and pig raising. Based on the annual monitoring survey, approximately 85 % of beneficiaries used these livelihood products for their home consumption, and the surplus was sold for additional incomes. In addition, 92 % of the interviewed beneficiaries reported getting less sick.

297 members including 175 women (including 9 Extension Workers) of 15 CBOs have skills on sustainable livelihood activities through receiving training courses, coaching on vegetable and rice growing, pig and chicken raising techniques, market development as well as livelihood activities linking with Natural Resources Conservation. Furthermore, committee members of 15 CBOs have enhanced their capacity on group management in terms of financial management and proposal writing. In addition, the committee members have attended Commune Investment Plan (CIP) courses to make sure the communities are developing their plan. As a result, the 15 CBOs have reported that, they have a clear functioning and can manage very well the saving components, vegetable, rice growing, pig, and chicken raising. Moreover, committees of almost all CBOs (80%) have involved in the Commune Investment Plan through which they were able to raise their needs and to submit their proposals to CIP for 2013.

There has been an increasing local cooperation with conservation activities through a decreased reliance and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources due to the successful maintenance, management and expansion of CRDT sustainable development activities (the time people in the targeted communities spent fishing was reduced by 25% and the time they spent exploiting forest resources was reduced by 69% the end of the project). By the end of April 2013, the 15 CBOs have been working closely with the Community Fisheries in the target area as the by-laws of these CBOs included the importance to link to NRM and 5% to 15% of their groups' benefits (according to the approval of each group) contributed to the expenses for conservation activities (guarding activities) of Community Fisheries and Community Forestry. Furthermore, all members of CBOs have to participate in information sharing and controlling on violation of the fisheries and forestry laws. According to our observation, 94% of CBO members feel more empowered to take action for conservation.

After conducting one movie show with the participation of 170 people including 95 women, 95% of participants reported having more understanding about environmental issues. According to the project monitoring through our observation and questioning the villagers, about 73% of the general population have cleaned their surrounding houses and burned wastes which they use to throw in the river.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

- Hectares Protected: This is not relevant regarding CRDT project, this should be covered by the report of WorldFish Center
- Species Conserved: This is not relevant regarding CRDT project, this should be covered by the report of WorldFish Center
- Corridors Created: This is not relevant regarding CRDT project, this should be covered by the report of WorldFish Center

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

The interventions of the project were to improve food and livelihood security of target communities; to increase capacity to engage in and manage independently sustainable livelihood activities and engage in government planning and consultation; to increase local co-operation with conservation activities through decreased reliance and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources; and to have ability and motivation to take local action on conservation in order to ensure the wise use of the critical wetland area of the Stung Treng Ramsar site, CEPF Priority Site: Kratie to Lao PDR, by its inhabitants and other stakeholders. These interventions are relevant to international and national policies, and strategy/planning of NGOs and local agencies as well as the need of local communities in the core area.

Through project interventions there have been important changes in the target area in terms of improvement of food, livelihood security, disposable income and health; increasing more empowerment to take action for conservation; and progress in waste management in project area of target communities. In addition, the project has not had negative impact to both social and environmental safeguard policies within the area. These have caused the reduction of exploitation of natural resources and pollution to river and they ensured the wise use of the critical wetland area of the Stung Treng Ramsar site, CEPF Priority Site: Kratie to Lao PDR by its inhabitants and other stakeholders.

All committees and members of CBOs have expressed their high commitment in continuing the existing activities in terms of cropping and livestock productions and other small businesses. Even though the overall knowledge of operating CBOs of committee members is still limited, most of them had a good team work culture with high commitment and under supervision from chief of villages and commune councils. Saving component has played very important roles through which all members were able to save their money, to increase their capital (interest), and to use loans for developing livelihood activities. These have contributed to have sustainability once the project ended.

However, we also faced some challenges in the communities living on the Mekong River like: monstrous dams, pesticides, deforestation, destructive overfishing, algae, mine investment, wildlife hunting... These are some problems that currently threaten and in the future the people who are living on the Mekong River. A rich biodiversity is now dying and several people are in danger. Communities living on the Mekong are the most at risk, because they rely on agriculture products and fishing. The future of the Mekong is awaiting the impending decision concerning the construction of a 1,260-megawatt dam proposed for Xayaburi province in Laos. The Xayaburi dam poses serious threats, not only to the communities directly impacted in Laos, but particularly the populations of Vietnam and Cambodia, who will see little benefit from the sacrifices made, as 95 percent of the energy generated by the dam will be exported to Thailand. The Mekong River is the lifeblood for more than 60 million people and home to an exceptional range of biodiversity, including the critically endangered Irrawaddy river dolphin. According to International Rivers in Cambodia, the Xayaburi dam threatens the nation's US\$300

million a year freshwater fishery and the successful rice production, reliant upon the unimpeded Mekong floodplain and fertilizing silt flows. It threatens 41 species with extinction and risks depleting current fish stocks which provide 80 percent of the protein in Cambodia's diet.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The project's efforts to address gender issues in the project area have centered on encouraging women's participation in the project as much as possible. According to the project team the focus of this has been to attempt to increase their decision-making power over project activities and inputs as this has required continued strengthening. The project has used two approaches to increase women's participation and leadership. The first approach involves encouraging women to contribute with their ideas at meetings and trainings. The second approach, which is likely to be more effective over the long term, has been to develop women's capacity by providing them with training in report writing, financial management and leadership skills. These trainings are provided to women who sit on CBO committees. The project has also worked to ensure that CBOs have by-laws in place requiring 2 of 5 committee members to be women. The project does not appear to have a comprehensive gender mainstreaming strategy in place. Gender issues are addressed on an ad-hoc basis in most of its project activities, although on the whole the project team seems to be committed to addressing gender inequality in the target area. The project has had limited success in addressing inequality within the realm of decision making; this is reasonable given the time that changes in decision-making power dynamics usually take to occur. The project has also faced challenges in achieving effective participation of men in the project. Given their migration patterns it is expected that they would be difficult to reach. Another major gender issue that the project has been unable to address regards staff deployment: there are no female staff members working on the project. Although staff members reported that the project makes a concerted effort to hire female staff, they said that the remoteness of the project area coupled with the hardship of working in the field discourage women from submitting applications for field-based positions. While this is a common difficulty that organizations face, it presents a major challenge to the potential of successfully building the confidence and capacity required to the development of women's leadership – both within the organization and the target area. Female staff can serve as role models to women in the target area; as such they can play a key role in empowering women in local communities.

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:

Communities' capacity built, to effectively engage in sustainable livelihood activities, as well as to begin to manage and/or expand activities independently, by establishing 15 Community Based Organisations (CBO) with a membership of 375 direct people in the targeted communities.

Component 1 Actual at Completion: 15 CBOs were established and registered with the commune council as official CBOs in 3 communes, Samaki, Koh Sneng and O'Svay communes after they attended the meeting on development/or revising by-law and internal regulation which was facilitated by the project team. There were 49 executive members including 23 women and in total 297 community members including 136 women. Among 15 CBOs, 9 CBOs are pig raising, 5 CBOs are chicken raising and 1 CBO is vegetable growing. The total number of members was less comparing to the original plan with 375 members. The major reason was because some people in Ramsar area live on islands far from each other and thus it is difficult to gather them to form CBOs. In addition, the original proposed budget was not enough to support less than 25 members per CBO and according to the strategy, we selected farmers who were really interested and committed with the project to make sure that the project would run successfully, and to later attract more people to join CBOs.

Based on the survey report, most beneficiaries thought that the project intervention was to increase their capacity to engage in and manage independently sustainable livelihood activities and engage in government planning and consultations. The project has established CBOs, and provided capacity building on management, leadership, accounting, budgeting, proposal writing, and engagement in commune investment plan which was followed by the national strategy development plan. The department of agriculture, communes, and CEPA added that the intervention also followed their priority development plans. All of them said that the intervention were important to sustain livelihood development of the target communities. For example, Mr. Chea Sela, Research Officer of Worldfish Center, said that he saw that the CBO in Koh Sneng village was very successful because all committee members were able to manage and support their members to involve in saving and livelihood activities. Moreover, they worked closely with commune councils and submitted their priority plan into CIP/CDP.

Component 2 Planned:

Food security of at least 375 families increased, and disposable incomes of these families increased by at least 15% through adoption of alternative livelihoods.

Component 2 Actual at Completion: Based on the monitoring and evaluation report, the percentage of target communities that consumed alternative livelihood products is higher than the expected achievement in the proposal, thus it met the proposed short-term impact. But, according to the baseline information which was conducted after the proposal had been approved, 65% of target communities already consumed alternative

livelihood products. This result was thus 5% higher than the expected result in the proposal. As a consequence, CRDT decided to have a 10% higher target at 75% and even there it still meets the short-term impact. The actual result by the end of the project was that 97% of beneficiaries consumed alternative livelihood products by the end of the project: an increase of 32%. The impact on health of target communities is also significantly different between expected result (35%) and actual achievement (92%) which was the cause of an improvement of quality and quantity of food and hygiene in their households. The annual disposable income of the target communities is also pointedly different between the set result (15%) and actual achievement (73%). The difference is mainly due to the contribution of rice production which was only 7.42% at the beginning of the project and 25.18% at the end of project. Overall all short-term impacts fully met what they were expected to achieve.

Component 3 Planned:

Increased environmental awareness among participating communities and direct involvement in conservation actions in support of the management objectives of the Ramsar Site.

Component 3 Actual at Completion: Based on the monitoring report, 87% of respondents thought that natural resource conservation was very important while the rest said that it was important especially for their families and communities.

Both groups mostly had the same mentions on the importance of the natural resource conservation such as the forest provides timber for house construction, firewood, absorbs rain, protects from storm; wildlife for young generation to know and for food (just traditional consumption); and fish for food and income.

Regarding waste management in terms of recycled use of waste, it has improved. There has also been a slight improvement of waste management through reducing the outside throwing. However, burning all waste is significantly higher than before. It also shows that the understanding of segregation of organic waste and solid waste among communities is still limited which need to be improved in future project intervention.

Even though the information if the beneficiaries have an idea about how to use wisely the wetland resources is not available in the baseline data report, it still shows a very significantly high figure (99%). It indicates that the majority of target communities had a clear understanding of potential solutions for a wise wetland use. Most of them had quite similar ideas on solutions such as avoiding illegal fishing activities (shocking, bombing, fishing in protected pools, cutting flooded forest and fishing in banned season); participating in sharing information about illegal fishing activities to Community Fishery, chief of village, commune councils, and police; and also joining patrolling activities. There is a slight increase (from 67% to 73%) in being able to name 3 environmental issues, which mostly were deforestation (86%), illegal fishing (68%), and wildlife hunting (53%), among the target communities, but still the 73% of respondents is a

considerably high level. The 70% of respondents who could name 3 potential solutions for environmental issues is also a high level (Table 7). The solutions for deforestation which were mostly raised by the respondents were banning clearing and burning forest for agricultural land and logging. The solutions for illegal fishing were the same mentioned above, while solutions for illegal wildlife hunting were assisting wildlife conservation through banning trap and poison wildlife and reporting to police about the illegal activities.

Component 4 Planned:

Livelihood CBOs manage, implement and monitor livelihood and partly contribute to conservation interventions under their own initiative.

Component 4 Actual at Completion: The project impact has mainly focused on positive and negative, primary and secondary long term effects including social and environmental safeguard policy impact produced by an intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended.

Exploitation of natural resources in terms of NTFP, wildlife, timber, and fish has been reduced among target communities through decreasing times to go to forest (by 69%) and fishing (by 25%). It was the main contribution from the project which engaged the target communities in improved livelihood activities on rice, chicken, pig productions other small business by using loans from saving group. In addition, the communities (94%) felt more empowered to take action for conservation. Moreover, 99% of them understood the use of wetland natural resource wisely in which they were able to raise actions for conservation such as participating on applying fishing law, patrolling against illegal fishing activities and reporting to Community Fishery, chief of village, commune councils, polices and relevant NGOs about illegal fishing activities.

Overall waste management of both organic and solid wastes around target villages has been improved through recyclable or buried solid wastes; compost of organic wastes; and or burning of all wastes (raised by 63% of participants in group discussion). These contributed to health improvement of the target communities and reduce the pollution to the river as well.

The project has not had negative impact on the social safeguard to the target communities. Contrastingly, the project has built strong team work among CBOs' members and engaged them to apply improvement of agricultural techniques in terms of vegetable, rice, chicken, and pig productions in order to increase food security and income generation (Based on information from group discussion and stakeholders interviews).

The project has not also had negative impact of environmental safeguard to Ramsar site. Inversely, the project has improved capacity of communities on waste management and organic agricultural products (rice and vegetable). In addition the project has contributed

to protect natural resources such as fish, forest, and wildlife through engaging target communities in reducing illegal activities in terms of shocking and bombing fish, trapping and poisoning wildlife, and logging timber in the project area (According the information from group discussion and stakeholder interviews).

Based on the M&E report, 100% of respondents of both members and committees of CBOs are having a high commitment in continuing current activities in terms of vegetable, rice, chicken, and pig productions, saving money, as well as other businesses (selling gasoline, delivering river water for household consumption services, cash crop productions etc.) through using loans from saving component. Most of them have had confidence in the management of their committees and they have believed that the saving component would help them save money, increase capital (through the interests) to be used for priority needs in their households in the future. Furthermore, the communities kept participating in natural resource conservation. Even though the understanding of management, financial management and budgeting, proposal writing, report writing, book keeping was overall on average; and understanding of objectives and processes of CIP/CDP was in low level among most committee members but they showed high potential to manage their ongoing CBOs with a team work culture in order to improve the livelihood security of all members. Moreover, there has been support in advice and following up by chief of villages and commune councils for daily operation of CBOs. And 80% of CBOs have participated in CIP/CDP process to develop proposals and submit them to commune councils for grant to support their priority needs such as local roads, bridges, further capacity building on agricultural techniques.

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

No

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

CRDT undertakes all activities according to the organization's Implementation Strategy. This is a working document used by all projects, which sets out the strategy and methodology for all CRDT activities, detailing how to implement for maximum effectiveness. This document ensures a consistency in all CRDT project implementation, and also ensures that learning is collected from across all projects and areas of experience. The document is continually updated based on learning from the field, and reviewed annually by all staff to ensure its content is up-to-date and relevant. In the past 3 years, CRDT's implementation strategy has been refocused so that all project activities are delivered through community groups instead of individuals. In this way, trainings can be provided to groups, monitoring activities will be less time consuming, and the farmers will be able to support each other rather than always being reliant on outside support. Most importantly, forming CBOs is a form of community empowerment, passing ownership of the alternative livelihood activities to the community so that there will be structures to support activities beyond a project's end. Projects enable beneficiaries to be

self-reliant, giving them a mechanism through which they can apply for, attain and manage government funding, and have a collected and recognized voice in local government structures. We will attach the case study and M&E report.

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.

- During the project design, the project team got more knowledge on proposal development compared to before the project implementation. We need to do a feasibility study or baseline survey. This will allow the project team to measure or manage the project, as well as having strong documents support and finally the project team got more experience on how to do feasibility study or baseline survey.
- After the end of the project, the project team found that: during meetings or training courses at village level, they used simple words and many pictures, video clip that related the contents of training courses and especially used a farmer to farmer approach, and allow participants to brainstorm their ideas and opinions. So, these methods made the participants understand and to bring new knowledge to apply in their communities and trust with the project.
- In all CBOs, we could introduce and encourage saving and internal lend to mobilize capitals to invest in their business and improve livelihoods.
- Strong partnership with all partners in the project areas is the key success of project implementation.

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

The partnership approach helps to build communication and create long-term sustainable change, creating a win-win situation for all NGOs working in Ramsar. A partnership will create jobs and opportunity for partners, through providing technical and physical resources (i.e. leadership, technical training, financial management, knowledge sharing etc...). This project finds the partnership between the Local NGOs and internal NGOs in the following ways. First, the internal NGOs start building the capacity of the local NGOs based on the type of the local NGOs programs. Second, the internal NGOs provide the local NGOs with needed technical support such as coaching, training, or workshops to build their skills and money to make sure all programs run very well. Third, both parties share experiences or information within their activities or programs.

The project also finds the following factors to contribute to secure the project through the partnership between the local NGOs and International NGOs. First, this partnership provides both parties with fund secure. Second, the partnership could generate social benefit. The partnership could build trust and improve communication both between the local NGOs and International NGOS. Third, the partnership showed solidarity for both parties and create a win-win situation.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

The Communities Fisheries Committee should join the CBO’s monthly meetings and share information on its conservation achievements to CBO members in order to improve their relationship and make the conservation concept more successful for a better natural resource management in Ramsar site. Active cooperation between CBO's livelihood and Community fishery is the key success of conservation.

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
WWF	A	USD 28,178.00	<i>To contribute towards the conservation of Mekong River biodiversity through sustainable development and promotion of alternative livelihoods within impoverished communities along the Mekong River.</i>

****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.

At the end, the project is handover to CBOs and local authorities to manage themselves. This is very important to make sure that the project will still run and receive strong support from local authority and CBOs. During the implementation, the project team always gives opportunity to community to lead the activities themselves and the project team just assist in what is needed.

The project team continues to provide capacity building to the management committee on leadership, management and communication to make sure the management committee can run project itself.

Saving and internal lending is most important criteria for communities to expand their business and create jobs to make sure they generate more income to support their families. Especially, the community contributed with the project, which allows the project to run well and be sustainable for the community development.

The most successful activities in the project were the vegetable growing, chicken and saving in Ramsar site. We could continue to give more support on those activities as well as providing capacity building to communities and to other communities, but we could also focus on market demands and quality products to make sure the community products can compete with export products from Vietnam and Thailand.

The night shows are also a successful activity, so we could continue this activity, but we should have more capacity building for the professional art group. And we could consider installing a bigger stage for the art group. Especially we could build communication and make partnership with NGOs and government to promote the art group performance.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

Overall, the project appears to have made an effort to encourage women's participation in the project. However, there has been less progress in encouraging men to support increased decision-making authority among women, which could affect the project quality. Although women attend meetings and certain training sessions in greater numbers than men, men continue to have more power over decisions about whether to accept project inputs and which livelihood activities to implement. In cases where men are away from the family for long periods of time, this has an impact on the length of time that women – and families – have to implement activities. This is true both within families and within the community in the case of CBOs. The project team thinks the gender mainstreaming in terms of increasing women's opportunities to engage in project activities rather than in terms of ensuring the project responds to the different needs and circumstances that the target community – both men and women – face. In fact, one of the biggest challenges that the project faces is the frequent and long-term absence of men

in the community, yet there is little evidence that steps have been taken to address this gender issue within the project. Therefore, it is critical that project staff increase their understanding of gender mainstreaming concepts and how to put them into practice.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

The project's participatory approach to conservation and resource management activities has potential to strengthen social cohesion, and the community's ability to interact effectively with Fisheries Administrations and other government agencies that collaborated with the project. This approach seeks to reduce community dependence on ongoing NGO support, within the framework of WWF's long-term commitment to this area. The community-based conservation and alternative livelihoods components of the project was delivered through technical and material support to community-based organizations. Technical support have assisted these organizations to continue alternative livelihood work independently and if necessary to seek future financial and or technical support from commune level structures. The project team always reviews or asks the beneficiaries during every village meeting/ training about the natural resources conservation and management, and how they get involved with conservation activities. For example, they were active in reporting when they saw illegal fishing, logging, or wild life hunting taking place in their community. In addition, they also raised many good ideas or other comments related to Natural Resources Conservation and Management while the training on Natural resources conservation took place in their village.

Communities understood about CRDT project which works in cooperation with Worldfish Center and WWF in Ramsar Site, Stung Treng. So, Community Fisheries always sent information and report of violation to local authority or project team every month. After, Worldfish identified 3 pools for conservation; the communities improved their conservation laws. So, project staff brings that information to continue sharing to community in those areas during conducted meeting with communities. So, the CBOs livelihood and CBOs conservation were committed to decrease fishing violations and prevent it.

On the other hand, the project team has conducted a movie show on environmental issues during the night time to show that included natural resources conservation, dolphin conservation, waste management, climate change, and even water pollution. And the project team also showed the beneficiaries about the impact of the Xayaburi dam at Lao border at those times.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

- Capacity building and support to all CBOs in Ramsar site could continue as these are still young and lack voice for the community development.
- Start targeting and nurturing young women and men for leadership positions in CBOs executive committees.
- Consider targeting women for individualized trainings, for example by providing women in savings groups with training in leadership skills.
- Ensure that project staff understands the link between 'livelihood' and 'natural resources conservation'.
- Ensure that project staff understands that a gender approach involves more than simply ensuring that women participate in project meetings.

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.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

Name: Hean Pheap

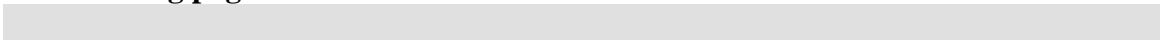
Organization name: Cambodian Rural Development Team

Mailing address: PO Box 2539 Phnom Penh 3 Phnom Penh,
Street 3, Daun Chroim village, Sangkat Kratie, Kratie town, Kratie province
CAMBODIA

Tel:(855) 11 60 61 31

E-mail: hean_pheap@crdt.org.kh

*****If your grant has an end date other than JUNE 30, please complete the tables on the following pages*****



Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

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 from July 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013. (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.	No			CRDT's project activities are to complement with WorldFish Center, so any hectares strengthened, reserved, expanded which was recorded by WorldFish, was partly contributed by CRDT.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	No			CRDT's project activities are to complement with WorldFish Center, so any hectares strengthened, reserved, expanded which was recorded by WorldFish, was partly contributed by CRDT.
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.	Yes			Mekong from Kratie to Lao PDR: This is not a formal protected area at this time, but CRDT is working with WWF, WorldFish and other NGOs like Birdlife, CEPA, CEDAC to improve the natural resources management in this site by promoting alternative livelihoods that reduce unsustainable natural resource use. We also conducted education and awareness in local communities to promote conservation in the project area.

<p>4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.</p>	<p>Yes</p>		<p>The project contributed to an improved management of natural resources in the CEPF Priority Corridor "Mekong River and Major Tributaries" and CEPF Priority Site "Mekong from Kratie to Lao PDR". This is not a formal protected area at this time, but CRDT is working with WWF, WorldFish and other NGOs like Birdlife, CEPA, CEDAC to improve natural resources management in this site by promoting alternative livelihoods that reduce unsustainable natural resource use. We also conducted education and awareness in local communities to promote conservation in the project area.</p>
<p>5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.</p>	<p>Yes</p>		<p>CRDT has worked in 21 villages (9 villages supported by CEPF and 12 villages supported by WWF and furthermore, WWF also supported small grants to 15 CBOs of the CEPF's 9 villages) in the Ramsar site to promote the sustainable use of natural resources through livelihood development. Please see Table 1.</p>

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/nomadic recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Increased Income due to:								security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or	More secure access to water resources improved tenure or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of	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	traditional knowledge for environmental	decision-making due to strengthened civil society and	Other		
						sustainable natural resources management	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services	Improved tenure	Improved tenure	Improved tenure	Improved tenure										
Kham Phann	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Veun Sien	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chum Thom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Koh Sneng	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Koh Sralao	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Koh Key	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Koh Hib	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Koh Pnov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
O'ron	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Total																							

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