

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Lao Wildlife Conservation Association
Project Title:	Participatory survey, assessment and conservation of green peafowl (<i>Pavo muticus</i>) in Dongkhanthung provincial protected area of Champasak province, Lao PDR.
Date of Report:	10 October 2012
Report Author and Contact Information	Dr. Chanthavy Vongkhamheng E-mail: cvongkhamheng@gmail.com

CEPF Region: Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot key biodiversity # 50 in the Central Indochina Limestone, which falls under the priority of the Mekong and its tributaries

Strategic Direction: Strategic direction number 1: Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats
Strategic direction number 2: Develop innovative, locally led approaches to site-based conservation at 28 key biodiversity area

Grant Amount: US\$ 19,930

Project Dates: October 2011 – September 2012

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

- Department of Forest Resources Management (DFRM) - national coordinator
- Provincial Agriculture and Forestry of Champasak – provincial coordinator
- District Agriculture and Forestry of Mounlapamoke – district coordinator and co-field actors
- District Army of Mounlapamoke – field guide and assistants, and law enforcement
- Village authority – field guide and assistant

Conservation Impacts

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

The green peafowl is one of the priority globally threatened species in Indochina. This project produced the first systematic field assessment of green peafowl in Lao PDR, providing baseline information on abundance and distribution of green peafowl, which is necessary for developing effective conservation action plan to secure their long-term viable population in natural habitat in the country.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project against the expected results detailed in the approved proposal.

The approved project proposal listed the following objectives;

- (i) Obtained reliable data on the abundance and distribution of green peafowl in DKT PA,

- (ii) Involved local communities (and government staff at province and district levels) in field surveys, important step in creating conservation partnership with local communities to initiate participatory wildlife conservation and monitoring, particularly the green peafowl at the site.
- (iii) Strengthened capacity of government staff and local communities in field survey techniques.
- (iv) Developed conservation conceptual model outlining threats and conservation interventions for maintaining a viable population of green peafowl, and other endangered mammals and birds.

All above objectives were fully met by the project. Technical trainings for both government staff and local villagers were provided two times. One is about local expert opinion questionnaire survey, and followed by the basic field conservation and point count survey techniques. Two workshops were organized with local stakeholders, including Lao WCA staff, provincial and district military, police, DAFO, cluster office, and village headman. The first workshop informed local stakeholders about the green peafowl conservation status, conservation significance and needs, together developed a conceptual model to brain storm local opinion how to save the species by indentifying direct and indirect threats, appropriate interventions, and participants in implementation. The second workshop was to present the results to local people (the same group of people at the first workshop), and provided them recommendation for future actions to ensure their survival in nature.

In sum, the project has produced not just only the baseline information on abundance and distribution of the green peafowl in Dongkhathung, it also encourages involvement of variety of stakeholders at different levels (national and local) to pay conservation attention on the endangered green peafowl. Additionally, the project supported the capacity building for government staff and local villagers through; i) formal technical training provided by project, and (ii) learning by doing. Those trained people are now capable of replicating or continuing on field activities if funding sources are available.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: 1,700 sq. km
Species Conserved: The Green Peafowl (*Pavo muticus*)
Corridors Created:

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

- The project took place in area nearby Lao-Thai-Cambodia, which is high profile for national security, so building understanding with military and local government offices is most important to gain local support and thus achieve the short-term and long-term objective. However, this may take time and financial resources.
- Some part of Dongkhanthung still contain land mine, which make it difficult to access some area
- Dongkhanthung is lowland habitat, it is difficult for transportation in raining season so it needs good vehicle.
- Local support is now much better, but funding to continue activities is a big challenge to achieve long-term conservation objectives

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

- Through involving military and local government offices in the project implementation, the military put wildlife in their patrol agenda. Road checkpoint has operated for years but stressed mostly on illegal timber activities, and now they added wildlife into their agenda by not allowing outsiders enter into Dongkhanthung for hunting and transport of any wildlife from the area
- The green peafowl conservation is quite widely known by local officers and villagers in Dongkhanthung PPA.

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.

- Key stakeholders who most important in participating in the ground conservation project for green peafowl
- Current threats to the green peafowl and its habitat, and proper conservation interventions were identified in order to tackle to save the birds and other associated species in natural habitat of Dongkhanthung.
- Ground survey along Lao-Thai border is highly needed to assess the peafowl population and gain better understanding for planning future conservation activities.

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

The key objective of the project was to gain baseline information on the green peafowl population status so the project design was more likely technical. The project was firstly started with questionnaire survey using local knowledge associated with statistical occupancy model to gain overall understanding of the bird occurrence and distribution across the area, and then, the ground point-count survey were undertaken. However, we felt that involvement of local people in project implementation was important to build local capacity and participation in conservation. Technical trainings for staff was most important to ensure that they follow properly the survey protocols, and for future replication of activities. Workshops with local people were necessary to build local understanding and conservation partnership.

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

Sufficient technical trainings provided to staff and villagers were most important to achieve field activities. Additionally, field equipment and supplies (and food) provided sufficiently to field staff were so necessary to allow them to work properly and thus obtain good data in the field.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

- organizing workshops with local people is most important to build local understanding and gain local support.
- participatory process need to take into account all of these steps equally such as involve people in thinking, making decision, implementing, taking responsibility, and sharing benefit.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes

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

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF 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 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.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

The findings of project presented to local authorities. The conservation significance and need of green peafowl was widely acknowledged by local stakeholders. Of particular important, the military added the wildlife into their patrol agenda.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

N/A

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 from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012. (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			Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one. Dongkhanthung provincial protected area.
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.	Yes		100,000 ha	Baseline data on abundance and distribution of the endangered green peafowl produced
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.	NO			

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

Additional Comments/Recommendations

- More funding to support ground conservation activities at community level is highly needed to continue on local awareness campaign and spatial planning.
- Funding is needed to continue on ground field survey in the western part, Lao-Thai border, of the PPA to provide comprehensive data of the green peafowl population status.

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: Dr. Chanthavy Vongkhamheng
Organization name: Lao Wildlife Conservation Association
Mailing address:
Tel: 856-20-54321-123/22207-999
Fax:
E-mail: cvongkhamheng@gmail.com