

## CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

<b>Organization Legal Name:</b>	The Lao Wildlife Conservation Association
<b>Project Title:</b>	Conservation initiative of Indochinese Silvered Leaf Monkey ( <i>Trachypithecus germaini</i> ) in Dong Phouvieng National Protected Area of Savannakhet, the central Lao PDR
<b>Date of Report:</b>	April 2013
<b>Report Author and Contact Information</b>	Dr. Chanthavy Vongkhamheng Lao Wildlife Conservation Association Tel: 856-20-22207999/54321123

**CEPF Region:** Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot key biodiversity # 50 in the Central Indochina Limestone, which falls under the priority of dry dipterocarp forest

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

**Grant Amount:** US\$ 20,000

**Project Dates:** 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 – 15 March, 2013

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

- Department of Forest Resources Management (DFRM) - national coordinator, and assistant in field implementation.
- Provincial Forest Resources Management of Savannakhet – provincial coordinator/field assistant
- District Agriculture and Forestry of Phin – district coordinator and field assistant
- District Agriculture and Forestry of Chonnabuly – district coordinator and field assistant
- Savannakhet University – field assistants
- Village authorities and members – village coordinator and field assistants.

### Conservation Impacts

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

The Indochinese Silvered Langur is one of the priority globally threatened species in Indochina. This project produced the first systematic field assessment of Silvered Langur in Lao PDR, providing baseline information on abundance and distribution of species 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.***

With CEPF support, we aspired to achieve the following objectives:

- (i) Obtaining data on the species distribution in Dong Phouvieng through village interviews and using questionnaires
- (ii) Obtaining reliable abundance and distribution of Indochina Silvered Leaf Monkey in specifically Dong Sakee Sacred forest, and also to find out their threats and potential to rehabilitate the population including water sources/saltlick in dry season as well as food sources and habitats. These will be useful to design the proper conservation strategies to recover this species (and other key wildlife).
- (iii) Involve local communities (and government staff at province and district levels) in field surveys is very important step in creating conservation partnership with local communities to initiate participatory wildlife conservation and monitoring, particularly the Indochina Silvered Leaf Monkey.
- (iv) Strengthen capacity of government staff and local communities in field survey techniques. Staff and villagers involved in this project will be first trained on basic conservation and field survey techniques and learn new experience and skills on the job so they able to replicate this survey in the subsequent follows.

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 ground survey techniques using line transect sampling. 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 Indochinese Silvered Langur conservation status, conservation significance and needs, and purposes of the project. The second workshop was to present the results to local people (the same group of people at the first workshop), 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, and provided them recommendations 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 Indochinese Silvered Langur in Dong Sakee Sacred Forest, it also encourages involvement of variety of stakeholders at different levels (national and local) to pay conservation attention on the endangered langur. Additionally, the project supported the capacity building for government staff and local villagers through; i) formal/informal 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:** 375 ha.

**Species Conserved:** Indochinese Silvered Langure (*Trachypithecus germaini*)

**Corridors Created:** None

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

- Better understanding on current population status of and conservation needs for the endangered Indochinese Silvered Langur in natural habitat in Lao PDR
- Better understanding on potential threats to the Silvered Langur in its natural habitat
- The Silvered Langur disperse widely in dry season to search for food and water, thus were not able to count all individuals, and also use of area outside the sacred forest expose the langur to higher risk of poaching by outsiders.

- Local support for conservation of the species 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)?***

- Although the Indochinese Silvered Langur has been recognized internationally as endangered species for years, the species has received low or little attention for conservation in Lao PDR in the past. Now, this project introduced the species into national conservation profile, and provided baseline information for future conservation planning.

## **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 primary purpose of the project was to gain baseline information on population status of the endangered Indochinese Silvered Langur, and thus the project design was more likely technical. The project started first with questionnaire survey to gain overall understanding about potential occurrence and distribution across the larger landscape, and then focused ground survey in the sacred forest area, where occurrence of species is certain. Given experiences suggested that involvement of local people in project implementation was important to build local capacity and participation in conservation, and provided technical training 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)***

- Formal and informal discussion with local government officials at central, provincial, district, and village levels to build better understanding of the species and conservation needs make gain better support for conservation at the ground level.
- Provided sufficient training to staff and villagers was most important to achieve field activities.

***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.**

*The findings of project presented to national and local authorities in forms of technical report. The information provides a baseline for conservation agencies to develop proper conservation strategy to attract conservation supports and thus secure survival of this endangered Silvered Langur in its natural habitat.*

**Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.**

*Student research projects on species may occur in the future as we involved some university students and professors in field survey activities. The species conservation status is now widely recognized by officials at multiple levels.*

### Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

*Local people are key partners for implementation of this project, allowed them to participate in any project activities, and also to express opinion on what they think the most important for securing a conservation and protection of species in its natural habitats. The implementation of field activities in the sacred forest area always followed the local norms or beliefs.*

## 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, 2013 to June 30, 2014. (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.
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		375 ha	Baseline data on abundance and distribution of the endangered Indochinese Silvered Langur
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 conduct complete count of animals in draining season when animals assemble to gain better information on actual numbers of the Silvered Langur in Dong Sakee Sacred Forest, and also to support forest land boundary demarcation to prevent encroachment into the primary habitat of the Langur.

### **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.ceph.net](http://www.ceph.net), and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

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