

# CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

<b>Organization Legal Name:</b>	Youth for Peace and Development
<b>Project Title:</b>	Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation, Cambodia Mekong River
<b>Date of Report:</b>	June 24, 2011
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**CEPF Region: Cambodia**

**Strategic Direction: 1.1**

**Grant Amount: 4999 USD**

**Project Dates: August, 2010 to March 2011**

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

1. Kampong Cham Cantonment Fisheries Administration
  - Promote and supporting for fisheries law extension and regulation in project sites to protect endangered fish species
2. Ankorban Commune Council
3. Rokakoy Commune Council
  - Encourage fishermen to participate in fisheries law extension and networking to conserve endangered fish species
  - Support progress of Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation in their communities
  - Enhance fund raising in their communities

## Conservation Impacts

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

YPD had implemented its project under financed granted CEPF to contribute conservation purpose of the CEPF in engaging civil society, such as community groups, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and private enterprises, in biodiversity conservation in the hotspots regarding the strategic direction 1.1., identify and secure core populations of 67 globally threatened species from over-exploitation and illegal trade, under principle CEPF Strategic Direction 1, Safeguard priority globally threatened species in *Indochina* by mitigating major threats. Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation Project aimed to engage communities based organization in Cambodia Mekong River in Kampong Cham Province to build partnership with local authorities, Kampong Cham Cantonment Fisheries Administration. Two commune in Korng Meas District were selected to build Network based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation namely Ankorban commune and Rokakoy.

Project chose these sites because of history caught Mekong giant catfish and other giant freshwater fish species (freshwater stingray, Mekong giant carb, Isok Barb, Thinlip Barb, Narrow Barred Tigerperch, Dwarf Goonch, and Goonch). These areas are reported main migration corridor and habitat of these global threatened species.

However, this project targets to conserve priorities fish species of CEPF in Indochina and other endangered fish species defined by Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fishery, Cambodia (MAFF) and regarding to national fisheries law of Cambodia.

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

The ultimate aim of the project was to build capacity of local level, network member and local commune council and Fisheries Cantonment to work together to identify, plan, implement, and manage their own Endangered Fish Species. The project will be developed and promoted the implementation of the strategy for the maintenance of global threatened fish

species in Cambodia. It will thus directly assist Cambodia to meet its own obligations under the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES), and Convention on Migratory Species (CMS). The detailed objective of this project is following:

1. To Improve the knowledge of local people and commune council on endangered aquatic species conservation option;
2. To build Network to monitor and release the alive global endangered fish species and also conduct quantitative assessment based on local knowledge.

**Expected Output 1.1.1:** 200 local people gained knowledge on endangered fish species conservation

***Actual Performance:***

Workshop on Fisheries Law extension, Sub-decree CITES and Sub-decree of Endangered Aquatic Species Identification and local participation in conservation held in Akorban and Rokakoy commune. The total participants attended in the workshop of Akorban Commune were 92 persons and 89 persons in Rokakoy commune that 30 women participated. The aim of this workshop was to bring together of local fishermen used large fishing gears in pool along Mekong River in these areas and commune council and police to educate the fishery law focusing on endangered fish species conservation and management and Sub decree on Identification of Endangered Aquatic Species to promote good government formed local community of these area as well as represent as conservation model to other community in conservation manner of endangered species and 95 percent of participants gained full understanding of national fisheries law on protection of endangered fish species and expressed the commitment to report the catch information for releasing all global threatened fish species in their communities.

**Expected Output 1.1.2:** 50 Local people trained and improved spiritual of the role in biodiversity and endangered aquatic species conservation and sustainable livelihood development

***Actual Performance:***

Training on the role of local people in biodiversity and endangered aquatic species conservation and sustainable livelihood development were held in Akorban and Rokarkoy Commune. There were 50 network members trained by Kampong Cham Cantonment Fisheries Officer. The aim of this training is to educate all network members to deep more knowledge on law and regulation regarding to endangered aquatic conservation, biodiversity conservation, anti illegal fishing and promote sustainable livelihood by community engagement participate environmental protection. YPD collaborated by Kampong Cham Cantonment Fishery Administration trained 50 persons of Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation in separated two training event of these commune.

**Expected Output 1.1.3:** At least 100 local people from the targeted commune recognized the valued of fisheries resource and biodiversity for sustainable livelihood through video showing at project sites

***Actual Performance:***

Showing video on value of fisheries resource and biodiversity and opportunity of local community for conserving endangered species were generated in Village #3, Akorban Commune and Rokakoy Village, Rokakoy Commune, Kong Meas District, Kampong Cham Province. Around 156 local community in these commune were engaged to participated Video showing focused on Promotion on Spiritual of Fisheries Resource Conservation, why we need conservation zone in fishing boundary, how local people participate in management and conservation activities and the negative impact of illegal fishing activity on fisheries resource and livelihood of local people. The community empowerment rose by using question and answer program related emphasize of video story. The titles of video story were Father's Admonitions and Fish My Life.

**Expected Output 1.1.4:** Four contribution boxes prepared and placed in school and commune council office plays an important role in raising awareness of children and communities for aquatic endangered species conservation

***Actual Performance:***

Four contributions boxes were produced and two of these boxes placed in Rokarkoy commune (one placed in Commune Council office and one more placed in pagoda). The total budget gained from public fund raising in this commune at the end of May was 145300 riel Khmer approximately to USD 36.325.

In Akorban commune two boxes were placed in two different pagoda. The amount of contribution earned from different donors will be highlighted in final project report. The total fund donated by people living in this commune at the end of May was 118500 riel Khmer approximately to USD 29.625.

Amount budget will be used for conservation activities for endangered fish species in two communes. It will be acted as the budget component initiated for to promote sustainable of project implementation.

**Expected Output 1.1.5:** Two Endangered Fish Species billboards were produced in project sites play a vital part in encouraging of fish conservation perception and value of local participation in communities revealing the effort of BirdLife International/CEPF and its reputation in shaping conservation policy throughout these communities

***Actual Performance:***

Two Identification of Freshwater Endangered Aquatic Species billboard established. One billboard was placed in Ankorban Commune office and one more was installed in front of Rokakoy Commune office. These billboards play a vital part in shaping conservation manner to those living around these communities for people living surrounding Korng Meas District for women group, youth and fishermen, fish trader and sellers as well as children. These billboard highlighted fishery law article prohibited and stimulated picture of freshwater endangered species to promote spiritual of fishery conservation in these community. It also represents the effort of Birdlife international and Commune Council to integrate in shaping conservation improvement for fishermen and people in communities.

T-shirts 60 were printed and delivered to network members. The ultimate aim of this producing is to raise awareness of endangered fish species conservation and reveal effort of Birdlife International/CEPF and reputation supported this project.

**Expected Output 2.1.1:** At least 25 persons from Rokakoy and 25 persons from Ankorban commune trained on value of fisheries resource and aquatic conservation joined as network member/committee who is the fundamental group for monitoring and participate in conserving fish

***Actual Performance:***

Meeting to select network member (Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation) were held in two project sites namely Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation in Rokarkoy Commune and Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation in Ankorban Commune, Korng Meas District. Each network has 25 members. The management committees were nominated by free election among representative members from the commune. The Network Management Committees are responsible for current and future management plan; fishery law extension, anti illegal fishing in the community, manage contribution box donated by CEPF, fund raising in community, representative as local conservationist team ask for donation from developer and environmental organization to support conservation activities to protect endangered fish species Mekong River. Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation also represent as CBO to act as active local CBO to strengthen project sustainable in these two communes. The activities of this meeting participated by local community in total 50 persons that 07 individuals were woman. Network member formed among commune council police fishermen.

**Expected Output 2.2.2:** An agreement between network committee, commune council and cantonment fishery administration was produced to remind local participation effort managing and protect endangered species in their community.

***Actual Performance:***

The meeting on preparation of network regulation, agreement between Network with Commune Council and Fisheries Administration Cantonment were held in Akorban and Rokakoy commune. Before meeting held the network regulation were drafted by YPD and Officer of Kampong Cham Fisheries Administration Cantonment. All network members and management committee and a Fishery Officer were invited to attend the meeting to provide feedback on regulation article.

25 members from Akorban and 25 persons from Rokakoy commune attended separated meeting. The network regulation drafting narrated role of Network responsibility on managing and conserving endangered fish species in their community and release alive endangered aquatic species when they caught those fish and the supporting legal promotion form fishery office to monitor catching and trading of those species. The network members and committee also bound duty in extension law of protection for endangered species to local people in their community.

**Expected Output 2.3.3:** The past and current information of endangered species catch gained through reporting by local fishermen and participating in releasing and direct observation in target sites and it would be indicating the changing local people behaviors

**Actual Performance:**

The direct observation and group discussion with local fishermen of these two communes illustrated the following data. 90 percent of fishermen group indicated their commitment to release alive endangered aquatic species to natural habitat. The fishermen reported that two Mekong Giant Stingrays around 200 Kg caught in Mekong River and traded in local market of Rokakoy commune in June 2009. Fisherman reported that Freshwater Tiger Fish threatened by local Vietnamese trader call for collecting alive these species around 0.50 USD/ individual. At least 300 tiger fish sold to Vietnamese trader every year that caught from natural lake and Mekong River in these communes. However we recorded hide information that some fishermen use illegal fishing gear to catch fish in flooding season that most of small tiger fish were caught by them. The died tiger fish were sold in local market and alive fish were sold for Vietnam traders.

The fingerling of Giant Carp were harvesting for local consumption due to easy to die when it were incidental catch by gillnet. The large individual of these species catch were not reporting.

During our project implementation YPD not recorded the current status of Catching Mekong Giant Catfish in these communes. However approximately 4-6 individual of these species and 2-3 Giant Carp are stocking in several pond since early life stage while fish farmer collecting fingerling to culture in Cheung Prey Commune, Cheung Prey District, Kampong Cham Province reported by fishermen in Rokarkoy Commune and verified by Cantonment Fisheries officer, Kampong Cham Province. The fishermen are unable to identify the fingerling of Mekong Giant catfish population.

**Please provide the following information where relevant:**

**Hectares Protected:** It is a community based conservation network in two community of Kong Meas District in Kampong Cham Province

**Species Conserved:** *Pristis microdon*, *Puntius partipentazona*, *Balantiocheilos melanopterus*, *Puntioplites bulu*, *Pangasianodon gigas*, *Catlocarpio siamensis*, *Probarbus jullieni*, *Probarbus Labeamajor*, *Probarbus labeaminor*, *Batagur baska*, *Datnioides undecimradiatus*, *Tenuialosa thibaudeaui*, *Glyptothorax fuscus*, *Wallago teeri*, *Bagarius bagarius*, *Bagarius suchus*, *Bagarius yarrelli*, *Lycotrissa crocodiles* and freshwater stingray.

**Corridors Created:** NA

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

**Short-term impact**

The project successfully delivered the intended expected outputs. The national fishery law and Sub-decree on Identification of endangered aquatic species are the main component to promote establishing Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation in these two communes. It also has positive impact on designation of network regulation of endangered fish species protection.

Cantonment Fisheries Administration in Kampong Cham province full participated on delivering its service on fisheries law extension and motivated commune councils to attend as active group for raising conservation activates in their communities.

### ***Long-term impact***

Network regulation on protection endangered fish species in these CBO will be reminded to network members, commune council and communities on law prohibited for harvesting, harvesting of all endangered aquatic species.

Contribution Boxes donated by CEPF will contributed for future conservation initiative of these CBO on conservation activities and sustainable livelihood development of their communities.

### ***Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?***

100 posters of Endangered Aquatic Fish Species were donated by Inland Fisheries Research and Development Institute (IFReDI)/FIA Cambodia. These posters delivered to fishermen and local people in these communities.

## **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)***

To design this project consultation and reviewing of any reports and data regarding to catch data and previous study on endangered fish species were practiced. Project targeted to establish two networks based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation in two commune where historically caught of Mekong Giant Catfish and other global threatened fish species. Based on National Fishery Law of Royal Government of Cambodia, sub-decree of CITES and sub-decree of Endangered Aquatic Species commune council and local fishermen full participated with law extension and establishing network member as well as network regulation.

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

- I. Two Communities Based Organization in Akorban and Rokarkoy Communes (Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation) to conserve endangered fish species in these areas formed firstly in Cambodia based in Rokarkoy and Ankorban Commune of Kong Meas District, Kampong Cham Province. Network member and local communities follow and implement the provision and activities of endangered fish species conservation which has been legally issued in the statute for Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation according to their participation and implementation of endangered fish species. Theses network will play a crucial role in fund raising to support conservation activities and sustainable livelihood opportunities.
- II. The Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation has been established to facilitate and promote conservation activities in their communities. Other hand, communication and management system are developed by network regulation and impact of project implementation,
- III. The commune council member and network based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation are worked together and gained full understanding about national regulation on protection of endangered fish species in Cambodia. Linkage between national regulation and local regulation on protection of endangered fish species conservation was printed and delivered to their communities to promote further law enforcement activities.

### ***Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:***

- I. *Network Based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation in these area play an important role to shaping conservation activities for their communities for protecting any global endangered fish species and reporting catch information to improve national prevention activities on endangered fish species.*
- II. *Network member and commune council can release any endangered aquatic species immediately to wild habitat*
- III. *Network can be acted as representative to contribute for raising environmental awareness in the communities*

- IV. Information on catch and releasing endangered aquatic species are available from the network for researcher group and further study are required

### 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.*

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Type of Funding*</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Inland Fisheries Research and Development Institute (IFReDI) of Fisheries Administration	100 Posters	250 USD	This kind contribution donated by IFReDI to support education awareness on endangered aquatic species in the project sites during project implementation for delivering to fishermen, children and people in project sites
YPD	in-kind contribution	1772 USD	These kind contribution made by cost of computer, printer, paper, office rental for six months and internet service

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

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*  
**N/A**
- 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.)*  
**N/A**
- C** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*  
**N/A**

### Sustainability/Replicability

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

The result of research of previous project of Dr. Zeb Hogan researched on population of Large fish species migration and population status in Cambodia joined coordinated by Fisheries Administration since 2000 and declaration of national fishery law as well as sub-decree of Identification of Endangered Aquatic Species have provided deep take into account fisheries conservation. Fisheries Administration has encouraged national and international conservation and research project regarding to endangered aquatic species in Cambodia. Fisheries Administration announced to all fishermen to release all endangered aquatic species when caught and reporting catch information to Fisheries Administration.

The suggestion on sustainable livelihood development should be added to support for conservation effort of network members full participated in project implementation and support for environmental prevention in the project site, Kampong Cham Cantonment Fisheries Administration suggested.

Previous study project provided motivation about 100 USD to fishermen report about catch information of large fish species such as Mekong Giant Catfish, Giant Carp and stingray fishermen said. During network members were trained

about value of biodiversity conservation and protection of fisheries resource, fishermen suggest to access sustainable livelihood development support in communities to promote further cooperation.

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

NA

**Safeguard Policy Assessment**

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

NA

**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.

<b>Project Results</b>	<b>Is this question relevant?</b>	<b>If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.</b>	<b>Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.</b>	<b>Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. (Attach annexes if necessary)</b>
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	NA			Please also include name of the protected area. 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?	NA			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.	NA			
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	NA		-	
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	NA			

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





### **Additional Comments/Recommendations**

- Conservation activities for endangered fish species should be generated throughout Cambodia, especially along Cambodia Mekong River and around Tonle Sap Lake. Most of large global threatened fish species migrate from Tonle Sap Lake to Mekong River
- It was a very short term project implementation. Conservation project needs the long term and integrated social economic support to promote collaboration of stakeholders and natural resource management to provide alternative solution on poverty alleviation.
- National hatchery station should be added program on endangered fish species breeding and nursery to restore wild population of endangered fish species
- Regular monitoring on the endangered fish species catch and release and community fisheries implementation should be conducted to get the meaningful outcome of the conservation for Mekong Giant Catfish and other global threatened species
- Network based Mekong Giant Catfish Conservation which has established aiming to coordinate, lead and continue conservation of Endangered Fish species activities in Cambodia should be refreshed time to time.
- Continue to establish Network Based Endangered Aquatic Species Conservation at all area are historically caught all these species
- The scientific research on endangered fish species distribution and threat should be conducted to provide best solution for conserving these species

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

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