

## CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

<b>Organization Legal Name:</b>	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust
<b>Project Title:</b>	Building a partnership for establishing sustainable management at key wetlands for Sarus Crane in the Cambodian Lower Mekong
<b>Date of Report:</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2010
<b>Report Author and Contact Information</b>	Seb Buckton

**CEPF Region: Indo-Burma**

**Strategic Direction:** 1. Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats - 1.1 Identify and secure core populations of 67 globally threatened species from overexploitation and illegal trade

**Grant Amount: \$19,589**

**Project Dates: 9 March – 9 June 2010**

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

WWT – Project leader

Chamroien Chiet Khmer – Project implementation partner

Mlup Baitong – Project implementation partner

Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development – Stakeholder identified after initial submission of Lol as potential implementation partner of subsequent CEPF project.

All the partners joined a two-day field visit to the wetland sites in Kampot and Takeo province, and then participated in 5 days of workshops to develop a set of coordinated Lols for submission to CEPF. All project partners delivered a presentation on day 1 of the workshop to describe their organization's activities and to outline activities to date at the two project sites. Reports of the field visit and first two days of workshop activities are appended in Annex 1 and 2. The subsequent workshop days were spent drafting Lols and working on project budgets, in which all partners were involved. Draft Lols are appended as Annex 3-6

WWT led the workshops and coordinated the development of the Lols resulting from the development project. The workshop was split between the BirdLife offices and Mlup Baitong offices in Phnom Penh. BirdLife participated in an advisory role. The CEPF-RIT officer in Cambodia (Ouk Thira) also participated in the field visit and meetings and provided advice with regard to CEPF procedures and regulations etc.

### Conservation Impacts

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

The project has developed a partnership between WWT, BirdLife Cambodia Programme, Mlup Baitong, Chamroien Chiet Khmer and Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development that aims to deliver a coordinated programme of work to fully establish long term sustainable management of two protected areas representative of lower Mekong floodplain wetlands, that will secure a priority non-breeding population of Sarus Crane *Grus antigone*.

Sarus Crane is one of the 67 priority globally threatened species identified as part of the CEPF ecosystem profile. The sites hold a core non-breeding population of the species.

The sites also support populations of three other CEPF priority globally threatened species: Bengal Florican *Houbarops bengalensis* (Critical, CR; with very recent sightings at BPL), Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus* (Vulnerable VU), and Greater Adjutant *L. dubius* (Endangered EN).

The projects arising from this partnership will mitigate major threats to these species by establishing sustainable management of the wetlands at these sites.

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

Project **objectives** were to:

1. Develop and embed the partnership between WWT, MB and CCK.

Expected outputs

- Guidelines for communication among partners developed
- MoUs among project partners signed

The partnership between these organizations was developed by joint working over the development of the coordinated projects. An additional partner, CIRD, was also brought into the partnership. Communication methods were agreed during the workshop, both within the partnership and beyond to other stakeholders (see Annex 1 for more details).

The partnership was embedded by producing an MoU between the partnership organizations as well as BirdLife as a significant stakeholder in the conservation of the sites. The MoU is appended as Annex 7.

2. Develop a coordinated plan for project implementation at BPL and KT by the project partners.

Expected outputs

- An NGO steering committee is established

An NGO steering committee was established during the workshop, comprising Birdlife International; WWT; CCK; CIRD; Mlup Baitong; and CEPF-RIT.

3. Produce three Letters of Inquiry for project implementation grants to be submitted to CEPF.

Expected outputs

- Three Lol developed and submitted to CEPF

As a result of bringing CIRD into the partnership, a total of four Lols were developed and have been submitted to CEPF. Lols for small grants have been submitted to CEPF-RIT from CCK and CIRD. Full grant Lols have been submitted to CEPF in Washington from WWT and Mlup Baitong. The details of these projects are provided below, and Lols attached to this document as Annex 3-6.

Organisation	Project title	Duration	Funding request from CEPF
WWT	Establishing sustainable management at key wetlands for Sarus Crane in the Cambodian Lower Mekong.	3 years	USD 230,082
Mlup Baitong	Community Livelihood Development for Supporting Sarus Crane Conservation in Kampong Trach, Kampot Province	3 years	USD 100,000
CCK	Community Actions to Improve Livelihoods linked to Protection and Conservation of Sarus Cranes and other globally threatened species in Boeung Prek Lapouv Conservation Area, Cambodia.	1 year	USD 19,999
CIRD	Improved agricultural productivity and capacity building for income generation amongst farmer households reliant on the Kampong Trach Sarus Cranes Conservation Area in the province of Kampot, Cambodia	1 year	USD 19,996

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

**Hectares Protected:** N/A

**Species Conserved:** This project has developed coordinated projects which will help conserve a core non-breeding population of Sarus Crane. The sites also support populations of the globally threatened Bengal Florican, Lesser Adjutant and Greater Adjutant. Near-threatened species are Black-headed Ibis, Spot-billed Pelican, Painted Stork, Oriental Darter, and Asian Golden Weaver.

**Corridors Created:** N/A

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

The project successes included delivering the coordinated set of project Lols and broadening the base of local organisation involvement by inviting an additional NGO (CIRD) to participate in the project development at no extra cost to CEPF. The project development work provided an excellent opportunity for NGOs from both the conservation and development sector to discuss how to best deliver conservation objectives whilst also incorporating some development objectives, and recognising the interconnections between the two.

The only challenges were logistical ones of coordinating the involvement of several staff from different organisations, but this was achieved successfully.

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

No

### 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)**

Good communication between project partners during the project design was essential to ensure buy-in from all the stakeholders.

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

This project was relatively straightforward, and mainly required good logistical preparation for the visit from WWT to ensure all activities were possible in the time available. The ability to draw on local staff resource (from the CEPF-RIT and BirdLife Cambodia) to prepare the logistics was essential in delivering a successful mission.

The workshop sessions worked well, and included elements that ensured participation by all parties. These elements were an exercise to invite all participants to list what they thought were the benefits provided by the wetlands at BPL and KT, and break-out groups to develop ideas for livelihood activities to be incorporated into the project proposals. This was important in ensuring full involvement of all workshop participants.

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

None

**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
N/A			

**\*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.**

This project has been successful in delivering three coordinated Lols for one to three-year projects at these key sites for Sarus Cranes. One of the objectives of the main projects is to deliver mechanisms for long-term financing of management activities at the two sites.

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

N/A

### **Safeguard Policy Assessment**

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

None required for this small grant project. However, a safeguarding process framework was developed during the workshop for the coordinated projects of which the Lols were the main output of this small project. This was included with the submission of the Lols.

**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.	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.	No			
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.**

**Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities**

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

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

### **Additional Comments/Recommendations**

As our project was primarily a partnership and development project, none of the questions in the performance tracking report addendum are relevant. The work programme being developed under this small grant will result in action relevant to these questions. I have appended a more detailed report on the project activities that were undertaken as part of this small grant as Annex 1 and 2.

### **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.

**Please include your full contact details below:**

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Annex 1

## Cambodia - Site Field Visits – 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Boeung Prek Lapouv, Takeo Province - Field Visit – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010

CCK Meeting

Activities undertaken at BPL by CCK

- Met with village, commune and district representatives to discuss the project
- Raised awareness of the protected area
- Started village volunteer committees in
  - Dei Leuk Village (29 families)
  - Ban Teay Sal Euk Village (39 families)
- Have undertaken training courses for committee members
- Baseline survey of socio-economic data for the two villages has been collected covering
  - Rice production
  - Animal raising
  - Land use
  - Other income generation activities
  - Education facilities
  - Water quality
  - Waste disposal
  - Social affairs
- Priority issues for villages around reserve are:
  - Lack of clean water
  - Acidic water
  - Need more water for irrigation
  - Transport is a problem as area is flooded for 6 months
  - Flooding and storms damages the houses

Meeting with Local Conservation Group (LCG)

LCG is part funded by CEPF project under CCK although the members receive their salary from the government. Currently there are five members including:

- Fisheries department (Chief)
- Forestry department
- Two policemen
- Commune chief
- Cook

LCG undertake the following activities:

- Assess legal activities and take action
- Awareness raising
- Monthly bird counts, Sarus Crane and Waterbird Census

LCG legal framework to implement is:

- Wildlife laws under Forestry Department

- Fisheries Laws under Fisheries Department

LCG laws are enforced in the following way:

- Environment destruction is dealt with at the commune level by the commune chief
- Fisheries concession and fishing infringements are dealt with by the Fisheries Department

LCG started in 2003 and the main issues until 2005 were:

- Land encroachment
- Hunting
- Electric fishing
- After 2005 illegal activities greatly reduced but hunting by Vietnamese still occurs at night.
- Education and awareness has helped change local people's attitudes.
- People are happy because they can still collect grass for fodder and catch fish as encroachment of rice has been stopped.
- Migrant and seasonal workers sometimes don't understand protection laws and cause problems.
- No cover for staff if someone is sick or has to do other activities so would like to have one more member of staff.
- Would be good to get permanent members of staff from all communes but law enforcement would still have to be undertaken by government staff.
- Ecotourism might be an option at BPL. Other tourist attractions nearby include:
  - Temple
  - Hill with waterfall
  - Wetland area
- Water management would be good to hold water levels back – suggest sluices
- Planting inundated forest would be good for people as they could use it for fuel wood. At the moment they burn *Mimosa pigra* but when it is eradicated then they will have no choice but to use forest products.
- Pilot projects would be required to demonstrate to farmers the benefits of growing *Melaleuca* with rice in a joint irrigation scheme.
- There are two communes covering six villages that live round the site.

Village Volunteer Committee (VVC) Meeting – Dei Leuk Village

- Chief of the village is also the chief of the VVC
- Each VVC represents five different households and therefore has five members
- People only now coming back to this village after large flooding
- Typically the flood depth is about 4m above the ground level
- 20 out of 27 households have their own boat
- Main livelihood activities:

- Rice
- Fishing
- Collecting water lilies
- Difficult for them to transport their food to markets. This has improved as a canal has been built.
- Water
  - Store freshwater in ponds for drinking but runs out and they have to use canal water
  - Store floodwater also and rainwater to keep for drinking.
- Role of the committee
  - Work with the LCG to monitor the reserve
    - Check bird numbers
    - Report illegal activities
  - Raise awareness of issues
  - Communicate with the LCG by phone and written reports
- Views on protected area
  - In past a lot of Vietnamese came to collect wetland resources but now the area is protected less people come so the pressure is less on local people
  - Used to be more burning in the past by outsiders but as a result of the park this has been controlled
  - Ministry of Interior declared they could build a village there in 2002 but reserve sub-decree now declares it a buffer zone village. This means they have had to abandon some rice areas so the village has lost land.
  - 7 posts out of 20 demarcation posts have been destroyed by local people. The VVC suggest a small canal to mark the boundary.
- Issues
  - Ban Teay Sa Leuk Village needs a canal for transport
  - Money required to buy rice seed
  - Want to develop a cow bank
  - Would like clean, freshwater
  - Would like water jars and sanitation
  - Pests for rice crops come from insects and disease
  - Would like to have project phones so they can easily contact the LCGs
- Burning is undertaken to control rats and snakes
- Villages have bought *Melaleuca* saplings from Vietnam to plant.
- All villagers use fertilizer for rice cultivation – Urea, DAP and NPK.

Kampong Trach, Kampot Province – Field Visit – 11<sup>th</sup> May 2010  
 Mlup Baitong Project Area – Self-Help Group – Chress Village

- Four Self-Help Groups in the village (two others in two other villages)
- 15 to 25 members in each group

- Group activities
  - Fundraising – combine their spare income to act as community bank
  - Use funds to weave mats, build houses, buy fodder for livestock etc.
  - Chief decides on whether loans are approved
  - Money can also be used in an emergency or for day to day loans such as funding transport to take goods to the market
- Views about the Sarus Cranes
  - Happy to have Cranes because it has brought project funding
- Main livelihood activities in the village
  - Rice cultivation
  - Mat weaving
  - Hat weaving
  - Rice wine
  - Selling fish
  - Sell mango
  - Pig raising
  - Home gardens – water melon, cassava, chilli etc for both selling and own consumption
  - Collect morning glory in wet season
  - Firewood is collected from the *Melaleuca* found in the wetland area but now hard to find
- Mat weaving
  - Grass is imported from Vietnam. The grass does not grow in the wetland area in Kampong Trach.
  - A villager makes 1000 Riel of profit on 800 to 1000 Riel of grass bought from Vietnam.
- Fuel
  - If they cannot collect fuelwood from the wetland area then they have to buy from local suppliers
  - \$100 a year is spent on fuel for each household
- Water
  - Clean water is scarce
  - They have a village well but as a result of salt intrusion it can't be drunk
  - Salt intrusion has occurred because a dam was built to hold back freshwater but this just led to saltwater being brought further up the wetland area
  - Have water jars to collect rainwater but not enough is collected
  - They have 12 ponds to store rainwater and floodwater
- Wetland products collected
  - Fish
  - Frogs
  - Crabs
  - Shrimps

- Sea crabs (rare)
- Grass for cattle
- No plants are collected to eat because the area is brackish so the plants aren't used for cooking
- Collect one type of plant to treat stomach problems
- Collect wild palm for thatching
- The villagers haven't cultivated the wetland area because it is too salty for rice. It is also a problem because the water level becomes too high in the flood season and too dry in the dry season. Typically it is around 1.5m deep in the flood season.
- Views on the proposed plans to protect the wetland area
  - Happy if it also means eco-tourists come and they can sell their products to them.
- Major issue in the village is the lack of drinking water

#### Kampong Trach Local Conservation Group Meeting

- 8 permanent members
  - 1 Forestry official – chief of LCG
  - 2 Army staff
  - 1 Police chief
  - 2 Commune chiefs
  - 1 Army chief who lives in the LCG office
  - 1 Local person as boat driver
- Protection process
  - Area was proposed as a conservation area in 2002.
  - Sub decree discussed by ministers in February
  - Now awaiting approval by Prime Ministers office
- Main pressures on wetland area
  - Wildlife hunting
    - Bird traps used with tape recordings of bird song
  - Land encroachment
  - Firewood cutting
  - Burning of the grass
- To respond to this they have tried to raise awareness. This has been successful but there are still a few villagers that carry on illegal activities. They do not have a problem in Kampong Trach with people coming from other areas to collect wetland resources.
- If people persist in illegal activities they are warned but if this is not enough then they are sent to the commune chief to make a contract with them.
- Most people are now aware of the conservation area and have therefore ceased illegal activities.
- They have undertaken awareness raising with children to try and encourage them not to use sling shots.
- Resource use requirements for the LCG
  - Motorboat to conduct patrols – already supplied by BirdLife

- Motorbike – they have one but would need another one
- Walkie talkie (broken)
- Binoculars (broken)
- GPS (broken)
- Telescope
- Solar energy for use with computers and lighting
- Monitoring undertaken
  - Monthly bird survey
  - Illegal activities
  - Education activities
  - 10 patrols are undertaken a month
- Some members of the LCG are involved in self-help groups.
- Management issues for the site
  - Dam has changed the water regime
  - Currently no-one manages the water gates
  - Water level is now higher upstream of the dam in wet season but still has a problem with saltwater seepage.
  - Downstream of the dam water levels are controlled by the tide.

#### Kampot Province Forestry Department Meeting

- Deputy Chief of Forestry Attending
- KPFD has worked as a partner to conserve Kampong Trach since 2004
- Assisted in demarcation of the site to propose conservation sub-decree
- Problem with land encroachment but this is being addressed
- Awareness and education activities are helping at the site
- Elements of the project that KPFD working towards
  - Protecting the site
  - Understanding the biodiversity
  - Understanding the needs of people that live in and around the project area
- KPFD would like to support eco-tourism activities at Kampong Trach

Annex 2

LoI Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> May 2010 – Birdlife International Office, Cambodia and Mlup Baitong Office, Cambodia

13<sup>th</sup> May 2010

### **Introductions**

Birdlife International in IndoChina (Cambodia) – Mr Bou Vorsak – Presentation

- Conservation of Sarus Crane Sites in Lower Mekong Delta
- MoU with Royal Government of Cambodia, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries and Ministry of Environment
- Inventory of IBAs in Cambodia
- Selected five IBAs as priority sites including:
  - Boeung Preak Lapouv (BPL)
  - Kampong Trach (KT)
- Projects started in BPL 2003 and KT in 2004
- Activities in both sites
  - Set up local conservation groups (LCG)
  - Training and implementation for:
    - Bird monitoring (monthly reports)
    - Education and awareness raising
    - Law Enforcement
  - Apply for protected site status for the sites
  - Invasive species control
  - Monitoring protocol developed for both sites
  - Partner with local, national and international NGOs to protect sites
  - Set up site offices, boundary demarcation
  - 5 year operational management plan developed for BPL
  - Baseline research on flora and fauna has been undertaken
  - BPL is now a protected area and KT is in process
- Issues at sites:
  - Unsustainable water use for dry season rice in BPL
  - Limited capacity to conduct scientific monitoring
  - Long term sustainability of LCGs
  - Land speculation and conflicts with other uses
  - Limited resources both human and financial
  - Limited trans-boundary cooperation
  - Inappropriate use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides
- Next steps:
  - Methodology for sustainable use
  - Seek approach for self financing (eco-tourism, fishing concessions etc.)
  - Complete designation of KT
  - Build support from local communities through livelihood improvement projects
  - Research climate change impact on both wetlands

- Collaborate with partners in implementing long term management plan for both sites

Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (UK) – Dr. Seb Buckton & Dr. Matt Simpson – Presentation

- Introduction to WWT and the wetland conservation work it undertakes
- WWT's approach to wetland management:
  - Human-ecological system health
  - Ecosystem services provided by wetlands
  - Natural resource management - ecologically sustainable and socially just
  - Issues of access to ecosystem resources and services and the value derived by different groups
  - Management/learning cycle approach to management planning and implementation
- Case study examples of WWT projects:
  - That Luang Marsh, Vientiane Capital City, Lao PDR -
  - Koshi Tappu, Nepal – Managing wetlands for sustainable livelihoods

Group discussion

Wetland values determined for the two sites from the opinion of the group:

- Biodiversity
- Water for irrigation
- Fuelwood
- Food – snails, fish, crabs
- Agriculture – rice cultivation
- Improved water quality for drinking and washing
- Flood storage
- Materials for house construction, thatching
- Animal fodder
- Aquatic plants – food
- Transportation,
- Water reservoir
- Habitats for wildlife
- Climate change contribution
- Recreation – eco-tourism – national and international
- Cultural/social value – site
- Raw materials for handicrafts
- Medicinal plants
- Non timber forest products

Mlup Baitong – Mr Om Sophana – Presentation

- Established in 1998 from a project by British NGO, became independent in 2001
- 45 full-time staff and 15 volunteers



- Main office in Phnom Penh
- Work in four provinces which each have a sub-office
- Mission - To support the protection of the environment in Cambodia by increasing awareness and promoting sustainable use of natural resources whilst improving people's livelihood
- Works in four main areas:
  - Community Livelihood Improvement through self help groups;
  - Community Environment Improvement through School Eco-Clubs and Village Environment Action Teams;
  - Community Forestry; and
  - Community Based Eco-tourism.
- Now developing programmes which consider climate change.
- Provides Environment Education Resource Centre, Media and Consultancy
  - Supports a range of education mechanisms including radio broadcasts
- Current project in Kampong Trach
  - Support the submission of KT as a protected area
  - Conducted consultation workshop to develop guidelines for establishing Self Help Groups (SHGs)
  - Conducted awareness raising activities on the importance of Sarus Crane and introduce concept of ecotourism
  - Organised village meetings to introduce concept of SHG and Home Gardening for income generation
  - Organise meetings to form 6 SHGs and training on book keeping and management
  - Supported 6 SHGs in terms of technical and financial assistances to start-up their activities
- Proposed future project in Kampong Trach for 3 years
  - Sarus Crane habitat conservation (legality of the conservation area)
    - Coordination of sub-decree finalisation, provincial decree
    - Demarcation of the site, relevant laws and regulations, and dissemination
  - Community Based Organisation (CBO) formation
    - CBO Management Committee management structure, by-law and regulation
    - CBO Management Committee election and recognition from relevant authorities
  - Awareness raising on Sarus Crane conservation
    - Relevant laws and regulations
    - Importance of Sarus Crane and wetlands
  - Local Community Livelihood Improvement
    - Micro business through SHG – Saving groups, home gardening, animal/cattle raising, handicraft production etc.
    - Community based ecotourism establishment

Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development (CIRD) – Karun Khouth – Presentation

- Formed in July 2009
- Carried out 'Geographical Indications Protection in Cambodia' project with Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- CIRD works directly with farmer organisations and communities in 10 provinces.
- Vision: For Cambodian rural communities to enjoy abundant quality and healthy food, be able to supply their agro-products to markets, to live in good health and in a pleasant environment with access to quality rural education
- CIRD departments
- Key activities:
  - Poverty reduction by facilitating access to quality agricultural products produced by rural households to the markets;
  - Agriculture and rural development;
  - Sustainable livelihood and natural resources conservation compatible system;
  - Promotion and protection of agricultural product quality standards through law and policy advocacy and community support;
  - Project development and implementation;
  - Consulting services;
  - Action research for innovative solutions;
  - Innovative, relevant and pertinent rural education and training system;
  - Networking;
  - Cooperation with the private sector; and
  - Biodiversity, environment and climate change.
- CIRD departments
  - Family Agriculture, Enterprise Development Program;
  - Research Development Project Evaluation and Training Program;
  - Product quality standard and policy advocacy program; and
  - Rural education, environment and health program.
- 'Reinforcement of the infrastructure and management of the Kampong Trach Sarus Crane Conservation Site' proposal submitted to UNDP under the small grant GEF programme. Budget of \$50,000. A decision will be made by May 2010.
  - Project objectives:
    - Build capacity of Local Conservation Groups enabling them to develop appropriate conservation plan and its implementation focusing on site monitoring, law enforcement and public awareness raising;
    - To demarcate the Kampong Trach Sarus Crane reserve boundary line with pole markers;
    - To build capacity of at least 100 farmer households, whose livelihoods are reliant on the conservation site, enabling

- them to increase about 30% of their family agricultural production; and
- To investigate and research how Kampong Trach Sarus Crane conservation area can serve as an eco-tourism site generating income for future site conservation activities.
- Ideas for activities in KT:
  - Product labelling programmes – 'Wetland Friendly Product' labelling

#### Chamroien Chiet Khmer (CCK) – Presentation

- Khmer National Progress Association – set up in 1996 and recognised by government in 1998
- Main objective is to train local community to be leaders
- Mission – Provide knowledge, skills and education to improve livelihoods
- They have governing ethics of equality, transparency and justice
- They operate in three districts within Takeo Province
- Main activities:
  - Disaster reduction
    - Prevention
    - Response
    - Restoration
  - Integrated development
    - Agriculture and fisheries production
- Small support programmes:
  - Providing support such as boats, bicycles etc for transport
  - Supporting the buying and selling of rice (rice banks)
  - Supporting the development of livestock herds (cow banks)
  - Development of irrigation systems for rice production
  - Establishment of Self Help Groups for community financing
  - Community Forestry
  - Gender engagement
- CCK has network with local, national and international NGOs and government. Was established as a partner with Oxfam GB.
- Government has recognised the good work of CCK with four gold medals of achievement
- Activities undertaken at BPL:
  - CCK provides coordination and informs local village and commune NGOs;
  - Establishment of voluntary groups;
  - Training course for committee members undertaken to explain roles and responsibilities;
  - Awareness raising; and
  - Assessment of issues within villages was undertaken.
- Priorities for next activities to be undertaken at BPL:
  - Livelihood activity support in the communities;
    - Canal construction for transport, irrigation and patrols

- Establishment of cow banks;
- Provision of drinking water through purchase of water jars;
- Dig ponds for reservoir for fish and use soil material to provide foundations for housing (protection against storms);
- Melaleuca cajuputi planting for firewood and reinforcing banks;
- Agricultural development support;
- Support collaboration among LCG and Volunteer Groups – through improved transportation (boat purchase) and improved communication (purchase mobile phones); and
- Wild plant and grass management and collection.

Comment from CEPF – they do not support any infrastructure or building grant

#### Lines of communication discussion

- Contact details exchanged among partners
- Project structure – UK project manager based in Cambodia and national staff project managers
- Points of contact –
  - Birdlife International – Bou Vorsak – vorsak.birdlife@clickmail.com.kh
  - Birdlife International – Seng Kim Hout – sengkimhout@hotmail.com (main point of contact)
  - WWT – Seb Buckton – seb.buckton@wwt.org.uk
  - CCK – Mrs Hem Sakhan – cckorg.takeo@yahoo.com
  - CIRD – Karun Khouth – karunkhouth@online.com.kh (main point of contact). Copied to Mao Vannak – maovannak\_gi@yahoo.com
  - Mlup Baitong – Om Sophana – mlup@online.comkh (main point of contact). Va Moeurn (Executive Director) – vamoeurn@online.com.kh
  - CEPF – Ouk Thira – thira.birdlife@clickmail.com.kh

#### Project steering committee

- Proposed members:
  - Birdlife International;
  - WWT;
  - CCK;
  - CIRD;
  - Mlup Baitong; and
  - CEPF – Ouk Thira.

#### Communication with the Government of Cambodia

- Coordination with government will be undertaken by Seng Kim Hout
- Government expertise can be included as a consultancy within the project
- Government workshop to launch the project and a closing workshop to present results of the project will be required
- Exposure study visits will need to be cleared by the government

#### Communication with other organizations

- Key organizations to coordinate with are:
  - International Crane Foundation
  - Relevant Vietnamese organizations involved in Sarus Crane work
  - Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand and Lao have CEPF grants to undertake work. An exchange visit will be organised to learn from these projects
  - WWF

#### Review of original CEPF proposal and reviewers comments

- All partners received the documents and are aware of the comments

#### New CEPF proposal discussions

CEPF require more details within the Lol for example:

BPL – 302 – peak count for Sarus Crane

KT – 270 – peak count for Sarus Crane

Set up structures to organise management of the site – Steering committee, LCG, and Site Community Based Organisation Committees

For steering committee for management of both sites – submit roles and responsibilities – ministerial decree. Use BPL as a model for KT.

Officially recognise the LCG with a ministerial decree

Study tour to Phumy, Vietnam – ICF site – handicraft production

Study tour to WCS site – Ang Tropaeng Thmor – Sarus Crane site

Study tour to Chombok Mlup Baitong eco-tourism sites

#### Objective 4

Project coordination – regular meetings and reporting

Dissemination of outputs and communication of project activities

Capacity building of partners

For livelihood activities to be funded then villagers will have to agree not to undertake activities that would impact the reserve's status – Conservation agreement/contract will be undertaken between the NGOs and VVCs, SHGs and Community Based Organisations – implementation will occur within the project

14<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Review of draft Lol and discussion of issues

- Seb Buckton (WWT) provided a summary of the draft Lol and discussed the issues in delivery

Presentation of wetland values of BPL and KT

- Seb Buckton presented the wetland values determined for both BPL and KT from the group exercise undertaken on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010. These helped shape the later discussions regarding project activities.

Group discussion for BPL and KT project activities

- Representatives from both sites attended the group discussions including:
  - Staff from the Local Conservation Groups
  - Self Help Group representatives
  - Village Volunteer Committee representatives
  - CCK
  - Mlup Baitong
  - CIRD
  - Birdlife International
- Two groups, one for each site, discussed the following types of activities:
  - a. Awareness raising activities
  - b. Support of protection activities
  - c. Livelihood activities
- For each of the above topics the groups produced the following:
  - List of activities that could be undertaken
  - Prioritisation of the list
  - Mechanisms for delivery of top three activities
- List of potential activities for BPL
  - Awareness raising activities
    - Awareness raising meetings to raise awareness on the relevant laws (sub-decree and fishing lot law) and regulations – will be delivered at a village, commune and armed forces level (particularly to deal with Vietnamese entering the area) - Priority 1
    - Establish new VVCs – Priority 2
    - Awareness raising material production – Priority 3
  - Support of protection activities
    - Boat purchase – to help coordination between LCG and VVC – Priority 3
    - Coordination and management meetings – Priority 1
    - Construction of water gates to maintain water level – Priority 4
    - Removal of invasive species – Priority 2

- Water pollution control and water quality improvements – Priority 5
- Livelihood activities
  - Livestock bank – Priority 1
  - Drinking water provision – Priority 3
  - Construction of canal for transportation – Priority 2 – Workshop agrees to remove this activity as not appropriate
  - Technical training for crop management – Priority 5
  - Tree planting for fuelwood – Priority 4
  - House construction improvements – Priority 7
  - Eco-tourism activities – Priority 6
- Mechanisms of delivery for activities for BPL
  - Awareness raising activities
    - Awareness raising meetings - Two large district meetings, six meetings in local schools
    - Set up three new VVCs within the communities surrounding the reserve. This will support the two VVCs already established.
    - Awareness raising material production - 10 new sign boards providing information regarding the reserve required and booklets, t-shirts etc.
  - Support of protection activities
    - Boat purchase – two new boats required for coordination, particularly in the wet season
    - Coordination and management meetings – Quarterly meeting with LCG, VVCs, Armed Forces, Local Authority and NGOs
    - Removal of invasive species – Annual Mimosa Pigra and Ipomea cutting (before and after the flood) and burning of cut material
    - Water pollution control and water quality improvements – Raise awareness of the problems of use of pesticide, fertiliser and littering. Advice is to bury waste. A manual will be produced.
  - Livelihood activities
    - Livestock bank – 10 cows each for two villages – 20 cows. VVC will manage the cow banks to increase the stock for the villages. Livestock management training will be given to support this. Cow dung will be used to replace chemical fertilisers (CEPF can support)
    - Drinking water provision – One water reservoir to be constructed – 20m x 30m x 3m. (CEPF can support) 42 water jars to be purchased (CEPF can support).

- Construction of canal for transportation – 5m x 2m x 1000m (CEPF cannot support)
- Technical training for crop management – training courses delivered through the VVCs (CEPF can support)
- Tree planting – Planting of Melaluca etc for fuelwood in the villages and rice fields. (CEPF can support)
- House construction improvements – Houses need the bases to be raised above the flood level and to withstand storms (CEPF cannot support)
- Eco-tourism activities - (CEPF can support)
- List of potential activities for KT
  - Awareness raising activities
    - Village meetings to raise awareness of the importance of the reserve– Priority 1
    - Production of awareness raising materials – Priority 2
    - Hold meetings with school children and at the Pagoda – Priority 3
  - Support of protection activities
    - Sub decree finalisation and agreement – Priority 1
    - Conduct awareness raising of the law, regulation and the use of fertilisers and pesticides – Priority 1
    - Boundary demarcation – Priority 1
    - Patrolling – Priority 1
    - Set up Community Based Organisation Committee that represents all villages surrounding KT - constitution and official recognition by government and stakeholders – Priority 2
  - Livelihood activities
    - Community based eco-tourism – Priority 2
    - Set up and support self help groups – Priority 1
    - Wildlife friendly product labelling – Priority 3
- Mechanisms of delivery for activities for KT
  - Awareness raising activities
    - Village meetings – Discussions and broadcasts of Radio and TV items
    - Production of awareness raising materials – produce posters, booklets, leaflets
    - Hold meetings with school children and at the Pagoda
  - Support of protection activities
    - sdfs
  - Livelihood activities
    - Delivered through self help groups. Examples of activities:
      - Self financing system - MB



- Planting of Melaleuca (fuel wood) and Nipa Palm (*Nipa fruticans*) (handicrafts) - MB
- Home gardening - MB
- Rice agriculture improvement - CIRI
- Market support and exploration – CIRI
- Animal raising - MB
- Pond construction - MB
- Handicraft equipment, training and organisation of financing groups – MB
- Water jars - MB

#### Structure of Lols delivery

- A discussion among partners was undertaken regarding the most effective management structures for delivery of the project. As a result of guidance from CEPF, the following was decided:
  - WWT would submit a Lol for \$230,000
  - Mlup Baitong would submit a Lol for \$100,000
  - CCK would submit a Lol for \$20,000
  - CIRI would submit a Lol for \$20,000
- WWT's proposal would provide budget for a coordination role and capacity building element for the partner organisations and their projects.

Annex 3 CEPF Letter of Inquiry from WWT

<b>Organization Information</b>
<b>Organization Legal Name</b> Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust
<b>Organization Short Name / Acronym, if any.</b> WWT
<b>Project Lead Contact</b> – Provide the name and contact information for the person responsible for correspondence with CEPF regarding this project. Dr Seb Buckton Community Wetlands Programme Manager Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust Slimbridge Gloucestershire GL2 7BT E: seb.buckton@wwt.org.uk T: +44 (0) 1453 891259
<b>Organization Chief Executive</b> – Provide the name and contact information for the chief executive or person who is authorized to sign contracts on behalf of your organization. Martin Spray, Chief Executive, Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust Slimbridge Gloucestershire GL2 7BT  E: martin.spray@wwt.org.uk T: +44 (0)1453 891900
<b>Mailing Address</b> Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust Slimbridge Gloucestershire GL2 7BT
<b>Physical Address</b> – if different from mailing address above.

<b>Country</b> United Kingdom
<b>Telephone</b> T: +44 (0)1453 891900
<b>Fax, if any.</b> +44 (0)1453 890827
<b>Web Site Address, if any.</b> <a href="http://www.wwt.org.uk">http://www.wwt.org.uk</a>
<b>E-mail Address</b> – Provide an e-mail address. CEPF will use this to communicate the status of your application. seb.buckton@wwt.org.uk
<b>Total Permanent Staff</b> 339 (2008)
<b>Year Organization Established</b> 1948

**Organization Type**

\_no\_ Local \_yes\_ International

*Local organizations should be legally registered in a country within the hotspot where the project will be implemented and have an independent board of directors or other similar type of independent governing structure.*

**History and Mission Statement** – Provide a brief description of your organization’s history and mission, including experience relevant to the proposed project.

The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) is a leading UK conservation organisation saving wetlands for wildlife and people across the world. We were founded in 1946 by the late Sir Peter Scott at Slimbridge, Gloucestershire. Described as the ‘patron saint’ of modern conservation, Sir Peter not only dedicated his life to protecting wildfowl species from around the world, but was also a leading figure in establishing the Ramsar Convention and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Our mission is to conserve wetlands for wildlife and people and our purpose is to save wetlands and their wildlife by identifying and acting to counter the threats that affect their survival and to enhance people’s lives. We envision healthy wetlands across the world, where a rich variety of wildlife live safely, and in harmony with local people.

The Trust undertakes a wide range of international conservation projects. We take an integrated approach to our conservation work. We aim to conserve threatened flagship species while maintaining or enhancing wetland habitats, biodiversity and the livelihoods of local people.

Relevant areas of WWT expertise include:

- Ecological survey
- Waterbird monitoring
- Conservation science, particularly threatened waterbirds
- Wetland valuation/ecosystem service assessment
- Ecohydrology
- Participatory approaches to wetland resource use and needs assessment (including identifying innovative solutions to overexploitation)
- Basic fisheries management
- Design and development of constructed wetlands to enhance water quality for wildlife and people

**Eligibility Questions**

CEPF funds may not be used to directly fund government agency activities. In addition, they may not be used for the purchase of land, involuntary resettlement of people, the capitalization of a trust fund or the alteration of any physical cultural property. If your proposed project involves any of these, CEPF is not in a position to fund your proposal. Where possible, you may revise your strategy to avoid these elements or you may wish to consult the “Resources” section at [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net) that provides links to additional funding sources and resource sites.

Do you represent, or is your organization controlled by, a government agency?

No

Do you plan to use any of the potential project funds to purchase land?

No

Does the project involve the removal or alteration of any physical cultural property (includes movable or immovable objects, sites, structures, and natural features and landscapes that have archeological, paleontological, historical, architectural, religious, aesthetic, or other cultural significance)?

No
Does the project involve the relocation of people or any other form of involuntary resettlement? No
Do you plan to use any of the project funds to capitalize a trust fund(s)? No
<b>Project Title and Request</b>
<b>Project Title</b> Establishing sustainable management at key wetlands for Sarus Crane in the Cambodian Lower Mekong.
<b>CEPF Region</b> – Please list the CEPF region where your project will be implemented. CEPF funding regions are described on <a href="http://www.cepf.net">www.cepf.net</a> . Indo-Burma
<b>Project Location</b> – Define the geographic location (including country, corridor, site, etc) where project activities will take place. The project will take place at two sites on the Bassac River floodplain, in the greater Mekong Delta of Cambodia. Boeung Prek Lapouv (10°43'N, 105°02'E) in Takeo Province is designated by the Cambodian government as a "management and conservation area for Sarus Crane and other birds" with an area of 8,305 ha, comprising a core zone of ~900 ha and a buffer zone of ~7,400 ha. It is also designated as an Important Bird Area (IBA) with an area of 9,276 ha. Kampong Trach (10°26'N, 104°31'E) is in Kampot Province. It is currently unprotected, but is an Important Bird Area of 1,108 ha.
<b>Project Duration</b> – Enter the approximate time period of your project. Three years – July 2010 to June 2013
<b>Strategic Direction from the CEPF Ecosystem Profile</b> – Enter the single strategic direction this proposal aims to address. Use the exact number, such as 1, 2, etc. and wording from the ecosystem profile for this region found on <a href="http://www.cepf.net">www.cepf.net</a> . 1. Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats 1.1 Identify and secure core populations of 67 globally threatened species from overexploitation and illegal trade  The priority species for which populations are to be secured is Sarus Crane <i>Grus antigone</i> . Two additional priority species occurring at the site (Greater and Lesser Adjutants <i>Leptoptilus dubius</i> and <i>L. javanicus</i> ) will also potentially benefit, as will the (Critical) Bengal Florican <i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i> .
<b>Funding Request Amount</b> – Enter the amount of funds (in US \$) requested from CEPF. <b>\$230,082</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b> – Enter the total budget for this project from all funding sources. \$275,457
<b>Counterpart Funding</b> – Identify the amounts and sources of any other funding already secured to be directed to this project.

**In-Kind Contributions** – Enter the amount of your organization’s contributions to be directed to this project and explain how these have been calculated.

WWT staff management time not claimed from CEPF (total of 1 day per month for 30 months) = \$9,100.  
 WWT overhead not claimed from CEPF = \$14,900  
 WWT will provide funds to support the management costs of BirdLife Cambodia which will house project staff in its offices = \$21,375

**Total = \$45,375**

**BirdLife will not receive any benefits, either in cash or in kind from the CEPF funds applied for.**

**Project Budget** – Provide a breakdown of the proposed budget (in US\$ and only for the CEPF funded portion of the project) using the following categories.

**Salaries/Benefits:**

Staff	Days/months	Total cost
To be appointed (UK Project Manager, based in Cambodia)	24 months	64,000
Seng Kim Hout (Cambodian project Manager)	30 months	24,000
Dr Seb Buckton (Project leader)	65 days	18,200
Rob Shore (Project Technical Support)	60 days	21,000
Admin Officer (based in Cambodia)	30 months	10,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$137,200</b>

**Professional Services:**

Advertising for UK Project Manager recruitment	<b>\$1,200</b>
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**Rent and Storage:**

**Telecommunications:**

**Postage and Delivery:**

**Supplies:**

Change names on 50 additional boundary markers at KT markers	500
Map location of markers	200
Printing and publication costs of management plan for KT and update of BPL plan	500
Satellite images to assess habitat extent and changes at BPL and KT	1,700
Basic water level management structures	1,000
Support for 20 local people to carry out invasive species removal for 5 days at KT @ \$80 per day.	400
Support for local people to carry out habitat management activities (fire and grazing) at KT and BPL @ \$250 at KT and \$750 at BPL	1,000
Notebooks, pens (\$50 sets per site)	100

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Species identification books	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,600</b>

**Furniture and Equipment:**

Item	Unit cost (\$)	Number	Total cost (\$)
Hydrological monitoring equipment – gauge boards	500 per site	2	1,000
Water quality equipment – pH, DO and EC meters	500 per site	2	1,000
Project computer	1,500	1	1,500
Binoculars	200	4	800
Telescope	1,000	2	2,000
GPS	200	2	400
Motorbike purchase for KT only	1100	1	1,100
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$7,800</b>

**Maintenance:**

**Travel:**

Item	Units	Unit cost (\$)	Number	Item total (\$)
International flight UK-Phnom Penh return for WWT staff	1 flight	1120	7	7,840
Visas for WWT staff	1 visa	20	7	140
Vehicle hire PP-BPL/KT-PP for 5 days	5-day hire	240	6	1,440
Accommodation in Phnom Penh for WWT staff	1 night	40	16	640
Accommodation at BPL and KT for initial site visit	1 night	17	6	102
Accommodation at BPL for UK Project Manager	1 month	300	5	1,500
Accommodation KT long/month	1 month	250	5	1,250
Per diems for Cambodian project manager	1 day	15	250	3,750
Subsistence for WWT staff	1 day	20	16	320
Travel costs for recruitment of UK Project Manager	1 set of interviews	400	1	400
Per diems for leaders of Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity of the Forestry Administration	1 day	50	12	600
Per diems of 8 LCG staff for KT	Per month	560	36 months	20,160
Per diems of 8 LCG staff for BPL	Per month	560	36 months	20,160



LCG patrol fuel costs for KT @ \$115 per site per month	Per month	115	36 months	4,140
LCG patrol fuel costs for BPL @ \$115 per site per month	Per month	115	36 months	4,140
Per diem for study tour to other CEPF project (Ang Tropaeng Thmor) for 16 people (8 from BPL and 8 from KT)	1 day	15	80	1,200
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$67,782</b>

<b>Meetings &amp; Events:</b>	
Consultation meetings to support the legal process for official protection of KT with office of council of ministers	600
Meeting with provincial government to support the legal process for official protection of KT	800
Steering committee meetings for KT and BPL, for 10 people per site, 1 a year + 1 start up meeting per site	4,000
Management planning workshop meetings for KT @ \$800 per meeting	1,600
Management planning update workshop for BPL @ \$500 per meeting	500
Six monthly forum for 10 people held for communicating between site managers, local people and NGOs at KT and BPL, six meetings per site @ 250 per meeting	3,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,500</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
<b>Sub-Grants:</b>	
<b>Indirect Cost (max 13%):</b>	
<b>Total Budget: \$230,082</b>	
<b>Safeguard Policy Aspects</b>	
If the answer to one or more of the following questions is marked Yes, please summarize the potential impacts and how these might be avoided or mitigated. Please be aware that CEPF may ask applicants for additional information and project documentation if the project possesses the potential to trigger Safeguard Policies.	
<b>Environmental Aspects</b>	
<b>Will the proposed project involve activities that are likely to have adverse impacts on the environment?</b>	
[ ] Yes	
[ x ] No	
<b>Justification I - Provide rationale for environmental impact if the answer marked is Yes.</b>	
<b>Social Aspects</b>	
<b>Will the proposed project involve activities that are likely to have adverse impacts on the local community?</b>	
[ ] Yes	
[ x ] No	
<b>Justification II - Provide rationale for social impact if the answer marked is Yes.</b>	
The project will involve enforcing regulations that prevent (illegal) exploitation of resources at the sites, notably birds, reptiles, mammals. It will also involve preventing encroachment on natural grasslands by farmers. This could be seen as a cost or an opportunity cost for local communities. The project is designed to ensure that there are no net costs – preferably net benefits – so that local support for the	

sites is secured, and has the rationale that short-term costs (lost income opportunities) would be more than offset by improved sustainability of site management.

### Letter of Inquiry

The letter of inquiry is meant to provide CEPF with an overview of the project concept. It is typically 2-3 pages in length, and must include at least the following information:

**Project Rationale** – Describe the conservation need (key threats and/or important opportunities) your project aims to address and what would happen if this project were not implemented.

**Project Approach** – Describe the proposed strategy and actions of your project in response to the conservation need stated above. Include the expected results of the project and any potential risks you face in implementing this plan. (no more than 500 words)

**Link to CEPF Investment Strategy** – How does your project relate to the CEPF investment strategy presented in the Ecosystem Profile? (This document may be found at [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net)) Your answer should include reference to a specific strategic direction from the relevant ecosystem profile that the project will support.

**Project Partners / Stakeholders** – List any partners to be directly involved in implementing this project as well as important stakeholders and how you have involved them in your planning.

**Long-term Sustainability/Replicability** – Describe how project components or results will continue or be replicated beyond the initial project.

Please compose your letter of inquiry in the section below.

#### \* Letter of Inquiry

##### Project rationale

Sarus Crane is a priority for the IndoChina CEPF, because it is a globally threatened (Vulnerable VU), 'landscape species' which requires species-focused interventions at the landscape scale. The two sites that are the focus of this project support significant (over 300 birds, >20% of the regional population collectively) numbers of Sarus Cranes during the dry season. They form the Cambodian parts of a small, connected network of transboundary sites for the species in the Lower Mekong.

The two sites also support important representative areas of Lower Mekong seasonally inundated grassland – a habitat which has suffered massive conversion to agriculture - and several other bird species of global concern, including Bengal Florican *Houbarops bengalensis* (Critical, CR; with very recent sightings at BPL), Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus* (Vulnerable VU, 6 recorded at BPL in 2009), Greater Adjutant *L. dubius* (Endangered EN, 8 recorded at BPL in 2009), Black-headed Ibis *Threskiornis melanocephalus* (Near-threatened NT, 285 recorded at BPL in 2009 and 16 at KT), Spot-billed Pelican *Pelecanus philippensis* (NT, 21 recorded at BPL in 2009), Painted Stork *Mycteria leucocephala* (NT, 398 recorded at BPL in 2009 and 6 at KT) Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster* (NT, 36 recorded at BPL in 2009), and Asian Golden Weaver *Ploceus hypoxanthus* (NT, 20 recorded at BPL in 2009).

Both sites suffer acute human pressure that threatens the cranes and other biodiversity, primarily exploitation of wildlife, agricultural encroachment, agro-chemicals pollution, inappropriate fishing methods, hydrological changes and consequent vegetation changes, use of fire, and invasive alien plants.

There is an urgent need to address these threats. Designation of Boeung Prek Lapouv (BPL) as a

Protected Area has recently been achieved, and designation of Kampong Trach (KT) is expected within months. A management plan has only recently been produced for BPL whilst one has not yet been prepared for KT. Even with a plan there are few resources for implementation, and long-term sustainable resourcing has not been considered.

Recent CEPF-funded work at KT by Mlup Baitong and at BPL by Chamroien Chiet Khmer (CCK) will be completed in June 2010 and both projects have recognised that longer term project activities are required to ensure the sustainable conservation of the sites for Sarus Cranes. We will work with Mlup Baitong, CCK and a third organisation, the Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development (CIRD), to build on the activities undertaken under these projects. It is hoped that CEPF funding will be secured for four coordinated projects, led by each project partner, as soon as possible to ensure a smooth transition of project activity. An Annex is provided below to set out the roles of each of the organisations. These projects will deliver the following:

WWT - Overall coordinating role among the four projects. Will directly support management structures and carry out conservation management activities at both of the sites and build capacity among partners. Three year project.

Mlup Baitong - Will undertake awareness raising, community activities to support protection of the site and livelihood support activities in KT and support the establishment of community organisations. Three year project.

CIRD - Will support agricultural improvement activities and undertake a feasibility study investigating the labelling of wildlife friendly products to generate income to support management of KT. One year project.

CCK - Will undertake awareness raising, community activities to support protection of the site and livelihood support activities in BPL and support the establishment of community organisations. One year project.

We will also work closely with and build on activities undertaken by BirdLife International – Cambodia Programme, the Forestry Administration, the Wildlife Protection Office of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), the Wildlife Conservation Society and the International Crane Foundation (ICF) to develop management and financing solutions that are neutral or beneficial both to local resource users and to biodiversity values of the sites. This is a particular challenge that needs to be overcome if the sites are to be conserved in the long term. Numbers and duration of stay of Sarus Cranes at BPL are falling, and degradation of the sites will continue if prompt action is not taken. Although some birds may currently be relocating to KT, further degradation of BPL would have major implications for the species, since very few alternative sites now exist.

A clear and structured link between livelihoods and biodiversity will be demonstrated by following the steps of the Conservation Agreements model, developed by the Conservation Stewards Program (CSP) at Conservation International.

### **Project Approach**

The project **purpose** is:

To fully establish and conserve two protected areas representative of lower Mekong floodplain wetlands, and contribute to their long term sustainable management, thus securing a priority non-breeding population of Sarus Cranes.

Project **objectives** are:

1. Embed conservation planning of Boeung Prek Lapouv (BPL) and Kampong Trach (KT) within national and local organisations.
2. Strengthen conservation management actions at BPL and KT.
3. Promote innovative long-term funding mechanisms.
4. Co-ordinate and disseminate results from projects delivered by WWT, Mlup Baitong, CCK and CIRD

Project **outcomes** are:

- 1.1 Legal protection for KT and strengthened institutional protection for both BPL and KT
- 1.2 Developing and updating management plans for BPL and KT
- 2.1 Global biodiversity and other values (food, fuel, water) resulting from management of the sites maintained or improved
- 2.2 Capacity of site staff to undertake conservation activities increased
- 2.3 Support for site conservation increased among stakeholders
- 3.1 Long-term financing mechanisms piloted at the sites
- 3.2 Mechanisms to promote sustainable financing of the sites advocated with donors and governments
- 4.1 Projects are delivered in a coordinated way
- 4.2 Capacity building and support for project partners
- 4.3 Safeguarding process framework followed to ensure no negative impacts on people or the environment
- 4.4 Raised awareness of site management issues for Sarus Crane conservation

Activities (Outcome 1.1)

- i. Continue to support the legal process for official protection of KT (Consultation meetings with Office of Council of Ministers and 1 provincial workshop to inform the provincial government)
- ii. Install and map 50 boundary markers at KT
- iii. Set up steering committees (National and local government level) for KT and BPL

Activities (Outcome 1.2)

- i. Management planning workshops (2 for KT and 1 to update plan for BPL)
- ii. Development of management plan for KT and update of BPL plan

Activities (Outcome 2.1)

- i. Ecological and physical information synthesis and gap analysis
- ii. Monitoring programme continued and expanded to cover (N.B. without CEPF funding it is unlikely that these monitoring activities will continue):
  - Bird numbers (ongoing but will be supported and use an expanded species list under this project);
  - Habitat extent and quality (not currently started under existing projects but plot surveys as well as satellite image data analysis will be undertaken);
  - Hydrological regime (water levels will be monitored in key habitat areas for globally threatened bird species – not currently monitored);
  - Water quality (not currently monitored);
  - Illegal activity (currently monitored and will continue to be supported under this project); and
  - Invasive species mapping (some mapping has been undertaken but this will be expanded under this project).
- iii. Management action implementation:
  - Support of LCG for 36 months;
  - Monthly patrols for 36 months;
  - Water management within the sites;
  - Control efforts for invasive species;
  - Fishing lot management; and
  - Habitat management (fire and grazing).
- iv. Ecosystem services value assessment in first and third year of project.

Activities (Outcome 2.2)

Capacity building will involve:

- i. Training needs assessment for LCG staff undertaken for each site
- ii. Training activities:
  - Bird survey techniques

- Habitat monitoring techniques
- Law enforcement
- Hydrological monitoring
- Data recording and management
- iii. Provision of resources
  - Set up database of site ecological and physical data
  - Binoculars
  - Telescope
  - GPS
  - Notebooks, pens
  - Species identification books
- iv. Study tour to other CEPF project (Ang Tropaeng Thmor)

Activities (Outcome 2.3)

- i. Assessment at start of project to assess attitudes of local people towards the reserve (50 interviews per site)
- ii. Assessment in third year of project to assess attitudes of local people towards the reserve (50 interviews per site)
- iii. Six monthly forum held for communicating between site managers, local people and NGOs at each site (six meetings)

Activities (Outcome 3.1)

- i. Review case studies and develop financing ideas for further investigation in collaboration with Mlup Baitong, CCK and CIRI project activities
- ii. Propose site-based mechanisms - For example revenue for site management generated from:
  - Fishing management
  - Eco-tourism
  - *Melaleuca* forestry
- iii. Local site managers support implementation of mechanisms in collaboration with Mlup Baitong, CCK and CIRI project activities.

Activities (Outcome 3.2)

- i. Assessment of wider values of the sites
- ii. Pressures and threats analysis for each site (Vulnerability Assessment)
- iii. Advocacy, donor identification and proposal development for long-term financing

Activities (Outcome 4.1)

- i. Bi-monthly meetings among NGO project partners
- ii. Regular e-mail and telephone communication
- iii. Monthly reporting of project activities

Activities (Outcome 4.2)

- i. Review partner project documentation and provide advice on project activities, reporting and finance
- ii. Training on project management and budgeting for partners will be given if required

Activities (Outcome 4.3)

- i. Quarterly safeguarding process framework review

Activities (Outcome 4.4)

- ii. Disseminate project results and lessons learned

The only risks are that government support for biodiversity conservation will reduce; or the Sarus Crane population is destroyed through factors operating away from the sites. However neither are significant, nor would they affect the project purpose (although they would affect the project rationale).

### **Link to CEPF Investment Strategy**

The project will help deliver the following strategic direction:

1. *Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats*

Sarus Crane (among other threatened species) conservation will be improved, by establishing protected areas, and developing and implementing management plans at two key sites.

Secondarily, the project will help deliver the strategic direction:

3. *Engage key actors in reconciling biodiversity conservation and development objectives, with a particular emphasis on the Northern Limestone Highlands and Mekong River and its major tributaries.*

Advocacy tools will be developed that demonstrate the ecosystem services, and consequent economic values, of wise management of natural wetlands in the Mekong River, and these will be advocated to decision-makers.

Project activities, which will include testing innovative measures to conserve the wetlands while providing simultaneous benefits to local resource users. Long-term financing mechanisms will be promoted for wider deployment in the region.

### **Project Partners / Stakeholders**

WWT will play a coordinating role amongst the four projects, working closely with CCK, Mlup Baitong and CIRD in ensuring project complementarity.

**BirdLife International in Indochina** has well established project activities for wetlands in the Lower River Mekong Delta ecosystem. BirdLife Cambodia has been collaborating closely with the Forestry Administration to conserve the grassland and Sarus Crane sites since 2004, therefore BirdLife will continue to be a member of an NGO steering committee and provide input on project implementation. Through this collaboration the Forestry Administration will also be involved in development of the proposals but no salary payments will be made to any government staff. BirdLife International will not be involved in any expenditure of funding from this project; they will provide advice and consultation only. WWT Project staff will be based in the BirdLife offices in Phnom Penh, allowing for good liaison between the two organizations.

In addition to supporting and coordinating all project activities **WWT** will be totally responsible for project management. WWT will ensure that activities are implemented on time and to a high standard, and prepare financial and project reports for CEPF. The project concept was developed following a CEPF-funded small grant project involving site visits and workshops led by WWT and BirdLife, including consultations with the LCGs.

Other stakeholders and partners include:

Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity of the Forestry Administration

Takeo Water Resources Department

International Crane Foundation (ICF) – currently does not have a licence to operate in Cambodia but regular communication and advice will be sought when developing site management activities

Other stakeholders to be involved are village communes, the police and military authorities.

BirdLife Cambodia is already involved with conservation activities at the site, and through this has developed dialogue with local communes and village chiefs. A draft Operational Management Plan for BPL has already been developed by BirdLife and Forestry Administrations, following consultation with the LCG, national, provincial and district agencies, and local community representatives, and work at this site will build on this draft, and the relationships developed during the consultation.

Police department armed forces, fisheries and forestry authorities second staff to the LCGs, which will be directly managed by WWT under this project. BirdLife staff include people seconded from the MAFF,

WPO.

The project concept was developed following site visits by WWT, Mlup Baitong, CCK, CIRI and BirdLife, including consultations with the LCGs.

**Long-term Sustainability/Replicability** – Describe how project components or results will continue or be replicated beyond the initial project

Delivering mechanisms for long-term financing of management activities at the two sites, especially in the face of very limited central government funding for Protected Areas in Cambodia, is central to the project, and forms one of the four objectives.

We propose to investigate the potential for on-site activities to generate finance that can be ploughed back into management costs. On-site activities to generate revenue that will be explored include buying the fishing concession for KPL, and using the consequent license fees to support site management; developing livestock grazing which can assist habitat management while generating income through sale of permits to graze; development of *Melaleuca* plantations and sale of permits to harvest.

Assessments of these will consider current resource use by poor people who may be disadvantaged as a result.

Secondly we will develop advocacy tools for governments and donors that demonstrate the ecosystem services/economic value of conserving the sites through wise use. The project partnership of WWT, Mlup Baitong, CCK and CIRI will work together to further support project activities, particularly livelihood support development with communities around the sites. As a result of the CEPF-funded development stage of this project we have formed a strong partnership and identified subsequent project and funding requirements. These will be developed within the first year of the project, particularly to help support CCK and CIRI project activities.

The project will undertake ambitious and innovative management interventions for the wetlands, and for financing their conservation management. This will give great opportunities for replication at other sites. The involvement of Cambodian Wildlife Protection Office and BirdLife Indochina will greatly facilitate this, because of their central role in biodiversity conservation in the region, and strong links to other organizations.



Annex: Project components and activities to be led by each of the four organisations as part of the co-ordinated projects. More than one organisation will participate in some of the activities. Only the **lead organisation** is indicated below.

Component	Activities	WWT	MB	CCK	CIRD
Strengthened protection for KT and BPL	Support the legal process for official protection of KT	✓			
	Boundary demarcation at KT	✓			
	Steering committee meetings for KT and BPL	✓			
Management planning	Management planning workshops	✓			
	Develop MP for KT, update MP for BPL	✓			
Values of sites maintained or improved	Ecological and physical information synthesis	✓			
	Monitoring programme continued and expanded	✓			
	Management action implementation, support of LCGs	✓			
	Ecosystem services value assessment	✓			
Capacity of site staff	Training needs assessment	✓			
	Training	✓			
	Resources	✓			
	Study tour	✓			
Support among stakeholders	Baseline assessment of attitudes of local people	✓			
	Baseline socio-economic surveys at KT				✓
	Forum for site managers, local people and NGOs	✓			
	Awareness raising at BPL			✓	
	Strengthen VVCs at BPL			✓	
	Problems and needs of local communities discussed			✓	
	Study tour for BPL project staff and VVCs			✓	
	Self-help groups at BPL			✓	
	Provide water jugs at BPL			✓	
	Community Livelihood Committee established at KT		✓		
	Awareness raising at KT		✓		
	Self-help groups at KT		✓		
	Sustainable farming practices (SRI) at KT				✓
Demonstration farms				✓	
	Final assessment attitudes of local people	✓			
Long-term financing mechanisms	Review case studies and develop financing ideas	✓			
	Generate contributions from cattle-banks to SHGs			✓	
	Community-based eco-tourism at KT		✓		
	Feasibility for wildlife-friendly product marketing				✓

	Propose site-based mechanisms	✓			
	Support implementation of mechanisms	✓			
Advocate sustainable financing of the sites	Assessment of wider values of the sites	✓			
	Pressures and threats analysis	✓			
	Advocacy, donor identification and proposal development	✓			
Project coordination	Bi-monthly meetings among NGO project partners	✓			
	Regular e-mail and telephone communication	✓			
	Monthly reporting of project activities	✓			
Capacity building among project partners	Review documentation, provide advice	✓			
	Training on project management and budgeting	✓			
Safeguarding process framework	Quarterly safeguarding process framework review	✓			
Raised awareness of management issues	Disseminate project results and lessons learned	✓			

Annex 4 CEPF Letter of Inquiry from Mlup Baitong

<b>Organization Information</b>	
<b>Organization Legal Name</b>	Mlup Baitong
<b>Organization Short Name / Acronym, if any.</b>	MB
<b>Project Lead Contact</b> – Provide the name and contact information for the person responsible for correspondence with CEPF regarding this project.	Mr. Va Moeurn Executive Director, Email: <a href="mailto:vamoeurn@online.com.kh">vamoeurn@online.com.kh</a> , <a href="mailto:mlup@online.com.kh">mlup@online.com.kh</a> , Tel: (855) 12 782 536
<b>Organization Chief Executive</b> – Provide the name and contact information for the chief executive or person who is authorized to sign contracts on behalf of your organization.	Mr. Va Moeurn, with the same contact information as above.
<b>Mailing Address</b>	House # 37B, St. 113, Beung Kengkang II, Chamkar Morn, Phnom Penh, Cambodia P.O.Box 2510, Phnom Penh 3, Cambodia
<b>Physical Address</b> – if different from mailing address above.	The same as above
<b>Country</b>	Cambodia
<b>Telephone +</b>	(855) 23 214 409
<b>Fax, if any. +</b>	(855) 23 220 242
<b>Web Site Address, if any.</b>	<a href="http://www.mlup.org">www.mlup.org</a>
<b>E-mail Address</b> – Provide an e-mail address. CEPF will use this to communicate the status of your application. Email:	<a href="mailto:vamoeurn@online.com.kh">vamoeurn@online.com.kh</a> , <a href="mailto:mlup@online.com.kh">mlup@online.com.kh</a>
<b>Total Permanent Staff</b>	45
<b>Year Organization Established</b>	January 1998

<p><b>Organization Type</b> Local NGO</p> <p><i>Local organizations should be legally registered in a country within the hotspot where the project will be implemented and have an independent board of directors or other similar type of independent governing structure.</i></p>
<p><b>History and Mission Statement</b> – Provide a brief description of your organization's history and mission, including experience relevant to the proposed project.</p> <p>History: Mlup Baitong, literally translated as “green shade”, is a dynamic and respected Cambodian NGO. It was first established in 1998 as a project of an international NGO to address the problem of deforestation in Cambodia with a focus on educating the general public on conservation of natural resources. In January 2001, Mlup Baitong became independent, established its own Board of Directors and drew up a set of by-laws and a management policy which has been regularly updated according to the changing situation of the organization. After the successful completion of the localization process, in August 2003, the Ministry of Interior officially recognized Mlup Baitong as national NGO, by a PRAKAS <b>No:870 s C N</b>, headed by a Cambodian Director. Currently Mlup Baitong is implementing 10 projects which have been clustered into 4 programs according to the thematic focus/location. These are located in 4 provinces, Kampong Speu, Kampong Thom, Kampot and Stung Treng. Mlup Baitong has an office headquarters in Phnom Penh and 5 program offices in the 3 provinces (1 office in Kampong Speu, 2 offices in Kampong Thom, 2 offices in Stung Treng).</p> <p><b>I. Vision:</b> Cambodians will manage and use natural resources in a sustainable &amp; equitable manner for a healthy environment.</p> <p><b>II. Mission:</b> To support the protection of the environment in Cambodia by increasing awareness and promoting sustainable use of natural resources while improving people's livelihood.</p>
<p><b>Eligibility Questions</b></p>
<p>CEPF funds may not be used to directly fund government agency activities. In addition, they may not be used for the purchase of land, involuntary resettlement of people, the capitalization of a trust fund or the alteration of any physical cultural property. If your proposed project involves any of these, CEPF is not in a position to fund your proposal. Where possible, you may revise your strategy to avoid these elements or you may wish to consult the “Resources” section at <a href="http://www.cepf.net">www.cepf.net</a> that provides links to additional funding sources and resource sites.</p>
<p>Do you represent, or is your organization controlled by, a government agency? <b>No</b></p>
<p>Do you plan to use any of the potential project funds to purchase land? <b>No</b></p>
<p>Does the project involve the removal or alteration of any physical cultural property (includes movable or immovable objects, sites, structures, and natural features and landscapes that have archeological, paleontological, historical, architectural, religious, aesthetic, or other cultural significance)? <b>No</b></p>
<p>Does the project involve the relocation of people or any other form of involuntary resettlement? <b>No</b></p>
<p>Do you plan to use any of the project funds to capitalize a trust fund(s)? <b>No</b></p>
<p><b>Project Title and Request</b></p>
<p><b>Project Title:</b> Community Livelihood Development for Supporting Sarus Crane Conservation in Kampong Trach, Kampot Province</p>

**CEPF Region** – Please list the CEPF region where your project will be implemented. CEPF funding regions are described on [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net). **Cambodia**

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**Project Location** – Define the geographic location (including country, corridor, site, etc) where project activities will take place.  
 The project will take place at Kampong Trach (10°26'N, 104°31'E), in Kampot Province on the Bassac River floodplain, in the greater Mekong Delta of Cambodia. The site is currently unprotected, but is an Important Bird Area (IBA) of 1,108 ha. However, The Forest Administration has been designating and processing documentation of this area to obtain official recognition from Royal Government of Cambodia by a Sub-Decree on management, establishment of a conservation area for Sarus Crane and other waterbirds.

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**Project Duration** – Enter the approximate time period of your project.  
 3 Years (July 2010 – June 2013)

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**Strategic Direction from the CEPF Ecosystem Profile** – Enter the single strategic direction this proposal aims to address. Use the exact number, such as 1, 2, etc. and wording from the ecosystem profile for this region found on [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net).  
**1 Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats.**  
 1.1. Identify and secure core populations of 67 globally threatened species from overexploitation and illegal trade.

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**Funding Request Amount** – Enter the amount of funds (in US \$) requested from CEPF.  
**USD 100,000**

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**Total Project Budget** –Enter the total budget for this project from all funding sources.  
**USD 130,790**

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**Counterpart Funding** – Identify the amounts and sources of any other funding already secured to be directed to this project.  
**USD 19,690**  
 - Part Time Employee #5 OM (10%): \$125/month x 36 months = \$4,500  
 - Part Time Employee #6 PMO (10%): \$84/month x 36 months = \$3,024  
 - Part Time Employee #7 Admin Officer (10%): \$43/month x 36 months = \$1,548  
 - Part Time Employee #8 Driver (10%): \$21/month x 36 months = \$756  
 - Rent and Storage (Office rental): \$215.78/month x 36 months = \$7,768  
 - Lodging, Meals, and Incidentals: \$58.17/month x 36 months = \$2,094

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**In-Kind Contributions** – Enter the amount of your organization's contributions to be directed to this project and explain how these have been calculated.  
**USD 11,100**  
 - Part Time Employee #9 Advisor (15%): \$250/month x 24 months = \$6,000  
 - Furniture and Equipment (Table, chairs, cupboard, Laptop, printer, Car depreciation value): \$5,100

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**Project Budget** – Provide a breakdown of the proposed budget (in US\$ and only for the CEPF funded portion of the project) using the following categories.

Salaries/Benefits:		<b>\$33,372</b>			
		<b>Unit</b>	<b>Unit Cost</b>	<b># of Unit</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Full Time Employee #1	PO (100%)	Month	334	36	<b>12,024</b>
Full Time Employee #2	PA 1 (100%)	Month	183	36	<b>6,588</b>
Part Time Employee #1	ED (5%)	Month	116	36	<b>4,176</b>
Part Time Employee #2	PM (5%)	Month	51	36	<b>1,836</b>
Part Time Employee #3	PC (30%)	Month	183	36	<b>6,588</b>
Part Time Employee #4	FO (10%)	Month	60	36	<b>2,160</b>
<b>Total Salary and benefits</b>					<b>33,372</b>

Professional Services:	<b>\$1,470</b>
- Audit Fees: \$490/year x 3 years = \$1,470	
Rent and Storage:	<b>\$7,712</b>
- Rent (Office Rental): \$134.22/month x 36 months = \$4,832	
- Storage (Utilities): \$80/month x 36 months = \$2,880	
Telecommunications:	<b>\$4,500</b>
- Voice (Telephone): \$60/month x 36 months = \$2,160	
- Data (Internet, E-mail): \$65/month x 36 months = \$2,340	
Postage and Delivery:	<b>\$360</b>
- Mail: \$10/month x 36 months = \$360	
Supplies:	<b>\$2,520</b>
- Office Supplies (Stationary/sundries): \$70/month x 36 months = \$2,520	
Furniture and Equipment:	<b>\$3,100</b>
- Laptop: \$800 x 1 unit = \$800	
- Printer: \$300 x 1 unit = \$300	
- Digital Camera: \$300 x 1 unit = \$300	
- Vehicle (Motorbike including insurance): \$1,700 x 1 unit = \$1,700	
Maintenance:	<b>\$3,960</b>
- Furniture/Equipment Maintenance: \$60/month x 36 months = \$2,160	
- Maintenance of vehicle: \$50/month x 36 months = \$1,800	
Travel:	<b>\$12,666</b>
- Lodging, Meals, and Incidentals: \$171.83/month x 36 months = \$6,186	
- Local Transportation & Fuel: \$180/month x 36 months = \$6,480	
Meetings, Training & Events:	<b>\$29,260</b>
<b>Objective 1.</b> To support the Sarus Crane Conservation mechanism in Kampong Trach	
<b>- Output 1.1.</b> One Community Livelihood Development Management Committee (CLDMC) in Kampong Trach officially established:	
1.1.1. Collaborate with relevant institutions to set up the Temporary CLDMC (TCLDMC) through:	
1.1.1.1. Two inter-commune meeting	Meeting 70 2 140
1.1.1.2. Two commune meetings	Meeting 50 2 100
1.1.1.3. 3 village meetings	Meeting 60 3 180
1.1.2. Support the TCLDMC to develop bylaw of the CLDMC and MC Regulation through:	
1.1.2.1. Two one-day workshop to draft bylaw and regulation with members of TCLDMC	Workshop 65 2 130
1.1.2.2. A one-day consultation meeting with representative of CC, Village Chief, and TCLDSMC (with members of the TCLDMC)	Meeting 80 1 80
1.1.2.3. A one-day finalizing (with members of the TCLDMC)	Meeting 80 1 80
1.1.2.4. Support the TCLDMC to submit the bylaw to relevant institutions for official approval	Lump sum 50 1 50
1.1.3. Support the TCLDMC to organize election to select Community Livelihood Development Management Committee (three at village level and one at commune level)	Election 105 4 420

1.1.4.	Disseminate the bylaw and regulation to community members and relevant stakeholders through 3 one-day village meetings	Meeting	80	3	240
<b>Total Output (1.1)</b>					<b>1,420</b>
<b>- Output 1.2.</b> Awareness raising on Sarus Crane conservation jointly conducted with the existing Local Conservation Group (LCG):					
1.2.1.	Produce MoU between the CLDMC and LCG	Meeting	55	1	55
1.2.2.	Disseminate related laws/regulations through 6 village meetings	Meeting	55	6	330
1.2.3.	Disseminate information and knowledge relating to biodiversity conservation and destruction through 3 village meetings	Meeting	55	3	165
1.2.4.	Produce & install sign/ education boards/posters	Lump sum	3000	1	3,000
1.2.5.	Facilitate monitoring activities conducted by Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity (DWB)	Monitoring	150	7	1,050
<b>Total Output (1.2)</b>					<b>4,600</b>
<b>Objective 2:</b> To introduce environmentally friendly livelihood development schemes for community in Kampong Trach.					
<b>- Output 2.1.</b> 10 SHG established and well operating					
2.1.1.	Facilitate community to set up 4 new SHGs in addition to the 6 existing SHGs through				
2.1.1.1.	Organize 4 meetings to form 4 SHGs	Meeting	37.5	4	150
2.1.1.2.	Support the four SHGs to establish Their bylaws	Meeting	22.5	4	90
2.1.2.	Build capacities of the SHG leaders on management of the 10 SHGs through 2 two-day trainings.	Training	100	2	200
2.1.3.	Build capacities of the interested SHG members on Micro-Business development and implementation, handicraft production, home gardening, and livestock raising through 6 two-day trainings	Training	240	6	1,440
2.1.4.	Facilitate the SHG to implement biodiversity friendly micro-business relating to home gardening, handicraft producing, livestock/animal raising, and marketing) through supporting material and seed crops to the SHG	SHG	1000	10	10,000
<b>Total Output (2.1)</b>					<b>11,880</b>
<b>- Output 2.2.</b> CBET initiative established					
2.2.1.	Initiate community based eco-tourism (concept, overview, services, and mechanisms) through				
2.2.1.1.	One Meeting with CCs, LCG members, district governor, FA officers, Provincial Department of Tourism, Provincial Department of Environment and so on.	Meeting	130	1	130
2.2.1.2.	Three village meetings	Meeting	60	3	180
2.2.2.	Assist the CLDMC to establish the CBET Group and its regulation through				
2.2.2.1	Drafting regulation	Meeting	70	2	140

2.2.3. Identify and select tourism service providers including tourist guides/receptionist and entrance fee collector/parking facilitator, through				
2.2.3. 1 One inter-commune meeting,	Meeting	60	1	60
2.2.3. 2 Two commune meetings and	Meeting	60	2	120
2.2.3. 3 Three village meetings	Meeting	60	3	180
2.2.4. Build capacities of CBET Group & service providers on related subjects				
2.2.4.1 Management related skills: including facilitation skill, minute writing, report writing, leadership, documentation, accounting, and bookkeeping (2 two day trainings)	Training	185	2	370
2.2.4.2 Tourism related skills: including entrance fee management, interpretation & tourist guiding, souvenir vending, and food vending (2 two day trainings)	Training	185	2	370
2.2.5. Set up basic facilities for the tourism activities				
2.2.5.1. Community information counter	Unit	1000	1	1,000
2.2.5.2. Entrance checking post	Unit	500	1	500
2.2.5.3. Bird watching shelter	Unit	2000	1	2,000
2.2.5.4. Parking place	Unit	800	1	800
2.2.5.5. Toilet	Unit	1000	1	1,000
2.2.6. Support the CBETG/service providers for implementing the tourism income generation activities through monitoring, coaching, and advertising	Lump sum	500	1	500
2.2.7 Organize exposure visit for the CBETG and CLDMC members	Visit	3300	1	3,300
2.2.8 Support the CBETG to do network and marketing the tourism products	Lump sum	710	1	710
<b>Total Output (2.2)</b>				<b>11,360</b>



Miscellaneous: (It includes office refreshment, bathroom materials, other office materials for using in the office cost 30\$/month) - \$30/month x 36 months = \$1,080	<b>\$1,080</b>
Sub-Grants:	0
Indirect Cost (max 13%):	0
<b>Total Budget:</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
<b>Safeguard Policy Aspects</b>	
If the answer to one or more of the following questions is marked Yes, please summarize the potential impacts and how these might be avoided or mitigated. Please be aware that CEPF may ask applicants for additional information and project documentation if the project possesses the potential to trigger Safeguard Policies.	
<b>Environmental Aspects</b>	
<b>Will the proposed project involve activities that are likely to have adverse impacts on the environment?</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Justification I - Provide rationale for environmental impact if the answer marked is Yes.</b>	
<b>Social Aspects</b>	
<b>Will the proposed project involve activities that are likely to have adverse impacts on the local community?</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Justification II - Provide rationale for social impact if the answer marked is Yes.</b>	
<b>Letter of Inquiry</b>	
The letter of inquiry is meant to provide CEPF with an overview of the project concept. It is typically 2-3 pages in length, and must include at least the following information:	
<b>Project Rationale</b> – Describe the conservation need (key threats and/or important opportunities) your project aims to address and what would happen if this project were not implemented.	
<b>Project Approach</b> – Describe the proposed strategy and actions of your project in response to the conservation need stated above. Include the expected results of the project and any potential risks you face in implementing this plan. (no more than 500 words)	
<b>Link to CEPF Investment Strategy</b> – How does your project relate to the CEPF investment strategy presented in the Ecosystem Profile? (This document may be found at <a href="http://www.cepf.net">www.cepf.net</a> ) Your answer should include reference to a specific strategic direction from the relevant ecosystem profile that the project will support.	
<b>Project Partners / Stakeholders</b> – List any partners to be directly involved in implementing this project as well as important stakeholders and how you have involved them in your planning.	
<b>Long-term Sustainability/Replicability</b> – Describe how project components or results will continue or be replicated beyond the initial project.	
<b>Letter of Inquiry</b>	
<b>Project Rationale</b>	

The project will target communities living around a key wetland for Sarus Crane in the Cambodian Lower Mekong, Kampong Trach, Kampot Province. The area is rich in biodiversity, including seasonally inundated grassland which is an important non-breeding area for the globally threatened (Vulnerable) Sarus Crane. The area supports a variety of other waterbird species and other biodiversity. Local communities depend mostly on natural resources for their livelihoods, including from farming, fishing and non timber forest product (NTFP) collection from the surrounding areas. Degradation of habitat continues to be a major problem threatening these natural resources. Habitat loss and degradation are caused by a number of factors including violations of laws, such as wetland encroachment and unsustainable exploitation which are committed by both the powerful people and poor local communities themselves. Land disputes have been occurring in the project location for some time.

The population locally continues to grow and pressure on the wetland is increasing, whilst at the same time about half of the target population of our project area is still living below the poverty line. These poor households depend on farming (with small pieces of land) and collecting NTFP and other natural resource products to sustain their living. Poor villagers are often involved in illegal fishing, wetland encroachment, and bird hunting, and may not understand the importance of the values provided by the wetland. This is partly because of lack of environmental awareness and opportunities to participate in natural resource protection or management. Furthermore the target villagers are forced to increase productivity of their crops by using chemical pesticide and fertilizer with very limited knowledge of environmental and safety issues, resulting in negative human health impacts and pollution. This has contributed further to the increase in community poverty.

In this situation, the environment, biodiversity, and other natural resources of our project target area are severely affected, which in turn threaten the livelihoods and health of the communities, especially the poor and women. The communities in those areas have strongly requested support to increase their knowledge, understanding and involvement in the protection of biodiversity and other important values of the area, with the aim of improving living conditions and the local environment.

Mlup Baitong is implementing a one year project (May 2009-June 2010) at Kampong Trach, funded by a small grant from CEPF, the aim of which is to provide transitional protection of the site to secure a non-breeding habitat for the endangered Sarus Crane and other bird species. The project will end by the end of June 2010. Within this transitional period, according to the limited fund, Mlup Baitong conducted very limited environmental awareness raising activities. Besides conserving the site as conservation area, 6 SHGs were formed and trained in basic management skills including revolving fund procedures, accounting, and community meeting facilitation skills. Therefore relevant capacity and skills of the community members are still very limited and they are not able to manage relevant conservation and livelihood improvement activities by themselves. They have requested further assistance on conservation and livelihood development to move towards sustainable site management.

From our experience as well as lessons learnt from other organizations and networks, improved understanding of the benefits of environmental conservation and the active participation of local communities (both women and men) in the protection of natural resources, play a crucial role in solving these problems. Local people can participate effectively if they have the required knowledge and skills, and have been empowered in managing those resources, while at the same time have their basic needs fulfilled. Improving community livelihoods in an environmentally sustainable manner is a key factor in motivating people to participate in environmental protection and conservation. Otherwise the community environment and livelihood problems will become increasingly serious. In order to sustain the conservation of Kampong Trach, the involvement of local communities and relevant stakeholders is essential. Improving livelihoods of local people needs to involve reducing pressure on the natural resources of the wetland conservation area by providing alternative sources of income through the Self-Help Group activities. Eco-tourism development provides the potential for a long term financing mechanism to cover the costs of the LCG team in their conservation activities.

#### **Project Approach**

Mlup Baitong's mission is "to support the protection of the environment in Cambodia by

increasing awareness and promoting sustainable use of natural resources while improving people's livelihood". The **Community Livelihood Development for Supporting the Sarus Crane Conservation** in Kampong Trach, Kampot Province project has been initiated to contribute to address the problems as mentioned in the rationale.

**Overall Goal:** "Contribute to sustainable improvement of natural resource management at important feeding areas of non-breeding populations of Sarus Crane in lower Mekong Delta in Cambodia."

**Specific Objectives:**

1. To support the Sarus Crane Conservation mechanism in Kampong Trach
2. To introduce environmentally friendly livelihood development schemes for communities in Kampong Trach

**Expected Outputs:**

- 1.1. One Community Livelihood Development Management Committee (CLDMC) in Kampong Trach officially established
- 1.2. Raised awareness of Sarus Crane conservation, jointly conducted with the existing Local Conservation Group (LCG)
- 2.1. Ten Self-Help Groups (SHGs) established and operating effectively
- 2.2. Community-based Ecotourism (CBET) initiative established

**Main Activities:** The main activities to be accomplished focus on:

- 1.1.1. Collaborate with relevant institutions to set up a Temporary Community Livelihood Development Management Committee (TCLDMC) to lead all activities in the transitional period which the permanent committee was not established (since the permanent committee will be established through election conducted community member). This activity will be done through 2 inter-commune meetings, 2 commune meetings, 3 village meetings.
- 1.1.2. Support the TCLDMC to develop bylaws and regulations through: two one-day workshops to draft bylaws and regulations with members of TCLDMC, one-day consultation meeting with representative of Commune Chiefs (CC), Village Chiefs, and TCLDMC, one-day finalizing (with members of the TCLDMC) and supporting the TCLDMC to submit the bylaws to relevant institutions for official approval
- 1.1.3. Support the TCLDMC in organizing elections to select CLDMC members (3 at village level and 1 at commune level)
- 1.1.4. Disseminate the bylaws and regulations to community members and relevant stakeholders through 3 one-day village meetings
- 1.2.1 Produce MoU between the CLDMC and LCG
- 1.2.2 Disseminate related laws/regulations through 6 village meetings
- 1.2.3 Disseminate information and knowledge relating to biodiversity conservation and destruction through 3 village meetings
- 1.2.4 Produce and install sign/education boards/posters
- 1.2.5 Facilitate monitoring activities conducted by DWB
- 2.1.1 Facilitate community to set up 4 new SHGs in addition to the 6 existing SHGs, through: organizing 4 meetings to form 4 SHGs, supporting the four SHGs to establish their bylaws
- 2.1.2 Build capacity of the 10 SHG leaders on management through 2 two-day training events
- 2.1.3 Build capacity of interested SHG members on Micro-Business development and implementation, saving group, handicraft production, home gardening, and livestock raising through 6 two-day training events
- 2.1.4 Facilitate the SHG to implement biodiversity friendly micro-business relating to home gardening, handicraft producing, livestock/animal raising, and marketing) through supporting material and seed crops to the SHG
- 2.2.1 Initiate community based eco-tourism (concept, overview, services, and mechanisms) through: one meeting with CCs, LCG members, district governor, FA officers, Provincial Department of Tourism, Provincial Department of Environment and other stakeholders and another 3 village meetings
- 2.2.2 Assist the CLDMC in establishing the CBET Group (CBETG) and its regulation

- 2.2.3 Identify and select tourism service providers including tourist guides/receptionist and entrance fee collector/parking facilitator through: One inter-commune meeting, two commune meetings and three village meetings
- 2.2.4 Build capacity of CBETG and service providers on related subjects: management skills, including facilitation skills, minute writing, report writing, leadership, documentation, accounting, and bookkeeping (2 two day trainings); and tourism related skills, including entrance fee management, tourism information and guiding, souvenir vending, and food vending (2 two day trainings)
- 2.2.5 Set up infrastructures and facilities for the tourism activities: community information counter, entrance checking post, bird watching shelter, parking place and toilets
- 2.2.6 Support the CBET Group and service providers in implementing tourism income generation activities through monitoring, coaching, and advertising
- 2.2.7 Organize exposure visit for the CBET Group and CLDMC members
- 2.2.8 Support the CBET Group to network and market tourism products

**Potential risks:**

- The finalization of the sub-decree of the Kampong Trach Conservation Area might be delayed;
- Wetland encroachment committed by powerful people could disturb the project implementation.

**Link to CEPF Investment Strategy**

The project will help deliver the following strategic direction:

*1. Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats*

Sarus Crane (among other threatened species) conservation will be improved, by supporting conservation mechanisms at Kampong Trach, by enhancing public awareness of the values and importance of conserving Kampong Trach, and by developing alternatives to damaging natural resource exploitation activities amongst local communities.

**Project Partners / Stakeholders**

The Community Livelihood Development for Supporting Sarus Crane Conservation project in Kampong Trach, Kampot Province forms part of a coordinated effort to support conservation at two key sites for Sarus Crane conservation in the Lower Mekong, involving Mlup Baitong (MB), Chamroien Chiet Khmer (CCK), and the Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development (CIRD), coordinated under a CEPF project proposed by the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust. An MoU has been signed between CCK, The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT), BirdLife, Mlup Baitong and Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development (CIRD) to establish an NGO steering group to guide the long-term conservation of the site. CCK, in partnership with MB and CIRD, will undertake alternative livelihood and poverty reduction projects that complement WWT's conservation work.

Mlup Baitong will be implementing this project in partnership with the community members of 3 villages including Chres in Beng Salar Khang Tbong commune and Koh Thnot and Koh Chamkar in Prek Kreus commune of Kampong Trach District, Kampot province.

The project will closely cooperate with the existing Local Conservation Group (LCG) team and the Forestry Administration/Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity (DWB) in its activity implementation. They are mainly involved in the implementation of activity plan which will be detailed in the full proposal for the next step. The community members of the three villages will be provided trainings in terms of technical and financial management through the project lifetime. Mlup Baitong is also the institution accountable to donor of every matters rising up from this project.

Other key stakeholders which influent on the project implementation include BirdLife International in Indochina, WWT, CIRD and Forestry Administration/ Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity (DWB)

#### **BirdLife International Cambodia Programme**

BirdLife International is a UK-based International conservation organization with well established project activities for wetlands in the Lower River Mekong Delta ecosystem. BirdLife has been collaborating closely with the Forestry Administration to conserve the grassland and Sarus Crane in Kampong Trach since 2004, therefore BirdLife will support the Forestry Administration to complete the designation process and develop monitoring protocols. BirdLife International will not be involved in any expenditure of funding from this project; they will provide advice and consultation only.

#### **The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT)**

The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) is a leading UK conservation organisation saving wetlands for wildlife and people across the world. It was founded in 1946 by the late Sir Peter Scott at Slimbridge, Gloucestershire. Described as the 'patron saint' of modern conservation, Sir Peter not only dedicated his life to protecting wildfowl species from around the world, but was also a leading figure in establishing the Ramsar Convention and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

WWT mission is to conserve wetlands for wildlife and people and they work to save wetlands and their wildlife by identifying and acting to counter the threats that affect their survival and to enhance people's lives. WWT envisions healthy wetlands across the world, where a rich variety of wildlife live safely, and in harmony with local people.

#### **Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development (CIRD)**

CIRD is an independent non- governmental organization created on July 7th, 2009 by a team of qualified development specialists with diversified and extensive experiences. CIRD was fully registered as a national NGO by the Royal Government of Cambodia on Aug 11th, 2009 under the reference number 2004 Sor Chor Nor. CIRD works directly with farmer organizations and local communities to provide capacity building and appropriate skills to ensure that rural poor people can improve their lives and livelihoods in self-determination. CIRD is a non-profit organization working with development partners and allies in Cambodia and networking globally to bring about sustainable social change.

#### **Forestry Administration/ Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity (DWB)**

The Forestry Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is the government agency responsible for protection and management of forest and wildlife in Cambodia. Within the Forestry Administration, conservation of wildlife is the responsibility of the Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity (DWB). DWB has a long-history of successful collaboration with international and local NGOs, including BirdLife International. DWB will support in complete the establishment of Kampong Trach Sarus Crane and other birds conservation area. In particular, DWB will play a leading role in on-the-ground demarcation. In addition, DWB will provide staff to facilitate this project.

#### **Local Conservation Group (LCG):**

A group of seven people, LCG was established since year 2004 to undertake conservation activities in Kampong Trach IBA. In this project, LCG will take a lead in conducting law enforcement and implementing appropriate monitoring protocol.

#### **Long-term Sustainability/Replication:**

The DWB of the Central Forestry Administration unit is permanently responsible for managing the Kampong Trach IBA where a sub-degree is expected to be issued by the Council of Minister. In addition during project implementation, Mlup Baitong will work closely with other NGO partners including BirdLife, WWT, CIRD to seek other long-term supporting alternatives for community livelihood improvement and income generation for supporting the Sarus Crane conservation and reducing disturbing activities in the conservation area.

We will develop project proposals for further improvement of ecotourism and linkage with other potential tourism sites by cooperating with tour companies to set up tourism trail and package within the costal zone. Funds generated from ecotourism can then go toward continued law

enforcement, monitoring and environmental awareness activities by LCG and be used for training in tourism and hospitality.

The empowered LCG will continue after the end of the project to operate providing conservation, and the empowered CLDMC will continue to operate supporting SHGs and other community members to improve their livelihoods. SHGs will continue to use their revolving funds from savings to provide micro loans to their members.

Annex 5 CEPF Letter of Inquiry from CCK

<b>Organization Legal Name</b>	Chamroien Chiet Khmer (CCK)
<b>Organization Short Name / Acronym, if any.</b>	CCK
<b>Project Lead Contact –</b>	Mrs. Hem Sakhan, Director of Chamroien Chiet Khmer
<b>Organization Chief Executive –</b>	Mrs. Hem Sakhan, Director
<b>Mailing Address -</b>	Chambok aem Village, Rominh Commune, Koh Andeth District, Takeo Province
<b>Physical Address –</b>	as above
<b>Country</b>	Cambodia
<b>Telephone</b>	+855 (0)12 791 421
<b>Fax, if any.</b>	n/a
<b>Web Site Address, if any.</b>	n/a
<b>E-mail Address –</b>	cckorg_takeo@yahoo.com or sakhan.ccktakeo@yahoo.com
<b>Total Permanent Staff</b>	9 permanent staff exist in the organization
<b>Year Organization Established</b>	Established in 1996, legally recognized by the Ministry of Interior on 11 November, 1998
<b>Organization Type</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> International <i>Local organizations should be legally registered in a country within the hotspot where the project will be implemented and have an independent board of directors or other similar type of independent governing structure.</i>
<b>History and Mission Statement</b>	<p>The Chamroien Chiet Khmer (CCK) translated into English means the "Khmer National Progress Association". CCK work nationally to implement Oxfam's GB strategies in development, humanitarian and campaigning to find solutions to poverty and suffering in Cambodia. CCK began implementing Oxfam's GB strategies in 1996, and then later became a legally recognized NGO in 1998.</p> <p>Oxfam GB began implementing programs in 1992 after they conducted a direct mission to the villages of Mea Neak, Daem Pour and Sa Meung in Rominh Commune, Koh Andeth District, Takeo Province. While in these villages, Oxfam established a rice bank program, built a school in Mea Neak village, built irrigational systems to assist farmers, built ponds to retain fresh drinking water and assisted the community in disaster relief management. Once several different programs were established, Oxfam GB ended its mission in 1996 and strategies of Oxfam ceased from working directly in the field with villages, to providing technical expertise and</p>

financial support to CCK to implement programs themselves.

In response to Oxfam's new strategies, Mrs. Hem Sakhan who worked for Oxfam GB at the time of establishing programs in Koh Andeth District, founded the local NGO Chamroien Chiet Khmer. Today, CCK employs 9 staff members and coordinates the work of agricultural, community forestry, gender and small-scale business projects in three villages in Kropum Chhouk Commune of Koh Andeth Districts and 44 villages of Kirivong District.

Initially, CCK concentrated on implementing Oxfam's strategies, however, they have increased their capacity to include environmental awareness, community forestry and conservation projects. To date, 5 community forestry groups have been established in 5 Communes, across 44 villages in Kirivong District. To establish these groups, CCK works directly with the community by empowering them to be involved in the decision making process of their natural resources. CCK does this by raising awareness in communities about the importance of protecting forests and natural resources, gives them the capacity to vote for their own village representatives so they can vote for their own village representatives for the groups. CCK have also established good relationships with government agencies and have worked with the Provincial level FA since 2004, we will give local people the skills necessary to work with government agencies, facilitating partnerships and active community involvement in natural resource management.

We have the capacity to lead, manage and develop the local communities where this project is based. We have been working in Takeo Province for over ten years and have established long lasting relationships. We can provide technical support and training to the LCG on how to develop these relationships by establishing community groups that work with the LCG, whilst train the local community in leadership and presentation skills. In return, CCK will receive training on new methods of assessment techniques, create partnerships with other NGOs working in the local area on similar projects, and learn more about conserving the site.



<b>Eligibility Questions</b>
CEPF funds may not be used to directly fund government agency activities. In addition, they may not be used for the purchase of land, involuntary resettlement of people, the capitalization of a trust fund or the alteration of any physical cultural property. If your proposed project involves any of these, CEPF is not in a position to fund your proposal. Where possible, you may revise your strategy to avoid these elements or you may wish to consult the "Resources" section at <a href="http://www.cepf.net">www.cepf.net</a> that provides links to additional funding sources and resource sites.
Do you represent, or is your organization controlled by, a government agency? No
Do you plan to use any of the potential project funds to purchase land? No
Does the project involve the removal or alteration of any physical cultural property (includes movable or immovable objects, sites, structures, and natural features and landscapes that have archeological, paleontological, historical, architectural, religious, aesthetic, or other cultural significance)? No
Does the project involve the relocation of people or any other form of involuntary resettlement? No
Do you plan to use any of the project funds to capitalize a trust fund(s)? No
<b>Project Title and Request</b>
<b>Project Title</b> Community Actions to Improve Livelihoods linked to Protection and Conservation of Sarus Cranes and other globally threatened species in Boeung Prek Lapouv Conservation Area, Cambodia.
<b>CEPF Region</b> – Please list the CEPF region where your project will be implemented. CEPF funding regions are described on <a href="http://www.cepf.net">www.cepf.net</a> . Indo-Burma
<b>Project Location</b> – The project will focus on the Boeung Prek Lapouv (BPL) Management and Conservation Area for Sarus Crane and other birds located in Borei Chulsa and Koh Andeth Districts, Takeo Province.

<b>Project Duration –</b> One year from 01 July 2010 to 30 June 2011			
<b>Strategic Direction from the CEPF Ecosystem Profile –</b> Enter the single strategic direction this proposal aims to address. Use the exact number, such as 1, 2, etc. and wording from the ecosystem profile for this region found on www.cepf.net. The project links directly to CEPF investment strategy, CEPF strategic directions 1 <b>Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats</b> and under the CEPF investment priorities 1.1 <b>Identify and secure core populations of 67 globally threatened species from over-exploitation and illegal trade.</b>			
<b>Funding Request Amount –</b> US\$19,999.00			
<b>Total Project Budget –</b> US\$22,519.00			
<b>Counterpart Funding –</b> None			
<b>In-Kind Contributions –</b> Shared office supplies and maintenance: \$50 per month for 12 months = \$600 Shared transportation (motorbikes): \$30 per month for 2 persons for 12 months \$720 Shared office rental: \$100 per month for 12 months = \$1,200.00  Total US\$2,520.00			
<b>Project Budget –</b> Provide a breakdown of the proposed budget (in US\$ and only for the CEPF funded portion of the project) using the following categories.			
<b>Salaries/Benefits:</b>			
<b>Staff</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Total</b>
Mr. Um Sokun, Programme Officer (50%)	\$150	12 months	\$1,800
Mr. Ses Vongsambath), Programme Officer (50%)	\$150	12 months	\$1,800
CCK Executive director (20%)	\$100	12 months	\$1,200
Accountant (25%)	\$50	12 months	\$600
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$5,400</b>
<b>Professional Services:</b> 0			
<b>Rent and Storage:</b> 0			
<b>Telecommunications:</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Total</b>
Telephone	\$60.50	12 months	\$726.00
Email/internet	\$20	12 months	\$240.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$966</b>
<b>Postage and Delivery:</b> 0			
<b>Supplies:</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Total</b>

Production and distribution of T-shirts	\$3.50	175	\$612.50
Cow bank, cow costs	\$400	8	\$3,200
Jars for clean water, jar costs	\$100	30	\$3,000
Production and fixing sign boards	\$150	5	\$750
Electricity and water supplies	\$50 per month	12	\$600
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$8,162.50</b>

Furniture and Equipment: 0				
Maintenance: 0				
Travel:				
<b>Item</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>No. of person/ days</b>		<b>Total</b>
Boat and car rental for CCK staff	\$20 per person per day	40		\$880
Boat and car rental for participants	\$15 per person per day	121		\$1,815
Subsistence for CCK staff	\$4 per person per day	96		\$384
Travel costs for Study Visit (28 participants)	\$100 per day	2		\$400
Accommodation for staff and participants on Study Visit	\$7 per person per day	36		\$252
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$3,731</b>
Meetings & Events:				
<b>Awareness meeting at district Borey Chulasa</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Days</b>	<b>Total</b>
Food for participants	\$2.50	23	1	\$57.50
Stationary, snacks and other logistic arrangements	\$26.00	1	1	\$26.00
<b>Awareness meeting at Koh Andet district</b>				
Food for participants	\$2.50	34	1	\$85.00
Stationary, snacks and other logistic arrangements	\$34.00	1	1	\$34.00
<b>Formation of three more VVCs</b>				
Materials and snacks	\$10.00	1	3	\$30.00
<b>Capacity building meetings of VVCs</b>				
Food for participants	\$2.50	25	2	\$125.00
Materials and snacks	\$1.00	25	2	\$50.00
<b>Village meetings, 5 villages, 2 times per village</b>				
Stationary and snacks	\$1.00	70	10	\$700.00
<b>Study tour, 1 trip</b>				
Food for participants	\$8.00	12	4	\$384.00
Stationary and snacks	\$1.00	12	4	\$48.00
<b>Community meetings</b>				
Food for participants	\$2.50	28	2	\$140.00
Stationary and snacks	\$1.00	30	2	\$60.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$1,739.50</b>
Miscellaneous: 0				
Sub-Grants: 0				
Indirect Cost (max 13%): 0				
<b>Total Budget: US\$19,999.00</b>				
<b>Safeguard Policy Aspects</b>				
If the answer to one or more of the following questions is marked Yes, please summarize the potential impacts and how these might be avoided or mitigated. Please be aware that CEPF may ask applicants for additional information and project documentation if the project possesses the potential to trigger Safeguard Policies.				

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<p><b>Environmental Aspects</b></p> <p><b>Will the proposed project involve activities that are likely to have adverse impacts on the environment?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><b>Justification I – Provide rationale for environmental impact if the answer marked is Yes.</b></p>
<p><b>Social Aspects</b></p> <p><b>Will the proposed project involve activities that are likely to have adverse impacts on the local community?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>Letter of Inquiry</b></p> <p>The letter of inquiry is meant to provide CEPF with an overview of the project concept. It is typically 2-3 pages in length, and must include at least the following information:</p> <p><b>Project Rationale</b> – Describe the conservation need (key threats and/or important opportunities) your project aims to address and what would happen if this project were not implemented.</p> <p><b>Project Approach</b> – Describe the proposed strategy and actions of your project in response to the conservation need stated above. Include the expected results of the project and any potential risks you face in implementing this plan. (no more than 500 words)</p> <p><b>Link to CEPF Investment Strategy</b> – How does your project relate to the CEPF investment strategy presented in the Ecosystem Profile? (This document may be found at <a href="http://www.cepf.net">www.cepf.net</a>) Your answer should include reference to a specific strategic direction from the relevant ecosystem profile that the project will support.</p> <p><b>Project Partners / Stakeholders</b> – List any partners to be directly involved in implementing this project as well as important stakeholders and how you have involved them in your planning.</p> <p><b>Long-term Sustainability/Replicability</b> – Describe how project components or results will continue or be replicated beyond the initial project.</p> <p>Please compose your letter of inquiry in the section below.</p>
<p>* Letter of Inquiry</p> <p><b>Project Rationale</b></p> <p>Wetland areas in Takeo and Kampot Provinces, have the largest non-breeding populations of Sarus Crane in Cambodia. Kampong Trach (KT) Important Bird Area (IBA) in Kampong Trach District, Kampot Province, and Boeung Prek Lapouv (BPL) in Borei Chulsa and Koh Andeth Districts of Takeo Province are the most important sites. This project will be implemented in BPL Management and Conservation Area. BPL plays a vital role in wetland conservation in the Lower Mekong Basin and forms part of one of the largest and continuous natural habitats remaining in the Mekong Delta. This wetland also supports extensive floating vegetation which is becoming increasingly rare in the Mekong Delta. The site supports up to 20% of the</p>

Indochinese population of the (globally "Vulnerable") Sarus Crane.

People who live around BPL are mostly the poorest families who get their living through collecting natural resources such as firewood, fish and hunting of birds. The area is located in the remote area where many people are poorly educated and are not aware of the laws to ensure protection and conservation of BPL.

CCK is intending to continue supporting the conservation efforts of BirdLife International-Cambodia Programme Office, the Forestry Administration (FA), Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity (DWB) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the International Crane Foundation (ICF), who have all been working in Boeung Prek Lapouv since 2002 to conserve the non-breeding, Southeast Asian populations of Eastern Sarus Crane. This will build on the previous CEPF-funded work at BPL, which has helped to reduce immediate threats to BPL by developing a Community Outreach Programme and actively engaging with local communities, and enhancing the capacity of the LCG team and local community. As part of that work, partnership have been facilitated for long-term collaboration and funding solutions for BPL, of which this Lol forms a part.

CCK will cooperate with Local Conservation Groups (LCGs), Village Volunteer Committees (VVCs) and will work with other stakeholders in the area to improve the quality of the work in the target areas. This means that CCK will combine all efforts to protect and improve the natural values of BPL and to reduce pressure on these resources through supporting livelihood activities of local communities.

According to the 2009-2013 Operational Management Plan (OMP) developed by FA and BirdLife there are many issues and threats that exist at the site, such as: the invasion of *Mimosa pigra* and Morning Glory *Ipomoea sp.*, continued land encroachment impacts from agricultural expansion, deliberate fires in grassland habitat for encroachment and wildlife poaching, and high use of chemical and pesticide use etc. To reduce those problems CCK will cooperate with WWT in their conservation and protection activities of the area.

CCK understands the need to address these issues. However, due to the scope of funding these issues and threats can not be fully addressed during the project period. Therefore, CCK will facilitate the process of collaboration between BirdLife, FA and International and local NGO's to continue supporting the site and seek long-term funding to achieve management actions set out in the OMP. In addition, CCK will seek further funding to sustain the Community Outreach Group during project implementation.

Specific interventions of CCK in this area during this project period will be:

- Raising awareness about site protection and conservation in the target area and to the larger communities.
- Organize stakeholder meeting to solve problems and to improve the implementation of the plan.
- Expand the project area to include 3 new villages, one in Borei Chulsa, and two others in Koh Andeth. VVCs will be selected in these villages
- New VVCs and Self-help Groups (SHGs) will be formed in 2-3 villages.
- Awareness raising activities in 10 villages around the BPL area.
- Provide livelihood supports to people in previous target villages (jars, cows)
- Training in leadership to VVCs and CCK's staff through exposure visit.

## **Project Approach**

### **Objectives of the project:**

- 1- Facilitate community communication with site managers.
- 2- Strengthen community support for site conservation
- 3- Promote reinvestment by Self-Help Groups to support long-term funding of VVCs

### **Project activities and outputs:**

- 1.1 Awareness raising meetings at district level and at local schools, Borei Chulsa 25 participants, Koh

Andeth 34 participants, 6 schools around the protected area, 600 students altogether.

Output: Community members in the project areas, local authorities and other stakeholders are aware of the site's importance and legal status and participate in the conservation and protection of the site.

1.2 Set up and strengthen the capacity of 5 VVCs (Village Voluntary Committees), about leadership of VVCs and about the implementation of the sub-decree on the site protection and conservation.

Output: 5 VVCs are aware of the sub-decree and help to transfer this knowledge to other community members.

1.3 Support awareness activities of 5 VVCs in their respective villages.

Output: Community members in 5 villages are aware of the importance and legal status of the site and participate in conservation and protection of the site.

1.4 Produce 5 sign boards, 175 T-shirts, 100 posters to provide information about the conservation importance of the site.

Output: Community members living in the areas around the site know the importance and legal status of the site and participate in all protection/conservation activities.

2.1 Semester meeting with LCG, VVCs, Armed Forces, Local Authorities and NGOs, 2 meetings for 2 districts, 30 participants/each meeting.

Output: Problems and needs of local communities are discussed and collectively solved.

2.2 Study tour for staff of CCK and VVCs to forest protected areas.

Output: Capacity of site staff to undertake conservation activities increased

2.3 Set up 2 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in 2 villages to manage cattle-banks, with 4 cows per village, and support their regular (monthly) meetings

Output: Solidarity among community members improved, their livelihood increased, and their cooperation in the protection of the site strengthened.

2.4 Provide big water jars to 30 families in 2 villages.

Output: Community members get clean drinking water and are able to improve their health problems.

3.1 Generate contributions from members of cattle-banks to build capital of the SHGs.

Output: SHGs have small capital to support the activities of VVCs to fund their protection activities.

#### **Link to CEPF Investment Strategy**

The Conservation of non breeding populations of Sarus Crane and its habitat in the Lower Mekong Delta project links directly to CEPF investment strategy, CEPF strategic directions 1 **Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats** and under the CEPF investment priorities 1.1 **Identify and secure core populations of 67 globally threatened species from over-exploitation and illegal trade.**

#### **Project Partners / Stakeholders**

The project will be implemented by CCK, in partnership with WWT and BirdLife. CCK will collaborate with a number of other stakeholders during the project implementation, including collaborating with local authorities and other NGOs specialized in the areas of environment such as Mlup Baitong, CIRD and other NGO networks. CCK, in partnership with MB and CIRD, will undertake alternative livelihood and poverty reduction projects that complement WWT's conservation work (see Annex for project activities of each organisation).

BirdLife International-Cambodia will be supporting us every step of the way in this project. They still maintain a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with FA and have established an excellent working relationship with them and other government agencies. BirdLife International will provide advice and consultation only and will not receive any CEPF funds from this project. A project held by WWT will offer technical support to this project and assist in training local communities as well as CCK staff on the site's values, particular the status of Sarus Crane in the site, key threats in the site and other issues involved in protecting the site.

#### **Long-term Sustainability/Replicability**

Since the signing of the MoU between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and BirdLife *in Indochina* in 2004, the FA is committed to providing continued support and partnership with BirdLife to ensure that the conservation and protection of BPL continues. CCK will run this project and remain as a partner with BirdLife and will develop future projects with them. An MoU has been agreed between CCK, WWT, BirdLife, Mlup Baitong and CIRD to establish an NGO steering group to guide the long-term conservation of the site.

The LCG will also maintain its partnerships between the community, the LCG and local authorities and begin other activities for the site, for example village-based monitoring which will include monitoring and reporting illegal activities.



Annex 6 CEPF Letter of Inquiry from CIRD

<b>Organization Legal Name</b>	Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development
<b>Organization Short Name / Acronym, if any.</b>	CIRD
<b>Project Lead Contact –</b>	Mr Karun KHOUTH Email: karunkhouth@online.com.kh, Tel: 012 730 163 (from oversea pls dial +855 12 730 163)
<b>Organization Chief Executive –</b>	Mr Karun KHOUTH, President.
<b>Mailing Address -</b>	#35, street 410, Phnom-Penh, Cambodia. P.O Box: 2543
<b>Physical Address –</b>	as above
<b>Country</b>	Cambodia
<b>Telephone GSM</b>	012 730 163
<b>Fax, if any.</b>	n/a
<b>Web Site Address, if any.</b>	n/a
<b>E-mail Address –</b>	karunkhouth@online.com.kh
<b>Total Permanent Staff</b>	Total 9 staff members
<b>Year Organization Established</b>	Established in July 2009, legally recognized by the Ministry of Interior on 8 august 2009
<b>Organization Type</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> International <i>Local organizations should be legally registered in a country within the hotspot where the project will be implemented and have an independent board of directors or other similar type of independent governing structure.</i>
<b>History and Mission Statement</b>	<p>CIRD is an independent non- governmental organization created on July 7th, 2009 by a team of qualified development specialists with diversified and extensive experiences. CIRD was fully registered as a national NGO by the Royal Government of Cambodia on Aug 11th, 2009 under the reference number 2004 Sor Chor Nor.</p> <p>CIRD was initially established based on the <b><i>pilot project for Geographical Indications Protection in Cambodia</i></b> led by the Ministry of Commerce in partnership with Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The project receives financial support from AFD (French Agency for Development) and technical assistance from GRET, (a French development NGO) and CIRD.</p>

CIRD works directly with farmer organizations and local communities to provide capacity building and appropriate skills to ensure that rural poor people can improve their lives and livelihoods in self-determination. CIRD is a non-profit organization working with development partners and allies in Cambodia and networking globally to bring about sustainable social change.

In accordance with its founding statutes as a development organization under the Royal Government of Cambodia law, CIRD is governed by its members through a Board of Directors (BoD) elected by a General Assembly which is held once a year. The day to day activities of CIRD are managed by a Management Committee led by an Executive Director reporting to the BOD.

**Vision:** For Cambodian rural communities to enjoy abundant quality and healthy food, be able to supply their agro-products to markets, to live in good health and in a pleasant environment with access to quality rural education.

**CIRD's mission statement:**

CIRD is dedicated to fighting poverty, to improve the livelihoods of rural and marginalized communities in Cambodia through capacity building, service and organizational management support enabling rural livelihood systems to improve its position from a subsistence system to an income generating agro-food production and agricultural social enterprises system compatible/consistent with Biodiversity and Environmental conservation.

**Core Values:** Accountability, Consultation, Dialogue, Transparency, Equity and participatory approaches to eco-agro-friendly sustainable development. CIRD builds credibility and reliability. It takes great consideration of its partners and customers and each of us. We are committed to team work and innovation.

**CIRD Achievement:**

While CIRD is only one year old, its staff members have diversified and extensive experiences gained from their experiences working for international organizations and Non-governmental organizations. The following are projects under CIRD implementation:

By end June 2010, CIRD will have completed the implementation of the ***pilot project for Geographical Indications Protection in Cambodia*** led by the Ministry of Commerce in partnership with Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries with financial support from AFD (French Agency for Development) and technical assistance from GRET, (a French development NGO) and CIRD. Two inter-professional organizations including Kampot pepper promotion association (KPPA) and Kampot pepper agricultural cooperative (KAMPACO) were established in Kampong Trach district, Kampot province. These organizations were created aiming at registering the Kampot pepper as a geographical indication product protected by G.I. law of Cambodia. Through this project, CIRD has also helped pepper producers to promote their product and linked them to the markets for income generating purpose benefiting the project targeted local producers. The project has also assisted the creation of the Kampong Speu Sugar palm as a Geographical Indication product recently registered by the Ministry of Commerce. In addition, CIRD has also helped the Kampong Speu Sugar palm producers to promote their product and linked them to national and international markets.

The Trade Capacity-Building program is being implemented in the provinces of Kampot and Kampong Speu with an AFD funding (Agence Française pour le Développement) and with the Ministry of Commerce and the NGO GRET as partners.

The program Evolving from food Security to Income Generation (EFSIG) is being implemented in the Ramsar site of the province of Stung Treng, with NGO CIVIS MUNDI as partners and a funding from the AECID- Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation. The program duration is 18 months.

<b>Eligibility Questions</b>
CEPF funds may not be used to directly fund government agency activities. In addition, they may not be used for the purchase of land, involuntary resettlement of people, the capitalization of a trust fund or the alteration of any physical cultural property. If your proposed project involves any of these, CEPF is not in a position to fund your proposal. Where possible, you may revise your strategy to avoid these elements or you may wish to consult the "Resources" section at <a href="http://www.cepf.net">www.cepf.net</a> that provides links to additional funding sources and resource sites.
Do you represent, or is your organization controlled by, a government agency? No
Do you plan to use any of the potential project funds to purchase land? No
Does the project involve the removal or alteration of any physical cultural property (includes movable or immovable objects, sites, structures, and natural features and landscapes that have archeological, paleontological, historical, architectural, religious, aesthetic, or other cultural significance)? No
Does the project involve the relocation of people or any other form of involuntary resettlement? No
Do you plan to use any of the project funds to capitalize a trust fund(s)? No
<b>Project Title and Request</b>
<b>Project Title</b> Improved agricultural productivity and capacity building for income generation amongst farmer households reliant on the Kampong Trach Sarus Cranes Conservation Area in the province of Kampot, Cambodia.
<b>CEPF Region</b> – Please list the CEPF region where your project will be implemented. CEPF funding regions are described on <a href="http://www.cepf.net">www.cepf.net</a> . Indo-Burma
<b>Project Location</b> – The project will be implemented in the Kampong Trach (KT) Wetland Important Bird Area (likely to be designated soon as a Sarus Crane Conservation Area), located at the western edge of the Mekong Delta in Kampong Trach district, Kampot province, Cambodia.

<b>Project Duration –</b> One year from July, 2010 to June, 2011																								
<b>Strategic Direction from the CEPF Ecosystem Profile –</b> Enter the single strategic direction this proposal aims to address. Use the exact number, such as 1, 2, etc. and wording from the ecosystem profile for this region found on www.cepf.net. The project links directly to the CEPF investment strategy, in particular CEPF strategic direction 1 <b>Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats</b> 1.1 Identify and secure core populations of 67 globally threatened species from overexploitation and illegal trade																								
<b>Funding Request Amount –</b> US\$19,996																								
<b>Total Project Budget –</b> US\$19,996																								
<b>Counterpart Funding –</b> None																								
<b>In-Kind Contributions –</b> US\$ n/a																								
<b>Project Budget –</b> Provide a breakdown of the proposed budget (in US\$ and only for the CEPF funded portion of the project) using the following categories.																								
Salaries/Benefits:																								
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>No of days</th> <th>Rate</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Project manager</td> <td>36</td> <td>70</td> <td>\$2,520</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project officer/trainer/technical expert</td> <td>73</td> <td>50</td> <td>\$3,650</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interviewer</td> <td>18</td> <td>15</td> <td>\$270</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wildlife-friendly Rice Feasibility study team</td> <td>40</td> <td>125</td> <td>\$5,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><b>\$11,440</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		No of days	Rate	Total	Project manager	36	70	\$2,520	Project officer/trainer/technical expert	73	50	\$3,650	Interviewer	18	15	\$270	Wildlife-friendly Rice Feasibility study team	40	125	\$5,000	<b>Total</b>			<b>\$11,440</b>
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<b>Total</b>			<b>\$11,440</b>																					
Professional Services:																								
Rent and Storage: Sharing for office rental and utilities for project staff: \$80 per month for 12 months. <b>Total: US\$ 960</b>																								
Telecommunications: \$55 per month for 12 months. <b>Total: US\$ 600</b>																								
Postage and Delivery: <b>\$60</b>																								
Supplies: Writing and printing materials for wildlife friendly rice feasibility study: <b>\$400</b>																								
Furniture and Equipment: 1 laptop: \$ 900 Farm, agricultural input and tools for demonstration farms:: \$750 <b>Total: \$1,650</b>																								
Maintenance: 0																								
Travel:																								

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<b>Item</b>	<b>No. of journeys/days</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Total</b>
Per Diem for project manager	14	20	\$280
Travel for project staff from P.P to target villages	46	25	\$1,150
Local travel	71	5	\$355
Participants travel	294	1.5	\$441
Stakeholder travel	10	3	\$30
Travel for wildlife-friendly Rice Feasibility study team	Lump sum		\$700
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$2,956</b>

<b>Meetings &amp; Events:</b>	
Snacks and materials for baseline survey	\$145
Venue costs, materials for monthly training events	\$1,350
Venue costs, materials and snacks for Thematic workshop	\$150
Venue and snacks for rice field forum	\$285
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,930</b>
Miscellaneous: 0	
Sub-Grants: N/A	
Indirect Cost (max 13%):	
<b>Total Budget: US\$19,996.00</b>	
<b>Safeguard Policy Aspects</b>	
If the answer to one or more of the following questions is marked Yes, please summarize the potential impacts and how these might be avoided or mitigated. Please be aware that CEPF may ask applicants for additional information and project documentation if the project possesses the potential to trigger Safeguard Policies.	
<b>Environmental Aspects</b>	
<b>Will the proposed project involve activities that are likely to have adverse impacts on the environment?</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Justification I - Provide rationale for environmental impact if the answer marked is Yes.</b>	
<b>Social Aspects</b>	
<b>Will the proposed project involve activities that are likely to have adverse impacts on the local community?</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
I	
<b>Letter of Inquiry</b>	
The letter of inquiry is meant to provide CEPF with an overview of the project concept. It is typically 2-3 pages in length, and must include at least the following information:	
<b>Project Rationale</b> – Describe the conservation need (key threats and/or important opportunities) your project aims to address and what would happen if this project were not implemented.	
<b>Project Approach</b> – Describe the proposed strategy and actions of your project in response to the conservation need stated above. Include the expected results of the project and any potential risks you face in implementing this plan. (no more than 500 words)	
<b>Link to CEPF Investment Strategy</b> – How does your project relate to the CEPF investment strategy presented in the Ecosystem Profile? (This document may be found at <a href="http://www.cepf.net">www.cepf.net</a> ) Your answer should include reference to a specific strategic direction from the relevant ecosystem profile that the project will support.	

**Project Partners / Stakeholders** – List any partners to be directly involved in implementing this project as well as important stakeholders and how you have involved them in your planning.

**Long-term Sustainability/Replicability** – Describe how project components or results will continue or be replicated beyond the initial project.

Please compose your letter of inquiry in the section below.

\* Letter of Inquiry

### **Project Rationale**

Wetland areas in Kampong Trach District support significant numbers of Sarus Crane during the dry (non-breeding) season. Kampong Trach (KT) Important Bird Area (IBA) in Kampong Trach District, Kampong Trach Province plays a vital role in wetland conservation in the Lower Mekong Basin. The area is rich in biodiversity, including seasonally inundated grassland which is an important non-breeding area for the globally threatened (Vulnerable) Sarus Crane. The area supports a variety of other waterbird species and other biodiversity and forms part of one of the largest and continuous natural habitats remaining in the Mekong Delta. KT is soon to be designated as a conservation area for Sarus Crane and other waterbirds.

Local communities depend on natural resources for their livelihoods, including from farming, fishing and non timber forest product (NTFP) collection from the surrounding areas. The population locally continues to grow and pressure on the wetland is increasing, whilst at the same time about half of the target population of our project area is still living below the poverty line.

Degradation of habitat is a major threat to these natural resources. Habitat loss and degradation are caused by a variety of factors, including wetland encroachment and unsustainable exploitation, both of which are illegal, and are committed by both the powerful and poor. Poor villagers are often involved in illegal fishing, wetland encroachment, and bird hunting, and may not understand the importance of the values provided by the wetland. This is partly because of lack of environmental awareness and opportunities to participate in natural resource protection or management. Furthermore, villagers are forced to increase productivity of their crops by using chemical pesticides and fertilizer with very limited knowledge of environmental and safety issues, resulting in negative human health impacts and pollution. This has contributed further to the increase in community poverty.

As a result, the natural resources of the project target area are severely affected, which threatens the livelihoods and health of local communities. These communities have strongly requested support to increase their knowledge, understanding and involvement in the protection of biodiversity and other important values of the area, with the aim of improving living conditions and the local environment.

Improving community livelihoods in an environmentally sustainable manner is a key factor in motivating people to participate in environmental protection and conservation. Improving livelihoods of local people needs to involve reducing pressure on natural resources from areas of conservation importance, by providing alternative sources of income. Improved rice agriculture and the development of wildlife-friendly farming product labelling provides the potential for long term financing mechanism to cover the costs of the LCG team in their conservation activities.

CIRD would like to continue supporting the conservation efforts of BirdLife International-Cambodia Programme Office, the Forestry Administration (FA), Wildlife Protection Office (WPO) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the International Crane Foundation (ICF), who have all been working in Kampong Trach since 2002 to conserve the non-breeding, Southeast Asian populations of Eastern Sarus Crane.

## Project Approach

### 1. Project Goal (long term)

To strengthen conservation of Sarus Crane and other globally and nationally threaten species in Kampong Trach Sarus Crane reserve, through improved community agro-biodiversity sustainable development initiatives.

### 2. Specific objectives

2.1. Objective 1: To build the capacity of at least 100 farmer households, whose livelihoods are reliant on the conservation of the site, enabling them to increase their family agricultural production and income, especially through improved rice production.

2.2. Objective 2: To carry out a feasibility study for increasing the value of rice produced by farmers reliant on the Kampong Trach Sarus Crane protected area.

### 3. Expected results

#### 3.1. Expected results for objective 1

- The capacity of more than 100 farmer households is increased after learning and adopting an innovative agro-biodiversity system and new sustainable agricultural production techniques.
- 15 demonstration farms are established in the three target villages as learning places for villagers

#### 3.2. Expected results for objective 2

- A study report listing the findings, expressing recommendations for action is produced.
- A project outline proposing activities leading to the establishment of a rice quality standard with a labeled brand product for the national and international market is proposed to provide long-term support to the Sarus Crane Conservation site.

### 4. Proposed activities

#### 4.1. Proposed activities for objective 1:

- a. Base-line Survey: A baseline survey will be conducted in three target villages at the beginning of the project, to assess the community's socio-economic situation, agricultural production (in particular rice), other baseline information, and the need for agricultural capacity building. The findings will help identify shortcomings and help design the training curriculum. The findings will also be used as part of project evaluation. In total 3 discussion groups will be established for data collection, with the participation of a total of 45 participants. In addition, more than 120 households selected from the 3 target villages will be individually interviewed.
- b. Organization of monthly training sessions for self-help groups and cooperating farmers. The self-help group members and other cooperating farmers will be trained in Rice Intensification technique, compost making and good practice for chemical fertilizer usage, pesticides and its impact on a monthly basis. After training at the community field school, self-help group members and cooperating farmers will receive follow up support from the project agricultural technician in order to assist them in applying the agriculture techniques learned. During the project's implementation, a total of 36 training sessions will be conducted with the participation of at least 100 attendees from the three villages.

It is to be noted that the project will use an Agro-Biodiversity system for the project activities.



This system promotes a sustainable rice intensification technique, promoting the non-use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides through an approach of progressive implementation. The system favours the development of biodiversity and will not generate damages to the wetlands.

Training sessions:

	Number of training sessions per year	Number of villages involved	Total training sessions
Rice growing, System of Rice Intensification (SRI)	5	3	15
Compost making and natural fertilizer	3	3	9
Good practice for chemical fertilizer usage	2	3	6
Pesticides and its impact	2	3	6
Total			36

- c. Support farmers to experiment and develop farm demonstration: 15 volunteer farmers with high potential from the 3 target villages will be selected as key farmers and supported by the project to transform their farms into an agriculture demonstration farm for other farmers to come and learn agricultural innovations, especially in the diversified, intensified and integrated farming of rice and Compost making. In total, 9 farm demonstrations of SRI and 6 demonstration places of compost making will be established per village. Moreover, 15 key farmers will have their capacity strengthened by the project staff through the organization of 8 inter-village trainings.
- d. Organization of thematic workshop: During the project implementation period, two workshops for each of the following thematic group will be organized: 1) Improved rice production techniques; 2) Compost making and good practice of chemical fertilizer usage, 3) Integrated pest management and pesticides and its impact. This workshop will be organized with farmers who have established a demonstration farm as well as other farmers with potential. In total, 6 workshops will be organized with the participation of 126 participants; each thematic workshop will consist of 21 participants.
- e. Organization of the rice field forum: This forum will be organized in the rice harvest season at the rice field with the purpose of offering a comparison between the SRI yield and traditional rice production. The self-help group members and other cooperating farmers and concerned stakeholders will be invited to this forum. In total, 3 rice field forums will be organized with the participation of at least 100 participants.

4.2. Proposed activities for objective 2:

Conduct a feasibility study for increasing the value of rice produced by the farmers reliant on the Kampong Trach Sarus Crane conservation site.

4.2.1. Specific objectives (fact finding)

- a. Assess the actual quantity of rice paddy produced in the targeted area and its potential.

What kind of agricultural products do farmers in the area produce? Which are used for family consumption? What is the volume (per household and of the whole area)? What are the markets for generating cash income?

- b. What are the current commercialization practices? What are the constraints and advantages in

producing and selling of their agricultural products?

- c. How can agricultural products be better valued? Through:
  - Improving the rice producer organization for market purpose.
  - Improving the specific quality through a development of product standard.
- d. What kinds of standards can be developed and with best valuation...organic, wild life friendly, GAP?
- e. An improvement of the value chain?
- F. Improving the processing of the rice, what kind of products and how?
- g. Improving access of the agricultural product to the market? Where and how and for how much?
- h. What will be the impact on conservation site if farmers will be able to generate better income through a better production and valuation of their agricultural products?
- ii. How this improved situation can contribute to the site conservation?

#### 4.2.2. Recommendations

Produce a project outline proposal covering next phase of interventions in support of Sarus Crane conservation.

Based on the data collected, and discussions with existing and potential partners and the experiences gained by CIRD, formulate a project outline for the valuation of the rice produced by the project targeted farmers and how the valued rice can contribute in the future in the funding of the Sarus Crane conservation area management?

This outline will be circulated to all project partners for their comments and suggestions with the aim to produce a full project proposal for the continuation of the activities supporting the Kampong Trach Sarus Crane conservation site.

#### [Link to CEPF Investment Strategy](#)

The Conservation of non breeding populations of Sarus Crane and its habitat in the Lower Mekong Delta project links directly to CEPF investment strategy, CEPF strategic directions 1 **Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats** and under the CEPF investment priorities 1.1 **Identify and secure core populations of 67 globally threatened species from over-exploitation and illegal trade.**

#### [Project Partners / Stakeholders](#)

The project will be implemented by CIRD, in close consultation and collaboration with the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, BirdLife and the FA/DWB, a number of other stakeholders during project implementation, including, collaborating with Mlup Baitong, a local NGO based in Phnom Penh who is also working in the KT important Bird Area. An MoU has been agreed between CCK, WWT, BirdLife, Mlup Baitong and CIRD to establish an NGO steering group to guide the long-term conservation of the site. CCK, in partnership with MB and CIRD, will undertake alternative livelihood and poverty reduction projects that complement WWT's conservation work.

#### [Long-term Sustainability/Replicability](#)

The sustainability of any project depends very much on how the target beneficiaries will continue to get the same benefit after the project phasing out. A total of 15 demonstration sites will have been established and the capacity of 15 key farmers will have been enhanced by the project, so they can play an important role in continuing to disseminate what they have learnt from the project to other cooperating farmers.

The 100 households can get the benefit from learning about the agrobiodiversity system and applying the new and innovative agricultural techniques and vegetable growing and animal raising in the long run. CIRD will initiate ownership and participatory approaches from the start of the project. At the end of the project, all responsibilities and ownership will be handed over to all beneficiaries under the witness of local authorities.

CIRD will collaborate closely with all stakeholders including WWT, BirdLife International, Mlub Baitong who are working in Kampong Trach IBA to develop site management plan and develop milestone project for longer term conservation and communities livelihood improvement activities.

## Memorandum of Understanding

between

**the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, Mlup Baitong, Chamroien Chiet Khmer,  
BirdLife International *in Indochina*- Cambodia Program and  
Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development**

### Background

The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) is the largest international wetland conservation charity in the UK. WWT's mission is to conserve wetlands and their biodiversity. These are vitally important for the quality and maintenance of all life. Founded in 1946 by the artist and naturalist Sir Peter Scott (1909 - 1989), WWT has 9 visitor centres, covering around 2,000 hectares in Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England, where people can get closer to wetland birds and enjoy spectacular wetland landscapes in a welcoming and friendly environment. WWT carries out a range of conservation activities over 10 programmes in three conservation departments.

Mlup Baitong works to increase environmental awareness and conservation, seeking solutions for sustainable and equitable use of natural resources through education, training, and advocacy and community-based natural resource management activities. Its mission is to support the protection of the environment in Cambodia by increasing awareness and promoting sustainable use of natural resources while improving people's livelihood. It follows a philosophy that a good environment starts from the individual and can only be achieved with participation of all. The goal of its work is to contribute to poverty alleviation in Cambodia through rights based empowerment of rural communities to manage their natural resources sustainably while obtaining improved livelihoods

Chamroien Chiet Khmer (CCK) works nationally to implement Oxfam's GB strategies in development, humanitarian and campaigning to find solutions to poverty and suffering in Cambodia. CCK began implementing Oxfam's GB strategies in 1996, and then later became a legally recognized NGO in 1998. CCK works directly with the community by empowering them to be involved in the decision making process of their natural resources. CCK have established good relationships with government agencies and give local people the skills necessary to work with government agencies, facilitating partnerships and active community involvement in natural resource management.

Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development (CIRD) works directly with farmer organizations and local communities to provide capacity building and appropriate skills to ensure that rural poor people can improve their lives and livelihoods in self-determination. CIRD is a non-profit organization working with development partners and allies in Cambodia and networking globally to bring about sustainable social change. CIRD's vision is for Cambodian rural communities to enjoy abundant quality and healthy food, be

able to supply their agro-products to markets, to live in good health and in a pleasant environment with access to quality rural education. CIRD is dedicated to fighting poverty, to improve the livelihoods of rural and marginalized communities in Cambodia through capacity building, service and organizational management support enabling rural livelihood systems to improve its position from a subsistence system to an income generating agro-food production and agricultural social enterprises system compatible/consistent with Biodiversity and Environmental conservation.

WWT, Mlup Baitong, CCK and CIRD implemented a project partnership and development project funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund entitled “Building a partnership for establishing sustainable management at key wetlands for Sarus Crane in the Cambodian Lower Mekong”. This MoU represents an agreement between WWT, Mlup Baitong, CCK and CIRD to co-ordinate the development and delivery of three (two) projects at Kampong Trach and Boeung Prek Lapouv with the aim of securing a non-breeding population of the globally threatened Sarus Crane.

The BirdLife International *in Indochina* - Cambodia Program Office has signed Memorandum of understanding with Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and developed a strong, positive working relationship with a number of collaborating organizations undertaking conservation activities at Boeung Prek Lapouv, Kampong Trach and in the wider Dry Forest Plains landscape. Most critical is the relationship with the Forestry Administration within the MAFF, which is the government agency primarily responsible for managing the forest and wetland area outside Country’s protected areas system. BirdLife has been providing valuable support to this department in the form of resources to support on-going protected area activities and technical input into management at Boeung Prek Lapouv and Kampong Trach since 2003.

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**

This Memorandum of Understanding is made on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010 between Mlup Baitong, Chamroien Chiet Khmer (hereafter CCK), BirdLife International *in Indochina*- Cambodia Program (hereafter BirdLife), Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development (hereafter CIRD) and the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (hereafter WWT). It provides information on the agreement to co-ordinate the development and delivery of four projects at Kampong Trach and Boeung Prek Lapouv (outlined in Annex 1), in order to establish sustainable management at key wetlands for Sarus Crane in the Cambodian Lower Mekong. It also indicates the roles and responsibilities of each organisation.

### **Role and responsibility of partners**

#### ***All partners will:***

- Contribute to the development and delivery of the coordinated projects at Kampong Trach and Boeung Prek Lapouv to be submitted to CEPF.
- Review project reports and other outputs as required.
- Provide mutual support to assist coordination of the delivery of conservation activities at Kampong Trach and Boeung Prek Lapouv.
- Identify or employ suitable staff to work on the projects.

- Provide sufficient office space and facilities to their staff to allow them to deliver project activities.
- Provide input to required reports to CEPF.
- Contribute to capacity building activities amongst all partner organisations.
- BirdLife will be responsible to liaise with government to ensure the collaboration

### **Financial administration**

Mlup Baitong, CCK, CIRD and WWT will work together to administer adequate and correct financial/auditing systems on the funding provided by CEPF for use on the project. BirdLife will not involve in any expenditure covered by CEPF.

### **Reports**

In this development phase, WWT will be responsible for compiling a project report to CEPF based on the partnership and project development phase. Mlup Baitong, CCK, and CIRD will provide information where requested to allow completion of that report. Following this, each separate partner will be responsible for reporting directly to CEPF on award of funds from them for the proposed projects. BirdLife will be responsible to report to government focal points about the progress of projects.

WWT, Mlup Baitong, CCK, BirdLife and CIRD will ensure information is available to all partners as required to allow each organisation to deliver the required reporting to CEPF.

### **Equal opportunities**

Mlup Baitong, CCK, CIRD, BirdLife and WWT will ensure that it applies a policy of equal opportunities as employers, as users of volunteers and as providers of services, regardless of race, sex, age, religion or, so far as is practicable, any disability.

### **Use of results**

Mlup Baitong, CCK, CIRD, BirdLife and WWT will make all reasonable enquiries concerning copyright, design, patent and other intellectual property rights and will ensure that to the best of their beliefs there are no such rights which are required in connection with carrying out the project or exploitation of the project's results except those owned by, or available to, the organisations and that these rights will continue to be so available, at all times following the commencement of funding.

### **Termination of MoU**

Mlup Baitong, CCK, CIRD, BirdLife or WWT may declare this memorandum of understanding terminated only after giving one month's notice.

### **MoU signatures**

This memorandum, signed on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2010, indicates our commitment to the collaboration for the duration of this MoU.

Signed on behalf of WWT:



(Seb Buckton, Wetlands for People Programme Manager)

Date: 19th May 2010.....

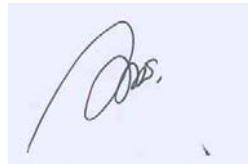
Signed on behalf of Mlup Baitong:



(Va Moeurn, Executive Director)

Date: 19th May 2010.....

Signed on behalf of CCK:



(Hem Sakhan, Executive Director)

Date: 19th May 2010.....

Signed on behalf of CIRD:

  
Karun KHOUTH

(Karun Khouth, President of the Board of Director)

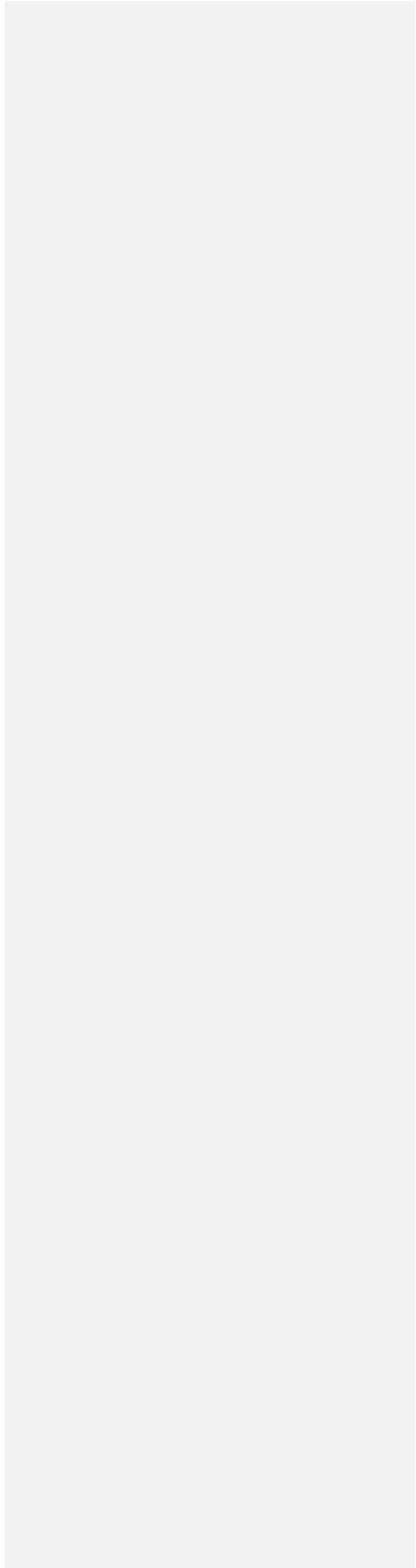
Date: 19th May 2010.....

Signed on behalf of BirdLife International *in Indochina*- Cambodia Programme:



(Bou Vorsak, Acting country program Manager)

Date: 19th May 2010.....



**Annex A: Project Profile (submitted LoIs)**

[For the purposes of this report the LoIs are included above as Annex 3-6]

