

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Organization Legal Name	Sansom Mlup Prey (SMP)
Project Title	"Growing More Than Just Rice: Enabling a Local Civil Society Organization to Increase its Conservation Impact"
CEPF Grant or Number	CEPF-082 (IUCN Ref.) / CEPF-104306 (CEPF Sec Ref.)
Date of Report	31 October 2018

CEPF Hotspot: Indo-Burma

Strategic Direction: 8 - Strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels

Grant Amount: USD 19,990

Project Dates: 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018

PART I: Overview

1. Implementation Partners for this Project *(list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project)*

- Ministry of Environment informed inhabitants about all aspects of project implementation and appropriately collaborated at a sub-national level.

- Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) provided technical assistance, particularly in GIS training and remote sensing.

2. Summarize the overall results/impact of your project

The project activities were delivered promptly and with good planning. Also, due to enthusiasm of farmers for the organic certification process and the attraction of incentives, we delivered scale beyond the anticipated outputs.

Importantly, we incorporated new tools and technology into the project that have not only delivered efficiencies but also served to improve compliance, communication of compliance and transparency.

The proposed effects of organic certification on compliance and market access have surpassed expectations such that a new entity has been incorporated to facilitate investment and growth in the commercialization of the model. Ibis Rice Conservation Co., Ltd (IRCC) was incorporated in October 2017 and purchased all crops, paying all premiums and dividends to farmers. This vehicle has secured access to \$800,000USD of debt financing to purchase increased supply in December 2018. We see the increased capacity of SMP and the commercial viability of IRCC as perfect vehicles to expand this model to all protected areas in Cambodia.

Briefly describe actual progress towards the overall project goal (as stated in the small grant contract)

Description of the overall project goal (as stated in the small grant contract)	Summary of actual progress towards this goal
SMP has the capacity to use Ibis Rice as a mechanism to stabilize land-use at deforestation frontiers throughout Cambodia’s Deciduous Dipterocarp Forests.	<p>The project overall has exceeded expectations both in households reached and the development of the model. Better compliance at the field level has indeed supplied more product to the IBIS rice brand that is exportable, allowing the business to be more successful. These increased premiums have increased compliance and commitment of participants, leading to a positive feedback loop that is tying the successes of the business to the successes of a household protection of forest.</p> <p>Through this project, SMP has developed internal capacity, compliance tools and training programs leading to a highly replicable and scalable model which is now being extended to new landscapes with new partners. In January 2018, SMP and IBIS rice have begun to work with Birdlife international in Western Siem Pang and are looking to extend to two new protected areas with two new partners in 2019.</p>

3. Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its overall goal

The clear positive was the effectiveness of attractive incentives increasing the number of farmers willing to become compliant. The use of SPOT mapping and GIS staff has provided precise data in order to establish baselines that were previously unclear. By providing clear mapping, this has been able to determine lands that are compliant with both the Wildlife Friendly and Organic requirements.

Key to the achievement of a sustainable, affordable organic certification system is that VMNs are able to become more involved in the management of the internal control system (ICS) for organics. This can reduce cost and add more value to the communities, though it is important that this ICS has significant oversight.

The land use plans that have been developed in conjunction with the DoE, whilst being an accepted methodology, have often been misunderstood and poorly implemented amongst community authorities, meaning that identifying approved and un-approved land use difficult. Next year, it is imperative that the project peruse a wider and deeper understanding with the DoE in specifying land use plans, including the consequences of land clearing.

4. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Prior to the commencement of the project, the major issues and constraints were predicted to be the willingness of farmers to accept organic compliance requirements as well as the possibility of Ibis Rice sales negatively affecting incentive strategies if sales struggled. The number of farmers recruited has exceeded expectations due to the increased incentives that could be confidently offered to farmers due to the market opportunities this certification offers. However, there still continue to be issues with the documentation of the compliance process in conjunction with the understanding of the processes to a wider audience. This is an issue Ibis Rice is resolving with the development and implementation of an accessible Standard Operating Procedure.

The satellite imagery purchased in April 2018 is still to be fully processed due to the constraints of Cambodia's seasons. The satellite imagery can only proceed in the dry season due to cloud cover produced during the rainy season.

The partnerships with DoE and WCS staff members assisting the project, whilst often valuable, can present their own issues. The hiring, rotation or removal of DoE staff members is outside the control of SMP and can greatly influence the effectiveness of the project.

PART II: Project Objectives and Activities/Deliverables

5. Objectives (as stated in the small grant contract)

Objective 1: Conservation incentives for farmers growing organic wildlife-friendly rice are improved in structure and scale.		
Activity description	Deliverable(s)	Summary of actual progress/results for this activity
Activity 1.1 Recruit and train an organic manager and two field staff.	Organic manager and two field staff recruited and inducted.	Completed: Organic manager was recruited prior to the project due to delays of opening the grant and two more field staff were recruited in the first month of the project.
Activity 1.2 Recruit and train an additional 150 farmers to achieve organic certification.	150 farmers have signed sales agreements in SMP's organic project	Completed: More than 178 additional farmers signed sales agreements; of those, 151 achieved organic certification.
Activity 1.3 Implement an enhanced conservation incentives program, including paying a higher per-kg incentive to participating farmers and trialing a community compliance Khmer New Year dividend.	Higher per-kg incentive paid to 150 farmers. Community-level compliance Khmer New Year dividend trialed in at least 2 villages	Completed: higher Per-kg incentive paid to more than 300 farmers. 9 villages trialed (Tmatboey, Dangphlat, Narong, Preyveng, Kongyong, Yeang, Sambo, Bra, and Kompenh). Paid \$4440 for Khmer New year dividend Types of Incentive: Riel/Kg Paddy seed received 35riel/kg Organic paddy received 30riel/kg Adhoc organic and Ibis paddy received 25riel/kg

Objective 2: SMP has greater capacity to ensure compliance to conservation agreements by participating farmers.		
Activity description	Deliverable(s)	Summary of actual progress/results for this activity
Activity 2.1 Purchase hi-resolution satellite imagery to improve monitoring of paddy expansion.	Satellite imagery purchased and analyzed by GIS team.	Purchased 19 th May 2017.
Activity 2.2 Recruit and train a GIS operative to coordinate remote sensing and ground mapping.	GIS staff recruited and inducted.	By the first month of this project, a GIS officer was hired, worked under a probationary period and continues to work full-time from November 2017 under this grant.
Activity 2.3 Conduct two training sessions to train the SMP Compliance Unit to better collate and analyze data.	First training session conducted. Second training session conducted.	First training completed 18-19 October 2017 Second training completed: 21 Jan 2018
Activity 2.4 Draft new compliance case documents in coordination with the Department of Environment.	New compliance case documents drafted.	Created new compliance forms including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General letter of non-compliance - Specific logging, hunting, land clearance non-compliance forms - Multi-illegal activity non-compliance forms <p>These forms have been developed and accepted for use by the DoE and are now in-use across the project.</p>

6. Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

See Google Drive Folder <https://drive.google.com/open?id=12LTyJkROT1CXEmMpijN30XNCYhKdF3J>

PART III: Lessons, Sustainability, Safeguards and Financing

Lessons Learned

7. 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:

- *Project Design Process (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)*
- *Project Implementation (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)*
- *Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community*

Last year, we experienced an unexpected spike in market price, which affected our premium. This caused middleman prices to increase with the consequences being the project lost some of the volume of paddy from farmers in transition to organic. This year, we need to monitor market price in real time during harvest season such that we can react to our premium with market price.

The land use plans that have been developed in conjunction with the DoE, whilst being an accepted methodology, have often been misunderstood and poorly implemented amongst community authorities, making it difficult to identify approved and un-approved land use. Next year, it is imperative that the project peruse a wider and deeper understanding with the DoE in specifying land use plans, including the consequences of land clearing.

The capacity-building role of SMP has grown more challenging as the work of the VMNs becomes more complex with the introduction of organic certification. The WCS community engagement advisor, who has been working with Ibis Rice-growing communities since the inception of the program, visited the participating villages to assess current VMN capacity and provide recommendations on SMP's capacity building approach. He highlighted the need to strengthen the VMNs' capacity to work with participating villages and communicate a deep understanding of compliance, ICS and other relevant procedures, such as participatory land use planning.

The development and distribution of compliance case documentation has allowed SMP to communicate effectively amongst VMNs. The greatest change, however, is that this documentation provides previous 'rule breaker' farmers a pathway to rejoin compliancy. In providing this pathway for 'rule breaker' farmers, SMP and partnering organizations are now able to wield a greater sphere of influence in order to stabilize and monitor land-use and deforestation efforts.

Sustainability / Replication

- 8. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.**

This project has supported the development of compliance documents by incorporating the use of SPOT satellite data and developed training packages for VMNs to support the production of Organic paddy. The combination of these tools and subsequent results in the production of Organic paddy has allowed Ibis Rice Conservation Co., Ltd to find new, long term international buyers. All these developments have stabilized the project and allowed us to 'franchise' the implementation of IBIS rice in other protected areas by offering a step-by-step implementation model for new protected areas in collaboration with new Departments of Environment and NGO partners.

Safeguards

- 9. If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social or environmental safeguards that your project may have triggered.**

This project did not trigger any environmental or social safeguards.

Additional Funding

10. Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

a. **Total additional funding:** (US\$) 179,968

b. **Type of funding**

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
IBIS Rice	A	65,000	Incentives and help in-kind
Darwin Initiative	A	114,968	Annual budget of current Darwin project in project area

* Categorize the type of funding as:

- A *Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B *Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C *Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

Additional Comments/Recommendations

11. Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF.

The CEPF grant has been instrumental to developments in the project. The delays in making the original grant meant that we had developed some aspects prior to project start; however, this has only led to a general over-delivery of outcomes and, therefore, had a very strong, lasting impact in project areas.

PART IV: Impact at Portfolio and Global Level

CEPF requires that each grantee report on impact at the end of the project. The purpose of this report is to collect data that will contribute to CEPF’s portfolio and global indicators. CEPF will aggregate the data that you submit with data from other grantees, to determine the overall impact of CEPF investment. CEPF’s aggregated results will be reported on in our annual report and other communications materials.

Ensure that the information provided pertains to the entire project, from start date to project end date.

Contribution to Portfolio Indicators

- 12. If CEPF assigned one or more Portfolio Indicators to your project during the full proposal preparation phase, please list these below and report on the project’s contribution(s) to them.**

Indicator	Narrative
None	

Contribution to Global Indicators

Please report on all Global Indicators (sections 14 to 21 below) that pertain to your project.

- 13. Key Biodiversity Area Management**

Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) with improved management

Please report on the number of hectares in KBAs with improved management, as a result of CEPF investment. Examples of improved management include, but are not restricted to: increased patrolling, reduced intensity of snaring, invasive species eradication, reduced incidence of fire, and introduction of sustainable agricultural/fisheries practices. Do not record the entire area covered by the project - only record the number of hectares that have improved management.

If you have recorded part or all of a KBA as newly protected for the indicator entitled “protected areas” (section 17 below), and you have also improved its management, you should record the relevant number of hectares for both this indicator and the “protected areas” indicator.

Name of KBA	# of Hectares with strengthened management *	Is the KBA Not protected, Partially protected or Fully protected? Please select one: NP/PP/FP
KMH8: Chhep	640 ha	FP
KMH19: O Skach	640 ha	FP
KMH37: Upper Stung Sen Catchment	640 ha	FP

** Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were improved due to implementation of a fire management regime in the first year, and 200 of these same 500*

hectares were improved due to invasive species removal in the second year, the total number of hectares with improved management would be 500.

14. Protected Areas

Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded

Report on the number of hectares of protected areas that have been created or expanded as a result of CEPF investment.

Name of PA*	Country(s)	# of Hectares	Year of legal declaration or expansion	Longitude**	Latitude**
None					

* If possible please provide a shape file of the protected area to CEPF.

** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

15. Production landscape

Please report on the number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened biodiversity management, as a result of CEPF investment. A production landscape is defined as a landscape where agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs. Production landscapes may include KBAs, and therefore hectares counted under the indicator entitled “KBA Management” may also be counted here. Examples of interventions include: best practices and guidelines implemented, incentive schemes introduced, sites/products certified and sustainable harvesting regulations introduced.

Number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened biodiversity management.

Name of Production Landscape*	# of Hectares**	Latitude***	Longitude***	Description of Intervention
None	1920.83			Ibis rice farms are organic and are linked to zero deforestation, zero poaching agreements

* If the production landscape does not have a name, provide a brief descriptive name for the landscape.

**Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were strengthened due to certification in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were strengthened due to new harvesting regulations in the second year, the total number of hectares strengthened to date would be 500.

*** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

17. Beneficiaries

CEPF wants to record two types of benefits that are likely to be received by individuals: formal training and increased income. Please report on the number of men and women that have benefited from formal training (such as financial management, beekeeping, horticulture) and/or increased income (such as tourism, agriculture, medicinal plant harvest/production, fisheries, handicraft production) as a result of CEPF investment. Please provide results since the start of your project to project completion.

17a. Number of men and women benefitting from formal training.

# of men benefitting from formal training*	# of women benefitting from formal training*
21	10

**Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men benefited from training in beekeeping, and 3 of these also benefited from training in project management, the total number of men who benefited should be 5.*

17b. Number of men and women benefitting from increased income.

# of men benefitting from increased income*	# of women benefitting from increased income*
650	590

**Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men benefited from increased income due to tourism, and 3 of these also benefited from increased income due to handicrafts, the total number of men who benefited should be 5.*

17c. Total number of beneficiaries - Combined

Report on the total number of women and the number of men that have benefited from formal training and increased income since the start of your project to project completion.

Total # of men benefiting*	Total # of women benefiting*
650	590

**Do not count the same person more than once. For example, if Paul was trained in financial management and he also benefited from tourism income, the total number of people benefiting from the project should be 1 = Paul.*

18. Benefits to Communities

CEPF wants to record the benefits received by communities, which can differ to those received by individuals because the benefits are available to a group. CEPF also wants to record, to the extent possible, the number of people within each community who are benefiting. Please report on the characteristics of the communities, the type of benefits that have been received during the project, and the number of men/boys and women/girls from these communities that have benefited, as a result of CEPF investment. If exact numbers are not known, please provide an estimate.

18a. Please provide information for all communities that have benefited from project start to project completion.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics (mark with x)							Type of Benefit (mark with x)							# of Beneficiaries			
	Subsistence economy	Small landowners	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists / nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Other*	Increased access to clean water	Increased food security	Increased access to energy	Increased access to public services (e.g. health care, education)	Increased resilience to climate change	Improved land tenure	Improved recognition of traditional knowledge	Improved representation and decision-making in governance forums/structures	Improved access to ecosystem services	# of men and boys benefiting	# of women and girls benefiting
Dongphlat	X	X						X			X			X	X		54	
Narong	X	X						X			X			X	X		56	
Bra	X	X						X			X			X	X		29	
Tmat Paeuy	X	X						X			X			X	X		118	
Prey Veng	X	X						X			X			X	X		39	
Sambo	X	X						X			X			X	X		18	

Kompenh	x	x							x			x			x	x	17	
Yeang	x	x							x			x			x	x	18	
KorngYorng	x	x							x			x			x	x	10	

*If you marked "Other" to describe the community characteristic, please explain:

18b. Geolocation of each community

Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the community, to the extent possible, or upload a map or shapefile. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

Name of Community	Latitude	Longitude
Dongphlat (Chhep Wildlife Sanctuary)	13.902474	105.456672
Narong (Chhep Wildlife Sanctuary)	13.866016	105.578426
Bra (Chhep Wildlife Sanctuary)	13.866016	105.617145
Tmat Paeuy (Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary)	13.972847	104.884826
Prey Veng (Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary)	13.915423	104.550459
Sambo (Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary)	13.885045	104.510488
Kompenh (Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary)	14.091097	104.693749
Yeang (Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary)	14.061508	104.671873
KorngYorng (Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary)	14.051599	104.701202

19. Policies, Laws and Regulations

Please report on change in the number of legally binding laws, regulations, and policies with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended, as a result of CEPF investment. “Laws and regulations” pertain to official rules or orders, prescribed by authority. Any law, regulation, decree or order is eligible to be included. “Policies” that are adopted or pursued by a government, including a sector or faction of government, are eligible.

19a. Name, scope and topic of the policy, law or regulation

No.	Name of Law, Policy or Regulation	Scope (mark with x)			Topic(s) addressed (mark with x)															
		Local	National	Regional/International	Agriculture	Climate	Ecosystem Management	Education	Energy	Fisheries	Forestry	Mining and Quarrying	Planning/Zoning	Pollution	Protected Areas	Species Protection	Tourism	Transportation	Wildlife Trade	
1	None																			
2																				
3																				

19b. For each law, policy or regulation listed above, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

No.	Country(s)	Date enacted/ amended MM/DD/YYYY	Expected impact	Action that you performed to achieve this change
1	None			
2				
3				

20. Best Management Practices

Please describe any new management practices that your project has developed and tested as a result of CEPF investment, that have been proven to be successful. A best practice is a method or technique that has consistently shown results superior to those achieved with other means.

No.	Short title/ topic of the best management practice	Description of best management practice and its use during the project
1	Satellite Land Monitoring using SPOT data	
2	Digitization of Internal Control System for organic certification	

21. Networks & Partnerships

Please report on any new networks or partnerships between civil society groups and across to other sectors that you have established as a result of CEPF investment. Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable even if they do not have a Memorandum of Understanding or other type of validation. Examples of networks/partnerships include: an alliance of fisherfolk to promote sustainable fisheries practices, a network of environmental journalists, a partnership between one or more NGOs with one or more private sector partners to improve biodiversity management on private lands, a working group focusing on reptile conservation. Please do not use this tab to list the partners in your project, unless some or all of them are part of such a network / partnership described above.

No.	Name of Network/ Partnership	Year established	Country(s) covered	Purpose
1	None			
2				

Part V. Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

Name: Nicholas Spenser
Organization: Sansom Mlup Prey
Mailing address: No. 74, St. 464, Sangkat Toul Tompong 1, Khan Chamka Mon, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Telephone number: +855 (0) 16533005
E-mail address: nick@smpcambodia.org