



**REPORT ON
COMMUNITY-BASED REDD PLUS CONSULTATION IN CAMBODIA
&
LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PERSPECTIVES ON REDDPLUS
DEVELOPMENT IN CAMBODIA**



Co-organized by:

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CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (CDA)

COMMUNITY-BASED REDD PLUS CONSULTATION IN CAMBODIA

AND

LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PERSPECTIVES ON REDD PLUS DEVELOPMENT IN CAMBODIA

Saving the Forest for Children and Promoting Rights of Indigenous People

FINAL REPORT 2012

November 2011 to October 2012

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Abbreviation

ASFN	ASEAN Social Forestry Network
BFDK	Buddhism For Development Kampong Thom
CANDO	Cambodian NTFP Development Organization
CC	Commune Council
CDA	Children Development Association
CEPA	Culture and Environment Preservation Association
CF	Community Forestry
CPA	Community Protected Area
CPN	Community Peace Building Networking
CSOs	Civil Society Organization
DoE	Department of Environment
DPA	Development and Partnership in Action
EHE	Environment and Health Education
EWMI	East-West Management Institute
ELC	Economic Land Concession
ESO	Environment and Society Organization
FA	Forestry Administration
FAO	Food Agriculture Organization
FiA	Fishery Administration
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
GDANCP	General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection
GHG	Greenhouse gas
HA	Highlander Association
ICSO	Indigenous Community Support Organisation
IDEA	Independent Democracy of Informal Economy Association
IIPFCC	International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change
ILO	International Labour Organization
IP	Indigenous People
IRAM	Indigenous Representatives Active Members
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fishery
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
MVI	My Village Organisation
NCDD	The National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development
NFP	National Forestry Programme
NGOF	NGO Forum
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
NTFP-EP	Non-Timber Forest Produce-Exchange Programme
OPKC	Organization Promote Kuy Culture
PKH	Ponlok Khmer
RECOFTC	The Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific
REDD+	Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
R-PIN	Readiness Plan Idea Note
RELS	Reference Emissions Levels
RGC	Royal Government Cambodia
RLs	Reference Levels
SCW	Save Cambodia's Wildlife (SCW)
TWG	Technical Working Group
ToR	Term of Reference
UNDRIP	The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNDP	The United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	Framework Convention on Climate Change
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society

CHAPTER ONE

I. CDA Background

Children Development Association (CDA) has founded since 2000 in Seng village, Khouk Moun commune and Banteay Ampil district of Oddar Meanchey province with youth groups of village, have been seen children and education, natural resource environment land, agriculture, communities and indigenous people rights issues; especially vulnerable and disadvantaged groups are hot issues in Cambodia and the natural resources are under highly threatening to loss that make forest depended communities suffered and become more poverty. Through this point of view, they founded one local group to work on children and education, community-based natural resource management focused on Indigenous people, livelihood improvement and agriculture, health and gender.

VISION

CDA envisions a good living standard of people and children in rural Communities through sustainable environmental management in Cambodia

MISSION

CDA working together with the people, children and government to improve living condition through active participation in sustainable natural resource management

Values & Ethos: Base on value: Environmental and Children Protection and Sustainable Development in Cambodia **“Saving the Forest for Children and promoting rights of indigenous people”**:

- Good governance
- Teamwork Gender
- Partnership
- Participation
- Cooperation
- Charity
- Non-profit
- Non-religious
- Non-party aligned.

CDA Establishment and Legal Status

CDA is a Cambodian non-governmental organization (NGO) that was established in 2000. CDA registered as an NGO with the provincial authorities of Preah Vihear in 2011, Oddar Meanchey and Banteay Meanchey provinces in 2001, and registered with the Ministry of Interior of Royal Government of Cambodia in 2002.

II. Executive Summary

CDA in cooperation with CPN, NTFP-EP, NGO forum and EWMI other NGOs based in provincial level to conduct the REDD+ awareness raising workshop (REDD+ Consultation) from November 2011 to October 2011 at five province (other two provinces were supported by other donors) and one national level through project of **Community-Based REDD plus Consultation in Cambodia** that supported by The world bank and NTFP-EP. According to results of REDD+ awareness raising workshop at provincial and national, our team-work have provided the technical assistance and concept of REDD+ involving context of climate change mitigation and adaptation, and special documentation in accordance with REDD+ both national and international that focused on FPIC and REDD+ experience from other provinces for training and awareness to indigenous people and vulnerable farmer in seven provinces. During the workshop in each province we have collected the concerns, recommendations and perspective of indigenous people and vulnerable farmers. The recommendations from seven provinces were combined by IP and CSO on REDD+ during national REDD+ workshop at Kampong Speu province for IP representative and submitting to stakeholders. It was submitted to stakeholders special MAFF/MoE through CPN, IRAM and other civil society organization on REDD+ at national and international network and it was jointed statements and recommendations with IP network also to push the stakeholders to respect rights of IP and support real need of IP related REDD+ at national and international. These workshops were provided basic knowledge on REDD+ and FPIC for IP in seven provinces to participate in REDD+ with their forest and they have ability to participate in decision-making involving the REDD+ with government. However, their knowledge have limited therefore we need more time to build up and update their capacity and consultation for effective participations to reduce the risks of climate change and REDD+ that affected to IP

and they will actively participate in REDD+ road mapping and national REDD+ strategic plan in 2015 through democratic and ownership development in Cambodia.



III. REDD+ Background

1. REDD+ Roadmap Development

In August 2009, the General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection of the Ministry of Environment, Forest Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries and the Ministry of Economic and Finance as representatives of the RGC were granted observer status in the UN-REDD programme. Following this the RGC with support from UNDP Cambodia and FAO Cambodia, prepared a REDD+ Readiness planning process, which led to the development of the Cambodia Readiness Plan proposal on REDD+ (Roadmap), a document outlining how the country will develop policies and measures to become "REDD+ ready".

The Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap was designed based on version 4 of the R-PP template. The interim REDD+ Taskforce and stakeholder groups developed it during the period January- September 2010. Following a two-month national consultation process on the Roadmap drafts, stakeholders approved the third version in late September 2010. Following international review by the World Resources Institute and the UN REDD Policy Board, and based on the results of further national consultations, the Roadmap was updated in January 2010.

The Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap and the supporting Cambodia REDD+ Background document are available on request. The Roadmap structure is based on the R-PP template and covers the six main components of REDD+ Readiness:

- 1) **Section 1:** Management of National REDD+ Readiness
- 2) **Section 2:** Consultation, stakeholder engagement and awareness-raising plan
- 3) **Section 3:** Development and selection of REDD strategies, including the Assessment of Land-use, Forest Policy and Governance.
- 4) **Section 4:** Implementation framework (including benefit-sharing and safeguards)
- 5) **Section 5:** Development of the Reference Scenario against which performance will be measured (Reference Levels or Reference Emissions Levels, RLs/REs)
- 6) **Section 6:** Development of the Monitoring System for national Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV).

The Roadmap planning process was an important achievement for the Royal Government, as it has set a new standard for inter-ministerial cooperation and effective consultation and engagement with local stakeholders. This achievement was due to strong national leadership by the Forestry Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and the General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection of the Ministry of Environment.

With seeing a serious of global warning around the world and Cambodia influenced from Climate Change and its impact. Cambodia has submitted its R-PIN to the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in late 2008 and was accepted into the FCPF in early 2009. In August, Cambodia was invited to join the UN REDD Programme, and was granted observer status on the UN REDD policy board in October 2009. Following Cambodia's entrance to UN REDD, the UNDP Cambodia and FAO Cambodia country offices committed to support the Royal Government with a REDD Readiness planning process, which led to the development of the Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap (the Cambodia Readiness Plan Proposal on REDD+).

2. CSO Initiative for REDD+ Awareness Raising

Multi-stakeholder consultation and participation in national policy development remains under constant development in Cambodia. Within the forest sector public consultation on the National Forestry Programme (NFP) marked an initial step in engaging a wider stakeholder group in sector policy development. A review of the NFP process recognised the significant achievements in bringing different groups together but also that the development of working relationships between different actors and the capacity for these relationships to be fully productive required time to develop.

Readiness process awareness rising should avoid increasing general expectations that REDD+ revenues will be available soon, or even will be substantial in the longer-term.

To date, consultation has focused at the national-level, with sub-national consultations taking place only in sites with pilot REDD+ projects (mainly Oddar Meanchey and Mondulhiri provinces) in order to avoid raising expectations. Awareness raising and conservation strategy should be consistent in order to avoid misunderstanding and conflict. Therefore, the consultation group and stakeholder representatives will need capacity building in order to understand the issues. The same applies to the REDD+ Taskforce and line agencies. Through the REDD+ Readiness phase awareness-raising and consultation activities will need to be focus on multiple levels (National, provincial, district and local). Very little awareness raising and information sharing materials exist in Khmer language, and this will need to be a significant focus of the Readiness phase in order to build capacity and understanding. It should be noted that **indigenous peoples** in Cambodia generally do not have written forms of their languages, and hence information-sharing materials in Khmer should be sufficient. Consultation and awareness-raising meetings could, however, be conducted in indigenous languages. The development of information sharing materials will need to take into account the high rates of illiteracy that are common in rural areas.

NGOs and CSOs were developed and submitted the concern and recommendation on REDD+ Roadmap to UN-REDD including below:

- 1) Provide a clear and robust legal framework of for community tenure and resource use rights. Such legal framework will need to resolve conflict and overlaps across tenure and resource use instruments, and include mechanisms for communities to seek redress in cases of conflict.
- 2) Identify explicitly that economic land concessions, mining concessions, Special Economic Development Zones and large-scale hydro-electricity dams are direct drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Cambodia. We call on the cancellation of ELCs, especially immediately those that are impinging on existing community / protected areas. The protection of natural forests and natural resources is paramount to REDD+ and fundamental to achieving environmental sustainability.
- 3) Consultation and participation: the TOR for Consultation Group must be constituted/included in the REDD management and consultation arrangement. Explain what mechanisms or resources are in place for training and educating **indigenous groups**, local villagers, and local and provincial officials on REDD.
- 4) Provide clear and strong provisions that will safeguard forest communities from being displaced or evicted from the forest land. These safeguards from eviction and displacement would redound also to safeguarding community rights to food, water and livelihood, provided for by their land and forest, and the various environmental services afforded from these.

IV. Workshop & Participant Profiles

1. Process and Location

REDD+ awareness raising workshop held between October 2011 to October 2012 in Oddar Meanchey, Kampong Thom, Preah Vihear, Mondulhiri, Ratanakiri, Stung Treng, Pursat and Kampong Speu (National workshop) provinces but also involving community representatives from Kratie (participated in Stung Treng workshop), as well as community representatives from Battambang, Kampong Speu and Koh Kong provinces (participated in the Pursat workshop) with funding support from The World Bank and NTFP-EP and under co-implemented by CDA, NTFP-EP, NGO Forum, CPN, EWMI, CPN including local NGOs partners per each province.

2. Tools Used

There were some key tools and approaches had been used at the workshop included:

- Problem tree analysis (drives, cause, effect)
- Resource person inputs (NGOs, community)
- Focus Group Discussion (FGD)
- Community sharing of experiences

- Plenary debate
- Brainstorming
- Picture / Poster
- Video/ movies
- Pre-Post evaluation
- Picture drawing on REDD+

3. Key topics were presented and awareness raising

- Climate change movies clip_ around 15min
- Presentation on Trend development in Cambodia
- Presentation Indigenous people related to REDD+, CC and their concerned
- Movie clip on REDD+ experience in Oddor Meanchey province
- REDD+ Awareness Workshop at Mondulkirk Province
- Presentation on REDD+ experience in Oddor Meanchey province
- Presentation on REDD+ Road map in Cambodia
- Presentation on engagement CSOs in REDD+ road map
- Presentation on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in REDD+ for indigenous people
- Others

4. Participants Profiles

❖ Meeting with Key stakeholder to develop plan and pre-meeting for REDD+ workshop and reflection meeting at province and national level

1. CDA have conducted meeting with key stakeholders to draft consultation plan on 17 December 2012 at Siem Reap Town Hotel and CDA have invited participants from five provinces includes Preah Vihear, Kampong Thom, Streng Treng , Rotanak Kiri, Oddar Meanchey provinces. Participants: 10 people from NGO forum, BFDK , CEPA, IRAM, EHE, ESO, NTFP and EWMI

Specific Objectives of meeting:

- To present the project's history, expected results, objectives and goal;
 - To develop the outlines of petition/complaints for consulting with five provinces with vulnerable groups; and
 - To develop the plan on REDD consultation for two communes per five provinces Preah Vihear, Kampong Thom, Streng Treng , Rotanak Kiri, and Mondol Kiri provinces .
2. CDA have conducted meeting with key stakeholders on 12 to 15 February 2012 at NTFP-EP office in Phnom Penh to draft concept note, the agenda and develop the outlines of presentation, invitation letter and key documents and inputs for REDD+ workshop at Kampong Tom province. This meeting was participated by CDA, NTFP-EP, EWMI, BFDK, EHE, CPN, and NGO forum. On 18-19 February 2012 have conducted the reflection meeting on results of REDD+ workshop and captured the key results for writing the minute.
 3. CDA have conducted meeting with key stakeholders on 5-6, 9 March 2012 at NTFP-EP office in Phnom Penh to draft concept note, the agenda and develop the outlines of presentation, invitation letter and key documents and inputs for REDD+ workshop at Preah Vihear Province. This meeting was participated by CDA, CPN, NTFP-EP, EWMI, Ponlok Khmer, KIPD and NGO forum. On 17-18 March 2012 have conducted the reflection meeting on results of REDD+ workshop and captured the key results for writing the minute.
 4. CDA have conducted meeting with key stakeholders on 3-4 May 2012 at NTFP-EP office in Phnom Penh to draft concept note, the agenda and develop the outlines of presentation, invitation letter and key documents and inputs for REDD+ workshop at Mondul Kiri Province. This meeting was participated by CDA, CPN, NTFP-EP, EWMI, NGO forum. On 19-20 May 2012 have conducted the reflection meeting on results of REDD+ workshop and captured the key results for writing the minute.

5. CDA have conducted meeting with key stakeholders on 15-17 June 2012 at Rotanakiri to draft concept note, the agenda and develop the outlines of presentation, invitation letter and key documents and inputs for REDD+ workshop at Rotanakiri and Steng Treng Province. This meeting was participated by CDA, NTFP-EP, NTFP, CIPA and NCDD. On 23-25 June 2012 have conducted the reflection meeting at Steng Treng on results of REDD+ workshop for Rotanakiri and Steng Treng province and captured the key results for writing the minute.
6. CDA have conducted meeting with key stakeholders on 5-6 July 2012 at NTFP-EP office in Phnom Penh to draft concept note, the agenda and develop the outlines of presentation, invitation letter and key documents and inputs for REDD+ workshop at Pursat Province. This meeting was participated by CDA, NTFP-EP, NGO forum and CPN. On 12-13 July 2012 have conducted the reflection meeting on results of REDD+ workshop and captured the key results for writing the minute.
7. CDA have conducted meeting with key stakeholders on 16-17 August 2012 at Kampong Speu province to draft concept note, the agenda and develop the outlines of presentation, invitation letter and key documents and inputs for National REDD+ workshop (Women on REDD+) at Kampong Speu province. This meeting was participated by CDA, NTFP-EP, CIYA and CPN. On 25-26 August 2012 have conducted the reflection meeting on results of National REDD+ workshop and captured the key results for writing the minute.

❖ **Provincial REDD+ Workshop level:**

✓ **Oddar Meanchey Province**

On 11-13 October 2011 There are totally 73 participants with 21 female including:

- CDA, key-organizer
- NTFP-EP, NGO Forum, Ponlok Khmer & CIYA as co-organizers
- Community Forestry Network in Oddar Meanchey province
- Three communes from Mondulkiri province
- Two community forestry (CF) from Rattanakiri province
- Three community protected area (CPA) from Preah Vihear province
- Two community forestry from Kampong Thom
- Thirteen community forestry from Oddar Meanchey

✓ **Kampong Thom Province**

On 15-16 February 2012 there are totally 71 participants with 17 female including:

- CDA, key-organizer
- NTFP-EP, NGO Forum, CPN, HEH, BFDK, EWMI & IDEA as co-organizers
- Local NGOs partners: RECOFTC, Mlup Biatong, AEC, AFO & IREAM
- Provincial authorities (districts & communes)
- Line departments: FA cantonment & department of environment
- Community committees from CPA & CF (including IPs)
- Community Forestry Network in Oddar Meanchey province

✓ **Preah Vihear Province**

On 16-17 March 2012 There are totally 60 participants with 9 female including:

- CDA, key-organizer
- NTFP-EP, CPN, EWMI, PKH, RECOFTC, KIPD & IDEA as co-organizers
- Local NGOs partners: WCS & World Vision,
- Line departments: FA cantonment & department of environment
- Community committees from CPA & CF (including IPs)

✓ **Mondulkiri Province**

On 17-18 May 2012 There are totally 62 participants with 16 female including:

- CDA, key-organizer
- NTFP-EP, CPN & IDEA as co-organizers
- Provincial authorities (districts & communes)
- Local NGOs partners: MVi, IREAM, CIYA & CLEC
- Line departments: FA cantonment & department of environment
- Student
- Community committees from CPA & CF (including IPs)

✓ **Ratanakiri Province**

On 19-20 June 2012 There are totally 65 participants with 14 female including:

- CDA, key-organizer
- NTFP-EP, CPN, NTFP, IREAM, DPA, IP alliance & IDEA as co-organizers
- Local NGOs partners: ICSO, CANDO, SCW, KCB, ADV, IADC & AFM.
- Line departments: FA cantonment & department of environment
- Student & Commune councils
- Community committees from CPA & CF (including IPs)
- ✓ **Stung Treng Province**
 - On 21-22 June 2012: There are totally 66 participants with 10 female including:
 - CDA, key-organizer
 - NTFP-EP, CPN & IDEA as co-organizers
 - Local NGOs partners: Mlup Bationg, PVT& CEPA
 - Provincial authorities (districts & communes)
 - Line departments: FA cantonment & department of environment
 - Two community forestry from Kratie province (including IPs)
 - Community committees from CPA & CF
- ✓ **Pursat Province**
 - On 10-11 July 2012: There are totally 60 participants with 24 female including:
 - CDA, key-organizer
 - NTFP-EP, CPN, AIPP & EPDO as co-organizers
 - Local NGOs partners: SORF, PK, RECOFCT, HARVEST, IRAM & CIYA
 - Provincial authorities (NCDD, districts & communes)
 - Line departments: FA cantonment & department of environment
 - Six CF from Kampong Speu province (including IPs)
 - Ten CPA from Battambang province (including IPs)
 - Three CF from Koh Kong province (including IPs)
 - Community committees from CPA & CF (Including IPs)
- ❖ **National REDD+ Workshop level (Women on REDD+)**
 - ✓ **Kampong Speu Province:**
 - On 23-24 August 2012: There are totally 70 participants with 40 female including:
 - CDA, CPN and NTFP-EP, key-organizer
 - CIYA, Provincial Governor as co-organizers
 - Provincial authorities: Department of women affair, commune chief,
 - Indigenous women and men from: 10 provinces from Kampong Speu, Battambang, Koh Kong, Kratie, Kampong Thom, Rattanakiri, Mondolkiri, Stung Treng, Preah Vihear, and Pursat.
 - NGOs participation: EWMI

The national REDD+ workshop at Kampong Speu province we have added key concepts in relation to REDD+ benefits, Co-benefits, safeguard and FPIC focused on as following:

Can REDD+ also be benefited to ingenuous people?

REDD-Plus as performance based incentive system for GHG mitigation and enhancement of carbon stocks

- **REDD** emissions reduction from deforestation and degradation
- **REDD-Plus** includes removal of emissions
 - ➔ Conservation of forest carbon stocks
 - ➔ Sustainable management of forests
 - ➔ Enhancement of forest carbon stocks

Co-benefits:

- Socio-economic benefits/livelihood improvement
- Biodiversity conservation
- Ecosystem service

Co-benefits: including:

- Conservation of biodiversity
- Other environmental service like increasing or regulating water flow of streams and rivers, reducing soil erosion etc.
- Promoting and improving sustainable livelihoods
- Poverty reduction
- Strengthening the capacity to adapt to climate change
- Securing rights of communities

➤ Promoting transparency and good governance

For indigenous people, the recognition of their rights is a precondition for any REDD+ project and should not be seen as a possible co-benefit

If REDD+ was based on the recognition of indigenous people RIGHTS in this way, it may also help your community in protecting your way of life:

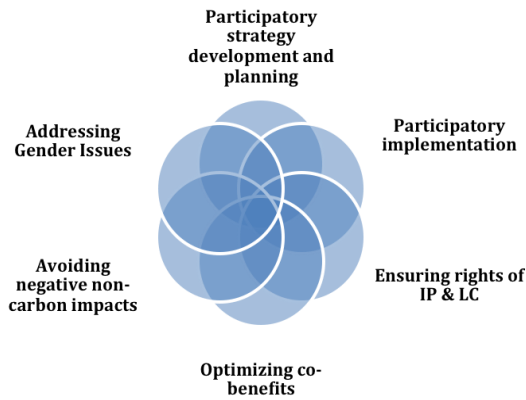
- There is a possibility that indigenous communities, whose rights to their land, territory and resources are not recognized and protected, can use a REDD+ project to achieve recognition and protection of their rights: REDD+ could be used to promote progressive reforms of land, forest and protected area laws and policies so that they fully respect indigenous people's rights including the right to culturally appropriate consultation and free prior and informed consent.
- Resolution of outstanding land and territorial claims could be a requirement or precondition for any REDD+ project. IP could demand reform of land titling and demarcation policies so that their lands and territories are recognized based on traditional occupation and use, and title can be issued.
- REDD+ could be used as a way to gain funding, recognition and support for community conserved territories or community conserved forests, with funding made available to support IP's conservation and management practices.
- If designed well, REDD+ could recognize that traditional farming and other customary practices (Cutting of firewood, cutting of lumber for house building, etc.) do not harm the forest. It can also ensure the practice of sustainable traditional livelihood activities of IP, while promoting their traditional knowledge and biodiversity conservation practices.
- REDD+ could provide national level recognition that the traditional knowledge of IP is critical to forest conservation. Furthermore, their traditional knowledge can also be tapped and strengthened when developing appropriate adaptation and mitigation measures addressing adverse impacts of climate change.
- REDD+ could promote full title and ownership over traditional territories to enable direct access to international REDD+ funding and related finance.

Safeguard:

UNFCCC on SAFEGUARDS:

1. That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;
2. Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;
3. Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
4. The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, in the actions referred to in paragraphs 70 and 72 of this decision;
5. That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that the actions referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits
6. Actions to address the risks of reversals;
7. Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.

Examples of safeguards REDD- Plus



Defining Free, Prior and Informed Consent:

FPIC is the collective right of indigenous peoples to participate in decision-making and to give or withhold their consent to activities affecting their lands, territories and resources or rights in general. Consent must be freely given, obtained prior to implementation of activities and be founded upon an understanding of the full range of issues implicated by the activity or decision in question; hence the formulation: free, prior and informed consent. This rights-based principle of FPIC applies to REDD+ discussions regarding potential changes in resource uses that could impact the livelihoods of indigenous and other local communities. Under these circumstances, consistent with international human rights instruments and other treaty obligations, potentially impacted peoples have the right to participate in and consent to or withhold consent from a proposed action. This principle holds that communities should have the right to withhold consent at key decision-making points occurring both prior to and during a proposed activity. FPIC applies to proposed actions (decisions, activities, projects, etc.) that have the potential to impact the lands, territories, and resources upon which indigenous peoples depend for their cultural, spiritual and physical sustenance, well-being, and survival.

The duty of States to consult with indigenous peoples in decisions affecting them is aimed at reversing the historical pattern of exclusion from decision-making in order to avoid the future imposition of important decisions on indigenous peoples, allowing them to continue to live as distinct communities on lands to which their cultures remain attached.

FPIC is best articulated in the UNDRIP, with some of the most relevant rights in the context of REDD+ listed below:

- The right to participate in decision-making through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures
- The right to be consulted in good faith, through representative institutions, with the objective of seeking free, prior and informed consent, before the adoption and implementation of legislative or administrative measures that may affect them
- The right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired
- The right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their land or territories and other resources;
- The right to be consulted in good faith through representative institutions, with the objective of seeking free and informed consent, prior to the approval of any project affecting indigenous peoples' lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources;
- The right to promote, develop, and maintain institutional structures and distinctive customs, spirituality, traditions, procedures, practices.

FPIC differs from consultation in the way decision-making authority is exercised and legitimated. While consultation requires an exchange of information among project sponsors and affected communities, FPIC enables communities to participate in decision-making processes, negotiate fair and enforceable outcomes, and withhold their consent to a programme if their needs, priorities, and concerns are not adequately addressed. FPIC processes can empower communities by changing the basic terms of engagement and can help even the most marginalized or disenfranchised groups participate in the decision making process and negotiate an equitable share of programme benefits.

Defining the Elements of FPIC

Building on the definition of FPIC endorsed by the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in 2005, each element of FPIC can be further elaborated:

Free:

Free refers to a process that is self-directed by the community from whom consent is being sought, unencumbered by coercion, expectations or timelines that are externally imposed:

- Stakeholders determine process, timeline and decision-making structure;
- Information is transparently and objectively offered at stakeholders' request;
- Process is free from coercion, bias, conditions, bribery or rewards;
- Meetings and decisions take place at locations and times and in languages and formats determined by the stakeholders; and
- All community members are free to participate regardless of gender, age or standing.

Prior:

Prior refers to a period of time in advance of an activity or process when consent should be sought, as well as the period between when consent is sought and when consent is given or withheld.

- Prior implies that time is provided to understand, access, and analyze information on the proposed activity. The amount of time required will depend on the decision-making processes of indigenous peoples and other local communities;
- Information must be provided before activities can be initiated, at the beginning or initiation of an activity, process or phase of implementation, including conceptualization, design, proposal, information, execution, and following evaluation; and
- The decision-making timeline established by indigenous peoples must be respected, as it reflects the time needed to understand, analyze, and evaluate the activities under consideration.

Informed:

Informed refers to the type of information that should be provided prior to seeking consent and also as part of the ongoing consent process.

Information should:

- Be accessible, clear, consistent, accurate, and transparent;
- Be delivered in appropriate language and format (including radio, video, graphics, documentaries, photos);
- Be objective, covering both the positive and negative potential of REDD+ activities and consequences of giving or withholding consent;
- Be complete, covering the spectrum of potential social, financial, political, cultural, environmental impacts, including scientific information with access to original sources in appropriate language;
- Be delivered in a manner that strengthens and does not erode indigenous or local cultures;
- Be delivered by culturally appropriate personnel, in culturally appropriate locations, and include capacity building of indigenous or local trainers;
- Be delivered with sufficient time to be understood and verified;
- Reach the most remote, rural communities, women and the marginalized; and
- Be provided on an ongoing and continuous basis throughout the FPIC process.

Consent:

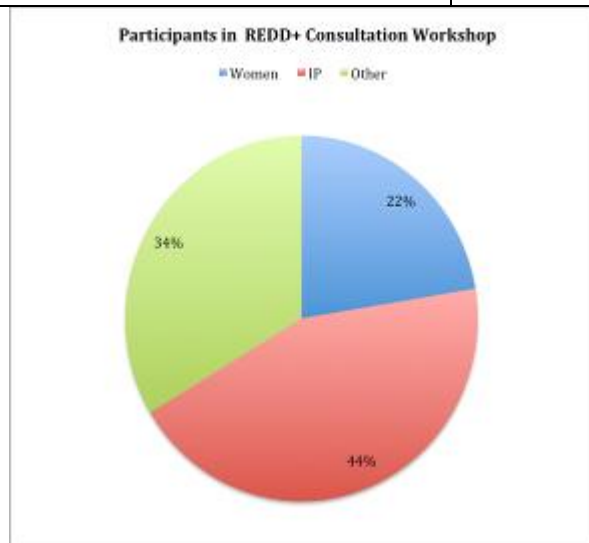
Consent refers to the decision made by indigenous peoples and other local communities reached through their customary decision-making process. The collective right to give or withhold consent applies to all projects, activities, legislative and administrative measures and policies (and their associated processes and phases) that directly impact the lands, territories, resources, and livelihoods of indigenous peoples and other local communities. Consent must be sought and granted or withheld according to the unique formal or informal political-administrative dynamic of each community.

Consent is:

- A freely given decision that may be a “Yes” or a “No,” including the option to reconsider if the proposed activities change or if new information relevant to the proposed activities emerges;
- A collective decision determined by the affected peoples (e.g. consensus, majority, etc.);
- The expression of rights (to self-determination, lands, resources and territories, culture); and
- Given or withheld in phases, over specific periods of time for distinct stages or phases of REDD

❖ **Participants List**

No	Provinces	Participants	Women	Indigenous People	Others
1	Oddar Meanchey	73	21	30	43
2	Kampong Thom	71	18	35	36
3	Preash Vihear	60	9	40	20
4	Mondulkiri	62	16	39	23
5	Ratanakiri	65	14	30	35
6	Stung Treng	66	10	20	46
7	Pursat	60	24	35	25
8	Kampong Speu (National Workshop)	70	40	70	0
Total		527	152 (23%)	299 (44%)	228 (22%)



❖ **Submission of petitions, joint recommendations and joint statement and IP strategic plan with stakeholders as following:**

1. After conducting the REDD+ awareness raising workshop the community forestry and IP in Oddar Meanchey province. They have known the rights of IP and community special FPIC involving two Economic Land Concession development. Therefore, On 11-14 June 2012 five community forestry committee, CPN and IP representative on behalf 1671 people from Oddar Meanchey province to submit the petition to MAFF and Prime-Minister Office for reclaim back the land of economic land concession to convert to REDD+ area with objectives such as biodiversity conversation, enhance carbon stock, customer user rights; as well as ask local authorities and ELC to respect the rights of communities and IP special focused on safeguard and co-benefits of REDD+. After sent the petition to MAFF on 11-14 June 2012 of community forestry and IP representative in Ratanak Ruka base in Samrong municipality Oddar Meanchey for withdrawal land back from ELC (Cambodia Can and Sugar Valley Coltd equal 7,831 hectares) because of this ELC hasn't implemented the activity so far and as the result in this August 2012 MAFF sent this letter to department of agriculture, and provincial governor to clarify and intervention.
2. From 12-15 August 2012 CDA in collaboration with CPN sent 5 people/0 women (from 5 community forestry such as Dong Ben, Andoung Bor, Romdul Vasma, and Rolus Thom located in Oddar Meanchey province) submitted their complaints to reclaim community forestry land from soldier bases which are settling in the CF areas and there are 1,085 thumbprints including 386 women community sent their complaints to National

Assembly, Government Cabinet and Ministry of Forestry and Fishery for intervention and now those 4 communities forestry are waiting for responding.

3. CDA in cooperation with CPN, NTFP-EP, NGO forum, Community Network and other NGOs on behalf the communities and IP representative in Cambodia have been stated our recommendations (please see in IV) about Civil Society Organization on REDD+ (CSOs REDD+) including local and indigenous community participation and consultation; building the capacity of local and indigenous communities; disseminating information; ensuring adequate and transparent representation of local and indigenous communities. These recommendations were submitted to MAFF and MoE already through CPN network and IRAM on August 2012. We have been also joined the our recommendations with CSO proposals for strengthening CSO engagement with ASEAN on social forestry and climate change, June 12, 2012 3rd ASFN conference, Siem Reap, Cambodia.
4. Joint statement of the 2012 ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ASEAN People's forum on 29-31 March 2012 Phnom Penh, Cambodia. With outline as following:
Climate change – impact on Indigenous Peoples and forest dependent communities People in ASEAN, especially forest dependent and indigenous communities, women and children are directly, significantly and adversely impacted by climate change. ASEAN governments are beginning to engage actively in the international negotiations for the promotion of the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+ mechanism as incentive for conservation and sustainable management of the forest and biodiversity. However, this process would be counterproductive if it excludes indigenous communities and forest dependent in the REDD+ decision-making at all levels. Moreover, REDD+ as applied in some ASEAN countries is marred by governance problems including corruption, cronyism and human rights violations, including by the military. Other risks include failure to adequately safeguard the right of Indigenous People to free prior and informed consent (FPIC), secure tenure and livelihood insufficient information at the local level and limited capacity and awareness about the REDD+ mechanism. We recommend that ASEAN and/or its member states:
 - Honour their duty to serve the interest of their peoples affected by REDD+, which includes the protection of community forests, traditionally-owned land, forests and natural resources;
 - Provide an opportunity and support to civil society organizations to fully engage in the consultation, decision- making and implementation of the REDD+ process;
 - Seriously address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation through policy studies and associated reforms and represent the interest of their citizenry in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations;
 - Respect, protect and fulfil the rights of affected Indigenous Peoples, including through applying the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), in particular the right of IPs to free, prior and informed consent, empowering IPs to manage their spirit forests and customary land as well as to continue practicing indigenous natural resource management system;
 - Ensure clarity in benefit sharing mechanisms in climate change adaptation and mitigation;
 - Include gender safeguards in any environmental and climate related policies and schemes at national and regional levels;
 - Stop all evictions without FPIC;
 - Engage in national and regional consultations with effective and active participation of multi stakeholders including affected communities and CSOs;
 - Strengthen the existing strategy and policy on disaster risk reduction.
5. Joint statement
Over 1,000 women and men, representing people's organisations and citizens from Asia and Europe joined together between from 16th to 19th October 2012 in Vientiane, Laos at the 9th Asia Europe People's Forum under the title "People's Solidarity against Poverty and for Sustainable Development: Challenging Unjust and Unequal Development, Building States of Citizens for Citizens". CDA have joint statement involving Food Sovereignty and Sustainable Land and Natural Resource Management and Just Work and Sustainable Livelihoods.

6. Joint statement: International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) Working Group on REDD+, Bangkok, Thailand on 4 September 2012. Indigenous peoples around the world would like to express our issues and concerns on REDD+ as follows:
 - Collective rights of the indigenous peoples to forests, land, territories and resources should be respected in line with international obligations and instruments such as UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169. Additionally, these internationally recognized rights must be respected and secured in all national REDD+ policies, strategies and actions.
 - Full and effective participation of indigenous peoples must be ensured in all REDD+ phases, governance systems and institutional arrangements, as provided in Cancun Agreement.
 - Traditional knowledge, customary laws, forest management systems and practices of indigenous peoples, particularly roles and contributions of indigenous women, should be recognized and respected. MRV and SIS should include these customary laws, knowledge system and multiple functions of forests.
 - Indigenous peoples must be consulted in a meaningful manner understood to us in good faith for our consent subjected to FPIC in all REDD+ processes and mechanisms. Additionally, independent recourse or complaint mechanisms must be available for indigenous peoples at all levels.
 - Indigenous peoples affirm good governance; transparent and accountable all mechanisms are necessary in order not to undermine our collective rights to our land, territories and resources in REDD+ phases. Thus, we call for our full and effective participation in all market and non-market mechanisms and related co-benefits.
 - Indigenous peoples' traditional forest conservation and management practices such as shifting cultivation, pastoralism among others have contributed both adaptation and mitigation to climate change. These practices, therefore, should be recognized and respected in respective policies, strategies and action plans at all levels.
 - Indigenous peoples should have direct access to Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other financial mechanisms. We call for indigenous peoples representation and meaningful participation in all financial mechanisms.
7. Joint Statement on Cambodian Civil Society's Statement for International Climate Change Informal Sessions in Bangkok, Thailand 30 August to 05 September 2012.
8. CDA also active to participate in workshop Asia-Pacific indigenous People Dialogue Action Plan for Asia-Pacific indigenous people with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) successfully concluded this dialogue in Chiang Mai, Thailand, from September 25-28, 2012. This workshop have focused on strategic plan for IPs as following:
 - I. Implementation of the Guidelines on Stakeholders Engagement in REDD+ Readiness:
 - A. Awareness Raising and Capacity Building:
 - B. Consultations
 - C. Representation
 - II. R-Package in relation to safeguards
 - III. Harmonization of FCPF, FIP and UNREDD Programme with relation to IPs
 - IV. Regional Activities and Coordination:

❖ National REDD+ Network

🚩 2nd Pre-Meeting on National CSOs and IP Engagement in REDD+ Workshop

Date and Location: NGOF, 30 April 2012

Participants: CDA, NGO Forum, UN-REDD and NTFP-EP

A 2nd pre-meeting on CSOs and IP engagement in REDD+ workshop was proposed to follow up works from the first pre-meeting on 28 February and discuss on the next plan for national consultation workshop. The agendas of the meeting are:

1. To update/follow up activities from the 2nd February 2012 workshop and 1st pre-meeting on 28 February.
2. To discuss on the concept note for the national CSOs and IPs engagement workshop.

Update/follow up activities

- Concept note for national CSOs and IPs engagement workshop has already done and sent to UN-REDD+ and relevant NGOs for review and comments.
- The letter from REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat to invite key CSOs and IP networks to nominate representatives will be done in the first week of May. The content of the letter will invite CSOs and IPs to select their representatives to be participated in the national workshop that will be held in June. (UN-REDD will follow up)
- UN-REDD has confirmed that although, the letter from REDD+ Taskforce secretariat can not be done, the workshop still be organized in June.
- UN-REDD has provided the update information on the related issues as following:
 - o The consultation workplan has already drafted and agreed inline with the concept note on national CSOs and IPs engagement workshop.
 - o The first meeting would be the meeting with the representatives who have been elected during national CSOs and IPs engagement workshop.
 - o The draft consultation workplan will be circulated through email to initial working group on REDD+. Then a mall meeting will be organized to review draft plan.

Discussion on the concept note

- The participant has agreed the workshop will be held from 4 to 6 June 2012, as most of organizers are busy with organizing the ASEAN Social Forestry Network forum from 10 to the end of June.
- UN-REDD will responsible for the workshop venue including booking the conference room, refreshment, lunch and materials for the workshop.
- UN-REDD and NTFP-EP will follow up and confirmation of resource people.
-

✚ Meeting with UNREDD/FCPF Capacity Needs Assessment

Date and Location: NGO Forum, 01 May 2012,

Participants: NGO Forum, NTFP-EP, BCV, ICSO and CDA

The meeting was conducted at NGO Forum on Cambodia in the morning on 01 May 2012 and coordinated by UN-REDD Cambodia start up advisor. This assessment meeting is part of a broader effort by the UNREDD and FCPF Programmes to identify capacity building priorities across REDD+ countries. It was requested by the governing bodies of the FCPF and UN-REDD to help support strategic decision making on how to further develop the two programmes (at the global level), to more effectively support REDD+ development.

The consultant of UN-REDD/FCPF Programmes, has proposed some questions to provide a guide of what will be covered during a discussion. However during the discussion only there questions were discussed.

1. What are the biggest concerns that have been attained so far with regards to REDD+ readiness?
2. Which areas do you appreciate in the process?
3. Can you specify which mechanisms of support and needs can be more efficiently met through national or regional approaches?

Before starting the discussion, Mrs. Kimheak Chhey (NGO Forum) has brief described CSOs involving REDD+ consultation process. In around 2010, CSOs were contacted by Dr. Keo Omalis (interim taskforce) in participation in consultation workshop to get comments from CSOs. However, only some comments were included in the REDD+ roadmap. Some representatives of CSOs have also participated in workshop in Dalad, Vietnam (defended proposal workshop) to provide comments and advices. CSOs have kept the same message that how CSOs want to involve in government structure.

The concerns are raised during the meeting:

- REDD+ is in the slow process and not clear perspective

- Commitment from the high level officer still not interested in REDD+
- Although the REDD+ project is exist, land concession still have happened.
- Plantation such as rubber tree and palm tree are also included in REDD+
- The some concerns raised by CSOs during workshop in Dalad, Vietnam, have not included in REDD+ roadmap or R-PP.
- Consultation with CSOs has not yet conducted as well as the financial resource for consultation has not yet received and has not clear the channel of money allocation.

Supports and needs for more effective:

- Law enforcement
- Widely consulted with grass-root, sub-nation and national levels
- Identify channel for money allocation
- CSOs network capacity building
- Awareness raising to grass-root level
- ToT
- Co-benefit
- EPIC/Consent
- IEC materials in the web with local language

Pre-Meeting on National CSOs and IP Engagement in REDD+ Workshop

Date and Location: NGOF, 06 June 2012

Participants: CDA, NGO Forum, UN-REDD, NTFP-EP, FFI, EWMI and CPN

The pre-meeting on CSOs and IP engagement in REDD+ workshop was proposed to follow up works from the pre-meeting on 30th April and discuss on the next plan for national consultation workshop. The agendas of the meeting are:

3. Update/follow up actions in the minute of meeting on 30 April 2012
4. Review the agenda
5. Identify participants

Update/follow up activities

- The letter from REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat to invite key CSOs and IP networks to nominate representatives can not be done, due to REDD+ Taskforce is busy with other tasks. However, UN-REDD confirmed the workshop still be organized in June without letter from REDD+ Taskforce. The agenda will change to the discussion on consultation plan and selection of contact person/initial representatives.
- UN-REDD informed that the 1st meeting of UNREDD Program Executive Board is going to be held on 7th June 2012 without civil society and IPs representatives, because the government want to have a meeting to move activities forward.
- The consultation workplan is in the process and the draft of the consultation plan will circulate and then will discuss in the national workshop.

Pre-Meeting on National CSOs and IP Engagement in REDD+ Workshop

Date and Location: NGOF, 15 June 2012, 8:00am to 10:00am

Participants: CDA, NGO Forum, UN-REDD, NTFP-EP and FFI

The pre-meeting on CSOs and IP engagement in REDD+ workshop was proposed to follow up works from the pre-meeting on 06 June and discuss on the next plan for national consultation workshop. The participants have agreed as following:

- 1) The national consultation workshop will be held from 9 to 11 July 2012, due to FA will not available on 4 to 6 June.
- 2) UNREDD will cover the workshop venue and translator
- 3) UNREDD will responsible for inform resource people from government and NGO Forum and NTFP-EP will responsible for inform resource people from CSOs part regarding their availabilities and collection of presentation.
- 4) The slide presentation should be sent to the organizer a week before the workshop day.
- 5) We should have meeting with facilitators before the workshop be conducted.

- 6) The draft consultation plan should send to organizers/facilitators before the workshop be conducted

CSOs REDD+ Network Meeting

Date and Location: NGOF, 6th July, 8:30am to 12:00pm

Participants: CDA, NGOF, NTFP-EP, FFI, NTFP, WCS, AFD, BFDK, PACT, ESO, CPN, EWMI and chief of community forestry in Udor Meanchey.

The REDD+ policy monitoring project was conducted a meeting with its initial network members at NGO Form on the 6th July to discuss on the action plan and network formulation (NGOs who are interested in involving with REDD+ activities to achieve the action plan). There were 12 NGOs and one leader of forestry community in Oddor Meanchey in the meeting.

In the meeting Mr. Boreth, Director of CDA provided an overview of civil society participating in REDD+ roadmap development and implementation. He shared some of NGOs who involve in REDD+ activities such as providing comments on REDD+ roadmap since 2010, activities in sub-national and national levels, capacity building and next plan. Ms. Kimheak, NGOF, shared an overview of government structure in the REDD+ roadmap to the members.

Discus on the action plan:

Ms. Kimheak and Rithiny were brief the action plan to members for discussion and revision. The action plan was developed in the early 2012. The following are the revised action plan and the activities to be taken in 2012 and next following years.

Purpose: CSOs/NGOs cooperate and engage to influence government policies and practices related to REDD+ to protect and benefit the indigenous peoples and forest dependent communities.

Output 1: Awareness among the network members, civil society, academic and relevant stakeholders on REDD+ concept have promoted.

Output 2: CSO/NGO network members have well functioning and effective skills for advocacy on REDD+ Policy and practices

Output 3: have changed to “Concerns and comments of CSOs/NGOs and IP were acknowledged and incorporated in to the government policy”

REDD+ network discussion:

All the NGOs agreed to be part of the CSOs REDD+ members and implement the proposed activities. However, we did not have enough time to discuss on the name of the network, the role and responsibility of the members (TOR), committee board/TWG. We will discuss on the role and responsibility in the next meeting.

National CSOs and IP Engagement in REDD+ Workshop

Date and Location: Sunway Hotel, 25-27 September 2012

Participants: 147 people (from 28 government officer, 59 NGO representative and 60 IP representative).

Objectives:

1. Exchange experience from Oddar Meanchey province and other province in Cambodia
2. Select the IP and NGPs representative in accordance with criteria of IP and NGOs for participants with national REDD+ task force for period six months

According results of workshop, the participants were selected their IP and NGO representative for working in six months with national REDD+ task force. IP representative was selected NTFP-EP and NGO representative was selected NGO forum. CDA and other NGOs have roles to advice and consulate to IP and NGO representative before attend meeting with National REDD+ task force. Therefore, we have integrated IP's concerns and recommendations through IP and NGO representative to national REDD+ task force.

UN-REDD Programme Executive Board Meeting

The second Cambodia UN-REDD Programme Executive Board (PEB) meeting was held on the 3rd of October at Sofitel Phnom Penh Phukeetra Hotel, Phnom Penh. The meeting's objectives were to provide participants with information on programme progress, introduction of new PEB members representing CS and IP, approve changes to the project document (inception report), and review the programme's Q4 workplan. Participants were informed that the programme was running behind schedule, but that important progress had been made during last two months. However, it was stressed the needed to have the Technical Advisors on board, so that technical activities can start being implemented. Discussions were held on programme progress, CS and IP workshop, changes to the project document and Q4 workplan with participants providing a number of important operational recommendations.

Decisions and Actions

- Recommended to focus on speeding up the implementation and delivery
- Efforts will be made to have technical advisors as soon as possible
- Inception report approved
- Changes in the workplan and budget allocation approved and request to take into consideration the urgent need for an increased delivery
- Requested the Taskforce Secretariat to share documents in advance (as specified in PEB ToR)
- Recommended to have an operational Consultation Group soon, as well as Technical Team
- Need to clarify the request of CSO and IP to have observers
- USAID representative will be invited as observer to PEB meetings (coordination with SFB project supporting REDD+)

CHAPTER TWO

I. Current Issues & Challenged in Forestry

Cambodia has one of the highest levels of forest cover in Southeast Asia, with approximately 10.7 million hectares of forest in 2006 or 59% of Cambodia's land area. Based on the FAO 2005 Forest Resources Assessment, Cambodia has the 30th largest area of tropical forest in the world, but is the 13th most forested country by percentage of land area. Cambodia also has a relatively high rate of land-use change with Forestry Administration statistics showing that 379,485 hectares of forest were lost between 2002 and 2005/621, a deforestation rate of 0.8% per year. As a consequence Cambodia has been classified as a high forest cover, high deforestation country for the purposes of REDD.

Forest in Cambodia tends to be located around the periphery in the areas as opposed to the lowland areas where paddy rice is the norm. Forest is one of the important natural resources bases for the country. Moreover, forest sector is the source of various non-timber products such as wildlife, fuel wood and medical plants. It is also the source of employment particularly in harvesting operation. In ecological term, forest helps to protect the soil erosion, stabilize the watershed and regulate water flows and local weather system.

Forests are at risk due to increasing demand for agricultural lands. The direct causes of degradation and deforestation in Cambodia are agricultural expansion, land encroachment, etc. driven by economic and social forces. Cambodia has high population growth rate compared to other countries in the region. Deforestation in Cambodia is caused by the rapid pace of development in the country, including large-scale agro-industrial development, and a lack of effective implementation of existing laws and policies for forest land and forest resource management. The principle forest management strategies of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) are the new National Forest Programme (2010) for the Permanent Forest Estate regulated by the Forestry Administration, Protected Areas managed by the Ministry of Environment, and the flooded forests and mangroves that form part of the fisheries domain regulated by the Fisheries Administration. REDD+ could form a significant new source of finance for effective implementation of these forest management strategies, in a way that explicitly recognizes local livelihood and biodiversity conservation co-benefits. This would help Cambodia to achieve its national target of maintaining 60% forest cover, which is one of the main objectives of the RGC's Rectangular Strategy, which is the over-arching socioeconomic development policy agenda for the Fourth Legislature of the National Assembly (2008-2013) and is a key indicator for the Cambodia Millennium Development Goal 7.

Deforestation in Cambodia is driven by the extraordinary rapid pace of development, including large-scale agro-industrial operations and other economic development projects. In Cambodia's north and northwest, deforestation has also paralleled the deployment of military in response to a border conflict with Thailand. "Community forests" (CFs) represent Cambodia's principle strategy for protecting local interests in forest resources. Since mid 1990's, CF has been developing informally and gradually in Cambodia through pilot projects; In 2002, the Forest Law authorized FA to grant areas of production forests to communities to manage and benefit from; In 2003 and 2008, Rectangular strategy of 1st and 2nd RGC are consider CF an important element in forest management; In 2003 and 2006, the CF Sub Decree and CF guidelines (Prakas) were issued, respectively, and signalled a historic shift from informal pilot projects to CF as a national strategy and program; In 2010, CFP/National Forest Program (2010-2029) was approved with objectives are 2 million hectares of CFs by year 2029; Reduce or no royalty and premium for community forest products; Spread more models of CFs. Currently, there are 451 CF covering 397,745 hectares of forest area located in 20 provinces, 91 districts, 226 communes, 738 villages, 106,694 families, 303,313 CF members, CF women 146,314; 288 CF sites equal 250,106 hectares approved by MAFF; Another 163 CF have applications for CFs pending with the government. Between 1993 to 2012, donors such as DANIDA and a wide range of local and international NGOs provided significant funding and technical support to help communities with that process. When funding largely ended in 2012, CFs was widely considered to be the most viable way to protect community forest interests and related livelihoods. Cambodia's ambitions in regard to receiving funding for REDD + are also largely tied to community forestry. Since that time, however, more and more communities report problems with their CFs suggesting that they may not be sustainable, at least given a generally weak climate for enforcing forest law and community rights.

In Oddar Meanchey alone, of the 13 registered community forests "CF REDD Pilot project: 13 CF sites equal 64,255 Hectares"; 110,373 hectares have lost to companies or military installations, have lost access to their forests as they are surrounded by ELCs, or have fought degradation and clearing of their forests by migrants, soldiers, and illegal loggers. Despite the fact that there are similar stories echoed around the country, there is little national awareness or appreciation of the very real losses to CFs that are occurring. This is partly because there has been no systematic attempt to collect and compile comprehensive information across groups. It is also due to the lack of any real leadership or structure by which to bring forest communities together. NGO Forum's Forest and Plantation Network previously offered some venue by which NGOs, although not the forest communities themselves, could discuss forest-related problems but with the discontinuation of that group and the integration of forest concerns only into the indigenous people's forums, there is no group attending to the broader interests of all of Cambodia's forest community. There is also no structure by which to bring forest communities together to advocate their own concerns at the national policy level.



II. Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation are issues and challenges of local community and indigenous people

Major direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation are listed are below:

✚ Direct driver

- Unsustainable and illegal logging;
- Fire (role disputed);
- Unsustainable wood fuel collection

✚ Indirect driver

- Lack of demarcation of forest areas;
- Low institutional capacity and weak policy implementation;
- Inadequate forest law enforcement;

- Weak forest sector governance:
 - Low levels of stakeholder participation and involvement;
 - Lack of transparency and accountability;
 - Inadequate assessment of social and environmental impacts
- Lack of sustainable or alternative supply of wood and timber, including for wood energy to meet demand;
- Demand for wood energy for domestic and industrial use;
- Low efficiency of wood conversion and use for construction, energy production, etc.
- Lack of incentives promoting sustainable management of forests;
- Lack of finance to support sustainable forest management activities by line agencies, local authorities and local communities.

CHAPTER THREE

I. Views and Perspective on REDD+ Development

There were some key views and perspective on REDD+ development has been identified by the participants throughout the question & answers at the session workshop which is including as below:

❖ Perspective on REDD+ Development at Provincial level:

1) *ODDAR MEACHEY PROVINCE:*

- If REDD+ project happening, there will no paddy field for agriculture and animal rising.
- If REDD+ carry out without forest law enforcement, project will be disaster and impacted to local community subsistent.
- Government acceptance /promotion of REDD+ and ELC are contradictory policy and have contrasting director.
- Community have limited knowledge about law & policy regarding to REDD+
- Not all communities are consulted about the benefit sharing flow/mechanism.
- Important comments from NGO/Community will not be accepted by the government.

2) *KAMPONG TOM PROVINCE:*

- Development of Economic land concession (ELC) may lead to loss of forest and biodiversity, provoking of carbon.
- There will be inaccessibility of forest and forest products as of tradition if REDD+ project happening.
- The community makes the agreement but the implementer other than community controls the benefit sharing.
- The community may loss of their farm land covered by REDD+ project
- REDD+ is difficulties in preventing offence
- Lack of information and document related to concession land
- Money from carbon selling not reached to community hands
- Fear of occurrence of forest fires and offenses
- No consultation with concerned people on REDD+ project
- Benefits getting from REDD+ are divided without transparency
- The local communities cannot access forest and forest by-products for household purposes as well as traditions of indigenous people and.
- The community are unclear about the REDD+ programme

3) *PRAEH VIHEAR PROVINCE:*

- REDD+ lack of transparency and accountability_ no full discussion and consultation with community).
- Lack of financial transparency of REDD+ programme

- Community safeguard not stated in REDD+ policy
- Not clearly explain impacts of REDD+ to community
- Provide large forest area to community to own and manage
- Further knowledge on REDD+ by communities
- After REDD+ is completed, land is given to community_ ownership/titling
- ELC should not grant to the companies while doing REDD+ project
- Local community will not allow collecting their NTFPs, Risen, rattan honey, wild fruit, and all kind of NTFPs by daily livelihood.
- Illegal activities such: forest logging and deforestation will be increased through REDD+ project accomplishment.
- Community nearby forest areas are quiet not understand on REDD+ concept.
- Information sharing between FA to community on REDD+ process

4) MONDULKIRI PROVINCE:

- Have corruption and money not fund for community development
- If REDD+ happened, community cannot go to the forest to collect NTFPs
- Community will lose their farm land from the REDD+ project
- Illegal logging offense by military
- REDD+ may be another form of ELC

5) RATANAKIRI PROVINCE:

- Community role in baseline and M&E process
- Capacity building support to community

6) STUNG TRENG PROVINCE:

- Both community and NGOs are not fully understood about REDD+
- Community Consultation and concerns about ELC overlap should be addressed before decisions are made to grant ELCs.
- Community should already have their patrolling groups before starting REDD+ and community need to be preparing well.
- Allocate forest land to community to sustainable management

7) PURSAT PROVINCE:

- Unclear position of government on REDD+ since, ELCs have more and quick benefits.
- Unfair benefit sharing on REDD+ if without clear consultation with community

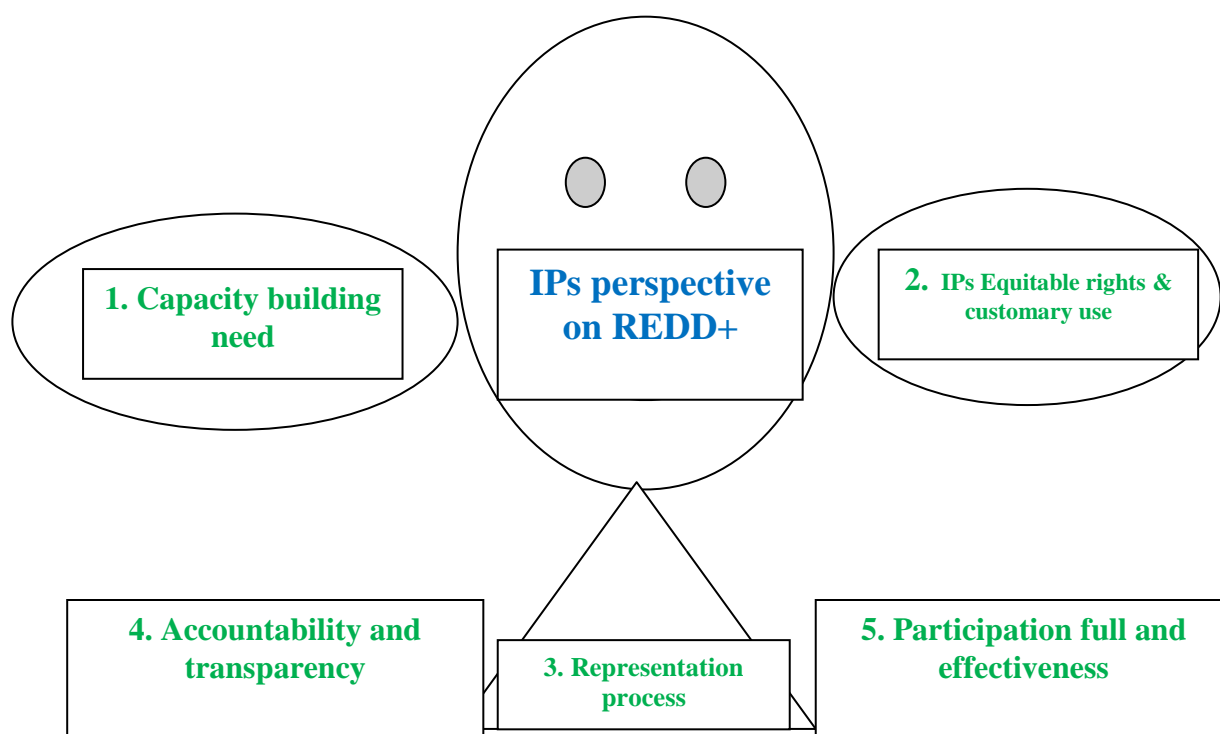
8) KAMPONG SPEU PROVINCE (National workshop)

II. Perspective on REDD+ Development at National level:

1. Positive perspective from Indigenous People on REDD+ in Cambodia

The result from provincial, regional, awareness raising of REDD+ for Indigenous People and local communities in 7 provinces. The National REDD+ Workshop awareness were conducted and invited participants from 10 provinces the participants are difference Indigenous group and they came from: Kampong Speu, Battambang, Koh Kong, Kratie, Kampong Thom, Rattanakiri, Mondolkiri, Stung Treng, Preah Vihear, and Pursat provinces and during the consulted the Indigenous people have their perspective involving REDD+ development as following are:

Five main components:



1. Capacity building need

In accordance with the provincial, regional and national workshop on REDD+ awareness raising the Indigenous People themselves get more and understanding more on REDD+ concept in particularly relevant to their perspective, culture, and customary tradition use in the forest resources. In these workshop they are having of our self- perspective on REED+ development in Cambodia, they need the capacity building for Indigenous People themselves and build again and again to improvement of their knowledge to understanding REDD+ conceptual from the grassroots to national and internationally all level and all phase.

2. Indigenous people equitable rights and customary use

Indigenous peoples’ traditional forest conservation and management practices such as shifting cultivation, pastoralism among others have contributed the mitigation to climate change through by REDD+ implementation. These practices, therefore, should be recognized and respected in respective policies, strategies and action plans at all levels.

Traditional knowledge, customary laws, forest management systems and practices of indigenous peoples, particularly roles and contributions of **indigenous women**, should be recognized and respected and include these customary laws, knowledge system and multiple functions of forests.

Collective rights of the indigenous peoples to forests, land, territories and resources should be respected in line with international obligations and instruments such as UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169. Additionally, these internationally recognized rights must be respected and secured in all national REDD+ policies, strategies and actions.



3. Representation and own process

In this activities Indigenous People mainstream to the national level because want to have a seat in the REDD+ task force of (PEB) Programme Executive Boards and Consultation Group (CG) and

this case we want to having our own representative process for self-selection of Indigenous People to seat in national at least three persons and we would like to present what our perspective regarding to natural resources, Forestry management, traditional customary use, concerned of livelihood, finance, policy and mechanism.



4. **Accountability and transparency**

Indigenous people want to have the national strategy of REDD+ meaning fully and respectfully of Indigenous people's rights, customary, spiritual forest and culture in particularly Indigenous peoples should have direct access to other fund and/or Green Climate Fund (GCF) through by REDD+ implementation and other financial mechanisms and call for indigenous people's representation and meaningful participation in all financial mechanisms from local, nationally.

Indigenous peoples affirm good governance; transparent and accountable all mechanisms are necessary in order not to undermine our collective rights to our land, territories and resources in REDD+ phases and before the national strategy and after we would like to call for our full and effective participation in all market and non-market mechanisms and related co-benefits.

Indigenous peoples must be consulted in a meaningful manner understood to us in good faith for our consent subjected to in all REDD+ processes and mechanisms. Additionally, independent recourse or complaint mechanisms must be available for indigenous peoples at all levels especially with Forestry Administration (FA) and all phase even though R-PP phase and implementation phase.

Indigenous people want to have cooperation between the FCPF under the World Bank and UN-REDD in process, all level and all phase to development the national REDD+ strategy or policy and compliance.

5. **Participation full and effectiveness in local, national and internationally**

Full and effective participation of indigenous peoples must be ensured in all REDD+ phases, governance systems and institutional arrangements, national law, national policy such as in Land Law(art: 23-art: 28 of 2001), and international law/ instrument , UNDRIP, ILO convention 169; and as provided in Cancun Agreement.

2. **Negative or concerned perspective from Indigenous People on REDD+ in Cambodia**

In according with the provincial, regional and national workshop on a REDD+ in all eight province, Indigenous People there are similar perspective of negative/ concerned within REDD+ implementation / development in Cambodia such as following are;

- ❖ Limitation to collecting NTFP from the forests.
- ❖ Limitation of demarcation shifting cultivation, farm lands, forestry land;
- ❖ Illegal logging from reach person / empower person
- ❖ Unclear on REDD+ concept and implementation wrong
- ❖ Benefit sharing mechanism unclear
- ❖ Loss their culture, spiritual forest, daily livelihood, lands and burial ground
- ❖ Not transparency, accountability, equity and fair from REDD+ and benefit mechanisms
- ❖ The Government provide concession to the private company without respect Indigenous people
- ❖ Without consultation with Indigenous People, especially respect of the principle FPIC.
- ❖ The corruption will make up from the Government
- ❖ Threaten and take law enforcement without respect the Indigenous People's culture and customary practise.
- ❖ Not fulfilment respect and get all comment from Indigenous People 's perspective to national REDD+ strategy.
- ❖ Displacement the people from forest
- ❖ Conflict between Indigenous and outside

- ❖ Indigenous people not get found from REDD+ or climate Fund
- ❖ Loss the Indigenous people 's culture, traditional customary use
- ❖ Indigenous people could not be management their own forests/ natural resources
- ❖ Competition in the community
- ❖ Climate change mostly impact to Indigenous People
- ❖ Impact to Indigenous people women
- ❖ Indigenous people confront with local forestry Administration regarding to difference perspective
- ❖ FA not apply the land law what mentioned on Indigenous People in article 23-28
- ❖ The Indigenous people women have the confront from REDD project
- ❖ The local FA (Forestry Administration) have limited of comprehensive knowledge
- ❖ The private company not consult with Indigenous people in the community
- ❖ Not strong voice of Indigenous women in the national REDD+ strategy
- ❖ Indigenous community not got full information
- ❖ In the community level they have lack of capacity regarding to law
- ❖ No law mentioned on REDD+
- ❖ Carbon rights injustice
- ❖ No transparency of satellite and MRV if implementation of Carbon market.
- ❖ Confusing between the R-package of FCPF under the World Bank and UN-REDD
- ❖ Not compliance and cooperation between R-Package and R-PP of FCPF and UNREDD.

CHAPTER FOUR

I. RECOMMENDATIONS

The communities during the national and provincial REDD+ workshops, local and indigenous people believe that it is important to include the following in all development activities:

- **Including local and indigenous community participation and consultation:**

Local communities and civil society organizations (CSOs) should be involved in the decision-making and implementation of REDD+ policy and project. Communities should also be involved in the process of obtaining baseline data and monitoring and evaluating (M&E) projects and policies. Last, communities should be consulted with and their concerns should be addresses before decisions are made to grant economic land concessions (ELCs).
- **Build the capacity of local and Indigenous communities:**

The government and development partners should seek to build the knowledge of community regarding laws relevant to REDD+. They should also build their capacity to communicate and advocate with relevant institutions regarding the REDD+ development process. Specifically, they can build their capacity by providing national workshops on RED+, trainings on REDD+ on projects in local communities, study tours and exchanges, and leadership training.
- **Disseminating information:**

The government and development partners should widely broadcast information on REDD+ and IP rights through the media, including the radio and TV. This information should include the benefits and potential drawbacks of REDD+ to communities.
- **Ensuring adequate and transparent representation of local and indigenous communities:**

Representative of IP groups and local communities must be selected democratically and these groups should be able to self-select their representative. There should be both national and sub-national representatives and NGOs should be included as representatives in the REDD+ management structure. Community representative should have experience in natural resource management and be committed and literate. Selecting women as representative should be given high priority.

II. CONCLUSION

The REDD+ awareness raising workshop at provincial and national level are significantly for all participants composed Indigenous people, vulnerable groups and Government from forestry Administration (FA), department of environment (DoE) of seven provinces and one national to improvement their capacity and awareness raising on REDD+ and Climate Change in Cambodia.

According to the participants Indigenous People and vulnerable groups in these workshops they have difference knowledge and understanding on REDD+ but they have the understanding and what happen at the present of climate change impact to their livelihood and weather.

In these workshops there are 44 percent of Indigenous people participated, most of them have an initiation to protect and conservation forests particularly Ingenious people are significance of intrinsically linking to the land, water, biodiversity, forests, and their natural resources within testimonials about traditional land uses and management, including testimonials to reclaim lost areas especially in the overlapping Indigenous and biodiversity areas such as between protected areas, company and military forces in this province.

However for these workshop it's just first stage not reality sufficiency capacity for all participants, because REDD+ is technical words, processes and newly for them it meaning that on the processes understanding in particularly of this workshop. Voices of indigenous people were integrated into recommendations on REDD+ in accordance with safeguard and co-benefits for submitting the government and key stakeholders to response the priorities need involving FPIC.

Forward to achieve the expected outcome's REDD+ road mapping to product the Cambodia National REDD+ Strategies in 2015; we need more provide capacity building and update to indigenous people and vulnerable groups in Cambodia and allow them to participate in national and international workshop and conference involving climate change and REDD+. They will be got more knowledge on REDD+ at national and international therefore, they will commit strongly to raise up the concerns and recommendations to government to address and response their needs in term of respects human rights, democratic and ownership development and effective participation to develop the Cambodia national REDD+ Strategies during 2012-2015.

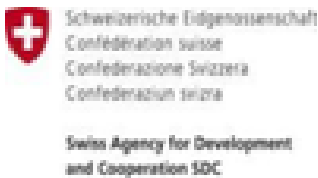
Date 24 October 2012

Submitted by



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