



Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard

THE SOUTHERN CARDOMOM REDD+ PROJECT – MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Document Prepared by Wildlife Works Carbon LLC



Project Title	The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project
Version	2.0
Date of Issue	08-01-2021
Project Location	Cambodia, Koh Kong Province
Project Proponent(s)	Royal Government of Cambodia, Ministry of Environment Contact Name: H.E. Dr. Choup Paris, Deputy Secretary General, National Council for Sustainable Development Email: paris.ncgg@gmail.com Phone: (+855) 17 31 33 66
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Project Lifetime	01 January 2015 – 31 December 2044; 30-year lifetime
Monitoring Period of this Report	01 January 2015 – 31 December 2020
History of SD VSta Status	The project is concurrently seeking validation under the SD VSta standard with this initial verification.
Other Certification Programs	The project has been validated and verified under both the VCS and CCB standards. The project ID is 1748.
Expected Future Assessment Schedule	The SD VSta validation is happening concurrently with this initial verification. It is estimated that the Project will subsequently verify every 2 years.

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1 SUMMARY OF SDG CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 1: Summary of SDG Contributions

Row number	Quantitative Project Contributions during Monitoring Period	Contributions during Project Lifetime	SDG Target	SDG Indicator	Net Impact on SDG Indicator	Section Reference	Claim, Asset or Label
Sequential row number	Brief description of the quantifiable impact of the project's activities related to the SDG indicator, during the monitoring period	Brief description of the cumulative quantifiable impact of the project's activities related to the SDG indicator, during the project lifetime	SDG target number	Number and text of SDG indicator or, if no official SDG indicator is applicable, user-defined indicator	Indicate the project's net contribution to the indicator		
1)	All members of the project zone communities will have access to micro-finance loans and will have secure land tenure.		1.4	1.4.1 Number of community members who have accessed the microfinance scheme 1.4.1 Number of people who have established Income Generating Assistance through Southern Cardamom Forest Protection Project	Increase	3.1Error! Reference source not found.	Claim

				1.4.2 Number of households with secure land tenure			
2)	The project will increase the resilience of project zone communities to climate-related extreme events and other economic social and environmental shocks and disasters by increasing farm productivity and increasing knowledge of improved methods and varieties.		1.5	Number of community members who have undergone agricultural training agricultural demonstration plots established in the community areas	Increase	3.1	Claim
3)	The Project will ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices in the project zone that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.		2.4	2.4.1 Number of community members who have undergone agricultural training 2.4.1 Agricultural demonstration plots established in the community areas	Increase	3.1	Claim
4)	The Project will achieve universal health coverage in the project zone communities, with access to quality essential health-care services and		3.8	3.8.1 Number of health facilities build or equipped	Increase	3.1	Claim

	access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.			3.8.1 Number of health workers employed 3.8.2 Percent of community members benefiting from Southern Cardamom Forest Protection Project Area-related health schemes			
5)	The Project will ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcome.		4.1	4.1.1 and 4.1.2 Number of schools constructed, repaired or equipped 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 Number of teachers employed 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 Number of students benefiting from bursary schemes	Increase	3.1	Claim
6)	The Project will ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.		4.3	4.3.1 Number of students benefiting from bursary schemes for tertiary education, including university	Increase	3.1	Claim
7)	The Project will eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the		4.5	4.5.1 Parity indices for female/male participation in education bursary	Increase	3.1	Claim

	vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.			scheme and project run education events			
8)	The Project will ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunity for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life in the project zone.		5.5	Percent of women participating in community meetings 5.5.1 Percent of Project employees that are women and percent of women with improved livelihoods or income as a result of project activities	Increase	3.1	Claim
9)	The Project will substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.		6.4	6.4.2 Number of ha of forest cleared	Decrease	3.1	Claim
10)	The Project will protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.		6.6	Area (ha) of avoided deforestation in the Project Area	Increase	3.1	Claim
11)	The Project will promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation,		8.3	8.3.1 Number of community members who have accessed the microfinance scheme	Increase	3.1	Claim

	entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.			8.3.1 Number of people who have established Income Generating Assistance from the Project			
12)	The Project will devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.		8.9	8.9.1 Number of families participating in eco- tourism activities (CBET) 8.9.1 Number of tourists visiting the community eco-tourism facilities (CBET)	Increase	3.1	Claim
13)	The Project will increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets.		9.3	9.3.2 Number of community members who have accessed the microfinance scheme	Increase	3.1	Claim
14)	The Project will upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries		9.4	9.4.2 Number of community members who have undergone agricultural training 9.4.2 Number of agricultural demonstration plots	Increase	3.1	Claim

	taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities.			established in the community areas			
15)	The Project will ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.		10.3	10.3.1 Number of grievances submitted to the project concerning discrimination or harassment	Decrease	3.1	Claim
16)	The Project will enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.		11.3	Number of land use planning meetings held with participation and support from local authorities Number of participants in land use planning meetings	Increase	3.1	Claim
17)	The Project will Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.		11.4	11.4.1 Total area (ha) of forest within the SCRP cleared for cultivation or settlement	Decrease	3.1	Claim
18)	The Project will achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.		12.2.	12.2.1 Number of community members who have undergone agricultural training	Increase	3.1	Claim

19)	The Project will ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature.		12.8	12.8.1 Number of awareness and sensitization meetings 12.8.1 Number of households with greater awareness about importance or conservation	Increase	3.1	Claim
20)	The Project will develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.		12.b.	12.b.1 Number of families participating in eco- tourism activities (CBET) 12.b.1 Number of trained tour guides 12.b.1 Number of tourism promotion initiatives undertaken	Increase	3.1	Claim
21)	The Project will strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards by protecting the remaining forest area.		13.1	Area (ha) of avoided forest loss in the Project Area	Increase	4.1	Claim
22)	The Project will integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.		13.0	13.0 Project Net Emission Reductions	Increase	4.1	labelled
23)	Through the sale of REDD+ carbon credits the Project will fund meaningful mitigation actions in the Project Zone.		13.a	13.a.1 Amount of funding provided to project activities	Increase	4.1	Claim

24)	The Project will ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements.		15.1	15.1.1 and 15.1.2 Area (ha) of avoided forest loss in the Project Area	Increase	4.1	Claim
25)	The Project will promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.		15.2	15.2.1 Number of land use planning meetings held with participation and support from local authorities 15.2.1 Number of participants in land use planning meetings	Increase	4.1	Claim
26)	The Project will ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development.		15.4	15.4.1 and 15.4.2 Area (ha) of avoided forest loss in the Project Area	Increase	4.1	Claim
27)	The Project will take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by the end of the project protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.		15.5	15.5.1. Number of legal cases submitted against forest criminals by SCRP patrol rangers 15.5.1 Number of rangers employed and trained	Decrease Cases Increase	4.1	Claim

				15.5.1 Number of patrols undertaken, including coverage and distances	Increase		
28)	The Project will take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of endangered flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.		15.7	15.7.1 Number of snares removed from the Southern Cardamom Forest Protection Project Area 15.7.1 Number of live animals rescued from illegal wildlife trade by Southern Cardamom Forest Protection rangers 15.7.1 Number of community members who have accessed the microfinance scheme	Decrease Decrease Increase	4.1	Claim
29)	The Project will mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems.		15.a	15.a.1 REDD+ VCU credit sales	Increase	4.1	Claim
30)	The Project will mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to		15.b	15.b.1 REDD+ VCU credit sales	Increase	4.1	Claim

	advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation.						
31)	The Project will support efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities destruction. Anti-poaching patrols.		15.c	15.c.1 Number of patrols undertaken, including coverage and distances 15.c.1 Amount of revenue accruing from eco-tourism activities in the area 15.c.1 Number of families providing ecotourism service	Increase	4.1	Claim
32)	The Project will significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.		16.4	16.4.2 Number of rangers employed and trained 16.4.2 Number of patrols undertaken, including coverage and distances	Increase	4.1	Claim
33)	The Project will promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development.		16.b.	16.b.1 Number of grievances received under project grievance policy	Decrease	4.1	Claim
34)	The Project will mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources.		17.3	17.3.1 and 17.3.2 REDD+ VCU credit sales	Increase	4.1	Claim

35)	The Project will work to promote investment promotion regimes for least developed countries.		17.5	17.5.1 Number of community members who have accessed the microfinance scheme 17.5.1 Number of people who have established Income Generating Assistance through the Project	Increase	4.1	Claim
36)	The Project will promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries.		17.7	17.7.1 Number of community members who have undergone agricultural training 17.7.1 Number of agricultural demonstration plots established in the community areas	Increase	4.1	Claim

2 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1 Project Objectives, Context and Long-term Viability

2.1.1 Summary of Project Sustainable Development Objective(s)

The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project (SCRP) is an initiative designed to promote climate change mitigation and adaptation, maintain biodiversity and create alternative livelihoods under the United Nations scheme of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+). The 445,339 ha SCRPP encompasses parts of Southern Cardamom National Park and Tatai Wildlife Sanctuary and will protect a critical part of the Cardamom Mountains Rainforest Ecoregion – one of the 200 most important locations for biodiversity conservation on the planet. The SCRPP is part of the Indo-Burma Hotspot, one of the world's 34 biodiversity hotspots, and is a critical watershed for the Gulf of Thailand, with a mosaic of habitats from dense evergreen and pine forests on its ridge tops to lowland melaleuca wetlands, flooded grasslands, lakes and coastal mangroves in its lowlands. This mosaic of habitat supports at least 52 species of IUCN Threatened birds, mammals, and reptiles including Siamese crocodile and one of Cambodia's two viable populations of Asian elephant. The landscape has also been identified by the Royal Government of Cambodia as an opportunity for tiger reintroduction.

More specifically, the SCRPP has 20 major waterways that feed 3,800 villages in over 6 provinces. The Project will directly support the livelihoods of 21 villages in nine communes around the perimeter of the project area. These communities represent approximately 2,475 families and 10,550 individuals. Wildlife Alliance has been assisting the government in the management of the Cardamom Rainforest Landscape since 2002.

Despite its global importance, uncontrolled small-scale land conversion of forest to agricultural land by migrants and conversion to agro-industrial plantations by the private sector make the Southern Cardamom region one of most threatened forest landscapes in South East Asia. Rural communities depend on small-scale agricultural production to support their livelihood. A lack of sufficient employment opportunities for the growing rural population combined with a lack of knowledge regarding improved agricultural techniques drive the local population to clear forests for cultivating commercial crops.

In response to the threats to the Southern Cardamom landscape, Wildlife Alliance (WA) with the Ministry of Environment (MOE), decided to create the SCRPP. The protection of the SCRPP will be achieved by continuing and intensifying patrolling of the Project Area, as well as by providing additional project activities to the communities that are designed to mitigate the drivers of deforestation. Two important project activities are agricultural intensification and community-based ecotourism. These will help create greater financial security in the communities, and therefore less need to perform unsustainable resource extraction from the Project Area. A fund will also be provided to support scholarships for children from project communities in order to directly address one of the critical drivers of deforestation identified during stakeholder workshops (i.e. low education rates and limited opportunities for post-primary school education). This fund will be available for community members from an additional 8 villages in four communes in addition to those directly benefiting from the project. These project activities, in addition to mitigating the drivers of deforestation, will also provide significant local contributions to 15 of the 17 UN SDGs, helping provide long-lasting benefits to the communities and natural biodiversity in the project zone.

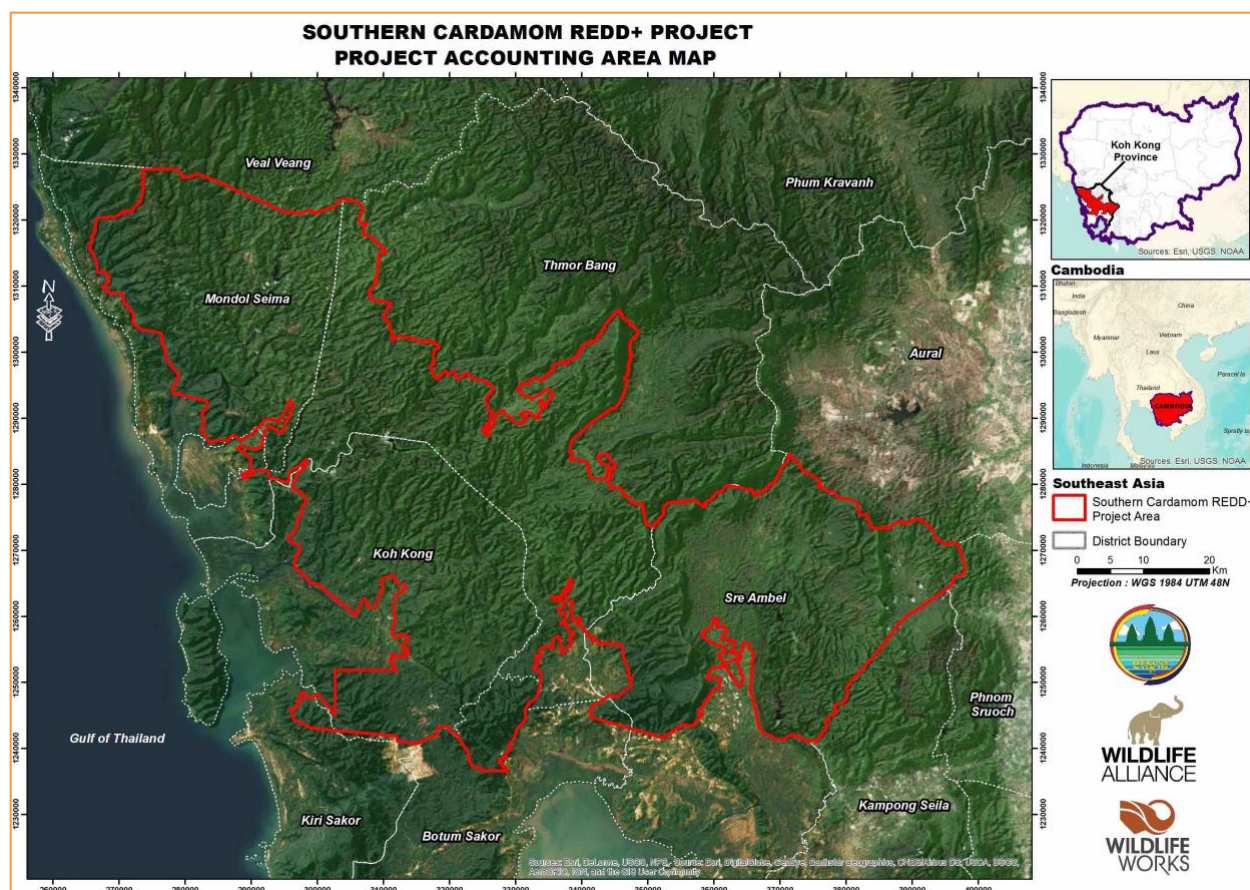


Figure 1: The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project

The Project's climate benefits include the average annual avoided emission of 3,970,202 t CO₂e, for a total of 11,910,607 t CO₂e during this first monitoring period. The Project will generate substantial community and biodiversity co-benefits. New and sustainable livelihood opportunities, such as direct employment, alternative income generating activities (IGAs) and initiatives to stimulate investment in businesses will be designed to reduce pressure on the environment while significantly increasing community well-being. Additional programs will address food security, improve health and education facilities, as well as raise environmental awareness. Biodiversity co-benefits will be achieved through greater protection of the ecosystem predominantly by means of increased security and improved monitoring. The Project will also be protecting critical habitat for significant populations of many IUCN red-listed species, including Asian elephant, Asiatic black bear, Malayan sun bear, large spotted civet, clouded leopard, and dhole, as well as the critically endangered reptiles Siamese crocodile and Southern river terrapin.

2.1.2 Description of the Project Activity

To enable a participatory project development process two Social Impact Assessment (SIA) workshops were held with key community, government and other local leaders in the ministry of environment meeting hall, Koh Kong Town, Koh Kong Province. At these SIA workshops a facilitated process was utilized to first identify the community groups and stakeholders that would be impacted by the project and potential project impacts, then problem flow diagrams were created. With the problem flow diagrams the project focal issues were identified and results diagrams created. Based on the Problem

Flow Diagrams (Section **Error! Reference source not found.**) developed for each of the three Focal Issues identified (improved livelihoods, forest destruction and land encroachment, and wildlife poaching), several strategic project entry points were agreed upon as the most likely strategies/activities to address root causes of the problems faced by the SCRP. These would thus constitute the project activities for the SCRP that if implemented would follow the theory of change logic developed in the Results Chains (Section **Error! Reference source not found.**) to lead to the desired outcomes. These proposed project activities were further enriched by the knowledge and experience of the Project partner, WA, who has been engaging with local communities in this landscape for the last decade. As such, the project communities have been engaged in designing Project activities.

While the Project partner has been successful in implementing some of these activities, the effectiveness and scope of their implementation has been limited by a lack of sustained funding. Therefore, the Project Partner deems it most effective that the SCRP maintains and expands these on-going project activities. Supporting these operations will be the most direct way to deliver benefits to the communities in a timely fashion. It is envisioned that several new activities, directly supporting the sustainability of the REDD+ Project while simultaneously providing alternative means to the local communities, will also be possible with carbon revenue. Specific existing activities and envisioned new activities are described below, followed by detailed Results Chains (see Section 2.1.9 of the Project's SDVISta. PD) and a description of the key activity areas that will serve as a framework for activity implementation. The SCRP project is in the country of Cambodia, which is implementing a jurisdictional REDD+ program. Therefore, all of the project activities listed below are located in a jurisdiction that will be included within the national REDD+ jurisdictional program.

1. **Training on Agricultural Methods and Intensification:** The Project has provided technical assistance, equipment, and community agricultural development to communities. It will continue this work with the primary goal of providing alternatives to such destructive practices as slash and burn agriculture and unsustainable planting and harvesting techniques. These practices often fail and require vast amounts of land. Using the tenets of conservation agriculture, particularly increased cover cropping, zero tillage and an emphasis on soil health and moisture retention, the project aims to increase yields on existing farms and decrease dependence on the clearing of additional land for new field. Additionally, the Project will build and support produce storage facilities and value-added technologies to take advantage of market price fluctuations and aid in achieving high sale prices.
2. **Improve Health Facilities and Care:** Proceeds from the Project will be used to enhance the delivery of health care through increased support to health care workers, hiring of additional health care employees and improvements of facilities such as rainwater collection, solar systems, sanitation and support for outreach (hand washing stands at local schools, etc.).
3. **Community-based Eco-Tourism Development:** Proceeds from the Project will be used to facilitate the participatory process of community engagement, capacity building in hospitality, accounting, English, computers, and nature guiding. Developing ecotourism infrastructure that could include trails, night camps, guesthouses, homestays, visitor center, and equipment such as mountain bikes, kayaks, and camping gear.
4. **Micro-finance:** The Project has utilized a revolving micro-finance fund and family savings system to support access to capital and markets. It will continue to use such approaches and other best practices in micro-finance such as micro-loans, micro-insurance and other small and medium enterprise development practices, thus providing more sustainable and valuable alternatives to current destructive forest practices.

5. **Participatory Land Use Planning:** Unsecure land use rights and ineffective land use in the project induces deforestation in the project area. Local farmers feel unsafe to control their current agricultural land, and outsiders/immigrants come to the project area and start clearing forestland especially in the protected area and permanent forest estate. Outsiders/immigrants often perceive that protected areas or permanent forest reserves are open to long-term use. To thwart this problem, the SCRP will strengthen land tenure security by supporting the creation and distribution of land titles. The SCRP will work closely with local authorities, community members, and relevant provincial departments to implement this program.
6. **Strengthening Community Organizations:** The project will support capacity building for community groups and institutions directly involved in the management of natural resources for improved Community Protected Area (CPA) organization and functioning. It will help to train local stakeholders in natural resource governance, land tenure and land rights, responsibilities, forest and fuelwood management and natural resource management education. This will include providing locations for meetings, materials, travel support, bringing in subject-matter experts (such as conservation agriculture) and other logistical and organizational support.
7. **Enhanced Security and Law Enforcement:** Although a current ranger/community member force exists, its scope and scale are currently inadequate to address the threats to the Project Area landscape. Proceeds from the REDD+ Project will be used to directly hire and train additional rangers/community members, focusing on conservation principles and biodiversity monitoring. To increase motivation, the existing performance incentive program will be enhanced. The current ranger/community member force suffers from inadequate equipment and training. The Project will provide invaluable support to this vital program.
8. **Sensitization and Awareness Raising:** The project will have a dedicated outreach department that will use diverse means to educate and sensitize the communities about the environment and conservation in general, but also on the SCRP in particular, its goals and how they are involved. This will be in the form of continuous FPIC program for the project's lifetime.
9. **Education Improvement:** Proceeds from the project will be used to improve education standards in the communities through increased support to schools, hiring of additional teachers, improvement of education infrastructure (buildings and/or other equipment), and a dedicated school bursary scheme.
10. **Direct Employment and Training on Income Generating Activities (IGAs):** One important use of the revenue from the carbon credit sales will be directly employing personnel to run the project at different capacities. As far as will be possible, most hires will be directly from the communities in the Project Zone.

Table 2: The SCRP project activities and their expected positive impacts towards the three primary activity areas.

Defined Activities
Training on income generating activities (IGAs) and direct employment
Micro-finance implementation
Improving health facilities and care
Strengthening community organization and specific promotion of female education
Support teacher salaries and bursaries for students
Expected positive impacts
Reduced dependence on extractive forest resources
Increased employment and income from legal IGAs
Increase in stability of income flow
Reduced risks through livelihood diversification
Improved community well-being
More access to education

Activity Area 2: Forest Destruction and Land Encroachment

Defined Activities
Employment of a larger ranger force and increasing their motivation
Training on income generating activities (IGAs) and direct employment
Increasing environmental awareness
Strengthening community organization
Training and support for sustainable eco-charcoal techniques
Training on agricultural methods and intensification
Expected positive impacts

Reduced dependence on extractive resources
Enhanced ecosystem integrity and ability to provide for wildlife
Ensured maintenance of ecosystem services
Stabilization of water flow and quality for downstream producers
Increase in perception/ recognition of the value of forests resources

Activity Area 3: Wildlife Poaching

Defined Areas
Employment of a larger ranger force and increasing their motivation
Raising environmental awareness
Training on IGAs and direct employment
Strengthening community organization, esp. female involvement and empowerment
Training on agricultural methods
Tree planting and habitat restoration
Expected positive impacts
Reduced poaching activities and associated impacts
The safeguarding of High Conservation Value Species
Enhanced ecosystem integrity and ability to provide for wildlife
Increase in perception/ recognition of the value of forests and wildlife

2.1.3 Implementation Schedule

Date	Milestone(s) in the Project's Development and Implementation
2002 - Present	<u>Forest Protection</u> : WA began supporting law enforcement activities in the Southern Cardamoms in 2002. This includes working with the RGC to develop a law enforcement strategy for the landscape and providing financial and technical support for all law enforcement operations. Two fully-equipped ranger stations were implemented in 2002. As of, 2017, WA has been operating nine ranger stations.

2003-present	<u>Land-use Planning</u> : WA has worked with the RGC and provincial, district, and commune authorities since 2003 to develop clear spatial land-use plans for the region around the Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project. This includes securing community land tenure across 11 communities, thereby helping to ensure community rights and assisting in the management of legal agricultural land.
2004 - Present	<u>Community Development</u> : WA conducted a participatory rural appraisal (PRA) in the Project Zone, creating community agricultural programs for 200 families in 2004 and establishing community-based ecotourism in Chi Pat in 2008. This activity has expanded to a second cluster of 8 villages in Chay Areng in 2017.
2010 - 2012	<u>REDD+ Project Exploration</u> : ONFI and WA conduct preliminary carbon stock assessment, VCS draft pd writing
April 2012 - August 2012	<u>REDD+ Feasibility</u> : WWC conducts a REDD+ feasibility study for the Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project
1 January 2015	Project start date
2015 – Present	<u>Project Implementation</u> : Attract investors and gain government approval for the Project – continue forest protection and community development activities
January 2017 – May 2017	Project carbon stock measurement
July 2017 – August 2017	Proxy Area carbon stock measurement
December 2017 – January 2018	Leakage Area Assessment
April 2018	Project Validation and Verification
May 2018	Project Registration
November 2018	First Project VCU issuance
November 2019 – March 2020	Second monitoring period forest inventory and monitoring
December 2020 – April 2021	Project 2 nd Verification (M ₂)
December 2020 – April 2021	Project SD VISta Validation and Verification

2.1.4 Project Proponent

Organization Name	Royal Government of Cambodia, Ministry of Environment
Role in the Project	Project Proponent
Contact Person	H.E. Dr. Choup Paris
Title	Deputy Secretary General, National Council for Sustainable Development
Address	#48 Samdach Preah Sihanouk Boulevard,
Telephone	Phnom Penh 12301, Cambodia
Email	+855 017 313 366

2.1.5 Other Entities Involved in the Project

Organization Name	Wildlife Alliance
Role in the Project	Partner to MOE in the implementation of SCRP
Contact Person	Suwanna Gauntlet
Title	Founder and CEO
Address	No. 86, Street 123 Toulthompong I Precinct Chamcamon District Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Telephone	+855-23-211-604
Email	cambodia@wildlifealliance.org

Organization Name	Wildlife Works Carbon
Role in the Project	Technical Advisor with responsibilities including implementation of the VCS and CCB standards and carbon accounting
Contact Person	Jeremy Freund
Title	Vice President, Carbon Development
Address	242 Redwood Highway
Telephone	Mill Valley, CA 94941
Email	+1 415 332 8081

2.1.6 Project Location

Extent Boundary	Location (Easting, Northing UTM Zone 48N)
Northern Extent GPS Point	275375.34 m E, 1325396.78 m N
Eastern Extent GPS Point	394814.98 m E, 1267579.35 m N
Southern Extent GPS Point	326489.87 m, 1238701.74 m N
Western Extent GPS Point	297403.96 m E, 1269075.36 m N

2.1.7 Project Description Deviations

There are no deviations from the Project SD VISTA PD or the joint VCS/CCB PD.

Human-Induced Risks:

1. Slash and Burn / Unsustainable Agriculture

The greatest human induced risk to the Project's benefits is continued deforestation. The Project Zone is undergoing large pressures for new agricultural land from both the expanding population and ongoing immigration into the area. Therefore, slash and burn agriculture is a primary risk to the SCRP benefits and thus the Project's sustainability.

Mitigation for this risk is through the Project Activities, mainly in the form of increased protection of the Project Area, creation of new income generating activities and through the promotion of improved agricultural methods as described in Section 2.1.2.

2. Charcoal Production and Illegal Logging

Within the Project Area there are extractive activities, including the production of charcoal and illegal logging. These are additional threats of deforestation and degradation in the SCRP Project Area and pose a significant risk to the Project's climate, biodiversity, and ecosystem service benefits. Law enforcement and community members patrol the Project Area permanently and attempt to halt such activities. It has been recognized, however, that these law enforcement units are limited because of the size of the Project area. The SCRP therefore provides financial, political and human capacity support to maintain and enhance law enforcement. This is achieved by employing more rangers, increasing ranger motivation and providing rangers with more equipment, training and technology

3. Anthropogenic Fires

Another human induced threat is frequent fires; these can occur multiple times a year in the area. Many are set intentionally with the goal of clearing trees and brush for agriculture, or some may be the unintentional result of illegal activity, such as charcoal production. SCRP staff monitor the Project Area for the occurrence of fire, and work to reduce the risk of fire. In addition, the Project aims to reduce illegal incursions of people into the Project Area, thus mitigating anthropogenic fire potential. Furthermore, the Project Proponent will monitor fire events and other potential contributions to reversals as part of their annual monitoring efforts and is required to report on and account for any

major loss of carbon in the Project Area. It is the goal of the Project to work with communities to understand the value of the forest, thus decreasing their willingness to destroy their forest resources, as they begin to realize tangible carbon benefits.

Political/Policy Risks:

In all countries, there exists a slight risk of shifting legislation or the potential of new policies that could potentially affect natural resource management and/or land tenure. There have been cases in Cambodia where the RGC has allowed protected forest lands to be cleared for agricultural or development purposes. That said, the likelihood of such changes occurring is considered to be extremely small, especially given that the Project Area is currently under government ownership and under protective status (It is both a national park and wildlife sanctuary). As a highly visible international REDD+ project, the likelihood that the RGC would allow the SCRP Project Area to be converted is low. Additionally, as the intent is to nest this Project into a future jurisdictional/national program, the Project's visibility will only increase as well as its importance to the RGC.

1. Risk of reversal

Risk of project reversal due to community opposition is considered minimal, as they have openly and widely been consulted through numerous outreach and information-sharing meetings throughout project development. As a project governance policy, all stakeholders are always able to seek further information or air grievances if desired. The Project will continue to engage the surrounding communities, provide education and support for community social services, and improved livelihood opportunities.

All these factors build and enhance community support for the project and make them authentic stakeholders, thereby reducing the risk of opposition to the project and its goals.

2. Insufficient Revenues

The majority of REDD+ credits are currently sold on the voluntary market, posing a risk to recurring, sustainable income flow. If credits are not sold, there will be no revenue, and thus no monetary support for the Project over its 30-year lifetime, save initial investment. Nevertheless, the Project Proponent believes that the Project will be successful in attracting sufficient buyers of carbon credits. The Project has been developed as a cooperative effort between Wildlife Alliance and the Ministry of Environment, it is one of the largest projects in Southeast Asia, making it an attractive Project to the greater Southeast Asian region. In addition, it is a vital forest resource to Cambodia, and is a critical watershed for the Gulf of Thailand, an important part of Cambodia's economy because of its contributions via hydroelectricity, tourism, and fisheries. The intention of the Project Proponent is to nest the Project into the potential future Cambodian jurisdictional/national REDD+ scheme. In the future, this will allow for the sale of larger credit volumes, on a recurring, sustainable basis, to sovereign nations and large multi-national buyers in the international market created by the Paris Accord. Therefore, the Project Proponent believes that the risk of insufficient revenues to the Project's benefits is low.

Natural Risks:

The region in which the Project is located is not generally susceptible to severe or destructive natural events. The primary types of natural events that could occur would be geologic events, pests or disease, flooding or fire. The area is not prone to any geologic activity and poses little to no risk to the Project. As the Project Area is a native and biodiverse ecosystem the risk from pests or disease that result in significant emissions reversal is low. The primary mitigation for this risk is to maintain the forest and ensure through monitoring that the trees and ecosystem remain healthy and intact. There

can be minor seasonal flooding from the annual monsoons. However, the species of this area are all adapted to the hydrological cycles and are not liable to monsoonal flooding. The Project Area is mountainous and there is a medium risk of erosion or landslides. Due to the Project activities that protect forests the risk of erosion or landslides is minimized. The risk of fire has the most potential to cause damage to the forests of the Project Area. However, the risk of significant emissions reversal is low. The evergreen and semi-evergreen forest types are of a dense, evergreen, moist forest type that is not prone to forest fires. There have been no catastrophic fires in forests of this type in this region. Therefore, natural events have low risks to the Project's benefits.

2.1.8 Benefit Permanence

The SCRP activities are all designed to enhance the CCB benefits beyond the Project's Lifetime. Community activities are designed to transform local economies over the life of the Project. In this regard, the focus of the SCRP is developing local business and income-generating activities that are critical components of a long-term low carbon economy. Project activities that meet this overarching objective focus on education, sustainable agriculture, community-based ecotourism and sustainable management of natural resources. These activities will reduce the necessity of community members to deforest and degrade the Project Area. During the Project Lifetime, this will be achieved, for example, facilitating better education, through training farmers in sustainable agriculture, and creating long-term eco-tourism programs. These activities are outlined in more detail in the joint VCS/CCB Project Description Section 2.1.11, SD VISta PD section 2.1.2, joint VCS/CCB MR section 4 and Sections 3, 4, 5 of this document.

2.2 Stakeholder Engagement

2.2.1 Stakeholder Consultation and Adaptive Management

The adaptive management plan for the Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project is outlined in the Project's VCS/CCB PD Section 4.4.1. and SD VISta PD Section 3.3. Please refer to this section for a detailed explanation on the iterative processes the SCRP will use throughout the life of the Project.

The Project held a significant number of community meetings and workshops during the Project development process. The SCRP joint VCS/CCB PD Sections 2.1.8 and 2.3.3 list the community meetings and workshops that were held for all Project stakeholders. A complete report of the SBIA workshops and community meetings, including pictures and meeting results have been provided to the verifier.

In order to ensure effective participation of SCRP communities, meetings and workshops are held during time periods where stakeholders could attend. As such, all meetings and workshops were held during the day and at times when other work did not interfere with full community participation. Invitations were extended to community leaders, local government officials and commune leaders within a respectful timeframe and in such a manner that each stakeholder could respond. This included via written invitations, and phone calls. All communication was conducted in Khmer, a language every participant speaks, thus enabling participants to fully understand enabling their full participation.

During the period 2018-2020 (m₂) additional FPIC meetings were held so as to maintain communication between the project and communities and to ensure that communities are informed about the Project. Please see Table 3 for the list of meetings held during m₂.

Table 3: Location, date and attendance of FPIC meetings held during m₂ (2018-2020) for the Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project.

Location	Commune	District	Date	Place	Participants Total Female	
M ₂ Consultation						
Chumnoab	Chumnoab	Thmor Bang	14-Jan-2020	Commune council member's house	33	21
Chrak Russey	Chumnoab	Thmor Bang	13-Jan-2020	Village chief's house	34	21
Pralay	Pralay	Thmor Bang	10-Jan-2020	Village chief's house	31	15
Samraong	Pralay	Thmor Bang	11-Jan-2020	Village chief's house	28	15
Toap Khlay	Pralay	Thmor Bang	9-Jan-2020	Commune council	28	15

Location	Commune	District	Date	Place	Participants Total Female	
				member's house		
Chamnar	Pralay	Thmor Bang	8-Jan-2020	Village chief's house	33	16
Koh	Thmor Donpov	Thmor Bang	17-Feb-2020	Pagoda	32	25
Prek Svay	Thmor Donpov	Thmor Bang	17-Feb-2020	Commune hall	38	25
Kokir Chrum	Ruessey	Thmor Bang	20-Feb-2020	school	30	23
Pur Beung Chhay Reab	Dang Peng	Sre Ambel	19 Dec-2019	Pagoda	107	43
Pur Beung Kamlot	Dang Peng	Sre Ambel	20 Dec-2019	Pagoda	26	6
Bakangrout	Dang Peng	Sre Ambel	13-Feb-2020	Pagoda	48	27
Sovann Baitong	Kandoal	Botum Sakor	16-Mar-2020	Villager's house	70	47
Chi Meal	Angdoun Teuk	Botum Sakor	13-Mar-2020	Deputy village chief's house	44	32
Chi Meal (Damnak Tarin)	Angdoun Teuk	Botum Sakor	18-Mar-2020	Villager's house	14	8
Chorm Sla	Chi Phat	Thmor Bang	5-Mar-2020	Village Chief's house	43	30
Kamlot	Chi Phat	Thmor Bang	6-Mar-2020	Village Chief's house	43	30
Teuk Laak	Chi Phat	Thmor Bang	11-Mar-2020	Pagoda	21	12
Chi Phat	Chi Phat	Thmor Bang	10-Mar-2020	Villager's house	24	15
Tuek Laak (Siem Krom)	Chi Phat	Thmor Bang	11-Mar-2020	Village chief's house	13	5
Trapang Chher Trav	Ruessey Chrum	Thmor Bang	24-Feb-2020	Villager's house	33	27

Location	Commune	District	Date	Place	Participants	
					Total	Female
O'som	O'som	Veal Veng	4-Dec-2019	Community hall	50	24
Kien Chongruk	O'som	Veal Veng	6-Dec-2019	Deputy village chief's house	45	21
Chhaylouk	O'som	Veal Veng	7-Dec-2019	Villager's house	32	18
Consultation Total					893	513

2.2.2 Anti-Discrimination

The SCRP is committed to fair treatment and equal opportunity for all Project stakeholders, community members and employees. The Project, nor any agent of the Project, will discriminate against any person for any reason, including, but not limited to, gender, religion, nationality, tribe, or sexual identity. The Project has established an equal opportunity policy that ensures that the Project will not engage in or be complicit in any form of discrimination. The SCRP is committed to providing a workplace and programs that are safe and free from all sexual harassment or unwelcome sexual advances. The Project has an official document outlining a sexual harassment policy, defining sexual harassment and describing the recourse that any employee who feels that they have suffered sexual harassment should take. Additionally, the Project has established a grievance system that will provide all Project employees, stakeholders, community members and participants to have a recourse method in the event that any discriminatory actions or sexual harassment does occur.

2.2.3 Worker Training

The SCRP considers local employment a priority and local sourcing is strongly encouraged at all levels of the Project, from casual workers up to management positions. The SCRP recognizes that local hiring, especially women, marginalized and vulnerable community members, is a major benefit to the implementation and operation of the Project due to the knowledge and familiarity local people possess of the landscape, its communities and its biodiversity. Their involvement will also ensure the sustainability and continuity of the Project throughout the Project's Lifetime and beyond. To date 975 families have been trained in ecotourism management and hospitality and guiding skills in Chi Phat and Chay Arieng. While 430 families have been trained in sustainable agriculture techniques. In addition, 450 forest rangers have been trained in law enforcement, health and safety, patrolling, and legal skills whilst 24 community members from the Project Zone have been trained in biomass inventory for the Carbon plots.

MOE/WA will train local community members in the latest monitoring techniques, data collection methods, and laws in order to conduct effective enforcement. Training will be conducted on an ad-hoc basis as turnover happens to the community-rangers in order to maintain a pool of trained local rangers. Local community members will also be hired and trained to support and manage other activities including IGAs, agricultural intensification, and biodiversity monitoring. In all positions,

informal training will happen for each position and local community members will have first priority on being hired.

The primary training of the sampling team occurred January 17th through 23rd 2017. The training was conducted by WWC team members Jeremy Freund, VP of Carbon Development, and Brian Williams, Director of Asia. All members of the plot sampling team and several key Project management staff, including Thomas Grey and Romica Grosu of WA, were present for this training. The training consisted of both classroom and field components and included the training in the biomass sampling and proxy area sampling SOPs, general field procedures, methods for proper equipment use, and field safety procedures. Further training and technical support was provided to the field sampling team specifically on the biomass plot sampling process via email and phone calls. A second field-based training of the plot sampling team was held by WWC's Brian Williams on December 2nd through 3rd, 2017. All members of the plot sampling team and several key Project management staff, including Thomas Grey and Romica Grosu of WA, were present for this training. This training focused on the leakage plot measurement SOPs and field equipment use. Additionally, as with the biomass lot sampling process, with the other field sampling throughout the Project development process WWC provided on-going technical support to the plot sampling team on ad-hoc basis through email and telephone calls when questions arose, or additional expertise was required. For the m₂ biomass and leakage plot data collection 2 additional trainings were held. The first was held April 24-29th 2019 and was focused on refreshing and retraining the plot sampling team. A second training was held April 18-19, 2020 and was focused on the refreshing and retraining on the leakage plot sampling SOP. Both trainings were led by the SCRP biomass inventory manager, Romica Grosu, and held on-site in the Project Area.

Educating communities and employees in different areas related to the carbon Project will also be on-going. Capacity building on aspects revolving around carbon measurement, accounting, climate change and carbon offsets will continue to take place in the form of meetings, workshops or training days. To date the primary training on REDD+ Project management and carbon measurement has been focused on WA staff and management based in Koh Kong town. It is anticipated that future training will no longer be needed external by experts but will be carried out by locally sourced employees who were trained in the initial stages of the Project.

2.2.4 Equal Work Opportunities

The SCRP has an Equal Opportunity hiring Policy. Based on this policy SCRP job positions will be openly advertised through the Project Office within the Project Zone. The Project has the responsibility for the fair treatment of all, representation for all Project Zone groups, and encouraging diversity within project staff and management. SCRP policy stresses equal opportunity for all groups, including members of ethnic minorities, various socio-economic groups, genders and sexual orientations, for all employment positions and for inclusion in REDD+ program activities. The selection of potential employees is held on a democratic and neutral basis, providing equal opportunity to all applicants. The SCRP operates a strict non-discrimination policy such that women and vulnerable groups of people will receive equal chances regardless of the type of work.

The Project is designed to focus on the employment and training of local people, with a focus on women as well as marginalized and vulnerable community members, in order to increase local participation in the Project as well as build local capacity, knowledge and a robust skills base. This will include hiring local community members as community rangers to monitor their community forests for illegal activities, with special attention to the hiring of women and/or vulnerable and marginalized community

members where appropriate. The SCRP will advertise open positions broadly, with special attention to the recruitment of villagers and youth who live in the Project Zone. Women will also be highly encouraged to apply for the positions. A policy of providing priority in the hiring process will be given to women who are qualified and willing to commit to a period of work with the Project. However, as the tradition and culture of Cambodia may limit women from traveling far away from their home or staying in the field for long periods of time with other men there are some challenges to the recruitment of female employees. In addition, in the Cambodian traditional family structure women are responsible for caring for their children, which may restrict their ability and willingness to travel away from their home villages for work.

2.2.5 Workers' Rights

The SCRP abides by all relevant Cambodian workers' rights, laws and regulations. Workers will be informed about their rights at the point of their employment during employee orientation. Additionally, A hard copy of the relevant laws will be kept at the Project Office and any worker is free to consult these any time during working hours. An employee manual is provided to all employees that details their rights, the Project's equal opportunity policy and grievance policy.

2.2.6 Occupational Safety Assessment

The SCRP ensures that workers' health and safety are protected to the best of the Project's ability at all times and across all sites. Risks are identified, mitigation strategies produced, and appropriate measures adopted in order to minimize any risks. As described in the Health and Safety plan, during employee orientation, workers will be informed about the potential safety risks of their job and of methods to mitigate the risks.

Given the nature of the Project and its geographical surroundings, it is recognized that certain occupations inherently present a risk to the health and safety of workers, in particular occupations that require spending long periods walking in difficult environments. These include, though not exclusively, plot samplers and forest protection rangers, who are faced with challenging terrain as well as the risk of encountering illegal logger, illegal forest land clearer, and wildlife hunter. In addition, forest fires may also pose a safety risk if they spread rapidly and unexpectedly. The Project has created a comprehensive Health and Safety Plan that ensures that all workers' health and safety is protected, and that all workers are fully informed about workplace risks and safe practices to mitigate those risks. These include training in safe working practices, first aid training for some staff members as well as the enforcement of requirements for safe handling of equipment and other materials. This Health and Safety Plan additionally provides a comprehensive list of the measures that will be taken to inform employees of their rights, to assign roles and responsibilities to supervisors and workers and provide a safe workplace culture. This document will be revisited regularly and revised as needed to ensure that it contains current information and includes all job categories and potential risks. A copy of the plan has been provided to the verifier and will be kept at the Project Office and be readily available for any consultation. In addition, SCRP will set up a Health and Safety Fund, through a contribution from the sale of SCRP credits. The fund will be used to compensate Project workers for an accident during their working hours/work mission. The SCRP will ensure a detailed orientation of newly recruited employees so that they are fully aware of their rights as well as responsibilities. All law enforcement rangers and full-time WA Project staff will be provided with full health and life insurance

2.2.7 Feedback and Grievance Redress Procedure

There were no grievances raised during this monitoring period.

2.2.8 Stakeholder Access to Project Documentation

- The Project Office and Project Sub-Office maintains a full printed version of the PD and monitoring report in English for public viewing.
- The executive summary for the PD and monitoring report has been translated into Khmer is posted in public places in communities throughout the Project Zone.
- The full monitoring report version and the executive summary of monitoring report in English and Khmer version are made available on the Project webpage (<http://https://www.wildlifealliance.org/>) and official Wildlife Alliance Facebook page.

2.2.9 Information to Stakeholders on Assessment Process

The Project Proponent has actively communicated to community members and stakeholders about the start of the Public Comment Period and the methods with which they can submit comments on the Project as well as how to view full Project documentation. This was accomplished by communicating the Project - Public Comment Period and Verification field visit dates to previously identified stakeholders, community leaders, leaders of the faith communities and public officials. They were then requested to pass that information onto their communities.

The Project partner will arrange for community meetings with all stakeholders during the verification site visit. During these meetings the auditor will be able to independently ask questions of all stakeholders regarding FPIC and SIA consultations.

- The Project's monitoring report executive summary, including Project information and Project benefits has been translated into Khmer and is posted in public places in communities throughout the Project Zone.
- During community meetings held by Project staff as part of the Project outreach process the verification process was described.
- A poster/notice in Khmer advertising the Project's public comment period and the verification field visit was posted in communities throughout the Project Zone. It included details on how a comment to the CCB can be made.
- In addition to the executive summary and the public comment period advertisement, a poster/flyer in Khmer advertising the Project, and providing a contact email address was posted in communities.
- The full monitoring report and the executive summary of the PD and monitoring report in English and Khmer version are made available on the Project webpage (<http://https://www.wildlifealliance.org/>) and official Wildlife Alliance Facebook page.

2.3 Project Management

2.3.1 Avoidance of Corruption

In order to provide avoidance of corruption, a separate limited liability corporation has been created by MOE and WA to manage the funds of the Project. This company, called the Cardamom Carbon Company (CCC), is based in the United States and under the management authority of Wildlife Alliance. There are two agreements, the CCC Agency of Delegation Agreement and Southern Cardamom Project Agreement, that outline Project benefit sharing and ensure transparent financial transactions of the Project. These documents were shared with the validator and shared upon request with the verifier.

2.3.2 Recognition of Property Rights

The Project does not require involuntary removal or relocation of communities or any activities important for their livelihood and culture.

2.3.3 Free, Prior and Informed Consent

Under Order 001 all land in the Project Zone has been titled and all property clearly delineated. As such, the Project works with communities to clarify property zones and demarcate boundaries between separate property types. This is an important Project activity that avoid land tenure conflicts.

2.3.4 Restitution and/or Compensation for Affected Resources

Generally, the project stakeholders and other community members will have net positive outcomes as a result of the Project. Three main community groups are predicted to suffer potential costs from implementation of project activities. The SCRP will mitigate for these negative impacts as follows:

- Poachers and illegal loggers: although these are illegal activities for the large part, those genuinely undertaking them for basic livelihood support will be offered or considered for direct employment when job opportunities arise e.g., as eco-guards. Nonetheless, they will also enjoy the other general community benefits like access to community educational grants schemes, improved health access and agricultural training to help move them away from illegal activities.
- Traders, middlemen and employers: while this group might see diminished profits in the short term, we believe they will enjoy greater stability in the long-term from conducting legitimate business, reduced run-ins with the law, employees and community, and overall greater social capital and license to operate in the area.
- Immigrants: similar to the traders above, this group might suffer some costs in the short term through increased scrutiny and fewer chances for accessing 'free' land and jobs, but will also gain from greater stability by being recognized and accepted as legitimate members in the community once they come in through legal avenues.

2.3.5 Property Rights Removal/Relocation of Property Rights Holders

The Project does not require involuntary removal or relocation of communities or any activities important for their livelihood and culture.

2.3.6 Identification of Illegal Activities

The PA is comprised of two protected areas under the jurisdiction of the MOE, and as such is protected from deforestation activities. Under the Cambodian Land Law and Forestry Law the forest should be protected from resource extraction or conversion to other land uses. However, these activities are commonly observed to be occurring, including illegal logging, charcoal production, poaching for meat, and conversion of forestland through slash and burn to agricultural land. These activities are all illegal under current law, and despite the MOE's best efforts at controlling them to date, they are still widely and openly occurring.

All of the above listed illegal activities could have negative effects on the SCRP's climate and biodiversity goals. The SCRP has included expanding the ranger force, strengthening community organizations, agricultural intensification, microfinance, strengthening forest land use planning and secure forest land tenure, eco-charcoal and income generating activities, such as the resin enterprise as well as deforestation-free commodities in the Project design to reduce the occurrence of these

illegal activities. This will include firstly, increased protections for the PA, and enforcement of the PA boundary against these illegal incursions. Additionally, increased efforts at confiscations of chainsaws and other logging equipment being used illegally with-in the PA will reduce the illegal activity. The strengthening of community organizations will give local organizations the ability to protect community lands and stop the flow of migrants into the PA. By conducting training on agricultural intensification, providing micro-finance, and supporting local businesses the goal is to generate alternative income to abate illegal activities with- in the PA. The aim is that the diversification of incomes will overtime shift the local economy from one of unsustainable to sustainable use.

2.3.7 Ongoing Conflicts or Disputes

There are some minor conflicts or disputes in the SCRP Project Zone between the communities. Some communities have had minor conflicts or disputes over the land, territory or resources in the Project Area during the last 20 years, all based on uncertain land tenure rights. This has been especially true in the Project community of Teuk Laak. Additionally, illegal land clearing and intrusion by outsiders has, and continues to, occur causing some levels of conflicts between specific local individuals and MOE.

The Project has committed to working with these communities to identify the boundaries of their lands, and to assist them in acquiring official tenure to them. One of the Project Activities that has been implemented is specifically targeted at helping these communities do this. These activities are designed to enable communities to gain the evidence needed to prove ownership of their lands and gain tenure, therefore there is no potential for the Project to prejudice any decision or outcome of a dispute through its activities. As the determination of land tenure and resolution of any disputes over tenure is made by the relevant RGC land registry ministry in accordance with national and local laws.

2.3.8 National and Local Laws and Regulations

The SCRP meets all local, national and international laws that are relevant to this Project. These laws include the aforementioned Employment laws, as well the additional laws outlined below.

Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Management (1996)

The Objective of this law is to protect and upgrade the environment quality and public health by means of prevention, reduction and control of pollution; to assess the environmental impacts of all proposed Projects prior to the issuance of decision by the Royal Government; to ensure the rational and sustainable preservation, development, management and the use of the natural resources of the Kingdom of Cambodia; to encourage and provide possibility to public to participate in the protection of environment and the management of the natural resources.

The mechanism for implementing this law is through the National Environmental Plan.

The Land Law (2002)

The Land Law classifies the different types of property and ownership rights in Cambodia: (1) State Public Property, (2) State Private Property, and (3) Private property:

1. State Public Property: According to the Articles 15 & 16 of this law, State Public Property is land held by the State which carries a public interest use. State Public Property includes properties of a natural origin, such as the Permanent Forest Reserve. State Public Property cannot be sold or

transferred to other legal entities, although it may be subject to rights of occupancy or use that are temporary in nature (such as a logging concession in the Permanent Forest Reserve).

2. **State Private Property:** Under Article 17, State Private Property is land that is owned by the State or public entities that do not have a public interest use (i.e., owned by the state or public entity, but does not fit the definition of State Public Property as mentioned above). In addition, State Private Property can be described as excess or idle land that is held by the State or public entities. State Private Property may actually be sold or transferred to other legal entities, such as use for social or economic land concessions.
3. **Private Property:** Private property is property owned by natural persons or legal entities other than the State or public entities. Private property can be owned by individuals, collectives or business organizations/associations.

The Forestry Law (2002)

The Forestry Law is an important sector-specific law that defines the management framework for harvesting, use, development, conservation, and protection of forests in Cambodia. It aims to ensure sustainable forest management and customary user rights of forest resources for indigenous and local communities. Reaffirming the Constitution, the Forestry Law provides that all forests (referred to as the Permanent Forest Estate), belong to the State, noting that there is currently a lack of proper demarcation of Cambodia's forest estate. The Permanent Forest Estate is divided as follows:

Permanent Forest Reserves are State Public Property and fall under the jurisdiction of the Forestry Administration (FA) which is housed the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). According to the Forestry Law, the Permanent Forest Estate is defined as all forested land within the Kingdom of Cambodia. Generally, all categories of forests fall within the definition of the Permanent Forest Reserves - including forests that occur on private lands, flooded forests, wetland forests and mangrove forests. However, while all these forests are under the jurisdiction of the FA, wetland and mangrove forests outside the Protected Areas (PA) are under the jurisdiction of the Fisheries Administration (FA) of the MAFF. Permanent Forest Reserves consist of three sub-categories:

1. **Production Forests,**
2. **Protection Forests and**
3. **Conversion Forests.** Production Forests are forests that are managed primarily for the sustainable production of timber and non-timber forest products. In these forests, protection is a secondary objective.

The Production Forests include Forest Concessions and Community Forests. Areas under Production Forests include those forests where harvesting is permitted (e.g. annual bidding coupes for domestic wood supply), degraded forests, forests to be rehabilitated, and forests reserved for regeneration or plantation. The government may grant an area of production forest, not under use, to a forest concession through public bidding consistent with the National Forest Management Plan and after consultation with concerned ministries, local authorities and communities. However, from January 2002, the RGC issued a Declaration on the Suspension of Forest Concession Logging in the country. Community forests are forests owned by the state that have been allocated to communities under a 15-year renewable agreement. The primary goal of community forests is to protect and rehabilitate forests and to enhance the sustainable use of forest resources by local communities.

Private Forests are those that are individually owned and these forests are managed by the owners for a range of benefits. The owners have the free will to utilize these forests the way they deem fit and in

addition, forest carbon in private forests belongs to the owners. Land within the Permanent Forest Estate can also be zoned as a Protected Area. Protected Areas fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment (MOE); applicable law includes the Protected Area Act 2008 and the Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management Law 1996.

Protected Area Law (2008)

Provides the Ministry of Environment the authority to manage all protected areas in Cambodia. It lists the type of protected areas under MOE's purview as:

1. National Park
2. Wildlife sanctuary
3. Protected landscape
4. Multiple use area
5. Ramsar site
6. Biosphere reserve
7. Natural heritage site
8. Marine park

It also states that protected areas shall be defined by a sub-decree. The law the process why which protected areas can be created or altered.

The Cambodian Community Forestry Sub-Decree (2003)

The National Forestry Program aims to register 1000 community forestry groups nationally and cover two million hectares by 2030. To achieve this target the government adopted various guidelines and policies to support the development of community forests such as the community forestry sub-decree, community forestry guideline, and national community forestry program.

Declaration on Classification and List of Wildlife Species NO: 020 PR.MAFF (2007)

This declaration lists and classifies all wild species in Cambodia. The decree groups species into three main categories, endangered, rare and common. The decree also declares that all wild species are technically owned by the State and are protected under this provision.

Code of Criminal Procedure adopted by COM

The purpose of the criminal code is to define the rule of law in Cambodia. It distinguishes what is a criminal and civil action and set the rule of law in Cambodia. The Project Proponent uses it to enforce protection of forests in the SCRP.

2.4 Grouped Projects

The SCRP is not a grouped Project. This Section is not applicable.

3 BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE AND PROSPERITY

3.1 Impacts on Stakeholders

Impact #1	All members of the project zone communities will have access to micro-finance loans and will have secure land tenure.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA045 and SIA046 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's microfinance activities. The Project provided microfinance to 71 women from 7 villages, organized into 6 groups in Areng Valley were coached in financial literacy to improve the effectiveness of their savings and loan activities, which were initiated in 2018. The positive outcome is a high number of loans provided by the savings and loan groups. During the reporting period, the zoning and demarcation activities have continued, so that the land for local communities is clearly delineated. 21 land use planning meetings have been conducted with participation and support from local authorities. 603 demarcation posts have been also installed along the community land boundaries in Russey Chrum and Chi Kha Leu communes.
Impact #2	The project will increase the resilience of project zone communities to climate-related extreme events and other economic social and environmental shocks and disasters by increasing farm productivity and increasing knowledge of improved methods and varieties.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA047 and SIA048 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's agricultural training activities. Trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.
Impact #3	The Project will ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices in the project zone that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA047 and SIA048 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's agricultural training activities. Trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.
Impact #4	The Project will achieve universal health coverage in the project zone communities, with access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA037, SIA038 and SIA039 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's health focused activities. A total of 1,743 people have improved health services since the beginning of the project, of which 878 are women.
Impact #5	The Project will ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcome.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA032 and SIA033 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's education focused activities. The Project has elected to first focus on providing scholarships for students before implementing other activities.
Impact #6	The Project will ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcome.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA035 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's education focused activities. The Scholarship Fund pilot was first announced in July 2020 for a 4-year bachelor's degree at the Royal University of Phnom Penh and Royal University of Agriculture for the period of March 2021- March 2025. The start of the university year was delayed in 2020 because of the COVID Pandemic. The Fund was advertised through 2 district education departments (Botum Sakor and Thmor Bang) and then at the commune level, and then directly with students and parents in 13 target villages of the REDD+ Project. To-date, we have received 13 applicants to the Fund, 6 from Chi Phat commune, 4 from Sovanna Baitong village and 3 from Areng Valley communes. We are now awaiting the results of the applicants' high school examinations to determine which applicants can move forward to the university level.

Impact #7	The Project will eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA032 and SIA033 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's education focused activities. The parity index for the education bursary scheme is 1.6, with 8 females and 5 males participating. The parity index for project run education programs is 1.5, with 779 female students and 532 male students attending events. The Scholarship Fund pilot was first announced in July 2020 for a 4-year bachelor's degree at the Royal University of Phnom Penh and Royal University of Agriculture for the period of March 2021- March 2025. The start of the university year was delayed in 2020 because of the COVID Pandemic. The Fund was advertised through 2 district education departments (Botum Sakor and Thmor Bang) and then at the commune level, and then directly with students and parents in 13 target villages of the REDD+ Project. To-date, we have received 13 applicants to the Fund, 6 from Chi Phat commune, 4 from Sovanna Baitong village and 3 from Areng Valley communes. We are now awaiting the results of the applicants' high school examinations to determine which applicants can move forward to the university level.
Impact #8	The Project will ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunity for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life in the project zone.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	54% of participants in the community outreach (FPIC) meetings held to date were women. Approximately 7% of Project employees are female. The project has provided assistance to approximately 11,290 women on either income generating activities or by providing access to microfinance.
Impact #9	The Project will substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA015 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's forest protection activities. It is estimated that 82,548 people live in the communities of the project zone and benefit from the protection of the watershed. Water accessibility inside the Project Zone is far greater than in the rest of the country where rapid deforestation in at least 13 provinces has exacerbated the effects of severe droughts since 2010, with depletion of underground water tables and drying up of surface streams.
Impact #10	The Project will protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	The project has successfully protected the forest of the Project Area and avoided the deforestation of an estimated 63,181 ha of forest based on the project baseline to date.
Impact #11	The Project will promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.

Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA045 and SIA046 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's efforts on increasing incomes. It is estimated that since the beginning of the Project 22,584 people have received assistance on income generating activities. Since 2018 an estimated 6,683 people received income generating assistance (2,199 families and 86 individuals) and an estimated 629 people received access to microfinance (213 families).
Impact #12	The Project will devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA016 and SIA020 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's efforts on promoting eco-tourism. The Project provided 7 training events to 204 villagers who are service providers involved in the Chi Phat and Chhay Areng Community-Based Ecotourism (CBET). These trainings were on tourism hospitality, nature guiding, cooking skills and sanitation. In addition, the Project provides ongoing, on-the-job development, coaching and capacity building through mentoring and support. No training events were conducted in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
Impact #13	The Project will increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.

Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA045 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's efforts on increasing incomes. 71 women from 7 villages, organized into 6 groups in Areng Valley were coached in financial literacy to improve the effectiveness of their savings and loan activities, which were initiated in 2018. The positive outcome is a high number of loans provided by the savings and loan groups to the members, with 11 loans in 2019 (totaling \$1,800) and 13 loans in 2020 (totaling \$3,100).
Impact #14	The Project will upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA047 and SIA048 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's efforts on improving agricultural methods and yields. Trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.
Impact #15	The Project will ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	No grievances have been submitted to the Project.
Impact #16	The Project will enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA001 and SIA002 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's efforts on improving land use planning policy and encouraging participatory engagement. During the reporting period, the zoning and demarcation activities have continued, so that the land for local communities is clearly delineated. 21 land use planning meetings have been conducted with participation and support from local authorities. 603 demarcation posts have been also installed along the community land boundaries in Russey Chrum and Chi Kha Leu communes.
Impact #17	The Project will Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA015 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's forest protection activities.
Impact #18	The Project will achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA047 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's agricultural intensification programs and other activities on training improved agricultural methods . Trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.
Impact #19	The Project will ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA022 and SIA.023 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on community outreach and education. Awareness raising on the SCRP activities was conducted in 25 villages of 10 communes and 4 districts of Koh Kong Province since 2018. 1,311 students (of which 684 were female) and 2,824 community members were reached through sensitization and awareness raising events, school visits and community night shows. Education materials were also distributed, with 1,421 posters, 1,494 books, 577 t-shirts, 289 backpacks and 1,594 pens. In 2020, an additional 4,988 people were reached through the awareness rising during the Project's FPIC (Free and Prior Informed Consent) Process
Impact #20	The Project will develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being

Please see social indicators SIA016, SIA017 and SIA019 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on promotion of ecotourism.

The Project provided 7 training events to 204 villagers who are service providers involved in the Chi Phat and Chhay Areng Community-Based Ecotourism (CBET). These trainings were on tourism hospitality, nature guiding, cooking skills and sanitation. In addition, the Project provides ongoing, on-the-job development, coaching and capacity building through mentoring and support. No training events were conducted in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

3.2 Stakeholder Impact Monitoring

Table 4: The SCRP Social impact assessment monitoring plan

Focal Issue	Key results	SMART Objective	Code	Indicator	Indicator type	Data collection method	Who?	When?	Where?
Forest destruction and land encroachment	Decrease in illegal logging	By 2027, reduce the number of illegal logging incidents by half in the SCRP	SIA001	# of land use planning meetings held with participation and support from local authorities	Output	Internal report	Community Outreach	Bi-annually	Project Zone
			SIA002	# participants in land use planning meetings	Output	Internal report	Community Outreach	Bi-annually	Project Zone
			SIA004	Volume of timber and logs confiscated by SCRP patrol rangers	Outcome	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area
			SIA005	# of chainsaws confiscated from loggers	Outcome	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area

			SIA006	# of illegal kilns and bags of charcoal confiscated by SCRIP patrol rangers	Outcome	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area
			SIA007	# of legal cases submitted against forest criminals by SCRIP patrol rangers	Outcome	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area
	Decrease in encroachment and land-grabbing	By 2027, have 2 CPAs in the REDD+ Project Zone zoned and demarcated	SIA008	# of demarcation posts installed zoning forest and community areas	Outcome	Internal report	Community Outreach	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA009	# of land use maps (including CPAs) created and made available to community	Outcome	Internal report	Community Outreach	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA011	# of forest fires in the SCRIP extinguished by SCRIP rangers	Outcome	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area

			SIA012	# of illegal fences and signs removed by SCRP rangers	Outcome	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area
			SIA013	# of illegal settlements (houses) and forest camps built inside the SCRP project area and removed by SCRP rangers	Outcome	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area
			SIA014	# of land encroachment cases stopped by SCRP rangers	Outcome	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area
			SIA015	# ha of forest within the SCRP cleared for cultivation or settlement	Impact	RS/GIS survey	Biodiversity Monitoring	Annually	Project Accounting Area
Wildlife poaching	Greater community participation in eco-tourism activities	By 2027, 25% more families join the two existing eco-tourism communities in Chi Phat	SIA016	# of families participating in eco-tourism activities	Output	Household survey	Social Monitoring	Annually	Project Zone

		and Stung Chhay Areng							
			SIA017	# of trained tour guides	Output	Facilities' records	Community Outreach	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA018	# of tourism service providers	Output	Facilities' records	Community Outreach	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA019	# tourism promotion initiatives undertaken	Output	Internal report	Community Outreach	Annually	Koh Kong Province
			SIA020	# of tourists visiting the community eco-tourism facilities	Outcome	Facilities' records	Community Outreach	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA021	Amount of revenue accruing from eco-tourism activities in the area	Impact	Facilities' records	Community Outreach	Annually	Project Zone
	Greater appreciation and awareness of wildlife benefits	By 2022, 25% more community members demonstrate greater appreciation for wildlife	SIA022	# of awareness and sensitization meetings	Output	Internal report	Community Outreach	Bi-annually	Project Zone

		and conservation							
			SIA023	# of community members attending awareness and sensitization meetings	Output	Internal report	Community Outreach	Bi-annually	Project Zone
			SIA024	# households with greater awareness about importance or conservation	Outcome	Household survey	Social Monitoring	Annually	Project Zone
	Increase in wildlife populations including HCVs	By 2027, reduce the number of wildlife poaching incidents by half in the SCRP	SIA025	# of rangers employed	Output	Internal report	Human Resource	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA026	# and type of equipment provided including ranger outposts	Output	Internal report	Operations	Annually	Project Accounting Area

			SIA027	# patrols undertaken, including coverage and distances	Output	Patrol records	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area
			SIA028	# of vehicles and home-made guns removed confiscated by SCRP forest rangers	Outcome	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area
			SIA029	# of snares removed from the SCRP Project Area	Outcome	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area
			SIA031	# and species of wildlife killed or confiscated from poachers	Impact	Internal report	Security	Quarterly	Project Accounting Area
Poor community livelihoods	Reduced cost of living	By 2027, 25% of community members with direct livelihood benefits from the SCRP	SIA032	# schools constructed, repaired or equipped	Output	Internal report	Operations	Annually	Project Zone

			SIA033	# teachers employed	Output	Internal report	Human Resource	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA034	Amount of money allocated to bursary schemes	Output	Internal report	Accounts	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA035	# students benefiting from bursary schemes	Outcome	Internal report	Community Outreach	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA036	% of students not in school due to school fees	Outcome	Household survey	Social Monitoring	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA037	# health facilities build or equipped	Output	Internal report	Operations	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA038	# health workers employed	Output	Internal report	Human Resource	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA039	% community members benefiting from SCRP-related health schemes	Outcome	Household survey	Social Monitoring	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA040	# of functional schools in each Commune	Outcome	Government records	Social Monitoring	Annually	Koh Kong Province

			SIA041	Teacher:student ratio in SCRP supported schools	Outcome	Government records	Social Monitoring	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA042	# of functional health facilities in each Commune	Outcome	Government records	Social Monitoring	Annually	Koh Kong Province
			SIA043	Nurse/Doctor:population ration in Project Zone	Outcome	Government records	Social Monitoring	Annually	Project Zone
	Higher income levels	By 2027, 10% of community members earning income directly from the SCRP and associated activities	SIA044	# of people directly employed by the SCRP	Output	Internal report	Human Resource	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA045	# community members who have accessed the microfinance scheme	Output	Scheme's records	Accounts	Annually	Project Zone

			SIA046	# of people who have established IGAs through SCRP assistance	Outcome	Scheme's records	Community Outreach	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA047	# community members who have undergone agricultural training	Output	Internal report	Community Outreach	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA048	# agricultural demonstration plots established in the community areas	Outcome	Internal report	Community Outreach	Annually	Project Zone
			SIA049	% increase in yields and sales in local and external markets	Impact	Household survey	Social Monitoring	Annually	Project Zone

3.3 Net Positive Stakeholder Well-being Impacts

As shown in the section and the Project's VCS/CCB monitoring reports Section 4.1.1, most of the activities initiated during the reporting period will have multiple positive impacts on a large segment of the communities under the SCRP. The potential costs or negative impacts from implementing the proposed Project activities are minimal and are being mitigated for to some extent through the community Projects (e.g., for poachers). Consequently, the net well-being impacts for the reporting period are overwhelmingly positive given the proportion of the population potentially impacted, the magnitude of the impacts and their long-term nature.

4 BENEFITS FOR THE PLANET

4.1 Impacts on Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services

Impact #21	The Project will strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards by protecting the remaining forest area
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since the Project start date of January 1 2015 it has avoided the deforestation of 63,181 ha in comparison to the project baseline.
Impact #22	The Project will integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since the Project start date of January 1 2015 it has reduced the emission of 23,857,741 t CO ₂ e through avoided deforestation of project area in comparison to the project baseline.
Impact #23	Through the sale of REDD+ carbon credits the Project will fund meaningful mitigation actions in the Project Zone
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since January 1 2015 the project has spent \$6 million dollars on project activities.
Impact #24	The Project will ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements

Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since the Project start date of January 1 2015 it has avoided the deforestation of 63,181 ha in comparison to the project baseline.
Impact #25	The Project will promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA001 and SIA002 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on promotion of ecotourism. During the reporting period, the zoning and demarcation activities have continued, so that the land for local communities is clearly delineated. 21 land use planning meetings have been conducted with participation and support from local authorities. 603 demarcation posts have been also installed along the community land boundaries in Russey Chrum and Chi Kha Leu communes.
Impact #26	The Project will ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since the Project start date of January 1 2015 it has avoided the deforestation of 63,181 ha in comparison to the project baseline.

Impact #27	The Project will take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by the end of the project protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA007, SIA0025 and SIA0027 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on promotion of ecotourism. The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project operates 7 ranger stations inside the Project Area, mandated with legal protection of the forest and wildlife. Rangers are based full-time within the stations, and conduct daily, systematic patrolling of the Project Area and Leakage Zones. 112 rangers supported by the Project were operational in 2018, 116 in 2019, and 124 in 2020. In 2019 and 2020, the Project started to train civilians to become Southern Cardamom REDD+ rangers, as environmental ranger Agents under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment Provincial Department. Their on-the-job training has included Protected Area Law and legal procedures, rescue of wildlife caught in snares or transported by poachers, emergency wildlife care, patrol techniques, use of GPS, equipment maintenance, first aid and crime scene analysis and documentation. In August 2019, the Project started a new ranger station in the northern Leakage Zone, in O'Som, in Central Cardamom National Park (1.5 km from Samkos WS), located 9 km from the northern boundary of the REDD+ Project Area. In September 2020, a second new ranger station became operational in the southern Leakage Zone, on the Preik Ta'Ok river estuary of Botum Sakor National Park, located 10 km from the southern boundary of the REDD+ Project Area.
Impact #28	The Project will take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of endangered flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.

Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA029, SIA0031 and SIA0045 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on promotion of ecotourism.
Impact #29	The Project will mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	\$18.1 millions of carbon credit sales have occurred since the project start date.
Impact #30	The Project will mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	\$18.1 millions of carbon credit sales have occurred since the project start date.
Impact #31	The Project will support efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities destruction. Anti-poaching patrols.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA018, SIA0021 and SIA0027 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on combating poaching and wildlife trafficking and the promotion of new sustainable livelihoods. In 2019 and 2020, the Project started to train civilians to become Southern Cardamom REDD+ rangers, as environmental ranger Agents under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment Provincial Department. Their on-the-job training has included Protected Area Law and legal procedures, rescue of wildlife caught in snares or transported by poachers, emergency wildlife care, patrol techniques, use of GPS, equipment maintenance, first aid and crime scene analysis and documentation. The Project provided 7 training events to 204 villagers who are service providers involved in the Chi Phat and Chhay Areng Community-Based Ecotourism (CBET). These trainings were on tourism hospitality, nature guiding, cooking skills and sanitation. In addition, the Project provides ongoing, on-the-job development, coaching and capacity building through mentoring and support. No training events were conducted in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
Impact #32	The Project will significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA025 and SIA0028 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on combating poaching and wildlife trafficking and the promotion of new sustainable livelihoods. The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project operates 7 ranger stations inside the Project Area, mandated with legal protection of the forest and wildlife. Rangers are based full-time within the stations, and conduct daily, systematic patrolling of the Project Area and Leakage Zones. Since the beginning of the project approximately 150 homemade guns and 775 vehicles involved in forest or wildlife crimes have been confiscated. 112 rangers supported by the Project were operational in 2018, 116 in 2019, and 124 in 2020. In 2019 and 2020, the Project started to train civilians to become Southern Cardamom REDD+ rangers, as environmental ranger Agents under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment Provincial Department. Their on-the-job training has included Protected Area Law and legal procedures, rescue of wildlife caught in snares or transported by poachers, emergency wildlife care, patrol techniques, use of GPS, equipment maintenance, first aid and crime scene analysis and documentation. In August 2019, the Project started a new ranger station in the northern Leakage Zone, in O'Som, in Central Cardamom National Park (1.5 km from Samkos WS), located 9 km from the northern boundary of the REDD+ Project Area. In September 2020, a second new ranger station became operational in the southern Leakage Zone, on the Preik Ta'Ok river estuary of Botum Sakor National Park, located 10 km from the southern boundary of the REDD+ Project Area.
Impact #33	The Project will promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since the project start date of January 1 2015 no grievances have been submitted to the Project.
Impact #34	The Project will mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources

Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	\$18.1 millions of carbon credit sales have occurred since the project start date.
Impact #35	The Project will work to adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA045 and SIA0046 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities providing investment, technological support and other alternative income generation assistance. 71 women from 7 villages, organized into 6 groups in Areng Valley were coached in financial literacy to improve the effectiveness of their savings and loan activities, which were initiated in 2018. The positive outcome is a high number of loans provided by the savings and loan groups to the members, with 11 loans in 2019 (totaling \$1,800) and 13 loans in 2020 (totaling \$3,100).
Impact #36	The Project will promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being

Please see social indicators SIA047 and SIA048 in Table 4 for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities providing training on improved agricultural methods and systems and other activities that train on new technologies and methods.

Trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.

4.2 Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services Impact Monitoring

Table 5: Project biodiversity impact assessment for monitoring plan.

Focal Issue	Key results	SMART Objective	Indicator Code	Indicator	Indicator type	Data collection method	Who?	When?	Where?
Forest destruction and land encroachment	Decrease in illegal logging	By 2027, reduce the number of illegal logging incidents by half in the SCRP		Seven indicators included in the SIA Monitoring Plan					
	Decrease in encroachment and land-grabbing	By 2022, two CPA are created, registered at MoE and their NTFPs can access markets		Eight related indicators included in the SIA Monitoring Plan					
			BIA003	# and types of NTFPs sold in markets	Impact	CPA records	Community outreach	Annually	Project Zone
			BIA004	Amount of revenue accruing	Impact	CPA records	Community outreach	Annually	Project Zone

				from NTFP sales from the area					
Wildlife poaching	Greater community participation in eco-tourism activities	By 2022 >2000 tourists visit CBET sites established and registered by MOE and MOT		Six indicators included in the SIA Monitoring Plan					
	Greater appreciation and awareness of wildlife benefits	By 2022, 25% more community members demonstrate greater appreciation for wildlife and conservation		Three related indicators included in the SIA Monitoring Plan					
			BIA005	# conservation-friendly groups or curricula created or developed	Output	Internal reports	Community outreach	Annually	Project Zone

			BIA006	% families engaging in illegal wildlife trade through selling wildlife meat products	Impact	Household survey	Social monitoring	Annually	Project Zone
	Increase in wildlife populations including HCVs	By 2027, reduce the number of wildlife poaching incidents by half in the SCRP		Seven related indicators included in the SIA Monitoring Plan					
			BIA007	# ranger training sessions undertaken	Output	Internal reports	Security	Bi-annually	Project Area
			BIA008	# ranger exchange programs undertaken	Output	Internal reports	HR & Security	Bi-annually	Project Area
			BIA009	# rangers trained or involved in exchange programs	Output	Internal reports	HR & Security	Bi-annually	Project Area
			BIA010	# poacher cases	Outcome	Government records	Security	Annually	Project Area

				resulting in convictions					
			BIA011	Presence, Abundance and Distribution of key HCVs	Impact	Patrols, Camera traps & Indirect e.g., Fecal	Biodiversity monitoring	Annually	Project Area
Poor community livelihoods	Reduced cost of living	By 2027, 10% of community members with direct livelihood benefits from the SCRP		12 indicators included in the SIA Monitoring Plan					
	Higher income levels	By 2027, 10% of community members earning income directly from the SCRP and associated activities		Six related indicators included in the SIA Monitoring Plan					
			BIA012	Amount of investment leveraged from external	Outcome	Internal reports	Accounts	Annually	Project Zone

				sources including Government and private sector for financing community ventures					
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4.3 Net Positive Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services Impacts

Comparison of without-Project and with-Project scenarios

Based on the situation and without-Project analyses (please refer to details in the SCRP PD Section 5.1), most of the key drivers to the three Focal Issues were Projected as being likely to worsen in the absence of the SCRP, including:

1. Limited law enforcement
2. Demand for land and increasing land prices
3. High economic reward for poaching wildlife
4. Minimal risk of being prosecuted for poaching wildlife
5. Lack of understanding or capacity to show appreciation for biodiversity value
6. High demand for timber (both local and international).

Thus, the Project activities undertaken as described under Section 5.1.1.1 above will directly or indirectly result in clear biodiversity and ecosystem services benefits compared to a without-Project scenario where all these key factors get worse.

Moreover, Cambodia's forests will also be affected by climate change impacts. The Projected increase in temperature has the potential to change the extent and composition of forests, such as a decrease in wet forests and an increase in moist forests (MRC 2010). Changes to forest composition may lead to changing availability of forest resources for rural livelihoods. Shifting seasons and rainfall patterns may lead to reduced forest productivity and increased risk of forest fires, while mangrove forests in coastal zones may be submerged by rising sea levels. Collectively, these effects could lead to the degradation and/or loss of forests, leading to diminishing wildlife habitats and decreased income security for forest-dependent communities.

Consequently, wildlife dependent on these forest and aquatic habitats would be adversely affected by these changes, both through habitat loss or increased poaching due to decreased income security. Thus, the Project directly helps the biodiversity both by reducing emissions hence mitigating climate change, and also as an adaptation strategy to these anticipated changes by maintaining critical habitats in good condition for these species. Additionally, corridors will make it possible for the wide-ranging species to move in case of drastic changes.

5 OPTIONAL: CLIMATE MODULE

Prior to seeking validation and verification under the SD VISta, SCRP has been validated and verified under both the VCS and CCB standards, with 11,947,133 tCO_{2e} verified emissions reductions and removals to date. The project plans to continue verifying greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions and removals under the VCS standard. Please see SCRP's joint VCS and CCB monitoring reports and project description document (available on the Verra project portal or the Wildlife Alliance website) for more information on project methodology, monitoring, verified carbon units, and net emissions reductions.

REFERENCES