



Obtaining FPIC at the Seima REDD+ Demonstration Site, Cambodia

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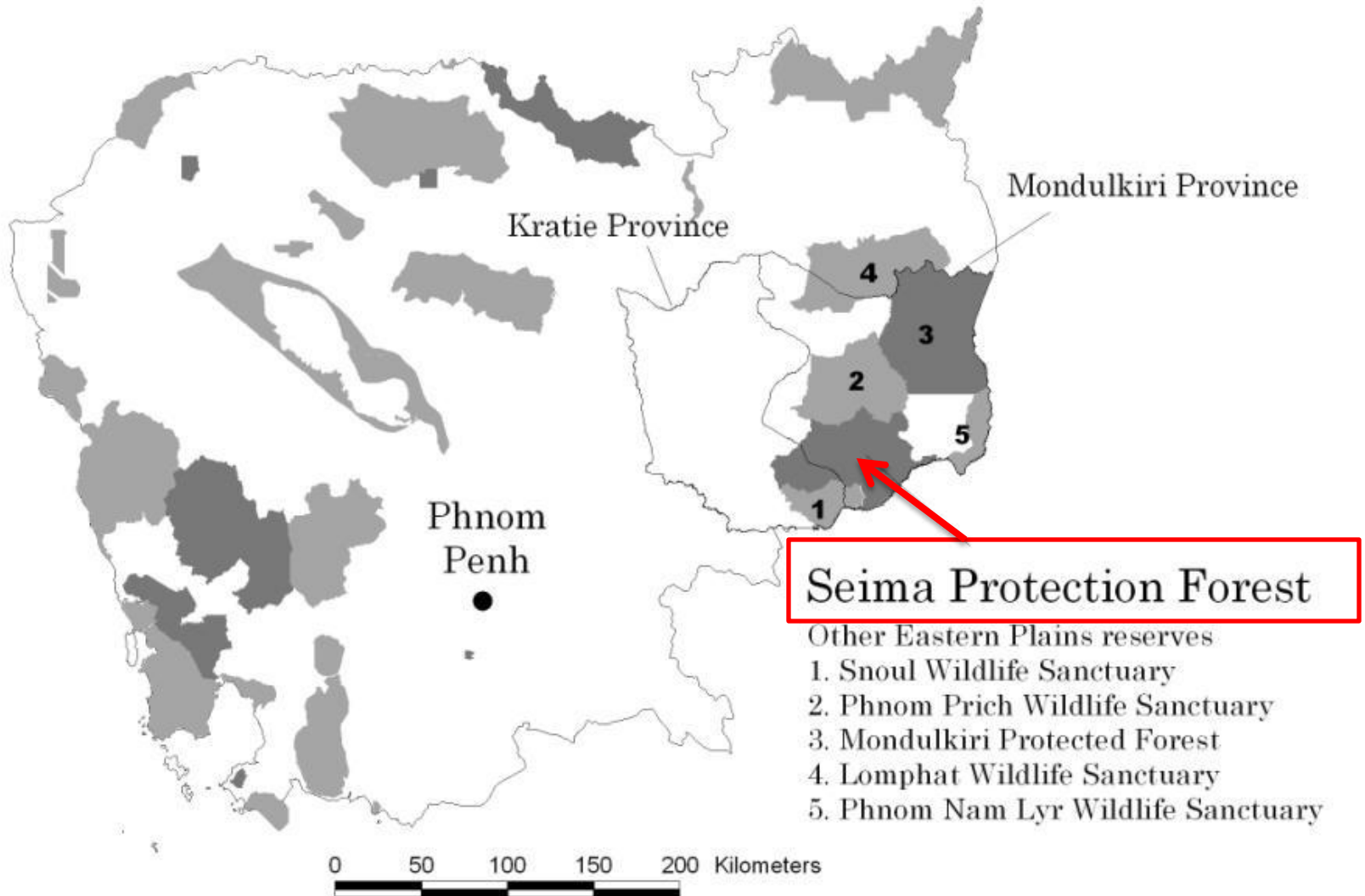
**Regional UN-REDD Information Exchange Meeting:
Free, Prior and Informed Consent
Bogor, Indonesia, April 19-20th, 2012**



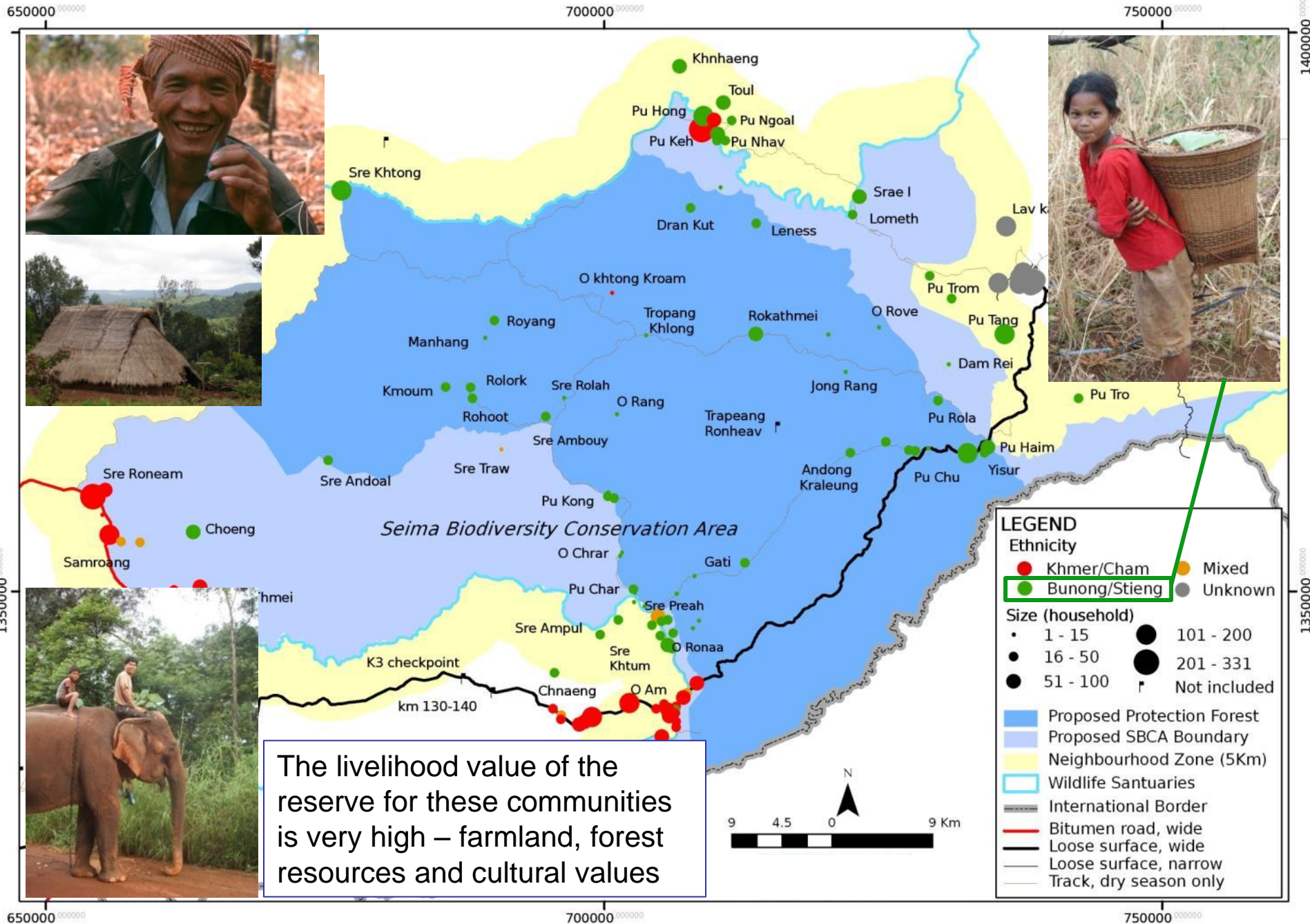
Seima has been the site of a joint conservation program between the Forestry Administration and WCS since 2001

It was declared a Protection Forest in 2009

Sustainable financing is needed for long term site management



The key communities are ethnic Bunong (Phnong)



The livelihood value of the reserve for these communities is very high – farmland, forest resources and cultural values



Formalising land tenure for communities is central to the project

- All indigenous communities around the reserve are being assisted to obtain Communal Land Titles
- Andoung Kraloeng village received its title in March 2012
- It is only the 3rd village in the country to reach this stage



REDD+ Activities

Seima is one of Cambodia's official REDD+ demonstration projects.

The REDD + project will target voluntary market



The government is the project proponent and carbon owner

Additionality will come from: increased budget/staffing, new legal status, new enforcement strategies and new incentive systems

Core REDD+ activities include a **strong focus on alternative livelihoods**
Community aspects will aim to give **increased incentives for conservation**

Links to the National REDD+ Roadmap

- **Involvement of indigenous groups / FPIC / safeguards**
- *Raising broader awareness of, and support for, REDD*
- *Communities/LNGOs bring experience to nat. level*
- Demonstration of the value of resolving tenure
- Linking REDD to Protected Forests management (3 m ha)
- Hard data on deforestation, drivers and carbon stocks
- Testing interventions for avoiding deforestation
- Management of revenues, benefit-share/incentives
- Monitoring biodiversity and social co-benefits
- Scope for scaling up to province/sub-national

Community aspects based on CCBA project standards

- Free, Prior and Informed Consent specific to REDD is being obtained through extensive consultations that aim to meet best practice
 - Formal community agreements ensure role of government and community are clearly set out
 - Annual consultations will maintain consent/ guide management
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- Forest/land rights are recognised and in most cases, enhanced
 - Project design requires no relocations
 - Net positive social impacts will be measured using qualitative and quantitative monitoring of livelihood indicators



Consultation Process

Three steps in each village, over separate visits.

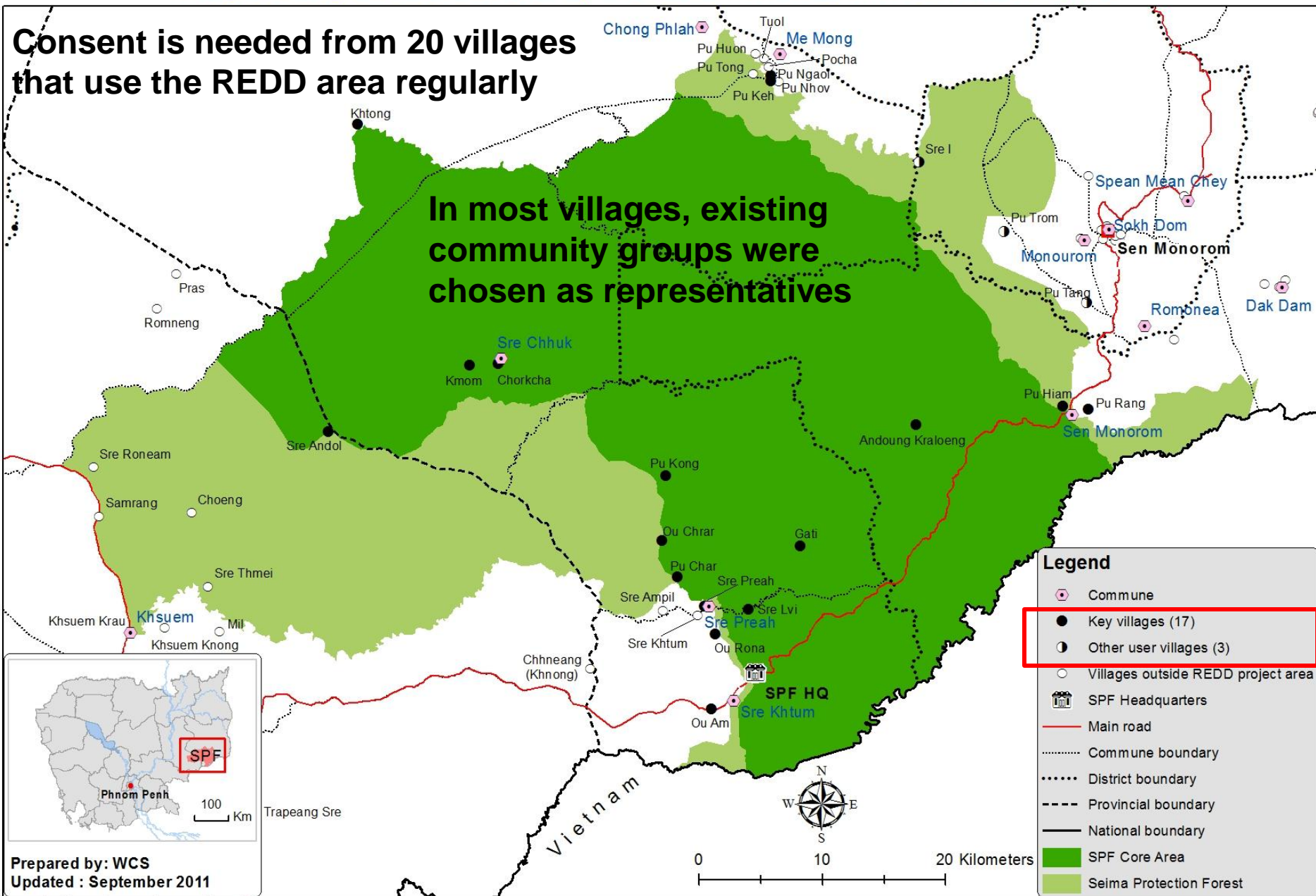
- Phase 1) Awareness raising and discussion of the draft impacts assessment
 - Day 1 - Awareness raising, impacts assessment with village leaders/committee
 - Day 2 - Plenary discussions with all community members
- Phase 2) Discussions on consent and presentation of the community agreement
 - Includes Independent Legal Advice (workshops by local NGO, CLEC)
- Phase 3) Finalisation and signing of the agreement

Benefit-share system is not designed yet – separate consultation will be held on that during 2012.

Villages using the area covered by the Seima Protection Forest REDD Project

Consent is needed from 20 villages that use the REDD area regularly

In most villages, existing community groups were chosen as representatives



Timetable

- Consultations at village level mainly December 2010-January 2012
- This time includes some delays awaiting funding plus finalising draft agreement
- All communities now happy to sign draft agreement
- Awaiting decision from FA on final text

Outcomes

- Positive response, keen to sign quickly
 - High level of concern over threats to forest resources
 - Generally few concerns about project design
- Some community concerns were raised
 - Doubts over effectiveness of law enforcement efforts (esp for illegal logging) and ability to prevent land concessions
 - Request strong assurances over access to farmland, resin trees
 - Wish to be consulted over benefit-sharing
- Independent legal advice meetings had same observations with govt. and conservation NGO absent

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Thank you for listening



Pygmy Lorises, Seima