Asia-Pacific Community Carbon Pools and REDD+ Programme (Cambodia)



Conservation, communities and climate change mitigation







Fauna & Flora International's Asia-Pacific Community Carbon Pools and REDD+ Programme worked to strengthen laws and policies to facilitate the adoption of REDD+ through pilot projects in Cambodia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Indonesia. Partnering with the Non-**Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme** (NTFP-EP) and People and Nature Reconciliation (PanNature), the 2011-14 Programme was chiefly European Union-funded.

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Programme Highlights

Goal: To build the capacity of local governments and local communities at the proposed Changkran Roy Community Forest (CF), in Siem Reap Province, to actively participate in REDD+.

Regional Programme Objectives:

- Develop national REDD+ policies that strengthen community participation and the role of local governments in forest management (carbon rights and benefit-sharing).
- Develop sub-national REDD+ procedures and regulations in the pilot sites with active civil society participation (social safeguards).
- Establish Community Carbon Pools, with benefit-sharing mechanisms, based on CF tenure in the pilot sites (MRV).
- Ensure that High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) are protected in pilot project landscapes (biodiversity safeguards).

Beneficiaries: The Cambodia project team worked in strong collaboration with CF members, and government representatives across village, commune, district, and provincial levels. These partnerships were strengthened by the Forestry Administration at the national and sub-national levels.

Key impacts: (1) Pioneered a Carbon Rights and Benefit Sharing study for Cambodia; (2) Supported community members in the legalisation process for the proposed Changkran Roy CF; (3) Conducted biodiversity assessments in 12 CF areas; (4) Completed a REDD+ feasibility assessment based on carbon indicators; and (5) Coordinated the training and mobilisation of 37 forest patrol and biodiversity monitoring team members.

Challenges for REDD+ in Cambodia: (1) Complexity of communicating climate change and REDD+ messages; (2) A significant amount of national safeguards research is needed to make REDD+ feasible; (3) Uncertainty in the global price of forest carbon; and (4) Lack of agreement on a future REDD+ framework under a post 2020 REDD compliance market.

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