



## Final Narrative Report

# A REDD+ Demonstration Project Informing the National REDD+ Roadmap

Submitted by Pact

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## **1. Introduction**

The Royal Government of Cambodia's Forestry Administration (FA), along with Pact and Terra Global Capital (TGC), has developed Cambodia's first Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) project. The project involves 13 community forestry (CF) groups, comprised of 58 villages and 10,036 households, which protect 64,318 hectares of forest land in the northwestern province of Oddar Meanchey. The project is the first REDD+ pilot project using a new methodology under both the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and Climate Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA) guidelines. The project is expected to sequester 8.3 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> over 30 years, providing sustainable financing to local forest protection efforts, while serving as a learning laboratory to support national REDD+ development.

Pact received a grant of \$150,000 from UNDP to support the implementation of the Oddar Meanchey Community Forestry REDD+ project (OM CF REDD+) over a period of 10 months starting in January, 2012 and expiring on 31 October, 2012. The funds have been used to support the project validation and verification on the voluntary carbon market, as well as resolution of land disputes and development of the project monitoring system. In addition, the project has produced three policy briefs to inform national policy. This report includes a summary of the project achievements over the course of the 10 months.

## **2. Project Achievements**

### **2.1. Progress Towards Validation**

One of the main achievements of the project was securing VCS and CCB validation. The final VCS validation report was received on 22 August, 2012 and for CCB on 16 October, 2012. These reports signify the approval of the Project Documents and represent a major milestone for which the project team has been striving for several years. The OM CF REDD+ project is the first project in Cambodia to receive dual VCS / CCB validation.

Pact's role in project validation during the project period included preparing detailed responses to Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs), which were used to revise the Project Document accordingly.

### **2.2. Legal and Administrative Support to the Forestry Administration**

The prospect of entering the voluntary carbon market raises a number of legal issues and requires the Seller of carbon credits (in this case, the FA) to sign off on several legal documents. With this UNDP grant support Pact was able to hire on a short term contract a respected Cambodian American lawyer, H.E. Sok Siphana, to provide legal support to the Forestry Administration. Under this contract, Siphana reviewed the following documents:

- 1) Deed or Representation;
- 2) Issuance Representation;
- 3) Registry Communications Agreement;
- 4) Escrow Account Opening Agreement;
- 5) Project Term Sheet, and
- 6) Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA).

Pact coordinated with international legal resources to build Siphana's knowledge of the carbon market and facilitated several meetings between Siphana and FA colleagues in order to open communication channels.

In addition to legal support, Pact also recruited a young forester named Neab Keng to provide administrative support at the FA and improve communications on the project. Keng was also able to spend a good deal of time assisting the fieldwork and as a result he has intimate knowledge of many important aspects of REDD project development, including biomass inventories, ANR demarcation, social assessment, and data entry.

### **2.3. Progress Towards Verification**

In order to accurately estimate the emissions reductions earned by the OM CF REDD+ project since project start (February, 2008), additional data was necessary, including re-measurement of forest inventory plots, additional social data, and satellite imagery. With the UNDP support, Pact was able to meet all of these requirements.

First, Pact set about re-measuring forest inventory plots. Based on consultation with TGC, 100 forest plot locations and 10 non-forest plot locations were selected for re-measurement. Pact supplied and coordinated multi-stakeholder teams to conduct the field work. Both community members and local FA staff actively participated with the teams and, as a result, gained further technical expertise in forest inventory. All of the data was entered into an Excel spreadsheet and delivered to TGC for further analysis.

In addition to forest plot re-measurements, Pact also coordinated the collection of additional social data using PRA techniques. These PRA exercises were conducted in all 13 CFs and covered questions on drivers of deforestation, agriculture and cropping, NTFPs, and enrichment planting.

While not in the original plan, Pact learned that it was necessary to demarcate ANR (assisted natural regeneration) areas in the project area prior to verification. As a result, Pact led teams to collect ANR area boundary data based on community sketch maps and satellite imagery analysis. This field data was compiled and delivered to TGC for inclusion in the revised PD and monitoring report.

In order to measure emissions reductions, GIS experts must determine how forest classifications have changed since the project start date. Pact used project funds to purchase recent satellite images for this analysis. With supplementary support from FAO, three images were purchased from Theos (a Thai company) and two from Antrix (an Indian company).



Figure 1 Satellite imagery shows how an ELC is affecting the leakage belt of two CFs.

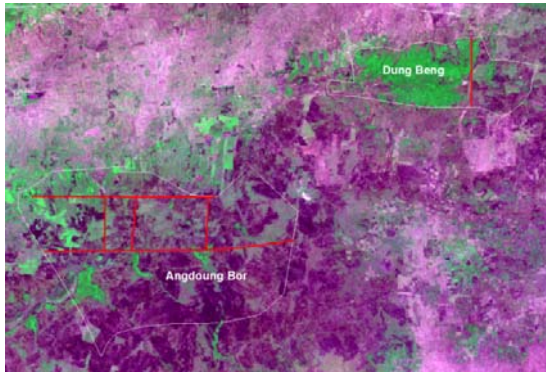


Figure 2 New roads built by military are visible in two CFs.

## 2.4. Resolution of Land Disputes and CF Internal Issues

The Community Forestry Network (CFN) is a grassroots coordination body composed of CF leaders from all the CFs in the province. Its mandate includes representing the CFs with provincial and national authorities to seek solutions to intractable land and forest issues affecting the communities. Through the UNDP grant, Pact provided financial support to the CFN to pay for transportation and facilitation costs of the Secretariat staff. The Chief of the Secretariat, Mr. Sa Thlay, made regular visits to all the CFs and concentrated efforts to deal with serious issues of military incursion in Andong Bor and Dung Beng CFs. He also joined CF patrols and was part of teams that cracked down on illegal logging and confiscations throughout the province. His bi-monthly reports provide details on all the activities he led. Summaries of these reports can be found in Annex B. Although many of the disputes in the province require higher level support for resolution, the efforts of the CFN have not gone unnoticed. A petition with 2000 signatures to the Minister of Agriculture, for instance, resulted in a visit by the FA's Deputy Director to the affected area and the formation of a provincial level committee.

A longer term effort to improve forest law enforcement in the province is the formation of mobile enforcement units. This concept draws on the success of these units in other provinces, including Koh Kong and Mondulhiri. In order to develop consensus around this concept and to take the first steps towards its establishment, Pact organized a provincial level workshop attended by representatives of the FA, military police, police, and CFN. The workshop was co-facilitated by the FA Project Focal Point, Mr. Long Ratanakoma.

As a result of the workshop, a Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Mobile Enforcement Unit (MEU) was drafted with English and Khmer versions. This ToR was then circulated back to the FA for final comments.

## 2.5. Project Monitoring System

The MRV (monitoring, reporting, verification) requirements for the Oddar Meanchey Project on the voluntary market are extensive. The project's methodology calls for regular monitoring on more than 100 data parameters, requiring data on forest biomass, biodiversity, and social indicators. Pact has several strategies to develop the MRV system which were supported by the project. These include 1) development of tools, protocols, and

consultation, 2) design of training materials for community monitors, and 3) expansion of the SMS messaging technology for field data collection. A number of workshops were recently held at the provincial level with project stakeholders to expand their capacity to use Frontline SMS, and use and analyze project data. All 13 CF groups are now reporting on forest patrols, and illegal logging activities using Frontline SMS. The participation with this technology has varied according to each CF group, due to a variety of reasons. These include: the availability of resources CF members have to conduct patrols; the degree of safety and security in the CF areas; time availability (seasonal); the perceived benefits from participating in this system; and the ease/difficulty of adopting the new technology.

## **2.6. Participation in National & International Policy Development**

The OM CF REDD+ project provides an important learning and capacity building opportunity with benefits to the national REDD+ process. Pact has attempted to synthesize the learning of the project into three policy briefs: 1) Community based MRV systems, 2) REDD+ legal constraints and analysis, 3) Conflict resolution in REDD+. Furthermore, Pact has prepared quarterly newsletters to inform stakeholders on the major happenings with the project (see Annex C). These electronic publications are circulated to more than 400 individuals.

In addition to these briefs and newsletters, Pact staff have participated in dialogues on REDD+ by attending meetings and conferences, and by assisting researchers and others in their visits to Oddar Meanchey. Here is a summary of some of the activities that Pact has engaged in:

- REDD+ Contact Group Meetings
- Cambodia Climate Change Network Meetings
- Technical Working Group Forestry & Environment Meetings
- ASEAN Social Forestry Network Meeting (Conference and Field visit)
- Field Visit by UN Resident Representative Douglas Broderick (7 – 9 March)
- Field Visit by UNDP's North East Asia Division Chief Selva Ramachandran (28 March)
- UN REDD Safeguards Discussion at FA (2 February)
- National Forest Inventory Meeting with FAO and other Stakeholders
- EU Country Environmental Profile (6 February)
- Field visit by Goran Ek of the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
- Forestry and Forest Product Research Institute (FFPRI)/FA's Joint workshop on the Development of Forest Carbon Monitoring Methodologies for REDD+ (25 June)
- Project presentation to USAID Environment Team (September)

### 3. Progress Towards Deliverables

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Deliverable in contract</b>	<b>Progress toward outputs</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
1. The PDs for CCBA and VCS are drafted	1.1 Biodiversity assessment report	n/a	Completed	These were completed in 2011
	1.2 PDs for VCS and CCBA	n/a	Completed	These were completed in 2011.
2. OM CF REDD+ is successfully validated and FA is supported to negotiate offers	2.1 The CARs and CRs in the validation report are sufficiently addressed and the project is validated by both VCS and CCBA	Documents submitted for project validation	Completed. Project has been validated by VCS & CCB.	Final VCS validation report received 22 August, 2012. Final CCB validation report received 16 October. Final VCS & CCB reports are available upon request.
	2.2 Cambodian legal counsel is provided to analyze constraints for REDD+ contracts under Cambodian law	Delivery of report and capacity building to RGC on constraints of REDD+ contracts under Cambodian law	Completed. Legal reviews of the following completed: 1) Deed of issuance, 2) Communications Agreement, 3) Deed of Issuance, 4) Term Sheet, 5) Escrow Agreement, 6) ERPA. In addition, a final report in English on legal constraints.	See Annex for these documents.
	2.3 Pact second one staff to FA to support communication and admin	Secondment of staff to the FA	Completed. Neab Keng has been working since February	Copy of staff contract has been provided in the previous report.
3. OM CF REDD+ activities contribute towards project verification	3.1 100 additional biomass inventory plots are conducted	Biomass inventory datasheet	Completed. Re-measurement of 100 forest plots and 10 non-forest plots completed.	Original datasheets are available at the Pact office.
	3.2 13 PRAs are conducted (formerly 100 HH surveys)	Datasheets	Completed. 13 PRAs were completed and data entered.	Sample data sheet was provided with the previous report. All original datasheets are available at the Pact office.

	3.3 Additional remote sensing images are purchased and analyzed	Satellite images	Completed. Three images were purchased from Theos and 2 images were purchased from Antrix. TGC has analyzed these images for the verification report.	FAO provided additional financial support.
4. Mechanisms to resolve land disputes and internal CF management issues are put in place	4.1 The FA mobile enforcement unit is planned and agreed upon	Mobile enforcement unit TOR and membership list	Completed. A ToR with membership details has been prepared based on workshop results	TOR is available in English and Khmer. English version is in the Annex.
	4.2 The CF Network facilitate resolution of internal disputes within a few CFS	Field report from CFN on dispute resolution	Completed	Bi-monthly reports are in Khmer and the summary of the reports in English is included in this final report
5. A comprehensive REDD+ project monitoring system is designed	5.1 The project monitoring and evaluation system is further defined through tools, protocols, and consultation	n/a	Completed. 2 participatory monitoring workshops were held to build local monitoring capacity. Tools and protocols were developed.	
	5.2 Training materials for community MRV systems	Training materials on community based MRV in English	Completed	Community MRV materials will be used to conduct training with community monitors
	5.3 An SMS trial for collecting patrol data is expanded to 13 CF sites	n/a	Completed. All 13 CFs have been provided with training and equipment.	A one-day SMS Frontline training workshop was held on 22 Aug for all CF leaders.
6. Project field implementation informs national and international REDD+ policy	6.1 Regular quarterly newsletters on the project are circulated	Quarterly newsletters	Completed	We have received positive feedback from many recipients.
	6.2 Three policy briefs are drafted 1) legal constraints, 2) Community based MRV systems, 3) Conflict resolution	Three policy briefs in English	Completed	



	6.3 Project staff participate in national REDD+ meetings and discussions to share experience	n/a	Completed	See list of meetings and events in the narrative.
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## Annex A: Photos

ANR Demarcation in Ratanak Ruka CF



Mobile enforcement meeting in Oddar Meanchey



**Participatory Rural Appraisal in Dung Beng CF**



**Biomass Plot re-measurement**



## **Annex B - CFN Field Report**

### **Field Report from Community Forestry Network (CFN) Chief (Sar Thlay)**

#### **Summary of the August-September Report**

##### **Prey Srorng CF**

Prey Srorng CF went patrolling two times, on the 5-6 August and the 13-14 September. The first time, the CFMC members saw a man clearing around 10 ha of in the CF for chamkar (agriculture). The second time, the CFMC saw an area in the forest where people had cleared land, they believe this might have been cleared in the hope of gaining land tenure when students come to measure and allocate land plots as part of the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction (MLMUPC) initiative. The patrolling team took waypoints at 388460-1552012.

##### **Sangkroung Preychheu CF**

CF members, deputy Cantonment Chief of the Forestry Administration, police and a journalist patrolled and took 7 cubic meters and a chainsaw and then brought these to the FA Division office in Along Veng.

##### **Rolus Thom CF**

CFMC and CF members patrolled and saw a recently cleared area of forest inside the CF, around one hectare in size. People from Kok Ampil village are clearing forest in the CF to then allow students to measure for them.

##### **Andong Bor CF**

Deputy of CF, police and community council saw 11 people clearing forest in the CF, around 110 ha, that has waypoints, 3104554-1544575, and 311017-1544680. And then the patrolling team brought 4 tractors and 11 people to the police station in Banteay Ampil District. While they were discussing a solution and charges in the Police Station, community members and the Commune Council members did not join in the discussions, so it was only the FA and police. The community were not told the outcome or given feedback on these discussions.

##### **Ratanak Ruka CF**

CFMC and CF member patrolled 7 times in Ratanak Ruka CF. While on patrol the CF members saw land clearing and illegal logging in the CF.

##### **Ou Yeay Kaov CF**

Some of the CFMC members have recently gone away. Some have gone to work in Thailand, other members have resigned from CFMC and another one passed away.

##### **Prey Sros CF**

CFMC and member of CF collaborated with police and soldiers to go patrolling on August 27. They saw people clearing forest for Chamkar, around 4 ha, and collected waypoints, 324501-15848361.

**Chhouk Meas CF**

Chief of CF and CF members patrolled two times on August and September. They saw illegal logging and 6 trees that were cut.

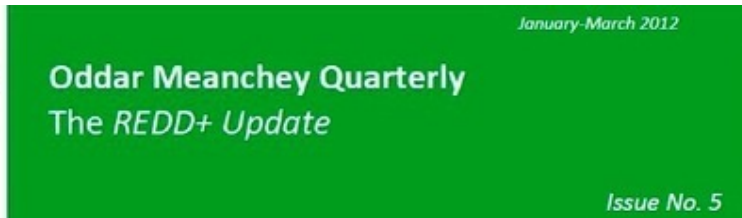
**Phaav CF**

On September, 2012, The CF team arrested 10 people cutting down trees. They brought them to the Commune Council office, to advise them and make them sign a non-re-offense contract.

**Recommendations and Suggestions**

- Community Forestry members have asked that the FA, local authorities, Village Chief's, Commune Council and District authorities strengthen support to stop illegal logging.
- CF elections should take place as it has been over 5 years since the last election.

## Annex C - Quarterly Newsletters



Hello and warm welcome to OM Quarterly's 5th issue. Cambodia's Oddar Meanchey Community Forestry REDD+ (OM CF REDD+) demonstration project is very close to validation under Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and Climate Community and Biodiversity (CCB) standards. At the same time, with support from UNDP, we are verifying credits earned since the project start date in February 2008. Here are some of the highlights over the last quarter.

### **Biomass Plot Re-measurement for Credit Verification**

The objective of re-measuring plots is to assess changes in biomass since the project start and to determine the number of credits earned. Plot re-measurement is a key part of Monitoring Reporting and Verification (MRV), and provides evidence of the project's impact. Some 100 biomass plots are currently being re-measured with the collaboration of local Forestry Administration (FA) officers, Children Development Association (CDA) staff and Community Forestry (CF) members. By the end of March, 42 biomass plots in CFs were re-measured.



Pact staff introduces the Frontline SMS system to CF leaders

### **Rolling Out a New Patrol Monitoring System**

The OM CF REDD+ project requires a comprehensive Monitoring Reporting & Verification (MRV) system. Between September and December 2011, Pact piloted [Frontline SMS](#) in three CFs (See the [report](#)). The system allows patrol leaders to send summaries by SMS to a hub computer, which is a more efficient way of communicating data. The data is compiled into a monthly feedback report and distributed among stakeholders so that progress in patrolling activities can be tracked over time. In March, the system was extended to the remaining 10 CFs.

### **Presentation to Singaporean Government Officials on OM CF REDD+ Project and Private Sector Involvement**

On 16 February, Community Forestry Partnership Program Director, Amanda Bradley, attended a meeting with government officials in Singapore, including officials from the Singapore Economic Development Board, National Parks Board, and National Climate Change Secretariat. She was invited to make a presentation on the OM CF REDD+ project and interest for the private sector. The presentation generated a lot of interest and was followed by a lively discussion.



A one-day field visit to Sorng Rokavorn CF by ASEAN participants in the training course

## **Mitigation and Adaptation: Managing Forest Conflicts in the Context of Climate Change for the ASEAN Region**

On 29 February 2012, Pact's Senior Carbon Program Officer, Yeang Donal, was invited to join a training course on "Mitigation and Adaptation: Managing Forest Conflicts in the Context of Climate Change for the ASEAN Region" in Siem Reap, organized by the FA and RECOFTC. In order to look at how the stakeholders in OM CF REDD+ project manage forest conflicts, the participants from ASEAN countries paid a one-day field visit to Sorng Rokavorn CF. During the meeting, the CF members, CDA staff and local FA officers shared lessons learned and experiences on conflict management in the OM CF REDD+ project.

### **Visit of UNDP's North East Asia Division Chief**

On 28 March, Mr. Selva Ramachandran, UNDP's North East Asia Division Chief, Mr. Douglas Broderick, UN Resident Coordinator, and UNDP Country Director, Ms. Elena Tischenko visited Sorng Rokavorn CF. In addition, the Head of the OM FA Cantonment, Pact and CDA staff, as well as the CF Network Chief and CF members were invited to join the discussion on the achievements and challenges in the OM CF REDD+ project.

### **French TV Covers Success of the Monks CF**

In March, a [French TV5](#) film crew visited Sorng Rokavorn CF in order to film a short segment about Buddhist monks and forest management in the OM CF REDD+ project. In addition, the TV crew also filmed members of Romdoul Veasna CF during patrols. The segment will be aired in September on the French TV show "Faut Pas Rêver".

### **Visiting Researchers in OM CF REDD+ Project**

The OM CF REDD+ project continues to generate interest from academics. From February - April Pact is hosting two students conducting research for their Masters at the University of Copenhagen. Inge Boudewijn is looking at inclusion/exclusion in the OM CF REDD+ project as well as CF activities and benefits, while Anne-Mette Sylvest Pedersen is concentrating on issues related to land competition. Pact welcomes self-funded researchers to conduct studies with the project.



Mr. Julien Brewster visited Sorng Rokavorn CF

### **Pact Welcomes a New Member of the Team: Julien Brewster**

In February 2012, Julien Brewster, a volunteer on the Australian Volunteer for International

Development (AVID) program, joined Pact Cambodia to support the monitoring and evaluation of the OM CF REDD+ project. He will be helping to develop the monitoring system for the project as well as the related capacity building work, and is on an 18-month placement.

## 2012 April – June Issue Issue No. 6

Hello and a warm welcome to OM Quarterly's 6th issue. Cambodia's Oddar Meanchey Community Forestry REDD+ demonstration project (OM CF REDD+) is very close to validation and credit verification under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and Climate Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCB) standards. With support from UNDP, we are currently verifying carbon credits earned since the project started in February 2008. Here are some of the highlights over the last quarter.



CF members use a compass to lay out a forest biomass plot in Sorng Rokavorn CF

### **Biomass Plot Re-measurement for Credit Verification Completed**

Plot re-measurement is a key part of Monitoring Reporting and Verification (MRV) and the changes in biomass can be assessed to determine the number of credits earned since the project inception. Some 100 biomass plots have been re-measured with the collaboration of local Forestry Administration (FA) officers, Children Development Association (CDA) staff and Community Forestry (CF) members. By the end of May, 100 biomass plots in the project area were re-measured.



Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) in Ratanak Ruka CF

### **Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and Planning for Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR)**

The OM CF REDD+ project requires additional data and information from the community level in order to establish a solid baseline by which the impact of project interventions can be measured. Information obtained will also help to further define the project strategies. In June, Pact's team with the collaboration of local FA officers and CDA staff, started to conduct PRAs in all 13 communities. The PRA covers a range of topics including wealth ranking, analysis of drivers of deforestation, trends in NTFPs, and local timber production. Under the verification requirements, the project team also needs to conduct planning for areas designated for Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR). In total approximately 5,000 hectares in the project area will be treated under ANR, which includes pruning, thinning, and enrichment planting. ANR will allow the project to increase its earnings of carbon credits through restoration of degraded areas.





Pact's Amanda Bradley meets with H.E. Sok Siphana, Leslie Durschinger (TGC) and Keo Omaliss (FA)

## Well-known Cambodian Lawyer to Provide Legal Counsel to the Cambodian Government

In order to sell carbon credits the Cambodia government must process a series of the legal agreements including a Deed of Representation, Deed of Issuance, Registry Communication Agreement, escrow account agreement, and Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA). In order to expedite the Government's review of these agreements, Pact, with financial support from UNDP, has contracted a well-known Cambodian lawyer to provide legal counsel to the FA. H.E. Sok Siphana, Principal of Sok Siphana and Associates Attorneys & Legal Consultants has agreed to assist the Cambodian government in reviewing all relevant legal documents, including the final ERPA between the buyer and seller.



Focus group discussion on gender issues in Phaav CF

## Gender Assessment of the OM CF REDD+ Project

With financial support from the [Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute \(FFPRI\)](#) of Japan, Pact with the technical support from [Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture & Natural Resource Management \(WOCAN\)](#) has completed a Gender and REDD+ Assessment for OM CF REDD+. The report will be available shortly and a workshop to disseminate the results of the study will be held in late July.



Pact staff present the monthly patrol report to local communities in Chhouk Meas

## Forest Patrol Monitoring and Reporting System

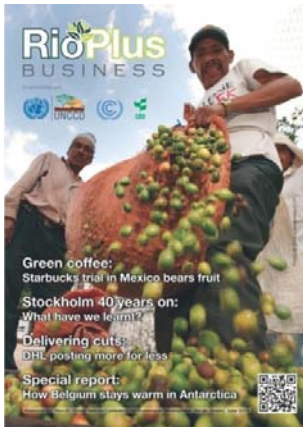
The OM CF REDD+ project requires a comprehensive Monitoring Reporting & Verification (MRV) system. The Frontline SMS system allows patrol leaders to send summaries by SMS to a hub computer, which is a more efficient way of communicating data. A total of 20 patrol reports were submitted in April, and this number increased to 23 in May. The data is compiled into a monthly feedback report and distributed among stakeholders so that progress in patrolling activities can be tracked over time.



Senior Carbon Program Officer Donal Yeang participates in the ASEAN Social Forestry Network (ASFN) conference

## The 3rd ASEAN Social Forestry Network conference: Strengthening ASEAN Civil Society Engagement on Social Forestry and Climate Change

On 12 June, Pact's Senior Carbon Officer made a presentation during the ASEAN Social Forestry Network (ASFN) conference in Siem Reap and also assisted in organizing a field visit to the project area. The presentation covered lessons learned and general experience from the OM CF REDD+ project, focusing on the partnerships among government, NGOs and the private sector to develop the first REDD+ project in Cambodia. ASEAN participants were impressed with the presentation and acknowledged the important role of NGOs in bridging the gap between government and the private sector.



Rio Plus Business Magazine

## Rio Plus Business Magazine highlights the OM CF REDD+ Project

On 24 May, the organization Responding to Climate Change (RTCC) released the Rio Plus Business Magazine which featured an article on the OM CF REDD+ Project, titled [Rio+20 Business Focus: Cutting carbon – not trees – in Cambodia](#). The article was written by Program Director Amanda Bradley.



July - September 2012

## Oddar Meanchey Quarterly The REDD+ Update

Issue No. 7

Hello and a warm welcome to OM Quarterly's 7th issue. Cambodia's Oddar Meanchey Community Forestry REDD+ demonstration project (OM CF REDD+) has made important progress over the last quarter. The project has achieved validation from the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and Climate Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCB) standard, and project stakeholders are just waiting for final processing from the certification boards. Important steps have also been made towards project verification. Here are some of the highlights over the last quarter.

### **Pact organizes a National Seminar on Gender, Forestry and REDD+**



The organizing team including members from Pact, WOCAN, and RECOFTC

On July 27, a national seminar on Gender, Forestry and REDD+ in Cambodia was held in Phnom Penh. The seminar was initiated by [Pact](#) in collaboration with [WOCAN](#) and [RECOFTC](#), with funding support provided by [FFPRI](#). Participants attended from the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Forestry Administration, the Ministry of Environment, the National REDD+ Taskforce, NGOs and community groups. The objective of the seminar was to draw attention to the issues of gender in the forestry sector in Cambodia, with a specific focus on community forestry and REDD+. The seminar provided an important opportunity for participants to discuss ways in which the national REDD+ framework for Cambodia can be inclusive and gender sensitive. During the workshop, Pact presented on its findings from the OM CF REDD+ Gender Assessment, funded by FFPRI. An important finding from this assessment was that women depend heavily on the forest for their livelihoods and have specialized knowledge and skills related to forest use, while they don't have the same decision-making participation and power.

### **Participatory Monitoring Workshops**



CF participants analyze and discuss forest changes they observe from satellite imagery maps of their CF's

In August and September, Pact helped to facilitate two participatory monitoring workshops for the OM CF REDD+ Project, to build on existing capacity at the community level for project monitoring. The first workshop was on the [Frontline SMS](#) mobile phone monitoring system, and was aimed at gaining feedback from community members on the use of this reporting system, along with providing training on a new form to capture detailed information on illegal logging in the CF sites.

The second workshop was on participatory data use and analysis. During this workshop, project data was shared and analyzed by community members, to explore how it could be useful to them and their CFs. The community also helped to develop a Terms of Reference (TOR) for the community monitors, and were consulted on the draft project policies. Participants found the workshop useful, judging from the positive feedback we received in the workshop evaluation. Community members were especially interested in seeing satellite imagery maps of their CFs, as they were able to analyze changes in forest cover from 2008 to 2012.

## **Completion of Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) Demarcation**

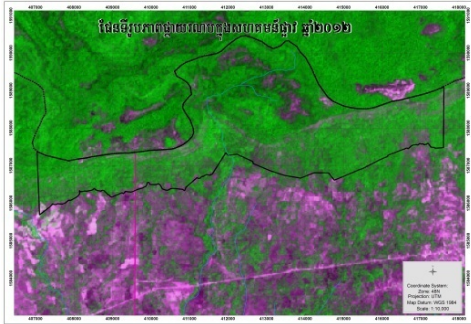


CF members demarcating ANR areas with Pact staff in Sangkrouk Preychheu CF

Assisted Natural Regeneration will play an important role in the OM CF REDD+ Project, and is predicted to provide up to 30% of the carbon credits the project will generate. After conducting mapping exercises with the local communities to identify treatment areas, Pact staff, with the support of the FA and local community members, demarcated 4,446 hectares of degraded forest. The team also measured 15 biomass plots inside these demarcated areas, as a way to track biomass changes over time. Pact's partner, [Terra Global Capital](#) (TGC), provided the technical advice that was needed to select the appropriate number and location of biomass plots. Over the next 20 years, community members will be trained and employed to conduct ANR treatments in these areas of the forest. These treatments will involve silvicultural activities to help stimulate the regeneration of degraded forest areas

and enhance carbon sequestration rates in these areas. ANR will also contribute to healthier and more diverse forest ecosystems. Pact staff worked under difficult conditions (heavy rains) to obtain this data, so the completion of this fieldwork is an important accomplishment for the team!

## Preparation of Project Verification, Monitoring Report and Satellite Imagery



Remote sensing satellite imagery maps of Phaav CF, 2012

Another important development in the OM CF REDD+ Project is the progress that has been made regarding the preparation and planning for project verification, which should commence in the next 1-2 months. Pact has been supporting this process by coordinating with the relevant stakeholders, and assisting TGC with the information they require to complete the monitoring report required for the verification process.

As a component of drafting this monitoring report, TGC have been analyzing recently obtained satellite imagery of the OM project areas, which allow comparisons to be made in forest cover changes between 2008 and 2012. Along with the biomass inventory data, these satellite images enable TGC to estimate the amount of carbon credits the communities have generated since the project commenced in 2008. We hope to see the monitoring report and verification completed as soon as possible, and complete these important steps towards the sale of credits.

## Departure of Amanda and Donal from FPCC Team



Pact staff outside the Phnom Penh Pact office

Over the last month, Pact's Forest Partnerships in Communities and Climate (FPCC) team have bade farewell to two important team members, Donal Yeang and Amanda Bradley. Both Amanda and Donal have been a key part of this project for a long time, and have made fundamental contributions to the advancement of REDD+ in Cambodia. We wish them all the best and are very thankful of their commitment to continue supporting the project

