

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Organization Legal Name:	Non-Timber Forest Products
Project Title:	Community Networks for Gibbon Protection at Veun Sai Siem Pang Conservation Area
Grant Number:	65944
CEPF Region:	Indo-Burma II
Strategic Direction:	8 Strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels
Grant Amount:	\$144,910.00
Project Dates:	March 01, 2016 - February 28, 2019
Date of Report:	April 30, 2019

Implementation Partners

List each partner and explain how they were involved in the project

- The DoE of Ratanakiri and Stung Treng provinces are signatories on community's requests to create the community protected area (CPA).
- The commune in Stung Treng province and commune in Ratanakiri province are signatories to recognize community's identity, whose residences located within their communes.
- Veunsai district of Ratanakiri province and Siem Pang district of Stung Treng province are signatories to recognize the request of forest land to create CPA.
- The offices of 2 provinces have roles to check and sign on requests of community to ask for forest land within national park to create the CPA, then submit to Ministry of Environment (MoE).
- The Directorate General Department (DGD) of Administrative Protection and Natural Conservation of MoE has role to facilitate preparation various administrative legal paper works for creation of CPA and forest land maps. The DGD checks request from communities prior submitting for Minister of MoE's signature to release the declaration to recognise CPA creation.
- The DGD of Community Development has duty to study and evaluate the possibility for CPA's creation. The DGD coordinates to make agreement, statute, management plan, and provide training for sub-national level.

Conservation Impacts

Summarize the overall impact of your project, describing how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile

Impact 1: Ministry of Environment officially recognized O Kasieb CPA in Ratanakiri province and O Kapin in Stung Treng province through MoE's proclamation No.046 and 047.

Impact 2:

- The working group was established for intervention illegal cases at five target villages. This group now is holding meeting at every quarter to solve issues brought by community wardens and CBOs. However, the network community of CBO can't be created, thanks to CBO doesn't have legal entity status as CPA committee.
- In Ratanakiri province, the DOE with support of NGOs consisted of NTFP, Birdlife and SWC had created the CPA network which 7 CPAs will join the meeting. Whereas, in Stung Treng province, no CPA network yet.
- 25 members of Community Wardens regularly conduct the forest and gibbon patrol. The CBO and Community Warden hold regularly month meeting to report their works about the illegal logging and report to the working group. In overall, these two groups are functioning to protect their forest and wildlife.
- A mountain at Bakae village is being requested for conservation and protection sites for eco-tourism. The communities had dabbed their thumb printed to ask the provincial governor of Ratanakiri. The mountain has a lot of wildlife such as gibbon, primates, and dears and other wildlife species. The clergyman of pagoda at Baekae village contributed cement to make concrete pole for boundary demarcation.

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
POH KAO is dedicated to the site, and undertakes to support NTFP on the long term for fundraising and provide technical advices.	POH KAO is still supporting NTFP both to seek fund and technical aspects. POH KAO is doing fund raising in order to continue the completion of VSSPNP project, including looking for alternative to generate income for communities to sustain the project.
The proposed project will initiate the creation of a network of CBOs link to Prey Lang network, and will have to be consolidate.	The 5 CBOs had connected network with Prey Lang community through conducting two times of visit to exchange experiences with each others (first time in Phnom Penh, and 2nd time at Stung Treng province). The communities have plan to invite the Prey Lang to come to visit VSSPNP in the future. The community wardens still communicated with the Prey Lang's Oriented Group for consultation. Additionally, NTFP joined Prey Lang's workshop in Kampong Thom province which facilitated by MoE. The workshop was to share Prey Lang's activities updated challenges, solutions and Prey Lang sanctuary management".
VSSPNP and surrounding forests have to be supported on the long term, therefore we will continue to apply proposals.	POH KAO is doing the fund raising with different conservation donors to continue the completion of the project and finding the alternative of income

generation for project sustainability.

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
1. The obtention of a title of Community Forest or Community Protected Areas will ensure a protection of VSSPNP and especially Spirit Forests.	Ministry of Environment officially recognized O Kasiab CPA in Ratanakiri province and O Kapin in Stung Treng province through MoE's proclamation No.046.
2. A network of communities in the Veun Sai-Siem Pang National Park and the surrounding landscape will begin to challenge the large-scale logging in the area. Strengthening of the VSSPC network of community-based organizations will enable a collective response to the threat of illegal logging in the area.	- The chief of Community Warden, a monk, and village chief at Bak Kae mobilized the community to collect 69 families' thumb print so that to create the two spirit forest sites located outside the national park for the Eco-Tourism project. The thumb prints will be submitted to district authorities. - The challenges of communities in relation with natural resource management including issue of forest patrol was resolved in network meeting between communities, commune authorities, district authorities, and Department of Environment. Deputy District Governor told local authorities to strengthen the land encroachment which outsiders bought land. DoE agreed to increase Rangers' participation in forest patrol to curb the intimidation by perps. The participants openly shared their difficulty and find common solutions. - Quarterly working group meeting between Community Warden, CBOs, and local authorities are regularly conducted to solve the problem.
[DELETED]	The DoE and Department of Agriculture supported the purpose of the network of Vernsai Siempang Protected Community (VSSPC) that is the community based organization. The VSSPC is created to respond to the threat of illegal logging in the target areas, through strengthening the communities to negotiate with the government. The fact led to have support from the two provincial departments is that the VSSPC is combined by 21 other community groups within the Virachey National Park and Lumphat Wildlife Sanctuary. The network had established statute and organized workshop to consult with the two departments, which later became the advisory board of the VSSPC network. As the VSSPC network has strong voice, it has pushed the MoE hastily to create the draft guidelines in terms of the creation of CPA Alliance.

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives

1.1 The human resources of the 5 villages, in Veunsai district of Ratanakiri province and Siempang district of Stung Treng province were developed to become the leader and protectionist for VSSPNP, which include creation of CPAs and determination of ICCA (Indigenous Community Conserved Areas) as the buffer zones of the 5 villages. The community members of those five villages had decided to prepare their own representatives in each village through CBO, which consisted 5 members per village. These CBOs' capacity were developed on various skill, those are leadership, facilitation, community's mobilization, capacity to conduct the forest patrol and capacity to communicate and report for the local authorities to solve challenges in the VSSPNP. Until now, 7 quarterly meetings between the CBOs and the Working Group to sort issues out. The issues to be handled were related to the collection of snares from forest and the forest violation. The 5 CBOs connected network with Prey Lang community through conducting two times of visit to exchange experiences with each others.

1.2: The 5 villages were fulfilling the administrative paper works and procedures to demand their rights in natural resource management and national park. The 5 villages had completed administrative documents of CPA's creation, which composed of documents such as membership forms with thumbprints of each family and it was recognized by the commune chief. The determination of boundary to request for the CPA's creation within the national park. The creation of draft UTM maps about CPA boundary at provincial level. The requests were submitted to Minister of MoE for the recognition of maps and the CPAs. All documents were signed by communes, national parks, district governors, and the DoEs and provincial governors of the two provinces. Finally, Minister of MoE officially issued the recognized proclamation of the two CPAs. The chief communes, and the Directors of National Park and Director of DoE signed on statutes of the two O Kasieb CPA of Ratanakiri and O Kapin CPA of Stung Treng province.

2.1: The research about conservation of biodiversity and gibbon protection was established by different expertise. The 1st technical expert is to study on forest cover in order to determine the primary data, in which later it will be analyzed to compare it after the project's intervention. The 2nd technical expert studied on gibbon sanctuary and its surrounding living areas. As result, the project created the gibbon map for the purpose to increase the effectiveness in conservation and protection. The two above reports were produced and distributed to relevant stakeholders to use as basis in finding options for proper solution. The success of research was dependent on the active participation of communities and the CBOs. The data, knowledge and information in the research reports were collected and input accurately from the communities and CBOs.

Challenges

- The DoE of Ratanakiri province didn't agree with the O Kasieb CPA location, which had been originally requested in April 2017, as it said the request CPA location affects the core zone.
- The government shifted leadership of forest management from Ministry of Agriculture to MoE. All guidelines and other legal procedures were changed, as result, it had significantly affected the project's plan, and caused some sorts of project's activities hindrance and lateness.
- The issue of country politic led to kind of restriction on NGOs field works. The government staff are reluctant and cautious to collaborate with NTFP.
- The issue of natural disaster, i.e storm often happened, which is difficult to access to the target areas. All these factors, also delayed the project's achievement.



Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

There were two unexpected impacts which happened during the project implementation.

- 1. The Communities in Talae and Kang Nauk village stopped the illegal mining company, while they patrolled the forest and gibbons.**
- 2. Rangers at Stung Streng province ordered a group of Chinese that is bulldozing forest to make road leading to area of mining exploration within the national park to stop and move all their equipment out of the incident place. The halting incidence happened thanks to Chinese group doesn't have legal paper work.**
 - 1. A mountain at Bakae village is being requested for conservation and protection sites for eco-tourism. The communities had dabbed their thumb printed to ask the provincial governor of Ratanakiri. The mountain has a lot of wildlife such as gibbon, primates, and dears and other wildlife species. The clergyman of pagoda at Baekae village contributed cement to make concrete pole for boundary demarcation.**
 - 2. The community wardens in I-tub village took money from offenders while patrolling the forest and gibbons.**

Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1	Component 1. Increase the protection of VSSPNP through both creation of Community Forest designation and ICCA designation as a buffer zone for the five villages in Veun Sai District, Rattanakiri Province and Siem Pang District, Stung Treng Province by 2018	1.1	Constructive dialogue initiated between participants and project coordination team to mitigate conflict and promote dialogue to reach the objectives of CF/CPA and Community Patrols Network creation, as demonstrated by minutes of community meetings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Stung Treng authorities assented on the NTFP's request for collaboration in Dec 2017. In Ratanakiri province, the Letter of Agreement (LoA) was signed since April 2016. - The project initial workshop was organized in Ratanakiri province on 31st May 2016, participated by involved authorities of 2 provinces, such as: Deputy Provincial Governor, Senior officials of DoEs, Deputy District Governors, commune chiefs and community's representatives, total were 43 persons. - Held workshop to orient project at 5 target villages, joined by 445 participants (153 females). Those who received dissemination were equaled 81% of total families. - The project's MoU was signed with MoE and LoA was signed with DoE of Ratanakiri province. The LoA with Stung Treng wasn't signed yet thanks to their busy works. But DoE seconded one technical staff to collaborate and 2 Rangers to lead community patrol. - 45 signed boards were allowed to install at public and in the Siem Pang National park. - DoEs agreed for NTFP to install the Camera trap within the VSSPN, including sending the technical staff to install it. - 25 members of community warden (CW) received training on community mobilization, networking and activity of community network through exchange visit with Prey Lang network.
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (Nomascus annamensis) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the	2.9	Reduced land and resource conflict cases over the period of project implementation through collaborative work between the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commune chief in Veunsai was at the meeting and knew about the issue. He also investigated the case of villagers in Kang Nauk which Chinese trader in Veunsai cut the forest around burial sites of Kavet's ancestor in Kang Nauk (the case occurred during July and Aug 2016). The community authorities in Veunsai intervened the conflict. • Commune chief and Talae village chief, a Ranger chief in Seam Pang had intervened to solve the issues. The group of soldiers which consisted 6 people left the zones as result of the intervention by the Ranger.

	forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.		community members and the working groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In July 2017 and Jan-Feb 19, 14 cases of conflict had been solved by working group. Two conflicts involved with deforestation, and land extended in Kang Nauk and Backae villages. One conflict was about issue of cut forest to extend new Chamkar in the spirit forest (Backae spirit forest). • In October 2017 , a natural resource conflict happened in Kang Nauk spirit forest, (Phnom Lung mountain) about outsiders came to dig diamond in the mountain. (There were 4 offenders_ three of them were traders in Veunsai and one was Vietnamese. <p>From Jan to Feb 2019, the project staffs conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenging issues of natural resources in the project sites were solved by working group in Dec 2018, which participated by MoE staffs. Project staff
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annammensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.	2.10	Training and mentoring to better track and document the forest and gibbon crimes. Each community warden group will be provided a smartphone or GPS-tracked camera to picture offenses and share with other forest protection networks (e.g. Prey Lang Network)	<p>Each village of community warden group received 1 GPS, 1 camera, six raincoats, hammocks, 1 first aid kit, and SMART report form in Khmer.</p> <p>Beside these, the project staff continued to train, follow up, and collect patrolling data from community wardens. The community had learned and refreshed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to record the field data more accuracy and properly, • Additional information have been reminded/mentioned to make a record in order to provide the better efforts to the SMART Database includes; accurate waypoint of START and END Patrol, daily record of each patrol and date clearly, number of observation (e.g # of traps, # of log (m3 or piece)action taken of the observations are strictly mentioned.
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annammensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the	2.11	The land use and forest type documented and used for future communication to draw a higher-level	<p>1, First phase of research: The land use map 2016-2017 was produced with data analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evergreen forest increased (because it spreads and covers on the areas of deciduous forest. See land use map 2016-2017 by Mr. Mean Ratanak) • Deciduous forest decreased (because it became as the Evergreen forest and covers on the areas.) • Swidden agriculture decreased (because some of Chamkars was grown by cashew nut trees. They didn't

	community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.		intervention to better protect the forest and biodiversity.	grow rice like in the past.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paddy rice fields increased • Sandy fields decreased <p>2, Second phase of research: The land use map 2017-2018 was produced with data analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evergreen forest decreased (because it was been cut Chamkars on the areas. See land use map 2017-2018 by Mr. Mean Ratanak) • Deciduous forest decreased (because it was been cut the wood to become Chamkars to grow villagers' cashew nut trees.) • Swidden agriculture increased (because it was been cutting Chamkars on the areas.) • Paddy rice fields increased. • Sandy fields decreased.
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annammensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.	2.12	Regulation of Gibbon conservation area approved by provincial governor.	In December 2017, a field mission was conducted at the project sites. The community wardens, elders, village chiefs and local authorities attended the meeting. The purpose of the mission is seeking out and discuss with involved parties at the project site in order to produce the Gibbon Map which recognized by those involved parties. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The locations of gibbons were discussed and fingered by the attendees. • The drafted map of gibbon located was presented by the consultant, Mr. Sam Un. • The new specific map of gibbons at the sites of Veunsai_Siem Pang was consulted and created by the participation of community and local authorities. • The sustainable conservation of gibbon's species at the sites was discussed and taken action to continue the protection.
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annammensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity,	2.13	VSSP Network recognized by local authorities. The 5 CBOs of the 5 villages formed with an overall objective and internal regulation to enhance their support in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community wardens in VSSP joined patrols and shared experiences about forest protection with Prey Lang community wardens. With these experiences, the VSSP communities were able to create a VSSP network in other to have strong voice for their wildlife and forest protection. • VSSP communities shared knowledge of forest and wildlife protection to the other CPA network in Ratanakiri that they had learned from Prey Lang communities during the visit. • The president of CPA from Ratanakiri had been fielded as the candidate for CPA network election. • VSSP community representatives had been fielded

	raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.		protecting forest and biodiversity as well as tracking down illegal activities collectively	as the candidate for CPA network election in Ratankiri, which conducted by Birdlife. Unfortunately, they failed the election, as only members of CPA network in Ratanakiri. • NTFP joined Prey Lang’s workshop in Kampong Thom province which facilitated by MoE. The workshop was to share Prey Lang’s activities updated challenges, solutions and Prey Lang sanctuary management.
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annammensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.	2.14	Hold regular quarter network meetings to reflect patrol findings and seek solutions to better protect the forest and biodiversity within the target community areas.	5 quarterly network meetings conducted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st meeting was conducted July 2016 at Kang Nauk village, to solve case of Chinese people in Veunsai abused on land around burial sites of Kavet’s ancestor in Kang Nauk village. • 2nd meeting was conducted on March, 2017 at Talae village. (In case of golden mine researching in Ou Kapin area, by a group of soldiers had 6 people (two of them were Vietnamese). • 3rd and 4th meeting in July 2017 at Veunsai Commune. The meeting was conducted by working group to seek for better solutions to protect the forest and biodiversity. Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☑ Many issues with forestry, mineral, and land had been consulted and found out solutions by involved authorities and stakeholders. ☑ Many forest and land conflicts were reduced at sites. ☑ Forestry and CPA law, and CPA statute were promoted by DoE. • 5th meeting held in Feb 21, 2019, the communities in Stung Treng raised the challenges of their natural resources protection caused by outsiders to the chief of ranger in Siem Pang and district and commune authorities. ☑ Project staff summarized main project achieved during the period of the 2018 to Siem Pang’s authorities and DoE in Stung Treng.
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annammensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the	2.15	Initiate collaborative approach between VSSP Network and Prey Lang network (PLN)	During June 2017, the project team, VSSP community wardens and Birdlife’s communities had a meeting with Prey Lang community in Kaing Cham village, Kain Cham commune, Thalarboravat district, Stung Treng province. There were 54 participants. (Six participants were women). Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learned about the background of PLN creation. • Learned about structures of Prey Lang Network. • Shared experiences, implemented activities and results with Prey Lang Network

	forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community wardens in VSSP joined forest patrols with Prey Lang community wardens The community wardens in VSSP shared experiences with Prey Lang community wardens
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annamensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.	2.16	Strengthened organizational capacity of NTFP to plan and implement conservation projects, as demonstrated by increased civil society tracking tool scores over the project period”	<p>The project staffs learned more technical skills from technical consultants such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SMART Conservation Model <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to create the conservation model (SMART) to his laptop plus other two colleagues, - Be able to entry SMART data from the community patrols, - Be able to download GPS file (GPX) from community GPS data to view on the map and loading into SMART. - Be able to check and monitor how the data from community work by using few software; Easy GPS, Basecamp, and google earth. GIS Program (ArcMap10.1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to review the map in ArcGIS, the Basecamp program, and Google earth and understand about forest cover - How to download the maps from satellites, insert GPS data to ArcGIS, Legend and compass... - How to design layers into ArcMap. - How to export the map from ArcGIS to the photo or PDF file.
1	Component 1. Increase the protection of VSSPNP through both creation of Community Forest designation and ICCA designation as a buffer zone for the five villages in Veun Sai District, Rattanakiri Province and Siem Pang District, Stung Treng Province	1.2	CF/CPA documents submitted to local authorities are approved by 2018.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed the application form of community membership at Kang Nauk for 121 families, Bakae 69 families, Itub 14 families, Kiri Vongsa Krom 107 families of Ratanakiri province and Kiri Bass Krom 141 families of Stung Treng province. The CPA committee was established through vote by community voice of each village. The session was facilitated by the DoE official and observed by commune and district authorities. In Ratanakiri, 14 members of Ou Kaseab CPA committee were voted and selected on 25th, Aug 2017. In Stung Treng, 7 members of Ou Kapin CPA committee were voted and selected on 26th Dec 2017. After selection, the Ou Kaseab and Ou Kapin’s CPA committee were oriented about their roles. The commune in Ratanakiri province issued recognition letter on 25th Aug 2017, and in Stung Treng was on 26th Dec 2017. The draft statute of Ou Kaseab and Ou Kapin’s

	by 2018			<p>CPA were created and submitted to the involved institutes for consultation. This is the first step of meeting at commune level between the community committee with local authorities and technical officials to check all 11 Parts and 60 sections of statute.</p> <p>- The draft statute of step 2 was conducted at village level. All community's members were invited for explanation and consultation.</p>
1	<p>Component 1. Increase the protection of VSSPNP through both creation of Community Forest designation and ICCA designation as a buffer zone for the five villages in Veun Sai District, Rattanakiri Province and Siem Pang District, Stung Treng Province by 2018</p>	1.3	<p>Approval of proposed CPA, CF (or ICCA) maps by the provincial governor</p>	<p>- After collection the GPS data at field, led by technical officials from DoE and National Park of 2 provinces, later on two maps had been produced. 3 villages of Ratanakiri had collected 16 GPS data points and 2 villages of Stung Treng had collected GPS data 35 points. By having the GPS data, technical officials had produced the UTM maps total size of the CPA Ou Kapin CPA is 3522.43 hectares and Ou Kaseab CPA is 1669.67 hectares.</p> <p>- The two maps of CPA were submitted for approval from the commune authorities, Directors of National Park, District Governors, DoEs, and the Provincial Governors prior submitting to MoE. Up to the end of Feb 2018, the request of Ou Kaseab CPA of Ratanakiri province was approved the provincial governor, but in Stung Treng hasn't approved yet.</p> <p>In Dec 2018, the working of MoE conducted field visit to assess the UTM map of CPAs. After field assessment, the MoE working group corrected figures of the two CPAs, CPA Ou Kasieb 1668 hectares and CPA Ou Kapin 3514 hectares. The working group submitted the assessment report to Minister of Environment to ask for approval and issuance of declaration to recognize the two CPAs.</p> <p>In Feb 2019, the Minister of MoE issued the recognized proclamation for the CPA Ou Kasieb 1668 hectares and CPA Ou Kapin 3514 hectares</p>
2	<p>Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annamensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity,</p>	2.1	<p>Creation of five community based organizations (CBO) to patrol and monitor the gibbon conservation areas; Minutes of meetings at commune and district levels</p>	<p>CBO's creations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four villages were conducted the meeting of CBO's election. The 24 CBO members were selected, including village chief as a board of CBOs per village. • Roles and responsibilities of CBO were created with mutual understanding of communities which facilitated by NTFP staffs. • The village meetings were conducted at village level to validate the formed community wardens. (Most of them were selected from Community Warden) • 4 minute-taking reports were endorsed by the village chiefs and commune chiefs <p>Working Group's Creation</p>

	raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.		to create two working groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two working groups in Veunsai district and Siem Pang district were created. • The minute meeting of working group was produced. (the both districts) • The list of attendees of meeting in the created working groups was recorded by the project staff. • Roles and responsibilities of working groups were discussed and determined. • The components of working groups were disclosed. • The aims of working group were presented.
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annamensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.	2.2	Map of gibbon areas produced and approved by villages, commune and district, submitted to province DoE and FA cantonment. Minutes + participant lists of 8 quarterly network meetings among community patrol teams to enhance communication and solve problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A five-village land use map was developed with proposed areas for CPAs and gibbon patrolling areas par with 60% completing process (Because we found gibbon locations by community wardens' information through visual and sounds of gibbon) • The gibbon areas were found out by community wardens_Kang Nork: 4 locations of gibbon, Kapin: 3 locations, Talae: 3 locations, Backae: 2 locations of gibbon, and I-tub: 2 locations. • The field meeting at village level, which participated by communities and involved authorities to produce the gibbon map. • The Gibbon Map in Veunsai –SiemPang National Park was completely produced by the consultant in participatory. • A map of wildlife endangered species also produced in order to take action to protect the rare species in VSSP.
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annamensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the	2.3	Five elected COBs by at least 60% of community members participated in the election.	<p>The votes were proceeded in December 2016 in four villages (Kapin, Talae, Kang Nuok, Backae), CBOs were elected by 59% of villagers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First meeting of CBO's election was held in Kang Nauk village on 21st July 2016, joined by 53 participants (which 12 persons were female) that total amounts of the family in the villages are 97 families. • 2nd meeting of CBO's election was held in Kiri Vongsa Krom village (Kapin) on 21st December 2016, joined by 31 participants (which 6 persons were female) that total amounts of the family in the villages are 107

	forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.			<p>families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third meeting of CBO's election was held in Kiri Bass Krom village (Talaе) on 22nd December 2016 which had 71 participants (which 42 persons were female) that total amounts of the family in the villages are 141 families. • Fourth meeting of CBO's election was held in Backae village on 23rd December 2016 which had 41 participants (which 19 persons were female) that total amounts of the family in the villages are 97 families. <p>Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ 4 CBOs were created and actively led the community members in various aspects and even beyond the scope of this project. ☐ The CBOs management structures were created by participatory from communities and authorities. ☐ Minutes of CBO election were recorded by the project staffs.
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annamensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.	2.4	25 recruited community wardens will be regularly patrolling and monitoring the spirit forest and gibbon conservation areas, in joint patrols with Department of Environment rangers (4 rangers)	<p>During training, 25 community forest wardens (of which 5 were female) were selected for forest and gibbon protection. In addition, initial 2-month patrol plans were developed for a trial for 5 villages.</p> <p>Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 community forest wardens selected • 5 village patrol plans initially developed • 25 community forest wardens were selected to conduct the patrols on each target area. • The community warden patrolled in the forest, only 570 days (from July 2016 to Feb 2019). It means 80% of activities implemented. • There were two Rangers who regularly patrolled with the community warden. (The Rangers in Veunsai Station). For Rangers in Siem Pang station. There were no Rangers to patrol with community warden in two villages. The project staff used to coordinate many meetings with the DoE and chief of Rangers in Stung Treng, they agreed to send the rangers, but NTFP has to submit the request letter to DoE in Stung Treng every month with patrolling report of community warden. Over one year, no results of rangers to join the patrol with community warden at Stung Treng province. <p>The lacks of patrolling activities of community warden, some of them were getting busy with their rice fields. They stayed at far Chamkar (farms).</p>
2	Component 2. Protection of	2.5	Six capacity training	The trainings had been conducted during these years. The results of the provided skill and knowledge of the

	VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annammensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.		sessions to the selected community wardens and patrol groups. At least 60% of the trainees increased their knowledge on above training sessions and able to perform their tasks and producing informative community reports.	participants have increased, remarkably. Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-day commune workshop was provided to 30 villagers and authority representatives at the beginning of project. • Skills and knowledge of participants changed significantly according to the comparison of results of pre- and post-tests (conducted by Mr. Sony and Pirom) • Smart book record, monthly patrolling report, GPS and Camera usage and how to crack down the offence at the scene. • The law of protected areas and the CPA law were provided to the communities at the sites by DoE staff. In total(4 trainings/6 trainings= 0.67= 67%), one training conducted by Mr. Sony and Pirom, two trainings conducted by Eam Sam Un and the last one conducted by Mr. Hong Chhay, a technical staff from DoE in Ratanakiri. After NTFP staff held refreshing training every month, NTFP staff had the meeting with the community wardens before the reflection meeting started. The refreshing training was about how to record data to Smart books, how to write the monthly patrolling reports and roles and responsibilities of community wardens. (But no pre-test and post-test was prepared.)
2	Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annammensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.	2.6	Monthly patrols conducted, contravention delivered to offenders, snares removed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 month patrol efforts were conducted by community wardens for five villages. • Number of patrolling times of community wardens is 134 times for 5 villages. • Number of patrolling days of community wardens is 570 days for 5 villages. • Many wildlife and endangered species were found while patrolling the forest, such as_ Northern Yellow-Cheeked crested gibbons, hornbills,gaurs, silvered langur, sun bears, giant ibises, and stump-tailed macaques etc. • 179 snares were removed from the spirit forest and keep in the ranger station in Veunsai. • Confiscated 5 chainsaws and 3 man-made guns from offenders and kept in the Ranger station in Veunsai. • 2 Northern Pig-tailed Macaques had been saved and sent to WRCT at Phnom Tamo.(Savoeurn and Frang, a Balcony Guesthouse owner, took them from traders in Yeak Lom village and called to Wildlife Alliance for rescuing them.) • Newly cleared farmland during months were 42 hectares). (25 hectares from Talae village with 7 families, 14 hectare from Kang Nauk village with 4 families, 3

				<p>hectares from I-tub with 3 families.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of offenders arrested 2 cases, verbal warning. 2 cases were issued warning letters by Rangers and report to chief of Ranger in Veunsai • 5 Mechanical Mules from Veunsai attempted to access OKapin areas.
2	<p>Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annammensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.</p>	2.7	<p>10 signboards/demarcation installed on each gibbon area by CBOs, wardens, DoE and FA staff with prohibition clauses to raise awareness and re-enforce the community regulations</p>	<p>44 signed boards were produced in 2017 and transported to the each target village. The Ministry of Environment collaborated and checked the message of the signed boards. Some messages and pictures in the signed boards were corrected by project team after being checked and recommended from the MoE.</p> <p>Some villages received more signed boards than the others, because it's based on the large areas of the protected forest and large of population in the village.</p>
2	<p>Component 2. Protection of VSSPNP and new gibbon (<i>Nomascus annammensis</i>) is enhanced through engaging the community in patrols the forest and biodiversity, raising awareness of key sub-national stakeholders by 2018.</p>	2.8	<p>24 reflection meetings with committees, forest wardens, project advisory team to increase support in enhancing the forest and gibbon monitoring methods as well as proposing new methods to deal with illegal activities and resolving conflicts.</p>	<p>The project staff conducted the reflection meeting every month with the community wards and CBO committees. The project manager held reflection meetings and refreshed training every month with the community wardens. The meeting was to find out difficult issues occurred surrounding target areas, such as forest violation from outsiders, especially the increase of land conflicts and to find common solution to the problems. The refreshing trainings were talked about how to record data to Smart books, how to write the monthly patrolling reports and roles and responsibilities of community wardens. Aside from that, the meeting also discussed about.</p>

Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

The tools, products or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results

- We used PRA tool. (Participatory Rural Assessment)
- We determine the CPA map by participatory
- We used signed boards to install at the spiritual forest and entrance of the forest.
- We produced T-shirts to share to community warden teams.
- We provide ICOMs and VHF for telecommunication for the rural areas.
- We used Smart Book, cameras, GPSs to record gibbons, wildlife and illegal logging.
- We used Satellite Imagery to monitor the forest and land cover.
- We sent the community wardens in VSSP to Prey Lang (exchange visit) to learn experiences.
- The communities protected and conserved forest through ordaining trees by wrapping monk's robe.

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.

Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

- Working with Lao people to protect forest and wildlife are not quite successful, given they often embroil in illegal logging. Mostly, they contravene the laws. They always destroy forest through illegal logging and infringed land to expand their farm.

Based on this lesson learnt, the project had focused strengthening some of their knowledge, through dissemination of related laws such as wildlife protection law, forest law, land laws and CPA law etc. Another lesson learnt with Lao ethnicity, while they were punished by local authorities through law enforcement, they are afraid.

- Conversely, working with the indigenous people such as Kavet ethnicity in protection the forest and wildlife is quite successful.

The Kavet people have good traditional knowledge about forest and wildlife's stewards. They were interested in forest and wildlife protections and taking care of the environment issues.

- In Kiribass Krom village, at Santhipeap commune, of Siempang district, in Stung Treng province, numbers of kinship families cooperated to protect around 100 hectares of mal wanut and resin trees from being fallen by outsider offenses. Those communities protected the forest areas thanks to the annual income from these trees are around 1000 to 1500 USD.

Sustainability / Replication

Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

1) During the project implementation period, the project team created committees for the both CPA_ Stung Treng and Ratanakiri. After the final field mission at the end of project, the project team proposed consultation meeting with the CPA committees about how to protect the forest when the project suspended or phase-out.

The CPA committees proposed to create funds for their villages to continue the forest protection, when the project ended. The funds could be raised from their CPA members, offender's fine, eco-tourisms and other resources. And these were unplanned activities that we never expected it to be happened in the previous time.

2) A mountain at Bakae village is being requested for conservation and protection sites for eco-tourism. The communities had dabbed their thumb printed to ask the provincial governor of Ratanakiri. The mountain has a lot of wildlife such as gibbon, primates, and dears and other wildlife species. The clergyman of pagoda at Baekae village contributed cement to make concrete pole for boundary demarcation.

3) In Kiribass Krom village, at Santhipeap commune, of Siempang district, in Stung Treng province, numbers of kinship families cooperated to protect around 100 hectares of mal wanut and resin trees from being fallen by outsider offenses. Those communities protected the forest areas thanks to the annual income from these trees are around 1000 to 1500 USD.

Safeguards

If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental, or pest management safeguards

1. What positive impacts with indigenous people have occurred as a result of the Project? The community's members at 5 target villages of Vernsai-Siempang National Park gained basic knowledge on biodiversity, knowledge on related Articles in the forest law/CPA's laws, and the indigenous people's rights. They began to aware their rights in using and co-managing the natural resources, which before they often thought it is the authority and competence of the government. Through these increased knowledge, the remarkable project's impact had been happened after communities used their rights to protect their natural resources. Those are:

- The activities of illegal forest clearance had been reduced.
- The criminal activities on wildlife has been significantly reduced. The gibbons began to be safe.
- The spiritual forest, and IP's burial sites are well protected.
- The community's participation to protect forest and wildlife have been increased voluntarily.

- The local authorities, including village and commune chiefs are supporting the community. They had engaged in the community's patrolling activities.
- Offenses that involved with gold mine and forests from outsiders into the areas were intervened by local authorities and communities. And the offenders escaped from the scene. No any mineral digging so far has been reported.

In 2016, the government had approved the forest areas at Vernsai-Siempang as National Park. This legal framework is the key factor to protect forest, wildlife and land from any illegal activities to damage the environment.

- What unexpected negative impacts have occurred as a result of the Project? Since project started, it has been observed that some members of communities who are embroiling in the illegal activities on wildlife and logging are not happy with the project. These offenders often alluded the threatening words through their bullied behavior toward the other community's members, especially the community wardens. While the government approved the Vernsai-Siempang areas as national park, some members of community that own farm lands around these areas are worried their farms will be dispossessed by the state in the future. They are also afraid their livelihood will be affected, as their daily subsistence is depending on collecting ntfps from the forest, such as malva nut trees and traditionally practice collecting the tree's resin and so forth. Some mischievous community's members, mostly are the illegal loggers and poachers are not happy with the project. They crept to destroy the project signed boards.
- Have further FPIC consultations been done during project implementation, and if so, what the results of these were?
- The relevant stakeholders of project, including communities, local authorities, and Provincial Departments of Ratanakiri and Stung Treng provinces, had been broadly consulted by the project since its inception. The consultations had been conducted in various events such as: Workshop to launch the project at provincial level, which had participated by the community's representatives from target villages, local authorities, relevant Provincial Departments, and NGOs, from Ratanakiri and Stung Treng provinces. Field consultation and discussion for one month in 2016 at 3 Kawet villages in the sequences of meeting at the village level. The topics in terms of positive and negative impact to join co-management of the national park was critically raised for dialogue. The national park's officials were also invited to meet and consult with the community's members at their villages, because the communities wanted to hear direct messages from the government official. For example, the project staff coordinated and invited the government officials (DoE and District governor) to promote the awareness of principle guideline of community rights in National Park protection and participatory. (during December 2017). The other two villages, which are the Lao ethnicity, had been given time almost for one year, for them to consult and make decision among their community's members. That's because they have been hesitated to participate the project, especially to apply as the CPA's membership. But, they always participated in various community's meetings and forest patrol activities, despite they haven't made decision yet.
- Based on informal interaction with the members of community, it showed that the government didn't widely and broadly consult with concerned stakeholders, particularly the indigenous communities that lives in those areas, before the Vernsai-Siempang areas had been placed as national park.
- What measures are in place to avoid adverse impacts and provide culturally appropriate benefits? The project staff had spent times to mainstream to do the awareness at the two



villages of Lao ethnicity, little by little. Finally, the Backae village applied to be the CPA membership in Dec 2016. They had asked to consult and discuss between their villages' members since May 2016. (The last Itub village agreed to join in Feb 2017 after they understood). The project had established the Community Warden to protect forest, wildlife and taking part to do the forest patrol. Those who were interested to join the Community Warden team were on volunteer principle, and their community's members actively took part in the selection process. The project also established the community based organization (CBO) to represent their communities and to support the community warden team. This CBO body plays role to collaborate and cooperate with village chiefs, commune chiefs and rangers, such as report, liaise and communicate with the local authorities. The project created two CPAs_ CPA Ou Kapin and CPA Ou Kasieb, which participated by village chiefs, commune chiefs, district governors and DoE representatives. The CPA committees created through election and had recognized by commune level. The CPA was completely processed at commune level with community participation.

- Explain what has happened in establishing a grievance mechanism?
NTFP, as organization had consulted internally in Nov- Dec 2016 to establish the grievance policy with clear mechanism. In this grievance policy, there is complaint form to be completed. However, thanks to the communities don't have good Khmer language, and because the isolated geography of the 5 target villages to Banlung, the provincial town. Therefore, as of 2017, NTFP created two lines of phone numbers for communities to make complaint. NTFP staff will record into the complaint form for them. NTFP had asked commune chiefs to use his/her phone numbers for communities to make complaint in case they have found any problems by private companies. NTFP is a Steering Committee and a member of Extractive Industry Social Environmental Impact Network at national level. NTFP will raise issue of mining by Vietnamese company to the network for more information search for intervention. There is hotline phone number for community to report directly to Ministry of Mining and Energy. Communities identified the offenders in the target areas reported the forest crimes to Rangers. Communities in the target areas reported the forest crimes and identify the offenders to Rangers. The Rangers take action by investigating the cases. Then, they fill the complaints to National Park Director.
- List any grievances (if any) that have been raised through the grievance mechanism, and what the IP community did to deal with these?
Two working groups which composed of (Community Warden, villages, communes, district, Rangers and DoE) to intervene the offenses were established. During the project's implementation in 2016, there were outsider's violation on their territory.
 - (1) The communities at Korng Nork lodged complaint to village and commune chiefs to solve the problem regarding the Chinese businessman from Vernsai district cleared forest's land near the Kawet burials site. The communities also had filed complaint to the National Park's authority, as well.
 - (2) The communities had lodged complaint to National Park's authority, and reported to NTFP about the presence of a Vietnamese company entered into the national park area to explore gold mine. It is said that there is gold mine in the Vernsai-Siempang National Park. The company escorted by soldiers to protect their activity.
 - (3) The communities had reported to the Director of National Park about one powerful Khmer family who migrated to live in Ta Lae village, one of the 5 target villages. This family is encroaching and expanding land by clearing the forest.
 - (4) The complaint letters against offenders were submitted by rangers to National Park's Director to legally take action.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF

In the project's operation, the government obliges all project's implementers to follow the Ministry Guidelines which determined by law. Within the guideline defined role and responsibility of MoE's officials in service provision to process the management procedures of national park, which incorporate the community's participation, namely in CPA's preparation. Therefore, the CEPF should allow fund to support the food, accommodation and traveling cost for the MoE's technical officials while come to support the project.

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

Total additional funding (US\$)

Type of funding

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

- A *Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B *Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C *Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

A: Project Co-Finance

Nature of the expense	Total budget	Cofunding	
		CEPF	FE
Salary and benefit	\$ 51,624.40	\$ 45,716.00	\$ 5,908.40
Professional Services	\$ 62,542.80	\$ 52,900.00	\$ 9,642.80
Rent and Storage	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Telecommunications	\$	\$	\$

	1,080.00		1,080.00
	\$	\$	\$
Postage and delivery	400.00	100.00	300.00
	\$	\$	\$
Supplies	1,980.00	1,980.00	
	\$	\$	\$
Furnitures and equipment	4,377.00	3,377.00	1,000.00
	\$	\$	\$
Maintenance	1,360.00	50.00	1,310.00
	\$	\$	\$
Travel	19,261.00	11,880.00	7,381.00
	\$	\$	\$
Meetings and special events	30,118.80	8,307.00	21,811.80
	\$	\$	\$
Grant total	173,944.00	124,910.00	49,034.00

B: Grantee and Partgner Leverageing: POH KAO and NTFP.

C: Regional/Portolio: N/A

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

1. Please include your full contact details (Name, Organization, Mailing address, Telephone number, E-mail address) below

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