

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Chamroen Chiet Khmer (CCK)
Project Title:	Establishing sustainable community fisheries and wetland management at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve
Date of Report:	7 th November 2013
Report Author and Contact Information:	Mrs. Hem Sakhan Director of Chamroen Chiet Khmer Email: sakhan.ccktakeo@yahoo.com Tel: (855-12) 791 421

CEPF Region: Indo-Burma

Strategic Direction: Conservation of non-breeding populations of Sarus Crane and its habitat in the Lower Mekong Delta project links directly to CEPF investment strategy, CEPF strategic directions 3. **Engage key actors in reconciling biodiversity conservation and development objectives, with a particular emphasis on the Northern Limestone Highlands and Mekong River and its major tributaries.** It specifically addresses investment priority 3.1. **Support civil society efforts to analyze development policies, plans and programs, evaluate their impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and propose alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures.**

Grant Amount: US\$ 20,000

Project Dates: 1st November 2012 to 31st October 2013

Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):

CCK had implemented this project in partnership with Wildfowl & Wetlands Truth (WWT), BirdLife International Cambodia Programme (BirdLife) and the government's Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity (DWB) of Forestry Administration (FA). CCK had also collaborated with a number of other stakeholders such as local authorities and Fisheries Administration (FiA).

Wildfowl & Wetlands Truth (WWT)

WWT played a coordinating role and provided inputs for CCK regarding the process of community fisheries establishment at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve (BPL).

Forestry Administration (FA)

FA is one government institution within MAFF and has cooperated with BirdLife to form Local Conservation Groups (LCGs) in BPL in Takeo province since 2003 and in AP in Kampot province since 2004. Within FA, the Department of Wildlife Biodiversity (DWB) works with the relevant government institutions both at the national and provincial levels as well as local authorities and involves direct management of these reserves with the LCGs. In this project DWB had supported the establishment of Fishery Communities and coordinated for supporting from other government agencies.

Fisheries Administration (FiA)

Takeo Fisheries Administration Cantonment of Fisheries Administration has send staff to work with the conservation work in BPL since 2003. Under this project, they had been involving in all step of Fishery Communities establishment and Participatory Rural Appraisal.

Birdlife International in Indochina – Cambodia Programme (BirdLife)

BirdLife has well established project activities for wetlands in the Lower River Mekong Delta ecosystem. BirdLife Cambodia has a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (MAFF)

and has been collaborating closely with the Forestry Administration to conserve the grassland and Sarus Crane sites since 2004. Under this project, BirdLife Cambodia had supported in all step of this project activities particularly liaison with FA and other government agencies but they didn't involve in any expenditure.

Conservation Impacts

Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.

This project had linked directly to CEPF strategic directions 3. **Engage key actors in reconciling biodiversity conservation and development objectives, with a particular emphasis on the Northern Limestone Highlands and Mekong River and its major tributaries, especially investment priority 3.1.** Therefore, the project had played a vital role in wetland conservation in supporting civil society efforts to analyze development policies, plans and programs, evaluate their impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and propose alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures.

BPL is a valuable wetland that supports a variety of nationally and internationally threatened birds and provides important ecosystem services to local communities, with most economically important being dry-season rice cultivation and wild capture fisheries. Recently however, the important but limited protection afforded to BPL by the existence of a commercial fishing lot in the wetland, has been removed with the abolition of all fishing lots in Cambodia. Whilst an officially designated fishing sanctuary was created after its abolishment, the sanctuary only represents a very small portion of the reserve (around 2%) and there are no resources to implement management or safeguard it. During its existence, the fishing lot acted as *de-facto* additional protection for the reserve with corresponding benefits for biodiversity particularly Sarus Cranes which were able to feed in undisturbed areas. Indeed, the restrictions to access placed on people by the fishing lot operators, together with enforcement by LCG, are the main reasons the wetland still exists today and serves as an important feeding area for Sarus Cranes and many other waterbirds. In the absence of the fishing lot, it is almost certain there will be increased pressure to (illegally) convert this part of the wetland to intensive dry rice production and we will also see the extension of widespread, un-sustainable fishing practices into the former fishing lot. Such a scenario will reduce the ability of BPL to sustain its wildlife and the ecosystem services it provides to people in the long-term. This situation should be addressed immediately given the lack of protection that now exists and the threat from increasingly unsustainable practices (e.g. fishing out of broodstock, using illegal fishing gear etc).

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project against the expected results detailed in the approved proposal.

The project has an overall objective of development of Community Fisheries and the application of management practices that lead to sustainable use of the fishery resource at BPL. The immediate objectives are to (1) develop the community fishing area management plan that includes activities to conservation of Sarus Crane, other birds and fisheries resources and (2) take several Community Fisheries through the process of registration.

CCK has worked with several stakeholders and partners as appropriate to raise awareness of the need for sustainable management of BPL's fisheries, wildlife and the wetland as a whole and used a participatory rural appraisal approach to understand more about the fishers and fishery at BPL, to build trust and to develop a range of sustainable solutions. CCK hired a consultant to work on the management plan development and support the establishment of Fisheries Communities in BPL in Borei Chulsa and Koh Andeth districts, Takeo province. However, CCK had worked on the establishment of Kampong Krosang Fisheries Communities in Borei Chulsa district for this current project as raised in the project proposal in accordance with limited funding. Whereas, the establishment of Fisheries Communities in Koh Andet district will be considered for next project in the future.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES:

Objective 1: Development of a “community fishing area management plan” using community-based natural resource management principles.

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) report on understanding community fisheries management in BPL had been produced in both local and English languages. To achieve this report there were fieldwork activities and meetings in order to get ideas, comments, recommendations and issues from stakeholders related to their livelihood activities in BPL, status of this wetland and collection of natural resources (detailed report can be found in separate attachment). To achieve this, CCK had conducted several activities to meet and discuss with stakeholders in order to get their ideas, comments and issues in achieving this objective as follows:

- 1) On 04 December 2012 CCK staff had discussed and showed the project objectives and workplan to stakeholders during meeting in Takeo Provincial Department of Agriculture before the project implementation was started.
- 2) On 07 December 2012 NGO partnership meeting was held in BridLife Cambodia Programme Office. During the meeting CCK staff had showed the project workplan and results of meeting with stakeholders in Takeo province, their work on other things and received comments on the detailed workplan from staff of WWT and Mlup Baitong to somehow integrate and work together on some activities such as the community forums.
- 3) On 14 December 2012 CCK staff met and discussed with Mr. Kim Sarith, chief of Takeo Fisheries Administration Cantonment on the project activities and seeking collaboration for this project. Mr. Sarith had strongly supported and requested CCK to assist and strengthen the existing Kampong Krosang Community Fisheries formed on 25 May 2012 but not yet having official recognition by the provincial and national levels. He added that CCK should include other new villages if necessary when implementing this project by discussing with relevant local authorities to have better management in the fishing lots (No. 01, 02 & 03) which were abolished by the Royal Government to keep for local people's use as public fishing areas.
- 4) On 15 December 2012 CCK staff met with Mr. Ruos Roth, deputy governor of Borei Chulsa district and Mr. Neak Sokroeun, deputy chief of Kampong Krosang commune, to discuss on objectives of strengthening the Kampong Krosang Community Fisheries and to include other new target villages to well manage fisheries resources in all abolished fishing lots.
- 5) On 18 December 2012 CCK staff met with representatives of Kampong Krosang Community Fisheries to review existing documents that they have. During the meeting a community forum was also conducted with 19 participants in providing local people opportunity to voice their concerns and issues related to social impacts from restrictions of access to natural resources by the project implementation or law enforcement undertaken by LCG on their daily livelihood activities in BPL. No any issues on any consequences of the project were raised besides their living condition (Report on the CEPF Social Safeguard in Annex 1).
- 6) On 10 January 2013 CCK staff met with Mr. Sau Kosal, deputy chief of Takeo Fisheries Administration Cantonment, to discuss on the project process and review some existing documents in creating the existing Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries by integrating other villages in Chey Chouk commune.
- 7) On 04 February 2013 CCK staff met with WWT staff and Mr. Pech Bunna, deputy director of Community Fisheries Development Department of Fisheries Administration to discuss on activities and ToR of Mr. Pech Bunna who would be hired to work as a consultant to assist establishment of management plan and Fisheries Communities in BPL in Borei Chulsa and Koh Andet districts, Takeo province. After a contract was signed between Mrs. Hem Sakhan, CCK executive director and Mr. Pech Bunna, PRA was started and worked in the target villages consisting some objectives as follows:
 - Identify the location and extent of fishing grounds, different fishing methods used in these grounds, type of fish/aquatic animal caught (including catch/biomass estimates for each),

- Assess the relative value and importance of the different types of fisheries in each of the main fishing grounds in BPL and the origin and socio-economic status of people involved,
- Assess seasonal differences in fisheries and people involved,
- Assess the sustainability of current fishery management including the fishing methods as currently employed and an evaluation of trends,
- Identify any informal and formal customs, rules and agreements made between stakeholders to access and collect resources (and especially how this pertains to fisheries),
- Outline the arrangements pertaining to access and control over farmland and resources within and between local communities and people from outside their communities,
- Assess which stakeholders receive the most benefit from land, fisheries and other resource exploitation and if this is fairly distributed,
- Assess the relative dependence of poorest households within the communities on fisheries and other natural resources,
- Identify the current issues communities are facing related to fisheries and wetland resource management and possible solutions.

Objective 2: Taking several Community Fisheries through the process of registration:

According to consultations and discussions with stakeholders at BPL to achieve this objective, two Community Fisheries Committees need to be established by following on the district administration boundary, Borei Chulsa and Koh Andet (see map, figure 1). As limited budget, CCK had focused on setting up only one Kampong Krasang Communalities Fisheries Committee which is mostly involved in the canceled fishing lot No.1 and the government's newly established fish sanctuary in BPL. Related to the preparation and establishment of this one Kampong Krasang Communalities Fisheries Committee, CCK had worked closely with Takeo FiA Cantonment staff. The proposed documents for legal registration of this Communalities Fisheries Committee has not yet been approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) after being acknowledged by local authorities and the relevant provincial agencies. The proposed documents in establishing Kampong Krasang Communalities Fisheries Committee included structure, by-laws, regulations and management plan. Related to this process, CCK staff had conducted several activities to achieve as follows:

- 1) On 27 February 2013 a consultation meeting was held in CCK office to discuss on possibility of the re-preparation of the existing Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries that was not yet officially recognized and registered by MAFF and reviewed community map, by-law, internal rule and agreement. The meeting was attended by 25 participants who were from Takeo Fisheries Administration Cantonment, districts, communes, local authorities, armed forces, LCG and target villages including Borei Chulsa, Kampong Krasang, Kdol Chrum, Sangkum Meanchey, Banteay Sleu and Dei Leuk. According to the meeting results, two separate Community Fisheries Committees need to be developed by following on the district administration boundary comprising 1 Community Fisheries Committee in Koh Andet district including some villages such as Banteay Thleay and Keo Kamleung in Prey Khla commune; Samraong, Chambok Em and Daem Kroch in Romenh commune; and Daem Dong, Tropaing Tonle and Chroy Pon in Kropum Chhuk commune and the other Community Fisheries Committee in Borei Chulsa district by using the existing Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries Committee that needs to integrate some other villages in Chey Chouk commune. However, due to the limited budget, CCK had focused on establishing only one Community Fisheries Committee in Borei Chulsa district for this project. During the meeting a platform was provided for local people to voice any complaints or issues of impacts on their daily livelihood activities in BPL related to the project implementation (Report on the CEPF Social Safeguard in Annex 1).

- 2) From 22-27 April 2013 CCK staff and Mr. Sau Kosal, Deputy Chief of Takeo Fisheries Administration Cantonment worked with local people in 6 target villages relevant to establishment of Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries Committee as shown in the table below.

Commune	Villages	Participants	Men	Women
Kampong Krasang	Kampong Krasang	43	37	6
	Kdol Chrum	75	44	31
	Borei Chulsa	48	35	13
	Sangkum Meanchey	101	52	49
Chey Chouk	Banteay Sleuk	27	15	12
	Dei Leu	13	10	3
2 communes	6 villages	316	202	114

- 3) From 26-30 March 2013 CCK staff and Mr. Sau Kosal had worked in 13 target villages to select members as chiefs and vice chiefs in each village for Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries Committee by voting among their villagers as shown in table below.

Commune	Village	Name of Members	Role	Meeting Date	Participants
Chey Chouk	Banteay Sleuk	1-Mr. Kau Soeun 2-Mr. Ki Kann 3-Ms Cheang Sokhum	chief vice chief member	26-03-2013	27 (12 women)
	Tarakum	1-Mr. Leng Seak 2-Mr. Yan Kong 3-Mr. Nop Hin 4-Ms Dang Vy 5-Ms. Ses Song	chief vice chief member member member	27-03-2013	60 (19 women)
	Chey Chouk	1-Ms Yan Sauny 2-Mr. Ang Sarouen 3-Mr. Sang Savuth 4-Mr. Uon Sros 5-Mr. Suong Phat	chief vice chief member member member	28-03-2013	45 (25 women)
	Sangke Chuo	1-Mr. Kert Hon 2-Mr. Ki Moeun 3-Mr. Rot Sarun	chief vice chief member	29-03-2013	40 (16 women)
	Dei Leuk	1-Mr. Khiev Horm 2-Mr. Im Sokhann 3-Ms Run Sreypich	chief vice chief member	30-03-2013	13 (3 women)
	Kok Banhcha	1-Mr. Sung Net 2-Mr. Dong Khim 3-Mr. Rin Run	chief vice chief member	30-03-2013	11 (1 women)
Kampong Krasang	Borei Chulsa	1-Mr. Neak Sokroeun 2-Mr. Mos Marn 3-Mr. Hong Phu	chief vice chief member		
	Kampong Krasang	1-Mr. Sing Dara 2-Mr. Pheyoeun 3-Mr. Pros Koeun	chief vice chief member		
	Kdol Chrum	1-Mr. Nuon Ang 2-Ms Un Pich 3-Mr. Hem Sean 4-Le Chhann 5-Phann Vang	chief vice chief member member member		
	Sangkum	1-Mr. Penh Kimthon	chief		

	Meanchey	2-Mr. San Ser 3-Mr. Thang Sopheap	vice chief member		
	Thmor Beidum	1-Mr. Uk Hoeun 2-Mr. Khlit Set 3-Mr. Ya Yit	chief vice chief member		

Note: Takeo Fisheries Administration Cantonment had prepared and established Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries Committee but had not yet received legal registration from MAFF by integrating 5 villages such as Borei Chulsa, Kampong Krosang, Kdol Chrum and Thmor Beidum before this project commenced.

- 4) On 19 June 2013 CCK staff together with Mr. Sau Kosal organised a meeting in its office to announce structure of Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries Committee and introduced their role and responsibilities, by-law and regulations. 27 local people attended the meeting. Mr. Seng Kim Hout, Project Manager and Mr. Sum Phearun, CEPF-RIT Project officer for Cambodia, also attended the meeting and took sometimes to conduct a community forum with those participants (Report on the CEPF Social Safeguard in Annex 1).
- 5) On 26 June 2013 CCK organised a meeting in BPL station to discuss on preparing management plan of Krasang Community Fisheries Committee. There were 28 attendees including Takeo FiA Cantonment staff. This management plan has been used with proposed document to have legal registration from MAFF and has now under way at the national level after being acknowledged by the provincial revenant agencies.
- 6) On 13 September 2013 CCK organised one-day training on leadership in its office for Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries Committee and there were 30 participants in this course.
- 7) From 19 October 2013 a meeting was organised in the house of Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries Committee chief with 25 attendees to introduce use of permitted fishing gears and locations by local communities.
- 8) Although, the legal establishment of Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries Committee has not yet approved by MAFF, a 2-day study tour from 24-25 October 2013 for this Community Fisheries Committee had been organized to gradually improve their capacity in managing fisheries resource in BPL. 18 people including Mr. Sau Kosal, Deputy Chief of Takeo FiA Cantonment, were involved in the trip to Champei Put Sor Community Fisheries Committee in Bati district, Takeo province (figure 5, 6 &7). This Community Fisheries Committee was established in 2006 to manage the natural wetland of 1687 ha lying within two communes including Champei with 465 ha managed by 5 villages and Put Sor with 1222 ha managed by 11villages. Two fisheries conservation locations, that were legally registered by MAFF in 2012 covering on an area of 9 ha, are strictly protected and surrounded by dams and demarcation posts because in the dry season fish migrate to these deeper places. Currently, this Community Fisheries Committee has a Self Help Group with 147 members (141 women) and they have US\$ 500 incomes generated from saving fund to use for planting inundated forest and restoring fish habitat. Furthermore, they have received US\$ 53,994 from UNDP GEF/SGP and US\$ 1,500 from MRC for conservation work of fisheries resources in this site. The issue that this Committee is facing at the moment is illegal fishing activities committed by the outside communities in Ba Srae and Krang Yov communes. However, all these illegal fishing activities have been prevented in collaboration with Awareness Dissemination Department of Fisheries Administration and local authorities. Some key points that the team had received from this tour visit are:
 - o the establishment of Self Help Saving Group that some money can be generated from this for tree planting and fish habitat restoration,
 - o boundary demarcation of fish sanctuary,
 - o installing signboards for awareness and prohibited activities.

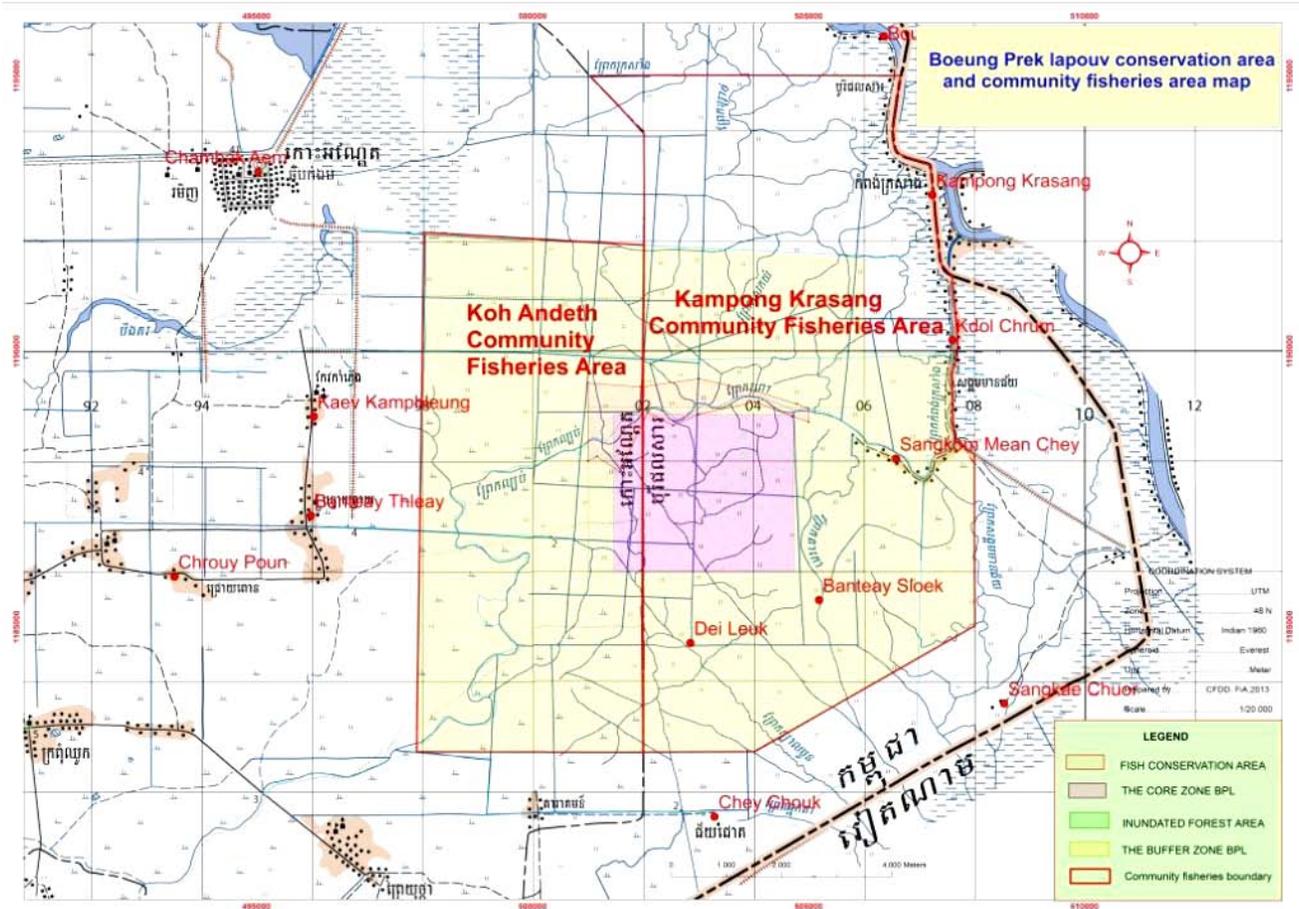


Figure 1: Map showing proposed boundary of the two Community Fisheries in two different districts



Figure 1 - 4: Local people's involvement in preparing and developing Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries Committee.



Figure 5 - 7: A study tour conducted to Champei Put Sor Community Fisheries in Bati district, Takeo province by CCK

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: 8,305 ha (BPL) in Takeo province

Species Conserved: eastern Sarus Crane and other globally threatened bird species

Corridors Created:

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

Short-term impact objectives:

The local people in the target villages in two different districts had been involved with CCK staff and Fisheries Administration officials to regarding the establishment process of Community Fisheries. They had received some knowledge and understanding on fisheries management issues during the project implementation. Local people had opportunity to raise their concerns and issues during the community forums related to their livelihood activities in BPL.

Long-term impact objectives:

The PRA report on understanding community fisheries management in BPL is significant and valuable document for use in the future to support and strengthen Community Fisheries in the future. Proposed documents of Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries establishment had officially been recognized by local authorities, district and provincial levels and has yet approved by MAFF. Therefore when MAFF approves this Community Fisheries Committee formation they will play an important role in managing fisheries resource in sustainability and work with LCG to protect and conserve BPL habitat for wildlife and other biodiversity.

CCK understands the need to address this issue, however, due to the scope of funding; the official establishment of Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries Committee in BPL cannot be fully addressed during the project period. CCK will continue to collaborate with BirdLife, FiA, and FA as well as concerned NGOs to follow up the establishment process and seek long-term funding to contribute to implementation of Community Fisheries in intention to reduce pressure on fisheries resources through supporting livelihood activities of local communities.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

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 projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

Lessons learned during the project design process are as follows:

- The project was designed with participation from the relevant stakeholders such as staff of WWT, BirdLife, Takeo Fisheries Administration and Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity to address the necessary issues to be done in achieving during this project period,
- Discussions were made with staff of WWT and BirdLife to prioritize issues and timing in achieving the project activities.

Project Implementation: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/ shortcomings)

Some lessons learned obtained during this period implementation are as follows:

- CCK staff had learned lots of new things from the collaborative CEPF projects and obtained experiences from other NGO partners and consultants, especially on site conservation and management;
- Good collaboration between local and international NGOs and the relevant government agencies was made through stakeholder meetings and a formation of Kampong Krasang Community Fisheries in BPL;
- Community forums provided opportunity to local people to voice issues and comments relating to the conservation work and their daily livelihood activities within the reserves;

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

- The LCG approach can help to significantly reduce threats to biodiversity at the important sites for conservation. However, an active, mutually supportive relationship between LCGs and government enforcement agencies is critical to the success of the approach.
- Alternative livelihood activities can make a significant contribution to local stakeholders' motivation to support or participate in conservation objectives.
- LCG can make major contributions to raising environmental awareness and generating support for conservation in their communities. However, for their potential to be fully realized, LCG need to be provided with a considerable amount of training and a diverse information base.
- More collaborative activities between local, international NGOs and the relevant government agencies were made through NGO partner meetings.
- Although local stakeholders rapidly recognize the benefits that LCGs can provide and are robust in their support of them, LCGs are unlikely to become financially sustainable without considerable investments of time and resources.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

The additional funding existed as in-kind contributions from CCK itself only during this project implementation at BPL .

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
CCK	In-kind contribution US\$ 2,520		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shared office supplies and maintenance: US\$ 50 per month for 12 months = US\$ 600• Shared transportation (motorbikes): \$30 per month for 2 persons for 12 months US\$ 720• Shared office rental: US\$ 100 per month for 12 months = US\$ 1,200

***Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A) Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF 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 project.)*
- C) Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Sustainability/Replicability

Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.

CCK will remain partners with BirdLife and WWT to develop future projects with them and seek collaboration with other local and international conservation NGOs for long-term funding. However, there are some concerns about funding for management and conservation of these key wetlands after this project terminated.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

CCK had not been required to prepare any safeguard document for this project as CCK together with WWT had already established a Process Framework for Involuntary Restrictions titled "GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING COMMUNITY FORUMS TO ASSESS INVOLUNTARY RESTRICTIONS" that may occur during another CCK's CEPF project implementation called "Establishing sustainable community fisheries and wetland management at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve. It had once been sent to CEPF together with Lol (Annex 2). And report on the CEPF Social Safeguard was produced by combining all community forums conducted during the project implementation (Annex 1).

Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

1st November 2012 – 31st October 2013

**Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.**

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved from 1 st November 2012 – 31 st October 2013 (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	No,			•
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas	No,			

did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?				
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	No,			
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	No,			
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	No,			

If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table.

Table 1: Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column

Name of Community	Community Characteristics							Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit													
	Small Landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous / ethnic peoples	Pastoralists / nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Increased Income due to:			Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure source of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decisionmaking due to strengthened civil society and governance	Other	
Total																					

If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:

Additional Comments/Recommendations

- Continuous funding after October 2013 is necessarily needed to keep LCGs in place to conduct law enforcement patrols, wildlife and biodiversity monitoring and aware raising activities as well as to implement other community activities related to local livelihood improvement linked to biodiversity conservation aspects.
- There are two main objectives raised in Lol for this project implementation as already motioned above in achievement. However, CCK follows up work needs to be further carried out, especially the establishment of Kampong Krosang Community Fisheries in BPL. While the establishment of Fisheries Communities in Koh Andet district will be considered for next project in the future.

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](http://www.cepf.net), and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

Name: Mrs. Hem Sakhan, Director of Chamroen Chiet Khmer

Organization name: Chamroen Chiet Khmer (CCK)

Mailing address: Chambok Aem Village, Rominh Commune, Koh Andeth District, Takeo Province

Tel: (855-12) 791 421

Fax:

E-mail: sakhan.ccktakeo@yahoo.com

ANNEX 1:

REPORT ON THE CEPF SOCIAL SAFEGUARD, NOVEMBER 2012 - OCTOBER 2013

The results of community forums of the two CEPF projects are combined as these projects implemented by CCK at the same time and were related.

Projects titled: “Establishing sustainable community fisheries and wetland management at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve” and “Enabling continued protection of the Boeung Prek Lapouv and Anlung Pring Sarus Crane Reserves”

A condition to receiving a small grant from CEPF is that the project integrates checks and balances to ensure that any triggering of the CEPF safeguard policy to address impacts on local community's access and collection of fisheries and other wetland resources in the established community fisheries areas or local people feel their rights have been limited in any forms regarding law enforcement on only illegal activities restriction conducted by the Local Conservation Groups (LCGs). Cases have to be taken into consideration and ultimately adequately mitigated or otherwise resolved. That's why platform for local communities to voice any complaints has been organized for the project implementation.

For these two CEPF small grant projects, CCK was agreed to use the same “GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING COMMUNITY FORUMS TO ASSESS INVOLUNTARY RESTRICTIONS” prepared together with WWT during the project implementation titled “Establishing sustainable community fisheries and wetland management at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve”. The two projects had been run simultaneously although they had been started in different time but ended at the same time. Quarterly intervals of community forums had been undertaken as indicated in the GUIDELINES. Therefore, four community forums were conducted for these two projects and results were integrated as one.

We followed guidelines by starting with general awareness on the projects, management and conservation of Sarus Crane Reserves and relevant laws during the community forums to assess community knowledge as well as their understanding and to obtain information on involuntary restrictions caused as a consequence. Four times of community forums were conducted including (1) by community fisheries project on 18th December 2012 in Kampong Krosang village, (2) by community fisheries project on 27th February 2013 in CCK office, (3) by continued protection project on 18th June in AP and 19th June 2013 in BPL and (4) by community fisheries project on 3rd September 2013 in CCK office. The results of community forums showed that there were no any Issues that were related to CEPF social safeguard policy on involuntary restrictions caused as a consequence of project implementation in BPL and AP.

At BPL on 18th December 2012 and 27th February 2013

CCK staff and LCG members organised meetings to have rapid assessments with groups of wider stakeholders and during meetings community forums were used to provide platform for local people to voice their issues, comments and concerns regarding their livelihood activities in the reserves. These meetings were held on 18th December 2012 in Kampong Krosang village with 19 local people (5 women) and held on 27th February 2013 in CCK office with 25 participants from Takeo Fisheries Administration Cantonment, districts, communes, local authorities, armed forces, LCG and targeted villages including Borei Chulsa, Kampong Krosang, Kdol Chrum, Sangkum Meanchey, Banteay Slew and Dei Leuk attending. Before CCK staff led the civil society group, Mr. Seng Vanna, LCG chief, promoted awareness to local people related to relevant laws in terms of prohibited activities such as unsustainable use of wetland resources, land clearance, wildlife hunting, illegal fishing... etc.

Issues brought up by local people during the two meetings:

- Fish yield has declined although the Royal Government of Cambodia abolished all fishing lots throughout the country and keep for local people fishing. Some reasons related to fish decline raised by local people included low floodwater and illegal fishing practices (electro-fishing, fine net use, pumping wetland...) still happening in some places committed by outsiders both Khmer and Vietnamese nationals.
- Sometimes many domestic ducks from Vietnam were allowed by government officials at border post checkpoints to feed near BPL reserve which may cause the destruction of environment and disease transmission.
- Clean water for drinking in the dry season was insufficient in villages located in and around BPL reserve. This is caused by low floodwater, flow, pollution and acidity of soils which may lead to having many illnesses occurring to local people.

- Vulnerability to flooding, lack of dry land.
- Dry season rice farming, animal raising and current natural resource extraction is not enough to raise people out of poverty and overcome hunger.

At AP on 18th June 2013

Mr. Heng Hoch – Mlup Baitong (MB) project officer and Seng Kim Hout, Project Manager, with the presence of Mr. Sum Phearun, CEPF-RIT officer in Cambodia who joined the trip for the project monitoring, organised a community forum in Thmor Bek pagoda near AP on 18th June 2013. 22 local people (from 3 different villages including Chres, Koh Chamkar and Koh Tnaot) attended the event. Some of them represented community groups established by MB active at AP. When providing an opportunity to participants to voice issues and concerns regarding their daily livelihood activities in the reserve, they had only raised one issue which was related to development of some shrimp farms located adjacent outside the reserve. They said that this may cause the prevention of their cattle and daily livelihood activities from entering those shrimp farms and may cause water pollution in the future if modern technology is applied in those areas. There were no reports of issues affecting local people's livelihoods caused by LCG's law enforcement in the reserve. *Shrimp farm development in AP brought up during the community forum, was not related to CEPF social safeguard policy on involuntary restrictions caused as a consequence of project implementation.*

At BPL on 19th June 2013

On 19th June 2013 CCK organised a discussion meeting on community fisheries project in its Koh Andet district based office with Kampong Krosang community fisheries which need to be re-established by integrating other relevant villages in Chey Chouk commune, totalling 11 villages within two communes (Kampong Krosang and Chey Chouk). The meeting was attended by 35 local people representing those villages, fisheries officials in Koh Andet and Borei Chulsa districts and Deputy Chief of Takeo Fisheries Administration Cantonment (Mr. Sau Kosal), LCG (Mr. Seng Vanna and Mr. Say Sayoeun), CEPF-RIT Cambodia Programme (Mr. Sum Phearun) and CCK staff. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the project to all Kampong Krosang community fisheries selected members and to inform them of their roles and responsibility in the future. Kim Hout took some times during the meeting use as a community forum to provide participants platform to bring up involuntary restrictions which may impact on their daily livelihood activities in BPL as a consequence caused by law enforcement implemented by the LCG. Only one issue was raised during the forum related to a mass numbers of egrets (thousands) stepping on their rice paddies located near the border with Vietnam (far south of the reserve) while they come and leave their roost in *Melaleuca* trees planted in Vietnam. Villagers told that some parts of their rice paddies were destroyed by egrets stepping on. However, Kim Hout told them that we could use any kind of materials or equipment to chase or frighten birds away but not to poison or kill. Local people used some rings and scarecrows to frighten egrets away but those birds were scared only few days and later they didn't be afraid any more. *The issue brought up by local people during the forum related to their rice paddies destroyed by egrets should be considered to have it mitigated or resolved and was not related to CEPF social safeguard policy on involuntary restrictions caused as a consequence of project implementation.*

At BPL on 3rd September 2013

On 3rd September 2013 CCK organised one day training course on leadership under community fisheries project in its Koh Andet district based office in order to provide knowledge and understanding to all selected Kampong Krasang community fisheries members with 30 people attending. During the course CCK had also provided a platform for local people to voice their concerns or issues related to their daily livelihood activities in BPL. They didn't raise any problem or issue caused by LCG's law enforcement or restriction to the collection of wetland resources. However, they told that fish had increased this year as floodwater was high. Person using long-lined hooks is able to catch fish from 1-2 kg per night. And local people had seen LCG and other government competent officials who worked on prevention of use of illegal fishing gears.

ANNEX 2:

GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING COMMUNITY FORUMS TO ASSESS INVOLUNTARY RESTRICTIONS that may occur during implementation of the CEPF project “Establishing sustainable community fisheries and wetland management at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve”

1. THE CEPF SOCIAL SAFEGUARD

The Letter of Inquiry (LoI) to the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) for the project, *Establishing sustainable community fisheries and wetland management at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve*, outlines the implementation and management of a legally designated community fishery. These activities have the potential to trigger CEPF's safeguard policy to address social impacts from restrictions of access to natural resources as per the World Bank's Involuntary Resettlement Policy (OP 4.12).

There is a Local Conservation Group (LCG) which is active at Boeung Prek Lapouv. The LCG carries out law enforcement activities, upholding relevant provisions of the laws of Cambodia, such as the Forestry Law, Fisheries Law, Decree on Wildlife Protection and the official national sub-decrees for the existing protected area and will do for the proposed new community fishery. The CEPF safeguard policy is not triggered when dealing with illegal activities.

However, it is possible that a person or persons may be inappropriately denied access to natural resources, in which case their complaints need to be heard and adequately mitigated, while solutions sought to avoid any future unlawful restrictions. As the project is also preparing management plans for the protected areas there is potential for communities to lose access rights and face increasing restrictions on resource use.

2. ASSESSING INVOLUNTARY RESTRICTIONS

The project will provide a platform for local communities to voice any complaints they may have about activities undertaken during the project implementation period and thereby enable periodic assessments of whether mitigation measures are necessary and adaptations to project implementation need to be considered.

The project leader, Chamroen Chiet Khmer (CCK) which works with communities surrounding Boeung Prek Lapouv, already holds regular meetings with community members as part of its role in the current CEPF project lead by WWT. For the community fishery project, CCK will hold, at quarterly intervals, community forums which will be held at appropriate locations so that all stakeholders from local villages are able to attend. The first community forums will be held in November/December 2012 followed by a further three before project end.

CCK is a suitable organization to facilitate the community forums as it is well-respected locally for the work it has already undertaken as part of the *Establishing Sustainable Management at Key Wetlands for Sarus Crane in the Cambodian Lower Mekong* project, and have the communities interests at heart. For example, as well as regularly holding community forums already, it has jointly lead with WWT, on facilitating the Ecosystems Services Appraisal at BPL.

Members of the Local Conservation Groups will not attend these forums, nor will any other member of government that is not a resident of that particular village. The community forums will be built on regular end of the month meetings CCK with community groups that they have formed under current and previous CEPF grants, i.e. Village Volunteer Committees, Self Help Groups, Community Livelihood and Development Management Committees, but all members of the community can participate in the forum and the time and date of the forum will be announced beforehand.

The main aim of the forum will be to obtain information on involuntary restrictions caused as a consequence of implementation of the *Establishing sustainable community fisheries at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane reserve* project, however the forum will also be used to assess community awareness of the project.

It is important that the reason for involuntary restrictions, should they occur, being imposed on an individual or group is properly assessed. Often local people are not aware of the law, i.e. what is illegal. It will therefore

be helpful if staff from CCK that will be facilitating the meetings have sufficient understanding of the laws that apply to natural resource collection and wetland reserve conservation. To that end it will be helpful if the LCG groups hold a brief refresher session explaining and reviewing laws pertaining to natural resource extraction and to the conservation areas immediately ahead of the community forum. This will help raise awareness of the appropriate laws among communities and avoid cases of involuntary restrictions imposed legally by the LCG being brought up during the forum. After the awareness raising session, the LCGs will leave and the community forum will commence under direction of a CCK representative facilitator.

A member of CCK will take minutes during each community forum so that these can be shared with project partners (including WWT and community stakeholders) and CEPF. Below is a guideline of topics to discuss in each community forum session.

Valid involuntary restrictions brought up in community forums will be flagged and the project will document mitigation measures taken. Subsequent community forums will be used to assess if the issue has been dealt with appropriately.

Table 1. Guidelines for topics to discuss in quarterly community forum sessions

Objective	Topics to discuss	Facilitator to note
1. Pre-forum Awareness Raising (LCG present)	<p>Understanding of project</p> <p>Location and boundaries of proposed community fishery</p> <p>Legal vs illegal activities</p> <p>Role of LCG</p> <p>Rationale for community fishery designation</p>	<p>Number of people that know the project objectives, the role of CCK and other partners</p> <p>Number of people that are clear about the proposed location of the community fishery area and its boundary</p> <p>Activities described as legal by participants. Activities described as illegal. LCG & Facilitator can correct participants afterwards if required.</p> <p>LCG to outline their mandate and activities</p> <p>CCK to outline rationale (with Community Fisheries consultant as appropriate)</p>
2. Pre-forum Information Gathering (LCG present)	Ongoing threats to the fishery at BPL and sustainability of current fishing activities	Threats affecting the fishery and/or sustainable fishery use, including source of threats + location if applicable.
3. Evaluation of Fishery Values and Project Benefits (LCG not present)	People's perception of existing fishery and proposed community fishery project benefits	Perceived benefits of project mentioned by participants (can include wider wetland values, e.g. water storage, fisheries, grazing, plant harvesting). Here, CCK can use data gathered from WWT's ecosystem services appraisal undertaken in January 2012
4. Involuntary Restrictions (LCG not present)	Involuntary restrictions (actual or proposed) imposed on people	<p>Involuntary restrictions mentioned by community. Facilitator needs to separate restrictions imposed on people by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - restrictions that are imposed on what clearly is an illegal activity contravening official laws, statutes and regulations (the facilitator can explain why the restriction is necessary). - restrictions where it is less clear if it concerns an illegal activity (the facilitator then, without making further judgment, needs to explain that this will be brought to the attention of the wider project for discussion).

