

CEPF Process Framework for Involuntary Restrictions

Organisation Name: Action for Development (AFD)

Project: Integrating Bengal Florican Conservation in Community Forest Management

Background:

Kampong Thom province is predominantly a rural population, with the majority of people reliant on natural resources as the main source of livelihood and income. A number of issues were considered when designing the program for delivery in Kampong Thom.

Social Context: Select only the villages surrounding the CF, as they have the local management responsibility for the forest. Understand the levels of conservation awareness and local practices of hunting and use forest resources within the communities.

Environmental/ Biodiversity considerations: Knowledge of the Bengal Florican areas of habitation during the wet season, when breeding areas on Tonle Sap Lake are flooded. It is these CF's that are identified as priority sites to improve conservation. Assessment of CF's where suitable habitat maybe available.

Local Management Structure: Consideration is given to the functionality of the existing Community Forestry Management Committee's in the target areas, and if they required support through skills development, updates to the structure of the committee or support to attend meetings commune meetings

Status of Community Forestry Management Plan: Consideration is given to the status and requirements for review of the existing by-laws for the CFMP's in the target areas to incorporate Bengal Florican conservation in the bylaws.

Participatory Implementation:

Previous Bengal Florican work with WCS identified areas where the Bengal Florican uses during the wet season. Some of the community forestry patrollers have an understanding of the areas that the Florican use, however knowledge and skills are not widely available in all the communities.

Preliminary meetings were held with the existing CFMC's, FA and CC to work out the needs of the community and for the CF in the way of education, training, identification and marking of areas and support for patrols in the forest.

Open meetings with the community are conducted to discuss the importance of the Bengal Florican and measures to protect it. People asked questions about the protection and have a desire to protect the Florican for future generations.

The marked areas designated Bengal Florican protection areas are worked out in consultation with the CFMC members and patrollers and presented to the community to discuss and seek input at an open meeting.

Hunting is already illegal within the forest, so this is to reinforce an existing law. The marking of the areas for the Bengal Florican identifies the area suitable for its habitat and conserves these areas for the Florican. The community will still be able to access this area and harvest non timber forest products. This project is to include protection of the Florican in the bylaw and to ensure that the community are involved and informed of their rights to protect the forest from hunting and logging by others outside the forest and also their responsibilities for management of the forest.

Criteria for eligibility of affected persons:

The CFMC can approve the use of the forest for people who require additional assistance (including timber harvesting), but this project did not include direct assistance to affected persons. As the Bengal Florican is already protected, it is not required to provide direct assistance. People in the community are still able to access areas marked as Bengal Florican areas to harvest products in the forest.

Measures to assist the affected persons:

Not applicable.

Conflict resolution and dispute mechanism:

The community and CFMC express a desire to protect the Bengal Florican; the issue is to agree on the extent of the area. Considerations including suitable areas for habitat, while allowing forest use for community and agro-forestry areas will be considered and discussed. AFD will participate and discuss with the community to work through the issues.

Implementation Arrangements: who has responsibility for delivering the activities of the project?

AFD – co-ordinate meetings, provide training courses. Coordinate the steps to progress CFMP reviews and updates

CFMC – attend CC meetings

Patrol teams – conduct patrols in the forest

Birdlife – technical assistance as required

FA – provide information on the wildlife laws