

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia
Project Title:	Conserving three Critically Endangered vulture species in Cambodia
Date of Report:	10 November 2013
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CEPF Region: Indochina

Strategic Direction: Safeguard globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats. The Cambodia vulture Conservation Project is linked directly to CEPF Strategic Direction 1. It aims to conserve three priority bird species by species-focus action (CEPF investment Priority 1.1): Critical Endangered White-rumped, Slende-billed and Red-headed Vulture. Protection of vulture nests is carried out by community members at each site.

Grant Amount: 19,880.7 USD

Project Dates: December 2012-July 2013

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

Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia (PUC) led the project and under technical supported from Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Birdlife International Cambodia Programme and in partnership with World Wild Fund (WWF), Angkor Center for Conservation of Biodiversity (ACCB) and two government agencies, Forestry Administration and the Ministry of Environment. These two government agencies were legally authorized and managing the areas in which the project as based. Our partner and two government agencies has implemented the project as following:

- **Forestry Administration**, ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fishery **and the General department for Administration of Nature Conservation and Protection** (part of the Ministry of Environment) were responsible for the management of vulture restaurant and nesting site.
- **Birdlife Indochina Cambodia Programme:** was responsible for providing technical support to PUC and also managing the implementation of vulture restaurant in Two sites (Western Siem Pang Important Bird Area WSP IBA and Lumphat Wildlife Sanctuary LWS)
- **Wildlife Conservation Society WCS:** was responsible for providing technical support to PUC and also managing the implementation of vulture restaurant in Preah Vihear Protected Forest PVPF.
- **Angkor Center for Conservation of Biodiversity (ACCB):** is responsible for implementation the vulture restaurant in Seasan site.

Conservation Impacts

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

Conserving three critical endangered vulture species in Cambodia, has worked directly toward the implementation of CEPF Strategic Direction 1. We focus on Conserving three critical endangered vulture species in Cambodia, Red-headed Vulture (*Sarcogyps calvus*), White-rumped vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*), and Slender-billed vulture (*G.tenuirostris*) by providing supplementary food sources. Vulture restaurant not only help to reduces the accidental poisoning of vulture but also attracted other endangered species as Greater Adjutant (*Leptoptilos dubius*) and other carnivore as golden jackals and civets. We also had increased the frequencies of success nest by protected all known nests. Though, searched for natural carcasses to check for poisonous before and after the vulture come to eat, project also help to ensure safety food for vulture.

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

The project had two target outcomes:

1. Stable or increase number of vulture in Cambodia

This project has provided supplementary food for vulture at different four sites out of six sites in Cambodia, improved vulture nest protection during the breeding season, and improved monitoring by increasing the frequencies census from annually to quarterly. According to vulture restaurant in June 2013 (see table 1) which was the census month that project has double to provide supplementary food for vulture, that was **(340)** vultures in total so if we compared to the data of vulture in June 2012 **(325)** in total (see table 2), the number of vulture was seemed stable or a little bit increased. Project has improve vulture nest protection in four sites in Cambodia and the data has shown that there were 7 (1 failed) of vulture nests in WSP IBA (Western Siempang Important Bird Area), 4 vulture nests in LWS (Lumphat Wildlife Sanctuary), and 1 in PVPF (Preah Vihea Protected Forest). There was only one nest failed because disturbance from the illegal logger (WSP ranger's report) but the others were succeeded. Project has improved monitoring by increasing frequencies of census in every three month (Quarterly) that mean all vulture restaurant sites have to implement the vulture restaurant in the same date in every three month (March, June, September, and December).

Table 1: Vulture census in June 2013

Name of site	First count	Second count
Lumphat Wildlife Sanctuary	30	25
Sesan	22	20
Western Seim Pang	62	112
Preah Vihear Protected Forest	26	43
Total	140	200

Table 2: Vulture census in June 2012

Site	First count	Second count
Lumphat Wildlife Sanctuary	0	37
Sesan S ACCB	29	31
Wesrtern Siem Pang	76	70
Preah Vihear Protected Forest	37	45
Total	142	183

Table 3: Location of Vulture Restaurant for Four sites of Cambodia

Site name	Abbreviation	Province	UTM	NGO
Preah Vihear Protected forest (Trapeang Krou)	PVPF	Preah Vihear Province	0554004 1540043	WCS SVC
Western Siem Pang IBA	WSP	Stung Treng Province	0649256 1563359	Birdlife
Seasan	S ACCB	Stung Treng Province	0665280 1510845	ACCB
Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary	LWS	Rattanakiri Province	0706761 1488186	Birdlife

2. Increase capacity to conduct wildlife among students and professor. One professor and two students from major in environmental science have involved in this project. This was a good opportunity for PUC to involve the in term of conservation activities that a good starting point for PUC in the field of conservation. This project has also promoted attraction from other major student to get involve in major environmental science as well as the conservation of biodiversity.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: this is not directly relevant, although CVCP does protect a small area around the vulture colonies and restaurant to prevent disturbances.

Species Conserved: Red-headed Vulture, Slender-billed vulture, and White-rumped vulture.

Corridors Created: N/A

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

By the implementation of the project, supplementary food for vulture has been succeed and also increased the income of local people who sold the livestock to the project. This project has also improved monitoring in checking for natural carcasses to look for diclofenac, yet there were no recorded in the natural carcasses so it mean that the natural carcasses were safe enough for vulture to consume.

We have been successful almost all vulture nest protection of all known nest. Although vulture nest took place in the deep forest and far from the village, local people still joined this project by volunteered to protect till the nest succeed and the chicks could fly. That was a good way in conservation when the local people joined the project as protecting the vulture nest and report any vulture sickness to our field rangers so that would be a long term impact of the vulture conservation. Although the benefit to the local was limiting (Limited income), but those local people has join this project so this mean a good starting point for conserving the biodiversity by involving from the local people.

We have been successful in improving monitoring by increasing the frequencies of census from annually to quarterly although there were some problem came up with time pressure. This could succeed by the commitment of our field rangers in every site.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

None

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)

The project included activities proposed in the Cambodian Vulture Action Plan and built on activities already ongoing in the project area. As such it was relevant and feasible. It was designed in consulted with the relevant partners and expert as Birdlife International Cambodia Programme, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Angkor Center for Conservation of Biodiversity (ACCB), two government institutions (Forestry Administration and the Ministry of Environment) and other local partner.

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

Project was implemented by a suit of stakeholder with relevant experience as the International NGOs either local community as particular sites on the certain issues. This ensured that the project activity was implemented in a timely manner and to a high standard. Local community have involved whenever possible for them to implement this project both in the activities which raised awareness about the providing safeguard to reduce accidental poisoning from the natural carcasses by providing livestock for the vulture restaurant and protecting the vulture nest while in the breeding season.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

To conserving the three species of vulture, the Cambodian vulture conservation action plan has required to support the mitigation the most facing threatened for vulture. Food was the most threatened for vulture so the project partner and local community group have involved implementing this project. Providing vulture restaurant to prevent poisoning from the natural carcasses and increased food supply for vulture as well as facilitating monitoring from NGO partners. Without additional food, the number of vulture will decline in size as well as the vulture nest.

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.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes

****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.

We have succeeded in providing food source (cattle) for vulture species although the fund was limited. 4 cattle were killed at four key sites per month, to implement this project, but we could conserved this three critically endangers species of vultures over 200 hundreds vultures (see table 1). Protecting vulture nest was another output to be

implemented; this project has supported local people who volunteer to look after nest till the chick is fledged.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

None relevant.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

At first, negative effected has occurred during breeding season, as the project need to conserve vulture nest but some of the vulture nest was disturb by logger in the forest so the project has asked local people who live close to the vulture nest by providing financial support as salary to look after the vulture nest till the chicks could fly.

Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

(Enter Grant Term)

**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 December 1, 2012 to July 30, 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			Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your	No			Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of

project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?				hectares strengthened for each one.
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.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

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.

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