





## Biodiversity Conservation as A Tool to Sustain Forest Ecosystem Services: Selected Experiences in Cambodia

By  
Seak Sophat  
DES/RUPP

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## Outline

- Biodiversity conservation
- Overview of conservation approach
- Conservation practices in Cambodia
- Challenges in conservation
- Way forward
- Conclusion

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## Biodiversity conservation



- What is conservation? The management of human use of the biosphere so that it may yield the greatest sustainable benefit while maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations" (IUCN: World Conservation Strategy, 1980).
- It is specifically the efforts to protect, save and or minimize human impacts on all living things.
- Biodiversity conservation is described as being in-situ or ex-situ depending on the location of the conservation effort

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## Overview of conservation approach



- Conservation inside protected areas (in-situ conservation)
- Man made Conservation Facilities (Ex-situ Conservation)
- Restoration Ecology
- Agro-biodiversity conservation
- Agro-forestry
- Ecotourism

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## Overview of conservation approach

**Recently invented approaches:**

- Incentive for conservation compensation
- REDD
- PES: Payment of Environmental/ Ecosystem Services, etc.

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## Conservation practices in Cambodia

- In-situ conservation: until today we have some 30 protected areas, divided into several categories (IUCN guideline)
- Ex-situ conservation: Phnom Tamoao zoo, tree seed bank, plant nursery (managed by FA), rice seed bank (by CARDI/MAFF)
- Community forestry and fisheries: empowerment, incentive, alternative livelihood (2000s)

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## Conservation practices in Cambodia

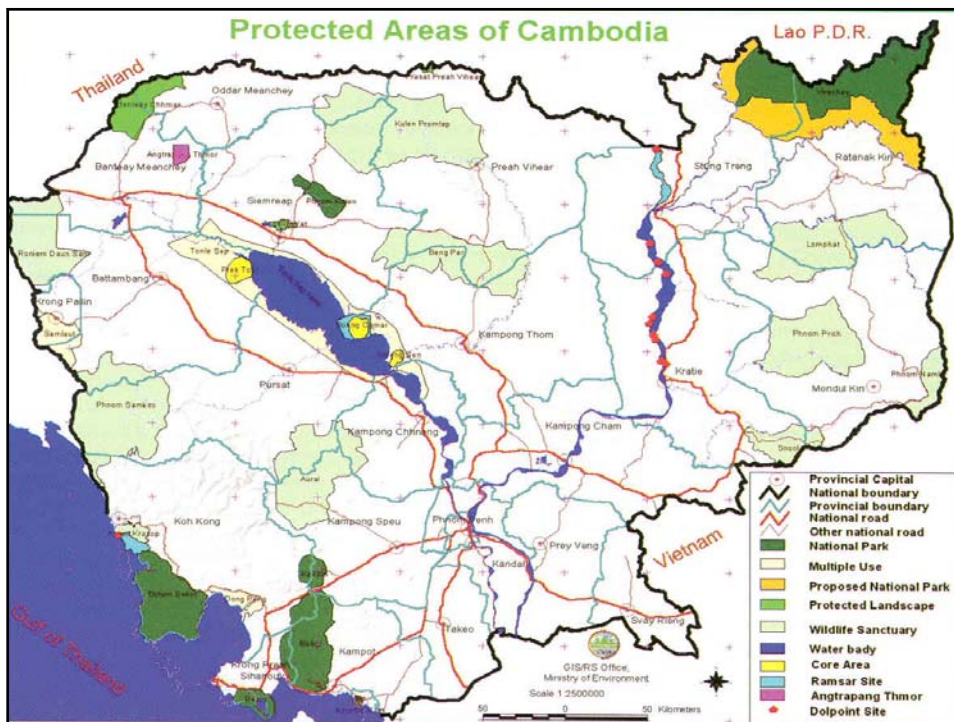



- Agro-biodiversity conservation and agroforestry: integrated land use systems such as agroforestry or integrated agriculture aquaculture systems, initiated by CARDI, FiA, CEDAC, JVC, PADEK, Concern World Wide, World Vision, AFSC, etc

### Livelihood Improvement:


- Rice bank in Kulen Promtep, by WCS

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## Conservation practices in Cambodia




- Organic farming in Veal Veng district, Pursat, by FFI and CEDAC, release pressure on NR uses, esp. forest
- Incentives: community forestry in Thmor Bang, Koh Kong, by CI
- Rattan project in Kampot by WWF: provide seedling, planting and harvest techniques. Expanding to 5 provinces
- Bee keeping in Mondulkiri, by NTFP (Cambodia and international), and expanded to other forested provinces.

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## Conservation practices in Cambodia



- Human-Elephant conflict management: in Cardamom mountain, by FFI, giving advices to farmers to farm non-attractive crops to elephant
- Monitoring for the purpose of law enforcement, intervention, by Wildlife Alliance, CI, FFI, WWF, WCS, Birdlife, etc
- Ecotourism: Kirirom (Mlup Baitong), Peam Krasop mangrove-Koh Kong (MoE), Ratanakiri, etc

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## Newly emerging tools



- Incentives for conservation: Thmor Bang-Koh Kong (by CI)
- REDD project: Oddor Meanchey province community forestry (by PACT)
- PES: being developed by RGC with support of donor and INGOs, etc.

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## Challenges in conservation



- Poverty
- High dependence on natural resource: food and timber
- Lack of scientific data on biodiversity
- Lack of technical staff responsible for conservation initiatives
- Poor law enforcement
- Globalization: high demand from outsiders
- Lack of funding support, (mostly donor support projects)

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## Way Forward



- Harmonize conservation programs of relevant agencies into a common national conservation program
- Capacity building for practitioner and mid level managers for conservation activity
- Alternative livelihood options to minimize pressure on NR

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## Way Forward




- Expand collaboration among practitioners and research institutions for research, outreach, and co-financing
- Build capacity for law enforcement
- Opportunity for access to finance
- Community and public involvement to conservation and intervention

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## Conclusion




- Conservation in Cambodia not only protect forest, but also maintain related ecosystem services
- Conservation practice in Cambodia is dependent on donor support, tool and technique are mostly introduced by outsiders

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## Conclusion



- Therefore, harmonization of concerned agencies with various practices into common national programme
- Integration of local knowledge systems into the introduced one to make a model appropriate to Cambodia context should be taken into account.

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Thank you for your attention