



Korea Forest
Service

PROGRESS REPORT

Third Quarter Report (Q3Y1)
July to September 2019

Korea-Cambodia REDD+ Joint Project

**Implementing Agency:
Forestry Administration**

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia
October 2019**

INTRODUCTION

Project Background

On 10th December 2014, the Forest Administration (FA) of the Cambodia's Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Korea Forest Service (KFS) started to implement the project named Korea-Cambodia Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Joint Project (KCRP) or (Tumring REDD+ Project) after they signed a Memorandum of Agreement. This project is implemented in Kampong Thom province within an area of 67,791.17 hectares and in the designated Project Accounting Area that is comprised of 41,195.00 hectares.

The Tumring REDD+ project aims to contribute to the long-term greenhouse gas emission reduction from forestry sector and to enhance the livelihood of targeted forest-dependent community in the project area. Specifically, the project seeks to: (1) generate Verified Carbon Units (VCUs); (2) to improve livelihood of targeted community; (3) enhance capacity of different key stakeholders for effective REDD+ implementation; and (4) support the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) on REDD+ policy formulation.

The Korea Forest Service (KFS) provides financial support to the FA being the designated implementing agency. A certification under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and CCB standard was sought by the project for its REDD+ verified credits. Over 30 years (2016-2046) of the project implementation, Tumring REDD+ project expects to achieve a net annual emission reduction (NERs) of 385,333 tCO_{2e}, and 11,559,975 tCO_{2e}.

For effective operation of the Tumring REDD+ project, the FA established the Project Management Unit (PMU) inside the Forestry Administration Office in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The PMU is designated to ensure that the project implementation is being successfully carried out.

The Tumring REDD+ Project's Partners

The Tumring REDD+ Project collaborates with the following:

The Wildlife Work Carbon (WWC), a project carbon developer, has assisted the FA in developing the Tumring REDD+ PDD, in providing technical trainings, and in facilitating the project's validation, verification, and registration.

The Kampong Thom Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (KT-PDAFF) is the project's technical partner that provides support to community forestry (CF) groups in enhancing their degraded agricultural land and in promoting agricultural productivity.

The Actions for Development (AFD), a registered national NGO, provides technical assistance, facilitates the establishment of an agricultural cooperative, and supports the project's operational plan and implementation which include capacity building and promoting agricultural trade market information toward freed deforestation.

The Kampong Thom Forestry Administration Cantonment and the Local FA Field Officer enable and implement forest law enforcement and legalization of CF groups and other forest uses inside the project area.

The local authority and the established 14 CF groups spearhead in implementing the Tumring REDD+ Project activities toward reducing deforestation and forest degradation in the project area.

Project Implementation Phases

Phase I is from 2015 to 2018. During this phase, the project was successfully validated in September 2018 (<https://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/projectproponentdetails/1395>) by the third party, the SCS Global Services. The project provides support to the 14 CF groups. The FA local officers (FIU) provide

capacity building, increase awareness of local stakeholders, and improve livelihood of the participating communities through promoting agricultural trade, improving degraded agricultural lands, and enhancing agricultural productivities.

Phase II is from 2019 to 2021. To prepare for this phase, the FA signed the amended Memorandum of Understanding with the KFS in December 2018 to extend the period of project implementation. During this phase, the project aims to register the Project to VCS and CCB and conduct MRV to generate VCUs through the project. To achieve this objective, the project is expected to achieve the following: (1) facilitate project verification, (2) improve local livelihood, (3) build capacity and generate knowledge to inform the national government and the public, and (4) agree up on the use of VCUs to be generated from the Tumring REDD+ Project to meet the National Determined Contributions (NDC) of both Countries (Cambodia and Republic of Korea).

ACCOMPLISHMENTS BASED ON THE PROJECT’S SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Objective1: Obtain forest carbon credits from the Korea-Cambodia Joint REDD+ project implementation

Preparation for Tumring REDD+ Verification

Selection of the Tumring REDD+ Verification Body (VVB):

The PMU and the WWC have announced a call for proposal from the VCS-accredited VVB to conduct the Tumring REDD+ Verification. As a result, six VVB proposals had been received. The PMU and the WWC conducted a VVB proposal assessment according to the criteria set and if the proposals reflect the nature of Tumring REDD+ Project. Thereafter, a justification letter for VVB selection had been submitted to the KFS for approval. Consequently, the S&A Carbon LLP was selected by the FA as the Tumring REDD+ Project verifier. The contract between the FA and the S&A Carbon was developed and signed in September 2019 with the total amount of USD 38,000 which includes the cost for international travel of the auditors. The PMU will cover the in-country cost for the auditing team that includes lodging, travel, and food.

Table1: The key tasks agreed by the S&A, FA, and WWC to be completed toward achieving successful project verification

| Tasks | Due date | Responsible person/team |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Monitoring Report delivered to the S&A | 04 Nov 2019 | WWC and PMU |
| Findings from desk review | 18 Nov 2019 | S&A |
| Project site visit | 09-14 Dec 2019 | WWC, PMU and S&A |
| Round 1 Findings | 04 Jan 2020 | S&A |
| Round 1 Response | 25 Jan 2020 | WWC and PMU |
| Round 2 Findings | 08 Feb 2020 | WWC and PMU |
| Round 2 Response | 22 Feb 2020 | WWC and PMU |
| Draft report submitted for review/upload | 07 Mar 2020 | S&A |
| Final Documents submitted to the OPR | 14 Mar 2020 | S&A |

Preparation of the Tumring REDD+ Project Monitoring Report:

With technical support from the WWC, the PMU provided a set of data that have been collected since the project has started in January 2015. It is expected that the PMR will have been finalized by the first week of November 2019 and will have been submitted to the VVB in the second week of November also.

Pre-testing Tumring REDD+ Project Verification,

On 23 to 27 September 2019, the PMU members facilitated and assisted Dr. Simom Bird from the WWC who conducted the pre-Tumring REDD+ verification testing. This visit of the WWC’s technical staff was aimed at strengthening the PMU members’ capacity to repeat biomass SOP at the selected permeance

sample plots and leakage plots. The visit also aimed to collect and verify information associated with community indicators set in the PDD, and check the status of deforestation in the current project accounting area. The visit covers the following wide-ranging activities:

- Meeting with Sar Sophyra of FAO regarding Cambodia landcover analysis by the Ministry of Environment (MOE);
- Discussion about the status of community forestry areas, progress, and complications encountered;
- Stakeholders' meeting in Kampong Thom with the PMU and FIU;
- Visiting project activities that have been implemented (IGA, tree plantation, healthcare, community capacity building and ranger force);
- Noting and observing project area boundaries by traveling through or around the project area, looking for new areas of deforestation through GPS points, and meeting with community members regarding this matter;
- Assessing the work done to comply with CCB finding NIR 2 concerning additional meetings and outreach to the communities of Svay, Tbaeng Chas, Andoung Pring, Prey Kanlaeng, Krang, Leaeng, Kbal Damrel, Samraong, and Khaos;
- Visiting the Project Office;
- Assessing grievance submission process, number of grievances submitted, and resolution process;
- Noting and observing the project area boundaries by traveling through or around project area; looking for new areas of deforestation as guided by the GPS points; and visiting biomass plots to measure trees and to observe the PMU members as they demonstrate SOP;
- Observing the PMU team members while they use densitometer (leakage area SOP); and
- Visiting the area's demarcations to determine forest loss and forest regrowth based on the 2018 MOE landcover to assess ground condition.

Preparation for Verification Public Comment:

Prior to the field verification, the project proponent is required by the CCB to have public comments at least 30 days prior to the auditor's actual field visit. The following are the several community outreach activities that are required to conduct prior to the project site visit of the auditor:

- Posting an announcement about the plan of the project verification to all targeted communities and community members who were identified as non-target beneficiaries of the project;
- Conducting awareness raising about the project's current and future activities among the community members, and distributing awareness raising materials to them; and
- Collecting, responding to, and addressing/redressing complaints raised by the effected community due to project implementation. The procedures in addressing complaints have to follow the validated Tumring REDD+ Grievance Mechanism.

Objective2: Improve the livelihood of the forest dwellers, enforce the Forest Law, and protect the forest within the target Tumring REDD+ Project Area (Strategy#2)

To contribute to the implementation of Strategy#2 of the 30-Year Work Plan, the project is supporting 14 community forestry (CF) groups, forest law enforcement unit of the local FA (FIU), and the provincial mobile enforcement team to conduct regular forest patrol and Forest Law enforcement. In this quarter, the enforcement teams achieved the following results:

Forest Law Enforcement Unit (FIU)

Table 2: Results of the Forest Law enforcement

| Month | Physical result of the forest law enforcement (FA and CF) |
|-----------|---|
| July 2019 | Confiscated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 01 chainsaws - 43 snares |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| | - 01 hand-held tractor (confiscated in Srea Pring CF area) |
| August 2019 | Confiscated: - 03 chainsaws - 03 chainsaws (confiscated in Sochet CF area) |
| September 2019 | Confiscated: - 03 chainsaws - 01 knife - 01 axe - 01 snare |

* Note: All the details about the illegal/confiscated tools and woods were recorded in the project database system for the purpose of reporting the results of the project implementation to the donor, government, and project validator/verifier.

Community Forestry Patrol Team

During this 3rd Quarter, the CFMCs of the 14 CF groups conducted 101 times of forest patrolling, and these were participated in by 581 members (26 women).

Table 3: Forest patrolling conducted by the community forest patrol groups

| No. | Community Forestry Name | July | | | August | | | September | | |
|-----|-------------------------|------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|------------|----------|
| | | Number of Patrol | CFMC | F | Number of Patrol | CFMC | F | Number of Patrol | CFMC | F |
| 1 | O' Kranhak | 3 | 13 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 0 |
| 2 | Tatey | 3 | 21 | 2 | 5 | 34 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| 3 | Kbal Dauntey | 3 | 27 | 0 | 6 | 34 | 0 | 3 | 16 | 0 |
| 4 | O' Kranhoung | 3 | 24 | 0 | 4 | 32 | 0 | 2 | 11 | 0 |
| 5 | O' Dasco CF | 7 | 19 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| 6 | Prey Hongchamtit | 1 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| 7 | Lbos Sral | 4 | 22 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| 8 | O' bosleav | 3 | 15 | 0 | 4 | 21 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 0 |
| 9 | Sre Pring | 4 | 19 | 4 | 5 | 26 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| 10 | Rum Chek | 1 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| 11 | Choam Smarch | 3 | 13 | 0 | 3 | 13 | 0 | 2 | 12 | 0 |
| 12 | O' Thmor | 2 | 18 | 0 | 2 | 17 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 0 |
| 13 | Neak Tala | 3 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| 14 | Sochet | 1 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 22 | 6 | 1 | 14 | 2 |
| | Total | 41 | 226 | 10 | 41 | 244 | 14 | 19 | 111 | 2 |

Aside from the FIU's implementation, the 14 CF patrol teams regularly conducted forest patrolling inside their designated CF areas. As a result, in this quarter, the CF patrol groups confiscated some illegal tools as listed below:

Table 4: Results of the implementation of the Community Forest Patrol Groups

| Month | Physical result of the forest law enforcement (FA and CF) |
|-----------------------|---|
| July 2019 | Confiscated: - 01 chainsaws - 43 snares - 01 hand-held tractor (inside Srea Pring CF area) |
| August 2019 | Confiscated: - 03 chainsaws - 03 chainsaws (inside Sochet CF area) |
| September 2019 | Confiscated: |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 03 chainsaws - 01 knife - 01 axe - 01 snare |
|--|--|

Community Forestry Management Committee Election

According to the Community Forest Sub-Decree (2013), the CFMC is required to conduct a re-election every five of its mandated periods. Among the 14 CFs, seven of them were required to re-elect their CFMCF. Community forest management committee elections were conducted with support from the project, the PMU, local FA, and local authorities. The seven newly elected CFMC management structures were endorsed by their respective Commune Councils. Particularly, these seven sets of officers are from the two CFs in Socheat commune and five CFs in Meanrith commune, Kampong Thom (Table 5).

Table 5: New elected community forestry management committee in two communes

| No | CF Name | Date of election | CF members (Female) | # of CFMCs elected |
|----|------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Lbos Sral | 15 July 2019 | 101 (28 women) | 9 (1 woman) |
| 2 | Hongchamet | 18 July 2019 | 52 (21 women) | 7 (1 woman) |
| 3 | O dasco | 22 July 2019 | 95 (33 women) | 7 (2 women) |
| 4 | O Kranhoung | 28 July 2019 | 84 (40 women) | 9 (3 women) |
| 5 | Tatey | 28 July 2019 | 85 (52 women) | 9 (2 women) |
| 6 | Prey Khum Sochet | 30 July 2019 | 89 (25 women) | 9 (3 women) |
| 7 | Srae Pring | 16 July 2019 | 51 (27 women) | 7 (0 woman) |

Improvement of Degraded Agricultural Land and Promotion of Agricultural Productivity

In this quarter, the KT-PDMAFF conducted its last activities which are monitoring activities under the contract agreement between the PMU and KT-PDMAFF. Currently, the KT-PDMAFF is working on report clearance and developing plan of actions to scale up activities on improving degraded agricultural lands.

Promotion of Free Deforestation Agricultural Commodity Trade and Enhancement of Agricultural Prices

Based on the agreement signed between the AFD and the PMU, the 1st payment was made to the AFD for the implementation of seven activities conducted from 19 February to 19 July with total 1st payment of USD 10,000. The AFD has completed some achievements as reported in the First Quarter 2019. In the Second Quarter, the PMU transferred the 2nd disbursement of USD 8,500 (Please refer to the signed contract between the PMU and the AFD). The following are the accomplishments/completed activities of the AFD:

- On 10 and 11 July 2019, the AFD staff provided a training course on facilitation and leadership skills to the Meanrith and Tumring ACs. The training course was participated in by 25 participants (seven of them are women). The training was conducted to increase the capacity of the AC management committees by being skilled leaders in their respective communities. The training also included a session on clarification of their roles and responsibilities in their respective ACs.
- On 15 and 16 July 2019, the AFD staff provided a technical training on report writing and bookkeeping. The training was participated in by 24 AC management committee members (seven of them are women). The training aimed to enhance the knowledge and skills of the AC management committee members on report writing, financial report making, and financial transparency and management.

- On 17 and 18 August 2019, the AFD staff facilitated a training course on the AC's regulations and by-laws. This training was participated in by 25 AC management committee members (seven of them are women), the training aimed to increase understanding of the AC management committee on their mandated rules provisioned in the AC Development Guidelines.
- With support from the project, two AC signboards were installed by the AC management committee and AFD staff after the local authorities has issued consent and approval on the stalling of these signboards. The signboards were installed in front of the two AC offices in Tumring commune and Meanrith commune. The office spaces of the two ACs were provided with free of charge by the AC committee members under a lease contract.
- The project's activities on agricultural land inholding and demarcation are being continued. The project provided support to the AFD to conduct agricultural land inholding inside and in the adjacent areas of every CF group. The result of this activity is to provide support on the implementation of the "Increasing effective forest land use planning and enforcing forest land tenure right." By so doing, 203 agricultural plots that cover an area of 609.06 ha were demarcated (Table 6).

Table 6: Number of agriculture plots demarcated inside and adjacent area of the seven CFs

| CF name | Date demarcated | # of Agricultural plots demarcated | # total area of agricultural land demarcated (ha) | # of participants | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|---|----------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Tatey | 2-5 July 2019 | 50 plots | 145.87 | 12 (0 woman) |
| 2 | O Dasco | 30-31 July 2019 | 12 plots | 27.86 | 14 (3 women) |
| 3 | O Krahoung | 1-2 and 15 Aug 2019 | 34 plots | 78.34 | 14 (3 women) |
| 5 | O Bosleav | 17 Sep 2019 | 17 plots | 37.47 | 15 (0 woman) |
| 6 | Choam Smach | 18-20 Sep 2019 | 34 plots | 61.91 | 12 (0 woman) |
| 7 | Neak Tala | 21-24 Sep 2019 | 56 plots | 257.61 | 17 (0 woman) |
| Total | | 203 plots | 609.06 | 84 (06 women) | |

Objective 3: Enhance the capacity of the different key stakeholders for effective REDD+ implementation and increase stakeholder participation in reducing deforestation and forest degradation in the Tumring REDD+ Project Area (Strategy #4)

The REDD+ Specialist and Community Facilitator of the PMU conducted quarterly meetings with all the 14 CF Management Committees (CFMC). In total, there were 339 participants (78 of them are women) in the meetings. The meetings focused on the discussion of newly emerged challenges associated with illegal activities that happened and are happening inside the CF areas, submission to the PMU the forest patrol report by each of the CFMC, and approval of the CF work plan for implementation in the next quarter.

Table 7: CFMC's meetings with the PMU members

| No. | Community Forestry Name | Village & commune | Date | CFMC | Women |
|-----|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------|-------|
| 1 | Choam Smarch | Tum Or village, Tumring | 28/07/2019 | 6 | 0 |
| 2 | O' Thmor | Rorneam village, Tumring | 28/07/2019 | 4 | 0 |
| 3 | Neak Tala | SroLaosroang village, Tumring | 28/07/2019 | 7 | 0 |
| 4 | O' bosleav | Run The village, Tumring | 28/07/2019 | 6 | 0 |
| 5 | Sre Pring | Sre Pring village, Sochet | 29/07/2019 | 10 | 3 |
| 6 | Rum Chek | Rum Chek village, Sochet | 29/07/2019 | 9 | 0 |
| 7 | Prey Hongchamtit | Trapeang Tralach village, Mean Rith | 29/07/2019 | 9 | 0 |

| | | | | | |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| 8 | Lbos Sral | Rang Khai village, Mean Rith | 30/07/2019 | 7 | 1 |
| 9 | O' Kranhak | Tboung Toeuk village, Mean Rith | 30/07/2019 | 5 | 1 |
| 10 | Sochet | Sochet Commune | 30/07/2019 | 33 | 18 |
| 11 | Tatey | Kanti village, Mean Rith | 31/07/2019 | 4 | 0 |
| 12 | O' Kranhoung | Choam Svay village, Mean Righ | 31/07/2019 | 9 | 0 |
| 13 | Kbal Dauntey | Beung village, Mean Rith | 31/07/2019 | 12 | 5 |
| 14 | O' Dasco CF | Sam Oang village, Mean Rith | 31/07/2019 | 7 | 3 |
| 15 | Choam Smarch | Tum Or village, Tumring | 01/08/2019 | 7 | 0 |
| 16 | O' Thmor | Rorneam village, Tumring | 01/08/2019 | 5 | 0 |
| 17 | Neak Tala | SroLaosroang village, Tumring | 01/08/2019 | 8 | 0 |
| 18 | O' bosleav | Run The village, Tumring | 02/08/2019 | 5 | 0 |
| 19 | Sre Pring | Sre Pring village, Sochet | 02/08/2019 | 11 | 2 |
| 20 | Rum Chek | Rum Chek village, Sochet | 02/08/2019 | 9 | 2 |
| 21 | Prey Hongchamtit | Trapeang Tralach village, Mean Rith | 03/08/2019 | 7 | 0 |
| 22 | Lbos Sral | Rang Khai village, Mean Rith | 03/08/2019 | 5 | 0 |
| 23 | O' Kranhak | Tboung Toeuk village, Mean Rith | 04/08/2019 | 7 | 1 |
| 24 | Sochet | Sochet Commune | 04/08/2019 | 9 | 4 |
| 25 | Tatey | Kanti village, Mean Rith | 04/08/2019 | 5 | 2 |
| 26 | O' Kranhoung | Choam Svay village, Mean Righ | 05/08/2019 | 8 | 2 |
| 27 | Kbal Dauntey | Beung village, Mean Rith | 05/08/2019 | 10 | 1 |
| 28 | O' Dasco CF | Sam Oang village, Mean Rith | 05/08/2019 | 10 | 5 |
| 29 | O' Thmor | Rorneam village, Tumring | 09/09/2019 | 4 | 0 |
| 30 | Neak Tala | SroLaosroang village, Tumring | 09/09/2019 | 5 | 0 |
| 31 | O' bosleav | Run The village, Tumring | 10/09/2019 | 4 | 0 |
| 32 | Rum Chek | Rum Chek village, Sochet | 10/09/2019 | 7 | 1 |
| 33 | Prey Hongchamtit | Trapeang Tralach village, Mean Rith | 11/09/2019 | 2 | 0 |
| 34 | Lbos Sral | Rang Khai village, Mean Rith | 11/09/2019 | 4 | 0 |
| 35 | O' Kranhak | Tboung Toeuk village, Mean Rith | 12/09/2019 | 5 | 1 |
| 36 | Sochet | Sochet Commune | 13/09/2019 | 20 | 12 |
| 37 | Tatey | Kanti village, Mean Rith | 14/09/2019 | 9 | 2 |
| 38 | O' Kranhoung | Choam Svay village, Mean Righ | 14/09/2019 | 7 | 3 |
| 39 | Kbal Dauntey | Beung village, Mean Rith | 15/09/2019 | 11 | 3 |
| 40 | O' Dasco CF | Sam Oang village, Mean Rith | 16/09/2019 | 8 | 3 |
| 41 | Sre Pring | Sre Pring village, Sochet | 17/09/2019 | 8 | 0 |
| 42 | Choam Smarch | Tum Or village, Tumring | 18/09/2019 | 11 | 3 |
| Total | | | | 339 | 78 |

- For the Tumring REDD+ project webpage development, the PMU has regularly updated the project webpage, uploaded the project documents and quarterly newsletters, and designed new key elements of the webpage (See the link www.tumringredd.org) to make it reader-friendly.
- To increase the communities' level of awareness on the benefits of the REDD+ implementation, 1,500 copies of posters were reprinted and posted. Aside from the intent to increase the awareness of the local communities about the benefits of the REDD+ project, these posters are being distributed and posted in targeted community forestry and adjacent villages to prepare for the upcoming project verification.
- The PMUs have written and issued two quarterly project newsletters, so far. The newsletters were designed to share information with the national and international readers about the progress of the Tumring REDD+ project implementation.
- The PMU developed, published, and distributed 500 copies of project booklets. The booklet contained background information and project strategic actions to address drivers of deforestation

and forest degradation in the project area. The booklet aims to promote and share information among stakeholders.

- An information brief on “Understanding Perceptions of Local Traders on Agricultural Commodities Trade and Their Relation to Deforestation” was also developed and shared among stakeholders. It is expected that this information brief will be shared during the upcoming UNFCCC-COP25 as part of the outcome of the Korea-Cambodia joint project, the Tumring REDD+.
- The project provided two CF information boards for the 14 CFs. The information board with the size 2m x 1.5m contains some basic CF information. Those CF information boards that were installed in key strategic boundary points in the CF areas will provide public information on CFs.
- An 11-minute video documentary on Tumring REDD+ project is being finalized at the moment. The PMU, in close collaboration with the KFS, will officially launch it during the UNFCCC-COP25. The video documentary will be used to increase the level of awareness of the local communities and stakeholders about the project.
- On 13-16 August 2019, the PMU members facilitated the meetings of Dr. Dong Hoo of the National Institute of Forest Science (NiFoS) and Ms. Nara Lee and Mr. Lim, KFS team members. They conducted wide-range stakeholder meetings and discussions on the potential joint research toward scaling up Cambodia-Korea Joint REDD+ Project in the future.

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