



Korea Forest
Service

PROGRESS REPORT

1st Quarterly Report (Q1Y3)
January-March 2021

Korea-Cambodia REDD+ Joint Project

**Implementing Agency:
Forestry Administration**

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia
March 2021**

INTRODUCTION

Project Background

On 10th December 2014, the Forestry Administration (FA) of the Cambodia's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the Korea Forest Service (KFS) started to implement a project named Korea-Cambodia Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Joint Project (KCRP) or (hereinafter referred to as Tumring REDD+ Project). This project is implemented in Kampong Thom province covering an area of 67,791.17 hectares and in the designated Project Accounting Area 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 communities in the project area. Specifically, the project seeks to: (1) generate Verified Carbon Units (VCUs); (2) 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.

KFS provides financial support while FA is the designated implementing agency. A certification under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and CCB standard was sought by the project for its REDD+ VCUs. Over 30 years (2016-2046) of the project implementation, Tumring REDD+ Project (TRP) expects to achieve an emission reduction (NERs) of 11,559,975 tCO₂e for 30-years project life. As a result, the project generated a net emission reduction of 645,410 tons CO₂e over the 1st monitoring period from January 2015 to December 2019.

For effective operation of the TRP, the FA established the Project Management Unit (PMU) located inside FA's Office in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The PMU is formulated to ensure effective implementation of the Project. The PMU is working with the below partners to ensure the project effective produce quality results and outcomes.

Table 1: The Tumring REDD+ Project's Partners

Roles and Responsibility	
The Wildlife Work Carbon (WWC) https://www.wildlifeworks.com/	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
Everland LLP (EV) http://everlandmarketing.com/	assist project in selling the emission reduction (ER) at the voluntary carbon market and provide regular update about the sale of ER.
The Kampong Thom Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (KT-PDAFF)	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) http://www.afd-cambodia.org/	a registered national NGO, provides technical assistance, facilitates the establishment of an agricultural cooperative, and supports the project's operational plan and implementation that include capacity building and promoting agricultural trade market information toward freed deforestation.
The Kampong Thom Forestry Administration Cantonment and the Local FA Field Officer (Local FA)	enable and implement forest law enforcement and legalization of CF groups and other forest uses inside the project area.
The Kampong Thom Land Management Urbanization and Construction Department (KT-	the provincial department works as a part with the project to facilitate process in gaining knowledge on forest land management and support the process of forest land

LMUCD)	registration as state land.
The local authority and the established 14 CF groups	spearhead the implementation of the project activities toward reducing deforestation and forest degradation in the project area and provide coordination of support to the project in implementing activities in their territories.

Project Implementation Phases

Phase I was from 2015 to 2018. During this phase, the Project was successfully validated and verification in July 2019 (<https://registry.verra.org/app/search/VCS>) by an independent, third party, the SCS Global Services. The Project provided support to the 14 CF groups. FA local officers (FIU) provided capacity building, increased awareness of local stakeholders, and improved livelihood of the participating communities by promoting agricultural trade, improving degraded agricultural lands, and enhancing agricultural productivities.

Phase II is from 2019 to 2021. To prepare for this phase, FA signed the amended Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with 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. To achieve these objectives, the Project will: (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 on the use of VCUs to sale on the voluntary market and carbon credit to be produced in the future will be used to meet Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) of both Countries (Cambodia and Republic of Korea). According to the 5th PBC meeting, the KSF agreed to extend one-year funding support for 2022. The TRP is working with its partners to ensure that the project is able to sell the VCUs to get more funding to support the full operation and extended projects activities at large scale.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS BASED ON THE PROJECT’S SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

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

1.1. Tumring REDD+ Project marketing

Since EV has been selected as a Project Marketing Supporting Partner through the sign term-sheet signed for a year trial period, the PMU conducted a wide range of virtual calls with EV and on-going develop and providing requirements requested by EV. So far, the PMU develop and provided document as below:

- all projects related policies: (1) Korea-Cambodia REDD+ Joint Project Management and Operation Policy, (2) Cambodia-Korea Joint REDD+ Project (Tumring REDD+ Project)
- Child Labor Policy, (3) Cambodia-Korea Joint REDD+ Project (Tumring REDD+ Project)
- Equal Opportunity Policy, (4) Safety Policy and Procedures, (5) Feedback and Grievance Redress Procedure
- project spotlight impacts report, this report is required every quarter.
- Legal document related project proponent includes deed of registration
- Official approve bank account, and bank related document for funding transection
- Draft-benefit sharing mechanism
- Draft- fund management mechanism, fund governance and fund flow

A part of providing legal documents to EVs, there were at least three virtual calls conducted between EV and PMU (Annex I: All TRP Project Policy).

Table 2: Several calls between PMU and EV on due diligence

No	Date	Discussion Topics
01	26 Jan 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation on project risks, challenges, and risk mitigation - Provide explanation on additionality and co-benefits - Next plan for the call

02	04 Feb 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project partners, how project works with partners and what kind of M&E to ensure partners will use funding effectively - Benefit sharing with partners and especially with community, what kind of legal document need to be developed to ensure they are safe.
03	09 Mar 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How project and what project should do in order to get goal CCB goal standard in the second verification, and what kind data need to be readied and collected to meet the goal standard. - Discussion on fund management governance and risk of corruptions. - What and how project should do to ensure safeguards of social and environment at the project area.

1.2. Preparation for TRP benefit sharing mechanism a project credits marketing

Although there was an agreement between FA and KFS, as provisioned in the signed MOU. However, there is a need and also a requirement from TRP credit buyer. It is to make sure that the community and others stakeholders will be received benefits from the project. Therefore, the PMU is working to develop community benefit sharing. This document will be used to consult with difference stakeholders and will seek for approval from the TRP steering committee in the next quarter.

1.3. The Development of TRF fund management and fund governance

After the 5th PBC meeting, the KSF consent and approved FA to sell all the verified credits vintage (2015-2019). However, the fund from the sale is not clearly define and manage following the transparency and accountability process. Therefore, the PMU decided to develop a Standadr Operational Procedure for TRP fund management and governance. Currently, the PMU is drafting the documents, it will be used to consult with stakeholders and will seek for approval from the steering committee.

1.4. Conduct 20% re-measure Permanence Sample Plots (PSPs) for the 2nd verification

The PMU led by REDD+ specialist with technical support from WWC, conducted remeasurement of 20% (25) PSPs (of all 128 PSPs). The field team were decided into two groups, conducted and search for PSPs were in community forestry sites, restoration area, and HCF. The plots were remeasured in accordance with the requirement by Verra for the second TRP verification to be conducted in late of 2022 as planned. All hardcopy of the raw data (25 PSPs) were stored at the main office in Phnom Penh.

Table 3: Plots were remeasured by the field teams and date of the measurement

No.	PSPs remeasured /PSPs number	Date	No.	PSPs remeasured /PSPs number	Date	No.	PSPs remeasured /PSPs number	Date
1	EF017	4-8 Jan 2021	11	EF109	8-12 Feb 2021	21	EF079	3-5 Mar 2021
2	EF048	4-8 Jan 2021	12	EF103	8-12 Feb 2021	22	DF009	3-5 Mar 2021
3	EF100	4-8 Jan 2021	13	EF044	8-12 Feb 2021	23	DF010	3-5 Mar 2021
4	EF088	4-8 Jan 2021	14	EF077	8-12 Feb 2021	24	EF075	3-5 Mar 2021
5	EF098	4-8 Jan 2021	15	EF026	8-12 Feb 2021	25	DF003	3-5 Mar 2021
6	EF032	4-8 Jan 2021	16	EF104	8-12 Feb 2021			
7	EF034	4-8 Jan 2021	17	EF023	8-12 Feb 2021			
8	EF047	4-8 Jan 2021	18	EF074	8-12 Feb 2021			
9	EF041	4-8 Jan 2021	19	EF061	8-12 Feb 2021			
10	EF006	4-8 Jan 2021	20	EF078	8-12 Feb 2021			

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 Sandan Forest Enforcement Team to conduct regular forest patrol, crack-down incidental case, and collection biodiversity raw data. In this quarter, the enforcement teams achieved the following results:

2.1. Forest Law Enforcement Unit (FIU)

The group of FIUs joint collaboration and conducted forest patrol and in all project targeted areas, and Hydro Forest Conservation Zone, each FIU lead by one local FA with supporting from the field armed forces. In this quarter, the three FIUs confiscated illegal tools/equipment as below:

Table 4: Results of the Forest Law enforcement in 1st quarter of 2021

Month	Physical result of the Sandan District Forest Law Enforcement*
Jan 2021	Confiscated: - 08 Chainsaws - 01 motorbike - 02 parcels of forest land encroachment equivalence to 31.730 Ha
Feb 2021	Confiscated: - 08 chainsaws - 03 Tractors - 02 motorbike - 08 forest land encroachment equivalence to 125 ha - 03 long knives - 01 axe
March 2021	Confiscated: - 17 chainsaws - 05 small timber - 10. 381 m3 of timber - 02 perpetrators apprehended and compiled the law suit to the court - 07 hand-tractors - 05 trailers - 02 motors - 02 buffalo carts - 02 long knives - 01 axe - 01 Forest land clearance equivalence to 4.30 ha

* Note: Details on illegal/confiscated tools and woods were recorded in the Project database system to report the results of the project implementation to donor, government, and project validator/verifier.

2.2. Sandan District Forest Law Enforcement Team

The TRP regularly provide technical and financial support to the Sandan District Forest Law enforcement, the team in close collaboration with community forestry conducted incidence crackdown illegal forest cases emerged in the TRP project’s area. As result by this quarter, the team conducted six times crackdown illegal forest cases resulted in the table below:

Table 5: Illegal tools/ equipment confiscated by Sandan Forest Law Enforcement Team

Month	Physical results of the forest law enforcement (FA and CF)
Jan 2021	Confiscated: - 02 chainsaws
Feb 2021	Confiscated: - 03 chainsaws - 01 motorbike
March 2021	Confiscated: - 03 chainsaw

2.3. Community Forestry Patrol Teams

Aside from the FIU’s implementation on forest law enforcement, the 14 CF patrol teams regularly conduct forest patrolling activities inside their designated CF areas. During this 1st quarter (Jan-

March) 2021, the CFMCs of the 14 CF groups conducted 94 patrol times, with participation from 615 members (07 women).

Table 6: Results of the implementation of the Community Forest Patrol Groups

No.	Community Forestry Name	Jan, 2021			Feb,2021			March,2021		
		# Patrol	CFMC	F	# Patrol	CFMC	F	# Patrol	CFMC	F
1	O' Kranhak	3	15	0	3	11	0	3	11	0
2	Tatey	4	24	3	4	29	3	1	4	0
3	Kbal Dauntey	1	6	0	1	16	0	3	21	0
4	O' Kranhoung	1	6	0	3	18	0	4	32	0
5	O' Dasco	1	5	0	1	7	0	1	5	0
6	Prey Hongchamtit	2	13	0	1	7	0	2	12	0
7	Lbos Sral	1	5	0	1	6	0	3	18	0
8	O' bosleav	1	3	0	3	14	0	1	3	0
9	Sre Pring	2	16	0	2	15	0	2	12	0
10	Rum Chek	2	11	0	2	10	0	2	12	0
11	Choam Smarch	1	4	0	2	13	0	4	21	0
12	O' Thmor	5	38	0	2	9	0	2	13	0
13	Neak Tala	5	31	0	1	6	0	3	27	0
14	Sochet	4	48	1	1	10	0	3	28	0
	Total	33	225	4	27	171	3	34	219	0

2.1. Community based Solar Project:

- a. With coordination local and community members, the project sub-contracted to Solar Home Company, build a solar pumping project in Sre Pring village, Socheat commune. Srey Pring village is the poorest village among TRP project targeted beneficiaries. The solar pumping is providing water to 57 families. The community member agreed to contribute 0.5 USD per month to CFMC for maintaining the solar pumping. Water that sourced from solar pumping project is being used for cooking, watering home garden, and daily uses. The solar pumping project could provide 5000 liter of water per day.
- b. The management of Socheat CF, Por Ro village. By March, 2021, the SSCCHB has provide service to 2460 home based-batteries and earned USD 753.9. To promote SSCCHB, the community assistants have been promoted and disseminated the important of using SSCCHB to community members and associated information to forest conservation.

2.2. Community Based Resin Enterprise: The PMU conducted a meeting with community based-resin enterprise members and management committee, the meeting was conducted to understand the situation of the enterprise on progress and challenges, find out constraint and provide advice to the community on the planning and link to the market. By March, 2021, the community-based resin enterprise has made some progress as highlighted in the table below. The enterprise is facing some challenges, (1) prices of the resin is decreasing, (2) some resin trees were illegal logged, and (3) lack of technical in storing tapped resin and tapping. This quarter, the enterprise management committee decided not sell out the resin to middle this is due to the prices of resin was decrease. They will find out more middlemen to get high prices in the Q2-2021. The resin stored in stock is 3996Kg, the price of the liquid resin is drop from 1800-riel to 1500 riel, therefore, the committee decided not to sell resin in this quarter. They are looking forward to seeing the price of resins to be create in quarter 2 (April-June 2021).

2.3. Agriculture Cooperative: Under the contract between the PMU and KT-PMAFF on the establishment and registration of Sochet Agriculture Cooperative (AC). The Sochet AC office located in Por Ro villages, Khum Sochet Commune, Sandan District (in Khum Sochet Community Forestry). By this quarter, the AC had been officially registered with the KT-DPAFF and this AC

will operate their annual work plan with support from the TRP. By 2020, the TRP provided support to their ACs (Meanrith AC, Tumring AC and Sochet AC). The PMU conducted 20% of final financial payment to KT-DPAFF for it completed its achievable variable mentioned in the signed contract between PMU and KT-DPAFF (Attached III: Certification of Official Recognizing Sochet AC).

2.4. Community based Micro-Finance: So far, the project supports two community based-micro forest conservation finances, the PMU members conduct regular meeting with those micro-finance while ongoing build capacity of the its members, through various training course and monitoring, by this quarter, the two micro-finance groups have operated their operation, it is showing it progress in table 5 below:

Table 7: Status of TRP supported community based micro finances

No	Name of Saving Group	By date	A: Cash in hand + Cash in Bank	B: Interests Earned (2%) for 3 months	C: In load	Total Capital (A+C)	Total Interest Earn
Q4-2020							
1	Kbal Daunty	23-Sep-20	1,302.40	144.0	1097.56	2,400	500
2	O Bosleave	23-Sep-20	1,493	0	500	1,993	
Q1-2021							
1	Kbal Daunty	25-Dec-20	1,302.40	144.0	1097.56	2,400	644.0
2	O Bosleave	25-Dec-20	1006.09*	0	487.80	1006.09*	0
*Note: 1 USD = 4100 Riels.							
* USD 487.80 (200k riels) = was in loan							

2.5. The project provided 12 poles to two community forestry for marking their community forest areas, and to visible boundary between forest land and agriculture land. The project will provide more poles to all community forestry to ensure their area are safe from illegal land clearing. Below is the community forestry that received support the poles from the project

Table 8: Community forestry received pole from the support from the project

No.	Name of CFs	Number of poles received
1	O's Boleave	06
2	O's Kranhak	06

2.6. The PMU in close collaboration with the local authorities, local FA officers and community forestry members conducted agricultural plots demarcation in 03 community forestry. The demarcation was conducted aimed to identifies the agricultural land owners, specific areas, and coordinate of each plot. This information will help the project to formulate land use planning in the future and provide information support the FIU to conduct crackdown on illegal forest land clearing.

Table 9: Community forestry received pole from the support from the project

No.	Name of CFs	Date of demarcation	Number of agriculture plots measured and demarcated
1	O's Rum Check	19-22 Jan 2021	32
2	O's Sre Pring	17-19 February 2021	21
3	O's Kbal Dontey	23-26 March 2021	18

2.7. Improving degraded agricultural land and increase agricultural yield

A part of the sub-contract signed between the PMU and KT-PMAFF on "Improving degraded agricultural land and increase agriculture yield "through the sub-contract, the KT-PMAFF conducted three activities in three community forestry. Below is the summary of the tangible results of each activity.

Next quarter, the KT-PMAFF will provide more update about their progress under the approved work-plan between PMU and KT-PMAFF.

Table10: Activities under the sub-contract conducted by KT-PMAFF

No.	Activity Name	Date of conducting activity	Bullets on output/results	Note
1	Training on agricultural land Improvement at O'dasco CF, Hong Chamtet CF and Lbos Srol CF.	01-08, March, 2021	- Provided technical training to the 3 CFs to improve their respective agriculture land by using fresh fertilizer, compose site to promote fertilizer introduction approaches to high yields as well as to maintain the seed for future use.	70 pax participated,
2	Technical training on cassava and cashew seed selection at O'dasco CF, Hong Chamtet CF and Lbos Srol CF	09-18, March, 2021	- How to select the good casava and cashew crop for plantation - Provide technique support to deal with pesticide, grass and disease that often damage the crop	70 Pax participated
3	Provide support to establish composting sites to improve soil quality and enhance agricultural yield selection at O'dasco CF, Hong Chamtet CF and Lbos Srol CF	22-24, March, 2021	- Constructed 6 composting sites at three targeted community forestry, 2 composting sites for each CF	

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)

3.1 The REDD+ Specialist and Community Facilitator of the PMU conducted quarterly meetings with all 14 CF Management Committees (CFMCs). 28 times of the meeting were conducted and in total, there were 247 participants (35 of them were 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 11: CFMC's meetings with the PMU members

No.	Community Forestry Name	Village & commune	Date (DD/MM/YY)	CFMC	Women
1	Choam Smarch	Tum Or village, Tumring	18/01/2021	9	0
2	O' bosleav	Run The village, Tumring	19/01/2021	3	0
3	O' Thmor	Rorneam village, Tumring	20/01/2021	9	0
4	Neak Tala	SroLaosroang village, Tumring	20/01/2021	8	0
5	Lbos Sral	Rang Khai village, Mean Rith	21/01/2021	8	2
6	Prey Hongchamtit	Trapeang Tralach village, Mean Rith	20/01/2021	9	5
7	O' Dasco CF	Sam Oang village, Mean Rith	21/01/2021	14	2
8	Sre Pring	Sre Pring village, Sochet	18/01/2021	7	0
9	Rum Chek	Rum Chek village, Sochet	19/01/2021	11	4
10	Sochet	Porong village, Sochet Commune	19/01/2021	7	2
11	O' Kranhoung	Choam Svay village, Mean Righ	22/01/2021	9	1
12	O' Kranhak	Tboung Toeuk village, Mean Rith	22/01/2021	8	2
13	Tatey	Kanti village, Mean Rith	22/01/2021	7	3
14	Kbal Dauntey	Beung village, Mean Rith	21/01/2021	8	2

15	Choam Smarch	Tum Or village, Tumring	26/02/2021	6	0
16	Rum Chek	Rum Chek village, Sochet	25/02/2021	13	0
17	O' bosleav	Run The village, Tumring	26/02/2021	8	1
18	Sochet	Porong village, Sochet Commune	26/02/2021	18	2
19	Sre Pring	Sre Pring village, Sochet	25/02/2021	11	2
20	Neak Tala	SroLaosroang village, Tumring	24/02/2021	8	0
21	O' Thmor	Rorneam village, Tumring	25/02/2021	7	0
22	Prey Hongchamtit	Trapeang Tralach village, Mean Rith	24/02/2021	9	0
23	O' Kranhoung	Choam Svay village, Mean Righ	23/02/2021	8	1
24	O' Dasco	Sam Oang village, Mean Rith	23/02/2021	9	0
25	Lbos Sral	Rang Khai village, Mean Rith	24/02/2021	9	0
26	O' Kranhak	Tboung Toeuk village, Mean Rith	22/02/2021	7	1
27	Tatey	Kanti village, Mean Rith	22/02/2021	8	2
28	Kbal Dauntey	Beung village, Mean Rith	22/02/2021	9	3
Total				247	35

Note: In March 2021, the PMU could not conduct meeting with CFMC due to the restriction of COVID-19 measure imposed by the Ministry of Health.

3.2 On 04 March 2021, at Kampong Thom provincial hall, the PMU conducted a meeting with KT-provincial governor. The meeting was conducted and aimed to (1) provide progress and update about TRP, (2) raise issue on illegal forest land clearing and (3) seek for intervention from the governor. After the meeting the governor agreed to provide support to the project and agree to set provincial working group with joint from relevance provincial departments to work again illegal forest land clearing. Next step, the PMU will continue working with KT-Governor to formulate working groups and design its TORs. While seeking more funding support the operation of the working group.

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