



Korea Forest
Service

Progress Report

Annual Report

January-December 2024

Cambodia-Korea Joint REDD+ Project

(The Tumring REDD+ Project)

Implementing Agency:

Forestry Administration

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

January 2025

Highlights of Key Results in 2024

- The project has fully and officially registered 04 community forests for land titles. The project also measured four more community forests and is currently in the final stage of the land registration processes.
- In total, the project excavated 11,515 meters of artificial canal surrounding targeted community forests. The project also provided a pond with a size of 20 meters by 30 meters to Okranhong CF as a source of water in the community.
- In 2024, community forests conducted 453 patrols, involving 2,786 participants, 244 of whom were female. They confiscated 467 snares, 15 chainsaws, and 14.6 cubic meters of logs; 2 walking tractors; and 6 motorbikes, and uprooted 18,089 illegal plants in the community forests.
- The FIU confiscated 39 chainsaws, 11 walking tractors, 35 motorbikes, and 46 poles and took back 1,963.52 ha of illegal forestland. The FIU also removed 555,303 seedlings illegally planted on forestland, removed 105 illegal cottage and charcoal kilns on forestland, and confiscated 12.8 illegal logged timbers, filed 18 complaints to the provincial court, and 04 fertilizer spray tanks.
- 66 biogas kilns are being installed in these four community forests, where 66 households receive benefits. The PMU prepared 100 posters about the benefits of biogas kilns and posted them at 100 different places across the project area.
- The resin enterprise bought 4,593 kilograms of resin from the community forest members, which is equivalent to 219 containers. The enterprise sold 4,269 kilograms of resin. Therefore, the resin balance is 324 kilograms.
- As of 29 Dec 2024, the community forest-based saving group had USD 227.5 (cash in hand), USD 600 (in the bank), USD 1,975 (loan), and USD 1,250 (interest). In total, the saving group has USD 4,052.5.
- The PMU had 158 meetings with the 16 community forests with 1,285 participants (223 women).

I. Introduction

1.1 Background

The Tumring REDD+ Project is a joint REDD+ project between the Republic of Korea and the Kingdom of Cambodia. It was initiated by signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the two parties (Forestry Administration and Korea Forest Service) on December 10, 2014. The Tumring REDD+ Project covers 67,791 hectares of semi-evergreen forest and evergreen, where 14 community foresters are dwelling. This project has provided benefits to communities, where more than 2,500 households are settled down in 03 communes and 19 villages. In terms of biodiversity conservation, at least 64 small and big mammal species, 103 bird species, 49 herpetofauna species, and 283 insect species are being well protected.

This project generated a net emission reduction of 645,410 tons of CO₂ equivalent over the monitoring period from January 2015 to December 2019. Up to now, more than 80% of these forest carbon credits have been sold in the voluntary carbon market, as the project management unit (PMU) has been working with international partners, allowing the credits to be sold out quickly. The funds received from this sale have been safely stored in the Trust Fund bank account, which is under the management of the Trust Fund Management Committee.

1.2 The Establishment of the Trust Fund Management Committee (TFMC)

The TFMC was established in January 2023 with nominated members from both sides after the 7th Project Board Committee Meeting last December. The TFMC plays a very important role because it ensures proper funding and project management, enabling the project to generate more carbon credits in the future. The purpose of the Trust Fund is to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, improve better livelihoods, enhance biodiversity conservation, generate mitigation outcomes, and forest carbon credits, and build the capacity of relevant stakeholders. At the same time, Trust Fund Standard Operational Procedures (TF-SOP) were also prepared to help guide project management to be more effective and transparent.

The purpose of TF-SOP is to provide a mechanism to mobilize and manage financial resources for sustainable financial resource management to implement the K-CRJP and to oversee and manage the use of the Trust Fund in a transparent and effective manner to achieve its purpose. The TFMC has several roles, including calling for a meeting, reviewing the work plan and budget plan, reviewing audit reports, reviewing, and amending the TF-SOP, and reviewing the performance of the project management unit.

II. The Results of the Project Implementation

2.1 Strategy #1: Strengthening Forestland Tenure Security

2.1.1 The Community Forest Land Registration

Working together with local communities and authorities, the PMU has worked with the Kampong Thom Provincial Departments of Land Management, Urban Planning, Construction, and Cadaster, as well as the Kampong Thom Provincial Departments of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, to formally review and set the boundaries of community forests. These communal property titles would significantly enhance the rights of community members to safeguard forests and forestlands inside their designated community forests. The land titling initiative in the project area has motivated community forest members to engage actively in forest conservation efforts. In 2023, the PMU officially registered 04 community forests: Okranhoung, Odasco, Hongchamtit, and Lbos Ssral. Additionally, the PMU has been working with relevant authorities to fully and officially register four more community forests in 2024: Kampop Ambel, Trapang Pdoa, Choam Smarch, and Rum Chek. These four community forests are at the final step of the land registration processes, which is known as a public announcement of measured land titles. The project is publicly sharing these announcements with relevant villages in the project area. The PMU will continue to work on this effort, a process that will continue until all community forests in the project area receive full registration and communal land titles.

2.1.2 Digging Community Forest Boundary and providing a pond

The PMU has worked closely with the local authorities, the community forest members, and the Northern Forestry Administration Inspectorate to prepare for the community forest boundary digging of Kompob Ambel and Trapang Phdav community forests. To smoothly dig the community forest boundaries, the PMU has coordinated efficiently with relevant authorities (village, commune, district, and provincial levels) and stakeholders to ensure that there will be no issues while digging. The PMU also coordinated the Chom Smach CF boundary excavation, digging 3,000 meters. In total, the project excavated 11,515 meters of artificial canal surrounding targeted community forests. Additionally, the project also provided a pond with a size of 20 meters by 30 meters to Okranhong CF as a source of water in the community.

2.2 Strategy # 2: Forest and Wildlife Law Enforcement

2.2.1 The Community Forest Patrols

The PMU has been working closely with the 16 community forests across the project area to protect the remaining forests and biodiversity resources. The PMU helps the community forests form 60 patrol teams and provides technical and financial support to those patrol teams. In 2024 (see table 01), there were 453 patrols in the 16 community forests, involving 2,786 participants, 244 of whom were female.

Table 01: Community forests patrol information

No.	Month	Patrol	Patroller	F
1	January	50	305	36
2	February	42	237	30
3	March	42	257	28
4	April	43	219	14
5	May	49	365	20
6	June	53	299	18
7	July	53	341	37
8	August	58	379	36
9	September	54	337	22
10	October	3	18	0
11	November	3	14	3
12	December	3	15	0
Total		453	2,786	244

In 2024 (see table 02), patrollers confiscated 467 snares, 15 chainsaws, and 14.6 cubic meters of logs; 2 walking tractors, 6 motorbikes; and uprooted 18,089 illegal plants in the community forests.

Table 02: Results of community forest patrols

No.	Month	Chainsaw	Snare	Walking tractor	Motorbike	Illegal plant	Log (m3)
1	January	0	10	1	2	0	0
2	February	3	0	0	1	0	1.6
3	March	2	13	0	2	0	0.5
4	April	1	17	0	0	0	0
5	May	1	0	0	0	3,817	0
6	June	0	8	0	0	13,996	1.5
7	July	2	108	0	0	0	1
8	August	2	118	0	1	0	2
9	September	1	30	1	0	0	1
10	October	1	35	0	0	0	0.5
11	November	2	17	0	0	0	3.5
12	December	0	111	0	0	276	3

Total	15	467	2	6	18,089	14.6
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2.2.2 The Field Implementation Unit Patrols

The PMU has been working closely with the Field Implementation Unit, consisting of four main patrol teams, to protect the remaining forests and biodiversity resources. The PMU assists these patrolling teams, providing technical training and financial support. Table 3 provides information and data in each month of 2024 regarding patrolling results conducted by the Field Implementation Unit.

Table 03: Field Implementation Unit patrols results

Month	Patrolling results of the forest law enforcement
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filed 08 complaints cases of forest land encroachment to provincial court. • Demolished 1,940 cashew seedlings • 01 walking-tractor • 01 motorbike • 03 chainsaws • Filed 02 complaints cases of forest land intruders to the provincial court.
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 01 motorbikes • Removed and demolished 14,550 rubber seedlings on 28.52 hectares of community forest land. • Filed 04 complaints cases of forest land encroachment to provincial court
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 08 Chainsaws • 03 motorbikes • 2 walking-tractors • 16 poles • 12 cubic meters of logged timber • 244 hectares of forest land clearance taken back • Removed and destroyed 21,380 cashews seedlings. • Removed and destroyed 1,788 rubber seedlings. • Removed and destroyed 1,455 batch of casavas. • Demolished 01 charcoal kiln
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 Chainsaws • 3 motorbikes • 1 lawn mower • Removed 12201 cashew seedlings • Removed 450 cassavas • 3 hand-tractors • 0.420 m3 of log wood • 244 hectares of forest land encroachment and filed complaint to the provincial court.
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 chainsaws • 14 motorbikes • Removed 27 229 cashew seedlings • Remove 140 320 cassavas

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed 9514 rubber seedlings • Demolished 13 charcoal kilns • Arrested 2 perpetrators and sent to provincial court for further action • Removed 36 cottages illegally constructed on the forest land • 256 hectares of forest land encroachment and filed complaint to the provincial court
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 06 chainsaws • 7 motorbikes • 3 hand-tractor • One spray tank • 03 long knives, one ax • Demolished 7 charcoal kilns • Removed 19,529 cashew seedlings • Removed 155 840 cassavas • Arrested 2 perpetrators sent to provincial court for further action • Removed 23 cottages illegally constructed on the forest land • 237 hectares of forest land encroachment and filed complaint to the provincial court
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 motorbikes • Removed 22020 cashew sapling equivalent 2628 ha • 1 vehicle • 30 poles of logs • 184 hectares of forest land encroached and filed a complaint to the provincial court. • Demolished 11 cottages that were illegally constructed on forest land. • Demolished 03 charcoal Kilns
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 chainsaw • 03 motorbikes • Removed 23 654 cashew sapling equivalent 118 ha • 01 hand-tractor • Demolished 09 cottages that were illegally constructed on the forest land • 409 hectares of forest land encroachment filed a complaint to the provincial court
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed 19,616 cashew sapling • Removed 630 rubber sapling • 177 hectares of forest land encroachment and filed complaint to the provincial court
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed 15,663 cashew sapling equivalent 183 ha • 2 hand tractors • 0.813 cubic meter of log wood • 184 hectares of forest land encroached and filed a complaint to the provincial court.
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 04 fertilizer spray tank • 01 water pumping machine • 01 motorbikes • Removed 19,497 cashew sapling equivalent 146 ha • Removed 4,604 rubber sapling equivalent 44 ha • 01 hand-tractor

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 01 motorbike
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed 17,978 rubber sapling equivalent 98 ha • Removed 25,780 cashew sapling equivalent 171 ha • 01 hand tractor • 02 motorbikes • 01 water pumping machine • Removed 01 cottage and file the complaint to the provincial court

In total, in 2024, the FIU confiscated 39 chainsaws, 11 walking tractors, 35 motorbikes, and 46 poles and took back 1,963.52 ha of illegal forestland. The FIU also removed 555,303 seedlings illegally planted on forestland, removed 105 illegal cottage and charcoal kilns on forestland, and confiscated 12.8 illegal logged timbers, filed 18 complaints to the provincial court, and 04 fertilizer spray tanks.

Table 04: Total results of the law enforcement units

No.	Month	Chainsaw	Walking tractor	Log (cubic m)	Motorbike	Retaken forestland (ha)	Removed illegal seedlings	Illegal cottages/ kiln	Log (poles)	Complaint to court
1	January	3	1	0	1	0	1,940	0	0	10
2	February	0	0	0	1	28.52	14,550	0	0	4
3	March	8	2	12	3	244	24,623	1	16	0
4	April	7	3	0	3	244	12,651	1	0	0
5	May	11	0	0	14	256	177,063	49	0	2
6	June	6	0	0	7	237	175,369	30	0	2
7	July	3	0	0	0	184	22,020	14	30	0
8	August	1	1	0	3	409	23,654	9	0	0
9	September	0	0	0	0	177	20,246	0	0	0
10	October	0	2	0.8	0	184	15,663	0	0	0
11	November	0	1	0	1	0	24,101	0	0	0
12	December	0	1	0	2	0	43,758	1	0	0
	Total	39	11	12.8	35	1,963.52	555,303	105	46	18

2.3 Strategy #3: Enhancing Livelihoods and Generating Income

2.3.1 Supporting the Community Forests Through Biogas Program

The PMU has collaborated with the National Biodigester Program of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries to provide biogas kilns for community forest members. These biogas kilns will provide many benefits to the local community members because they provide low-cost energy, allowing them to save money for their daily livelihoods. To be eligible for this program, the community members from the target community forests must have cattle and other animals, which allow them to produce enough manure to run the biogas kilns. At the early stage, 145 people attended these dissemination workshops about biogas benefits. As of

now, 66 biogas kilns are being installed in these four community forests, where 66 households receive benefits. In this quarter, the PMU prepared 100 posters about the benefits of biogas kilns and posted them at 100 different places across the project area. This activity aims to encourage community forest members to use this environmentally friendly power source. This possibly contributes to lowering their dependence on forest resources as fuelwoods.

2.3.2 Odasco Community Forest-based Resin Enterprise

The PMU has assisted Odasco Community Forest to form a community forest-based resin enterprise. Since then, this resin enterprise has worked well, generating income for community forest members. From January to December 2024 (see table 05), this resin enterprise bought 4,593 kilograms of resin from the community forest members, which is equivalent to 219 containers (each container contains 21 kilograms). The enterprise did sell 4,269 kilograms of resin. Therefore, the resin balance is 324 kilograms.

Table 05: Information about the resin enterprise status

No.	Date	Kilogram	Selling cost (Riels)	Resin in Stock (Kilograms)
1	27/12/2023	0	0	2,430
2	25/01/2024	540	1,600	0
3	27/02/2024	675	1,750	0
4	20/03/2024	1,080	1,700	1,350
5	27/04/2024	1,350	1,700	0
6	19/05/2024	270	1,700	0
7	28/06/2024	324	0	324
8	30/07/2024	0	0	324
9	28/08/2024	30	1350	0
10	28/09/2024	0	0	324 (spoiled)
11	30/10/2024	324	0	324
12	30/11/2024	0	0	0
13	27/12/2024	0	0	324

2.3.3 Kbal Dountey Community Forest-based Saving Group

The PMU has assisted the Kbal Dountey community forest in forming a community forest-based savings group, allowing the community forest members to borrow some budgets to support their farming work. This saving group has been playing a crucial role in providing funds to farmers who are also members of the community forest. They could use the funds to buy organic fertilizer, agricultural materials, and so on. As of 29 December 2024, the community forest-based saving group had USD 227.5 (cash in hand), USD 600 (in the bank), USD 1,975 (loan), and USD 1,250 (interest). In total, the saving group has USD 4,052.5 (see table 06).

Table 06: Status of community forest-based saving group

No.	Saving Group	Date	A. Cash In hand	B. Cash in Bank	C. Loan	D. Interest Earned	Total (A+B+C+D)
1	Kbal Dauntey	28-Mar-24	572.50	610	1,837.5	1,020	3,020
2	Kbal Dauntey	28-06-2024	0	600	1,975	1,075	3,650
3	Kbal Dauntey	29-09-2024	227.5	600	1,975	1,135	3,710
4	Kbal Dauntey	29-12-2024	227.5	600	1,975	1,250	4,052.5

2.4 Strategy # 4: Increasing Stakeholder Participation and Environmental Education

2.4.1 The Community Forest Monthly Meeting

The PMU has worked closely with all community forest management committees across the project area, coordinating, facilitating, and advising community forests on what to do to solve forest management issues in their respective communities. In 2024, the PMU met in 16 community forests with 1,285 participants (223 women). The PMU collected patrol reports from the community forests, discussed challenges, and advised on how to solve issues in community forest management (see table 07).

Table 07: Information about the monthly meeting with the community forests

No.	Month	# of Meeting	# of CFMC	Women
1	January	0	0	0
2	February	0	0	0
3	March	16	118	12
4	April	16	112	16
5	May	16	160	31
6	June	16	14	0
7	July	14	147	22
8	August	16	157	36
9	September	16	187	19
10	October	16	176	45
11	November	16	32	2
12	December	16	182	40
	Total	158	1,285	223

2.4.2 2.4.1 Filming Key Project Activities to disseminate to the public

The PMU has coordinated and contacted Life Media (AMS) to film key project activities so that they can be disseminated to the public. This short video will play a very important role in explaining to the public the role of the Tumring REDD+ Project in reducing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere while supporting local communities' livelihoods. The key activities were the biogas kiln program, community forest and local FA patrolling, resin tapping, community forest land registration, and tree nursery activities. Life Media had finished its tasks with the PMU, releasing quality videos about the project activities. The PMU has used these videos to disseminate to different audiences through the project's social media, workshops, and so on.

2.5 Additional Activities

- The PMU designed and gave 04 signboards to 04 different community forests. The signboards provide information about legal information about relevant community forests, including Odasco, OKranhoung, Prey Hongchamtit, and Lbos Sral. The signboard's size is 1.5 m x 2.2 m.
- The PMU designed and provided 03 concrete community forests' names to 03 community forests: Choam Smarch, Odasco, and Okranhoung.
- The PMU coordinated and supported repairing the plumbing system at the Srey Pring community forest for its members.
- The PMU has been continuing to post on its Facebook page and webpage regarding the project activities to the public.
- 02 PMU members participated in the REDD+ Capacity Building in Korea invited by the KFS.
- The project coordinated and provided financial support to the Trust Fund Committee Meeting.
- The project conducted agricultural land inholding to file complaints to the provincial court.
- The project offered support to community members and law enforcement officials in addressing forest offense cases through collaboration with the provincial court.
- The project conducted village workshops together with stakeholders and modified the boundary of relevant community forest management areas (addressing community forest boundary conflicts).
- The project provided a solar-based water pumping to a community forest in the project area.

3. Explanation for the Delay in REDD+ Verification

The planned REDD+ verification for the project, originally scheduled for last year, did not take place due to a combination of external constraints and technical challenges.

Firstly, there were significant changes in Verra's methodology, particularly the shift toward the new VM0048 methodology. This transition introduced more complex requirements for verification, including the development of updated baseline scenarios and the generation of detailed forest risk maps. These new components required substantial time and resources to complete in accordance with Verra's updated standards.

Secondly, the carbon development partner supporting the verification process was heavily engaged with multiple projects during the period, which limited their availability to prioritize and provide the necessary technical inputs for our project. Their limited capacity delayed key preparatory work essential for moving forward with the verification.

A third key factor was the unavailability of updated national activity data, which is essential for the successful completion of the second verification. The project relies on nationally generated activity data for 2022 and 2024, which are currently being developed by relevant ministries in collaboration with development partners. Until these datasets are finalized and officially released, the project cannot proceed with the necessary emissions reduction calculations and verification steps.

Given these circumstances, the verification was postponed ensuring that all methodological updates are properly addressed and that the project remains fully aligned with current verification requirements. Work is ongoing to finalize the necessary technical deliverables, and the verification will be rescheduled once these elements are complete and quality assured.

The project will regularly monitor Verra and work very closely with our carbon developer to properly prepare for the second verification. The project hopes to conduct verification starting this year. However, it is dependent on the availability of data from Verra and how the carbon developer responds to us. The project will make every effort to ensure a smooth process, similar to our previous experiences.

I. Financial Management

The PMU has implemented the project activities based on the approved work plan and budget for 2024. Annex I presents the budget expenditure for 2024 (January–December 2024) and the work plan and budget plan for 25 (Jan–Dec 2025).

II. Annexes

- Annex I: Budget Expenditure for 2024 (January–December 2024)
- Plan for 2025 (Jan–Dec 2025)
- Annex II: Bank Statement as of xx

- Annex III: Photos

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