

WildAid

N° 109, Street 99 (at street 498), Phsar Doeum Thkov
Chamcarmon District, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Website: www.wildaid.org

Email: wildaid@online.com.kh

Subject: TWG-F&E USAID Supported Activities (Ref. Contract no. 442-A-00-03-00171-00)

Please find detailed below a summary of how WildAid activities reflect the objectives of the TWG-F&E workplan.

WildAid works in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Department of Forestry and Wildlife/Forestry Administration (FA) and Ministry of Environment (MoE) under MOUs and Project Agreements. In program activities MAFF, FA, MOE or local government facilitate project implementation.

Ministry of Environment

- Memorandum of Understanding: 12 June 2003

Protection of Botum Sakor National Park

- Project Agreement: 06 October 2003

Protection of Botum Sakor National Park

Department of Forestry & Wildlife

- Memorandum of Understanding: 14 March 2001

Wilderness Protection Mobile Unit (Wildlife Rapid Rescue Team)

Koh Kong Province

- Memorandum of Understanding: 03 October 2003

Agriculture Assistance for Bio-diversity Conservation of South West Elephant Corridor.

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

- Project Agreement: 29 December 2003

Protection of the South West Elephant Corridor, Southern Cardamom Mountain Range.

TWG-F&E Objectives:

1.2 Forest Management Program

1.2.1 Demarcation of protected areas

WildAid has implemented zoning and demarcation in the Coastal Cardamoms since April 2003, as a participatory process involving FA, MAFF, MOE, MLMUP and local government. The zoning and demarcation process results in signed

maps and on the ground demarcation posts to delineate permanent forest estate and development zones.

By the end of March 2006, the SWEC zoning and demarcation program component has completed:

- all of road 48, including 45km for small scale agriculture development
- Trapeang Rung and Tatay villages
- 5 villages in Botum Sakor
- protected wetlands and
- protected lakes between Sre Amble and Andoung Tuek

The zoning of road 48 has been signed by both the governor of Koh Kong and the Ministry of Agriculture in Phnom Penh

By the end of 2006 the town of Koh Kong and the village of Andoung Tuek will be completed, and the commune of Chi Phat (4 villages and approximately 20,000 ha of land-use mapping) will be in the planning phase.

With support from USAID, WildAid will complete the demarcation of significant areas in the Coastal Cardamoms within the next 3 years.

1.2.3 Develop Management Plans for protected areas

In December 2005, FA requested NGOs to develop a management plan for protected areas within which they have projects. WildAid has developed a management plan for the entire Coastal Cardamoms including the SWEC Protected Forest, Botum Sakor National Park, Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary, Dong Peng Multiple Use Area and the state forest reserves of TPP, Silveroad 1&2 and Samling.

As a result of the Coastal Cardamoms management plan, specific zones are in the process of being identified and which will be managed by relevant stakeholder groups, for example:

- strictly protected zones by FA/MOE
- community forestry zones by community associations
- eco-tourism zones jointly by community, government and private sector
- sustainable use zones by government and private sector

1.2.4 Forest cover assessment 2005

Since January 2005, WildAid has been working with the Koh Kong provincial governor to create a zoning plan for the province covering the Coastal Cardamoms. This plan includes transferring all developments and zoning and demarcation lines on to a 2005 forest canopy satellite map, detailing the forests and coastal zones of the Coastal Cardamoms. When the plan is completed, WildAid will have a comprehensive forest canopy and land-use map for 2005 and will provide this information to the FA.

1.2.5 Forest management options and strategies

With the support of USAID, WildAid is undertaking a feasibility study to identify the eco-tourism potential of the Coastal Cardamoms. Developing eco-tourism in protected areas can be the basis for long-term strategies of sustainable natural

resource management and providing alternative livelihoods for local communities.

WildAid will be working with ADB to provide FA with a carbon credit inventory of the entire Cardamom Mountain Range. WildAid aims to have a complete inventory report ready by 2009 in anticipation of the renegotiations of the Kyoto protocol in 2012, where an international network will push for natural forest to be traded for carbon credits under CDM.

1.4 Forest Law Enforcement Program

1.4.1 Continue forest and land crime monitoring and reporting

WildAid's South West Elephant Corridor program (WildAid, FA, MoE) and Bokor Conservation Program (WildAid, MoE) support on-the-ground monitoring of forest connectivity, address illegal activities including logging and wildlife poaching and facilitate the process of submitting cases to court. With USAID support the projects monitor forest and land crime activities in an area of 1,035,316 ha.

WildAid's Wildlife Rapid Rescue Team (WildAid, FA) counters the illegal trade in wildlife throughout the country. From 2001-2005, 75% of wildlife trade was deterred in the whole country, wildlife consumption was reduced by 95% in Phnom Penh and over 1,000 traders had been apprehended. With support from USAID, the team will target the transport axis from Stung Treng to the Vietnamese border, from Sihanoukville to Phnom Penh and from Siem Reap to the Thai border.

In project areas, WildAid also facilitates reporting for the Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) program as required under CITES.

3.1 National Community Forestry Program

3.1.1 Implement National Community Forestry Program and develop community forestry

With USAID support, WildAid will undertake a feasibility study in the SWEC Protected Forest to assess the potential for developing a community forestry project in the SWEC Protected Forest, and will delineate the exact boundaries of this forest section and help communities put in place mechanisms for sustainable management.

3.1.3 Small scale family business based on forest products

With USAID support, WildAid is undertaking a number of feasibility studies in the Coastal Cardamoms to assess the potential for developing small-scale sustainable processing industries, for home grown Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) and secondary wood products, which are environmentally compatible and able to provide increased revenue to local communities.

4.1 **Overall Capacity Building Program**

4.1.3 Implement overall capacity building program

Through collaboration with Government partners, WildAid is able to provide technical advice and training to law enforcement agencies, through on-the-job training for early detection of forest crime and organized suppression, wildlife monitoring and good governance.

Through USAID (past grants) WildAid has helped expand the facilities of the Bokor Ranger Center, create the National Bokor Ranger Training Center and design the national ranger training curriculum and trained MOE staff to become trainers.

WildAid will be supporting FA staff to participate in training courses on developing and writing management plans, silviculture and community forestry.

5.1 **Reforestation/Aforestation Program**

5.1.1 Tree planting for socio-economic purposes and environmental services

In 2004, WildAid and FA began a reforestation pilot project, raising 30,000 tropical tree saplings in the tree nursery at CADP in the Coastal Cardamoms. Over 45 hectares of cleared forest were replanted in 2005 (25 hectares of old clearings in the Chi Phat area and 20 hectares of recently burnt forest in Trapeang Rung).

With the support of USAID, WildAid is planning to expand this pilot project. To this end WildAid is undertaking a feasibility study for the reforestation potential of the Coastal Cardamoms, which will be completed by end of May 2006. The study will identify locations and species required to implement and achieve sustainable reforestation of cleared areas so that the forest can be restored to its original tropical mix state. Specific zones that are eligible for carbon trading under the Kyoto Protocol will also be identified.

5.1.2 Processing techniques for value added products and innovative products

FA patrol units document NTFPs that are collected for household use (mushrooms, bark, leaves, roots) and commercial sale (rattan, aloe wood, resin, yellow vine) in the Coastal Cardamoms.

With USAID support, WildAid has conducted a feasibility study for NTFP valorization, the report will be ready by end of May 2006. The study aims to identify desirable species of economic value, including varieties with recognized medicinal properties, food/fabric colorant properties or natural pesticide properties that can be harvested in a sustainable manner.

In addition to the above activities, USAID supports WildAid's Community Agriculture Development Project (CADP), Active Conservation Awareness Program (ACAP) and Care for Rescued Wildlife (CRW) project.

Although these projects do not fall within the current TWG-F&E workplan objectives and activities, they form part of WildAid's combined approach to protecting Cambodia's forest and wildlife resources, by:

- providing alternative livelihoods to the poorest farmers, who previously relied on slash and burn farming, in the Coastal Cardamoms.
- raising awareness about the importance of conserving Cambodia's natural resources at local and national levels.
- supporting the care and shelter of animals rescued from the illegal wildlife trade that are unable to be released back in to the wild, thereby addressing the proceeds of trafficking.

WildAid works closely with FA and MoE to ensure good collaboration, understanding and project implementation. We will be happy to provide further assistance to support your response to the TWG-F&E and contribute to the development of a national workplan for the Forestry and Environment sector.

With best regards,

SUWANNA GAUNTLETT
WILDAID DIRECTOR
CAMBODIA COUNTRY DIRECTOR