

Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Project (BPAMP)

Goal to help the Government of Cambodia achieve sustainable management of its system of national protected areas

Project period 03/2000 – 12/2006

Budget 4.9 Million US Dollar

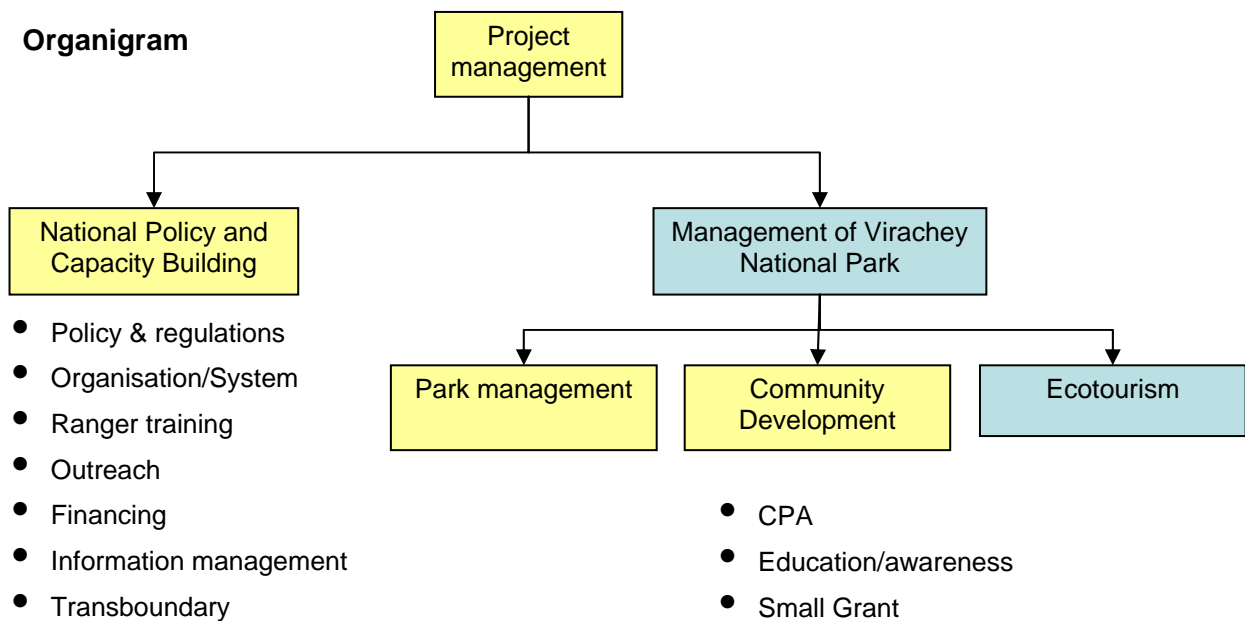
World Bank learning and innovation credit

GEF grant

Government of Cambodia counterpart funding

Implemented by **Ministry of Environment**

Organigram



Location of Virachey National Park



Objectives

To develop and test proactive measures to minimise unsustainable exploitation and degradation of the biodiversity of national and global significance in Virachey National Park

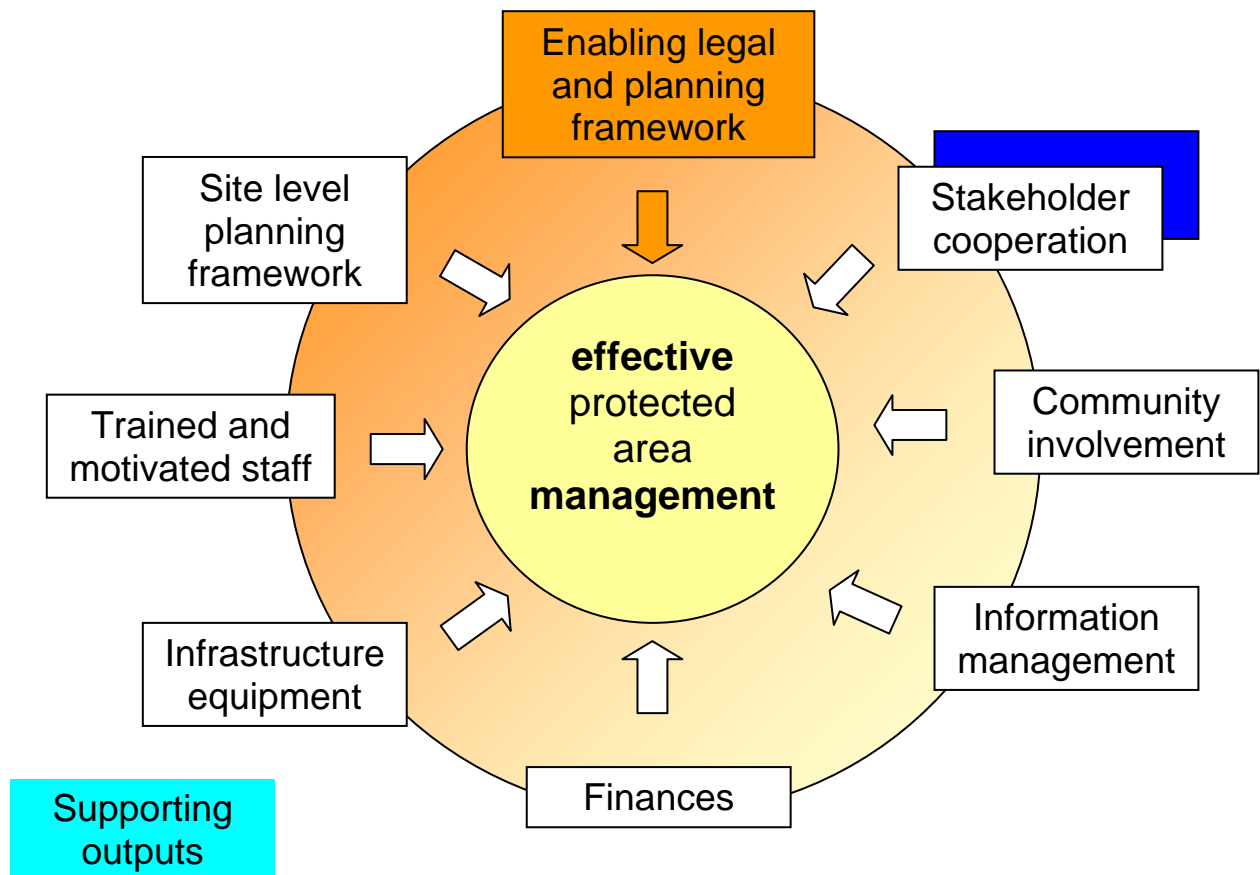
Pilot site
to develop and test models of protected area management

To use the experiences gained from Virachey National Park to help formulate institutional models for the development of the National Protected area System of Cambodia

National level
promotion of VNP models at system level and development of additional models

The aim of BPAMP is to contribute to effective protected area management at site and national level

What BPAMP has put in place to achieve effective protected area management is shown below



Enabling legislation - existing

1993 Royal Decree establishment of 23 protected areas

1994 Prakas # 1033 MoE's role and powers

1996 Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management reaffirmed MoE's mandate on PA management

Enabling legislation – BPAMP input

- 2001 Protected Area Law Secretariat set up at MoE and Task Force established
- 2002 First draft produced and 5 provincial cluster stakeholder consultation workshops held
- 2003-2005 Review process
- 2005 Draft protected area law submitted to National Assembly
- 2005 Prakas on Community Protected Areas (final draft)

Comprehensive Protected Area system design

AIM -- to conserve biodiversity in an effectively managed protected area system which is a representative subset of the biodiversity of Cambodia

Gap analysis: a method to identify gaps in the **representativeness** and/or **effectiveness** of a protected area network to conserve biodiversity.

Analysis to identify biodiversity not adequately conserved in the PA network

System plan: a statement and a set of ideas charting a pragmatic way forward to a clearly stated future for the national protected area system.

A strategic plan how to implement the findings of the gap analysis

Site level planning

Model management plan with financial plan: *Virachey National Park Management Plan 2003-2007*.

Manual: *Participatory Development of Management Plans for Protected Areas in Cambodia*. (BPAMP 2005)

Support documents

- Annual operations plan and budget
- Park protection plan
- CPA guidelines
- Small grant guidelines
- Ecotourism strategy
- Research policy

Stakeholder cooperation

From village to national and international level (some examples):

- Community Protected Area Committees
- Sub committee on conflict resolution
- Committee on conflict resolution
- FA and gap analysis
- Transboundary cooperation

Transboundary Cooperation: BPAMP is supporting the Ministry of Environment with the establishment of a transboundary cooperation agreement with Lao PDR and Vietnam for the Virachey - Dong Am Pham - Chu Mom Ray Protected Area Complex

Community participation

Community Education and Awareness Raising to increase local community understanding and awareness about conservation in and around the park and to empower them to become actively involved in the co-management of natural resources

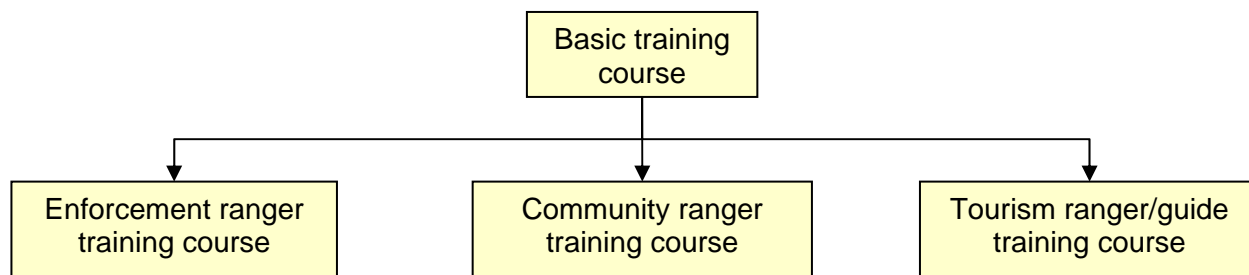
Community Protected Areas - 5 CPAs established in the sustainable use zone of VNP for the sustainable use of natural resources and ecotourism (benefit sharing, contribution to poverty reduction)

Small Grants Programme - BPAMP uses a GEF grant to support community development activities which encourage the sustainable use and conservation of resources, with focus on activities which are income generating and geared towards reducing poverty

Trained and motivated staff

National training curriculum

Training materials and training management packages for ranger training courses are being developed by WildAid and BPAMP, based on competency profiles developed for park staff in Cambodia.



Formal and on-the-job training

73 training courses for 1,030 participants

296 person-months of consultants – technical advisors (as of April 2006): 258 international
38 national (excluding project staff)

Additional capacity building through exposure to international conservation meetings: 2 IUCN congresses, 5 CBD conferences/meetings

Infrastructure and equipment

Headquarters (Banlung)
Visitor Centre (Banlung)
Park Office (Stung Treng)
Ranger Stations (3)

Ranger Outposts (9)
Tourism infrastructure
Office (Phnom Penh)
Training Centre (Bokor)

Provision of equipment contributes to the motivation of the rangers:

- Field gear
- First Aid kits
- VHF and HF radio communication equipment
- Transport (cars, motor bikes, boats)
- GPS units
- Computers
- Camera traps

Financing

PA system level

Financing strategy

Questionnaire to get baseline data and information on:

- Budget sources
- Revenue
- Expenses (personnel, operational and capital)
- Staffing (current, minimum and optimum numbers)
- Equipment
- Infrastructure
- Visitors

Pilot programme VNP

Ecotourism development

Five year Ecotourism Strategy: THE VISION --- Virachey National Park will become a regionally renowned destination for ecotourism in South East Asia and a role model for protected area ecotourism development and management in Cambodia. It will integrate well with national tourism development planning and become known for delivering a professional and high quality programme that is economically sustainable, involves and benefits indigenous communities and contributes to the conservation of the park's biological and cultural diversity.

Information management

Information management requires **Data** (from internal and external sources) to be convert into **information** (user friendly tool) and to **communicate** this information to users/managers.

Standardised ranger-based data collection to provide data for timely, reliable and up-to-date information to managers of protected areas for their day-to-day decision-making.

Manual: Ranger-based data collection - A reference guide and training manual for protected area staff in Cambodia

Databases

- MIST database (biodiversity, illegal activities, patrol performance)
- Conservation planning database (6,500 digital vertical aerial photos)
- Vertebrate species distribution
- Protected area database

Spatial management information system (MIST) A tool which provides easy and timely access to information for decision-making, planning, monitoring and evaluation at protected area and national level

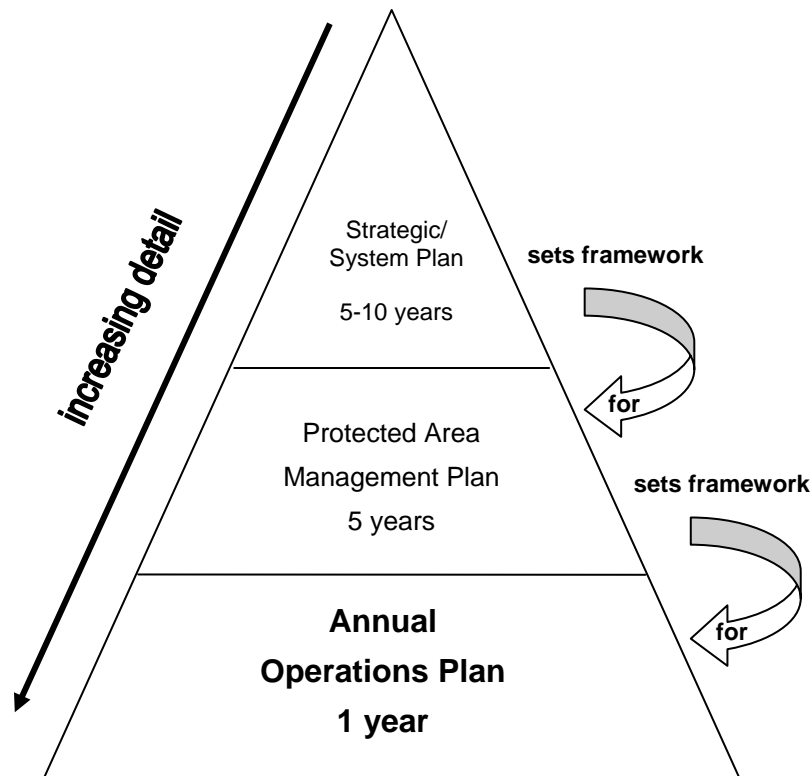
Information management – data sharing

Web site includes meta data about all datasets used during the gap analysis and system planning process

Data sharing: data produced by BPAMP should be distributed free of charge based on a non-exclusive, non-transferable licence for the non-commercial use of the data

Monitoring and evaluation

Manual: Annual operations and budget planning and monitoring and evaluation for protected areas in Cambodia



Supporting outputs

Rapid assessment and prioritisation of protected area management (**RAPPAM**) – a WWF monitoring tool based on assessments by PA staff

Graphic design and signage standards for Protected Areas and the Department of Nature Conservation and Protection

A comprehensive **outreach programme** at local and national level

Computer networks