



The Cardamom Mountains. © Conservation International/photo by David Emmett

Achievements over the past 10 years

Within the Central Cardamom Mountain Landscape, over the past 10 years, Conservation International has achieved the following:

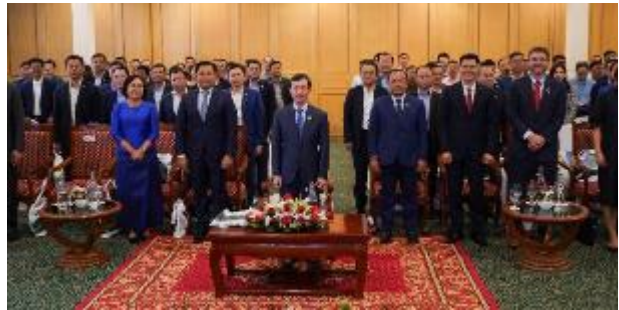
- Six Conservation Law Enforcement Ranger Stations continually supported financially and technically for effective conservation law enforcement in the landscape
- The first ever systematic biodiversity survey in the Central Cardamom Mountain Landscape conducted, identifying 108 species
- The Central Cardamom REDD+ Project initiated
- Bespoke and targeted livelihoods interventions initiated to improve the wellbeing of the community's residing in or adjacent to the landscape
- Numerous communication pieces highlighting the importance of the Central Cardamom Landscape as a global hotspot for biodiversity
- Several cohorts of Cambodian staff members and students improved their technical capacity in working as a conservation practitioner
- Cardamom Mountains Conservation Trust Fund continues to be a key factor in providing sustained funding for core protected area management activities

Summary of the progress:

the REDD+ Project and Central Cardamom Mountains Landscape Programme was Launched

In Feb 2024, through partnership with Ministry of Environment, the REDD+ Project and Central Cardamom Mountains Landscape Programme was Launched with 145 (16 female) attended in person.

This REDD+ project is based on the government's forest conservation system, which has been working to strengthen organizations and improve capacity through the Daikin Project. We plan to continue forest patrols by rangers supported by the Daikin Project.



Launching REDD+ Project and Central Cardamom Mountains Landscape Programme

Conduct systematic & targetted camera trap study of target area

Biodiversity team completed a landscape level biodiversity survey, gathering data from 143 camera traps deployed for 23,038 trap-nights. The study captured 22,197 videos and pictures of wildlife and detected 108 species, including one critically endangered, five endangered, 13 vulnerable, four near threatened and 85 least concern species. Recently, the team deployed 9 camera traps and retrieved 33 for the second survey in Koh Kong and Pursat provinces. Gibbon calls were recorded, and Asian elephants were captured on camera traps. Key wildlife such as Dhole, Mainland Serow, and Red Muntjac were also detected. The camera traps additionally captured Sambar deer, Gaur, Peacocks, and other species. However, geographical challenges extended the team's field days beyond the initial plan, particularly during the rainy season.

Lemongrass stalk - Market system strengthening

The Tatey Leu community conducted capacity-building training for the commercialization of lemongrass oil, which provided a group of producers in the community with the necessary knowledge for commercialization.

With support from the project, the lemongrass oil producers group was able to raise the price of their oil from US \$120 per litre to US \$150 per litre this year after negotiating with brokers.



Coaching to lemongrass essential oil enterprise in Tatey Leu

Strengthening nature positive market systems at the community level

95 individuals (60 female, 35 male) attended four community consultations representing eight villages across three communes and districts in Koh Kong, Kampong Speu, and Pursat provinces. Key interventions included bananas, chickens, lemongrass, and financial literacy. Feedback from these consultations validated the main sustainable livelihood interventions for the communities.

Savings Groups

the Sustainable Livelihood team successfully recruited Saving Committees. By report period, four saving groups were established, with a total of 71 members (50 female, 21 male) in Mongri and Tropoung Pong sub-villages. The groups' by-laws were developed and approved by local authorities at the village and commune levels, ensuring recognition and support. Each group was also received material support from the project to operate the saving model.



Bookkeeping training to Saving Group on 19-20 June 2024

CCMNP Trust Fund, the project did not withdraw funds this year due to available funding for project activities, thus allowing the fund to earn more interest.