

Enhancing Climate Resilience of Rural Communities Living in Protected Areas of Cambodia

Why in protected areas?

Dependence of these communities on ecosystem services and a lack of alternative, climate-resilient livelihoods

Budget: \$4,954,273

Area rehabilitated: 4,798 hectares of land, including mangroves, diversified home gardens, and drought-tolerant rice paddies

Beneficiaries: 1,962 families

Executing Entity: Ministry of Environment of Cambodia

The overall goal of the project is to increase food supply and reduce soil erosion in communities surrounding five Community Protected Areas in Cambodia by:

- i) Restoring 72.3 ha of degraded forests;
- ii) Planting of 172,592 fruit trees around homesteads;
- iii) trialing plots of drought-tolerant hybrid rice cultivars in order to assess their potential yield and suitability for cultivation in 872 households; and
- iv) intensifying and diversifying the productivity of family agriculture areas including home gardens in 1,962 households in communities living around the CPA forest sites.

What are the innovative aspects of the project?

- Integrated adaptation model in addressing drivers of CC vulnerability
- Savings schemes, training on financial management, and business plans to support sustainability of livelihood development – has enabled scale up.
- Construction of road rest areas and using these to promote awareness on climate change resilient practices
- Strong focus on monitoring to support upscaling that involve MSc students

“The nursery gives this community hope. We used the seedlings to reforest our environment, and the fruit trees and vegetables from my home garden give us food and nutrients daily. The tube wells the project installed guarantee water supply for our home gardens, family livestock farming and household use, and the chickens we are raising has given my family financial security.” Svay Khin

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SnotF8PPUVU&feature=youtu.be>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ItvWj61dZrg>

