



Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard

THE SOUTHERN CARDOMOM REDD+ PROJECT – MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION REPORT SUMMARY

Document Prepared by Wildlife Works Carbon LLC



The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project (SCRP) is an initiative designed to promote climate change mitigation and adaptation, maintain biodiversity and create alternative livelihoods under the United Nations scheme of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+). The 445,339 ha SCRPP encompasses parts of Southern Cardamom National Park and Tatai Wildlife Sanctuary and will protect a critical part of the Cardamom Mountains Rainforest Ecoregion – one of the 200 most important locations for biodiversity conservation on the planet. The SCRPP is part of the Indo-Burma Hotspot, one of the worlds' 34 biodiversity hotspots, and is a critical watershed for the Gulf of Thailand, with a mosaic of habitats from dense evergreen and pine forests on its ridge tops to lowland melaleuca wetlands, flooded grasslands, lakes and coastal mangroves in its lowlands . This mosaic of habitat supports at least 52 species of IUCN Threatened birds, mammals, and reptiles including Siamese crocodile and one of Cambodia's two viable populations of Asian elephant. The landscape has also been identified by the Royal Government of Cambodia as an opportunity for tiger reintroduction.

In response to the threats to the Southern Cardamom landscape, Wildlife Alliance with the Ministry of Environment (MOE), decided to create the SCRPP. The protection of the SCRPP will be achieved by continuing and intensifying patrolling of the Project Area, as well as by providing additional project activities to the communities that are designed to mitigate the drivers of deforestation. Two important project activities are agricultural intensification and community-based ecotourism. These will help create greater financial security in the communities, and therefore less need to perform unsustainable resource extraction from the Project Area. A fund will also be provided to support scholarships for children from project communities in order to directly address one of the critical drivers of deforestation identified during stakeholder workshops (i.e. low education rates and limited opportunities for post-primary school education). This fund will be available for community members from an additional 8 villages in four communes in addition to those directly benefiting from the project. These project activities, in addition to mitigating the drivers of deforestation, will provide significant local contributions to 15 of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and help provide long-lasting benefits to the communities and natural biodiversity in the project zone.

Impacts on Stakeholders

Target 1.4	All members of the project zone communities will have access to micro-finance loans and will have secure land tenure.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA045 and SIA046 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's microfinance activities. The Project provided microfinance to 71 women from 7 villages, organized into 6 groups in Areng Valley were coached in financial literacy to improve the effectiveness of their savings and loan activities, which were initiated in 2018. The positive outcome is a high number of loans provided by the savings and loan groups. During the reporting period, the zoning and demarcation activities have continued, so that the land for local communities is clearly delineated. 21 land use planning meetings have been conducted with participation and support from local authorities. 603 demarcation posts have been also installed along the community land boundaries in Russey Chrum and Chi Kha Leu communes.
Target 1.5	The project will increase the resilience of project zone communities to climate-related extreme events and other economic social and environmental shocks and disasters by increasing farm productivity and increasing knowledge of improved methods and varieties.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA047 and SIA048 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's agricultural training activities. Trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.
Target 2.4	The Project will ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices in the project zone that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.

Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA047 and SIA048 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's agricultural training activities. Trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.
Target 3.8	The Project will achieve universal health coverage in the project zone communities, with access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA037, SIA038 and SIA039 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's health focused activities. A total of 1,743 people have improved health services since the beginning of the project, of which 878 are women.
Target 4.1	The Project will ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcome.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA032 and SIA033 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's education focused activities. The Project has elected to first focus on providing scholarships for students before implementing other activities.

Target 4.3	The Project will ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcome.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA035 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's education focused activities. The Scholarship Fund pilot was first announced in July 2020 for a 4-year bachelor's degree at the Royal University of Phnom Penh and Royal University of Agriculture for the period of March 2021- March 2025. The start of the university year was delayed in 2020 because of the COVID Pandemic. The Fund was advertised through 2 district education departments (Botum Sakor and Thmor Bang) and then at the commune level, and then directly with students and parents in 13 target villages of the REDD+ Project. To-date, we have received 13 applicants to the Fund, 6 from Chi Phat commune, 4 from Sovanna Baitong village and 3 from Areng Valley communes. We are now awaiting the results of the applicants' high school examinations to determine which applicants can move forward to the university level.
Target 4.5	The Project will eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA032 and SIA033 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's education focused activities. The parity index for the education bursary scheme is 1.6, with 8 females and 5 males participating. The parity index for project run education programs is 1.5, with 779 female students and 532 male students attending events. The Scholarship Fund pilot was first announced in July 2020 for a 4-year bachelor's degree at the Royal University of Phnom Penh and Royal University of Agriculture for the period of March 2021- March 2025. The start of the university year was delayed in 2020 because of the COVID Pandemic. The Fund was advertised through 2 district education departments (Botum Sakor and Thmor Bang) and then at the commune level, and then directly with students and parents in 13 target villages of the REDD+ Project. To-date, we have received 13 applicants to the Fund, 6 from Chi Phat commune, 4 from Sovanna Baitong village and 3 from Areng Valley communes. We are now awaiting the results of the applicants' high school examinations to determine which applicants can move forward to the university level.
Target 5.5	The Project will ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunity for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life in the project zone.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	54% of participants in the community outreach (FPIC) meetings held to date were women. Approximately 7% of Project employees are female. The project has provided assistance to approximately 11,290 women on either income generating activities or by providing access to microfinance.
Target 6.4	The Project will substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.

Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA015 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's forest protection activities. It is estimated that 82,548 people live in the communities of the project zone and benefit from the protection of the watershed. Water accessibility inside the Project Zone is far greater than in the rest of the country where rapid deforestation in at least 13 provinces has exacerbated the effects of severe droughts since 2010, with depletion of underground water tables and drying up of surface streams.

Target 6.6	The Project will protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	The project has successfully protected the forest of the Project Area and avoided the deforestation of an estimated 63,181 ha of forest based on the project baseline to date.

Target 8.3	The Project will promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA045 and SIA046 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's efforts on increasing incomes. It is estimated that since the beginning of the Project 22,584 people have received assistance on income generating activities. Since 2018 an estimated 6,683 people received income generating assistance (2,199 families and 86 individuals) and an estimated 629 people received access to microfinance (213 families).

Target 8.9	The Project will devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA016 and SIA020 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's efforts on promoting eco-tourism. The Project provided 7 training events to 204 villagers who are service providers involved in the Chi Phat and Chhay Areng Community-Based Ecotourism (CBET). These trainings were on tourism hospitality, nature guiding, cooking skills and sanitation. In addition, the Project provides ongoing, on-the-job development, coaching and capacity building through mentoring and support. No training events were conducted in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Target 9.3	The Project will increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA045 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's efforts on increasing incomes. 71 women from 7 villages, organized into 6 groups in Areng Valley were coached in financial literacy to improve the effectiveness of their savings and loan activities, which were initiated in 2018. The positive outcome is a high number of loans provided by the savings and loan groups to the members, with 11 loans in 2019 (totaling \$1,800) and 13 loans in 2020 (totaling \$3,100).

Target 9.4	The Project will upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA047 and SIA048 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's efforts on improving agricultural methods and yields. Trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.
Target 10.3	The Project will ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	No grievances have been submitted to the Project.
Target 11.3	The Project will enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA001 and SIA002 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's efforts on improving land use planning policy and encouraging participatory engagement. During the reporting period, the zoning and demarcation activities have continued, so that the land for local communities is clearly delineated. 21 land use planning meetings have been conducted with participation and support from local authorities. 603 demarcation posts have been also installed along the community land boundaries in Russey Chrum and Chi Kha Leu communes.
Target 11.4	The Project will Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA015 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's forest protection activities.
Target 12.2	The Project will achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA047 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's agricultural intensification programs and other activities on training improved agricultural methods . Trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.
Target 12.8	The Project will ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature

Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA022 and SIA.023 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project’s activities on community outreach and education. Awareness raising on the SCRP activities was conducted in 25 villages of 10 communes and 4 districts of Koh Kong Province since 2018. 1,311 students (of which 684 were female) and 2,824 community members were reached through sensitization and awareness raising events, school visits and community night shows. Education materials were also distributed, with 1,421 posters, 1,494 books, 577 t-shirts, 289 backpacks and 1,594 pens. In 2020, an additional 4,988 people were reached through the awareness rising during the Project’s FPIC (Free and Prior Informed Consent) Process

Target 12.b	The Project will develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA016, SIA017 and SIA019 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project’s activities on promotion of ecotourism. The Project provided 7 training events to 204 villagers who are service providers involved in the Chi Phat and Chhay Areng Community-Based Ecotourism (CBET). These trainings were on tourism hospitality, nature guiding, cooking skills and sanitation. In addition, the Project provides ongoing, on-the-job development, coaching and capacity building through mentoring and support. No training events were conducted in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Target 13.1	The Project will strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards by protecting the remaining forest area
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.

Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since the Project start date of January 1 2015 it has avoided the deforestation of 63,181 ha in comparison to the project baseline.
Target 13	The Project will integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since the Project start date of January 1 2015 it has reduced the emission of 23,857,741 t CO ₂ e through avoided deforestation of project area in comparison to the project baseline.
Target 13.a	Through the sale of REDD+ carbon credits the Project will fund meaningful mitigation actions in the Project Zone
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since January 1 2015 the project has spent \$6 million dollars on project activities.
Target 15.1	The Project will ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since the Project start date of January 1 2015 it has avoided the deforestation of 63,181 ha in comparison to the project baseline.

Target 15.2	The Project will promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA001 and SIA002 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on promotion of ecotourism. During the reporting period, the zoning and demarcation activities have continued, so that the land for local communities is clearly delineated. 21 land use planning meetings have been conducted with participation and support from local authorities. 603 demarcation posts have been also installed along the community land boundaries in Russey Chrum and Chi Kha Leu communes.
Target 15.4	The Project will ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since the Project start date of January 1 2015 it has avoided the deforestation of 63,181 ha in comparison to the project baseline.
Target 15.5	The Project will take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by the end of the project protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA007, SIA0025 and SIA0027 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on promotion of ecotourism. The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project operates 7 ranger stations inside the Project Area, mandated with legal protection of the forest and wildlife. Rangers are based full-time within the stations, and conduct daily, systematic patrolling of the Project Area and Leakage Zones. 112 rangers supported by the Project were operational in 2018, 116 in 2019, and 124 in 2020. In 2019 and 2020, the Project started to train civilians to become Southern Cardamom REDD+ rangers, as environmental ranger Agents under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment Provincial Department. Their on-the-job training has included Protected Area Law and legal procedures, rescue of wildlife caught in snares or transported by poachers, emergency wildlife care, patrol techniques, use of GPS, equipment maintenance, first aid and crime scene analysis and documentation. In August 2019, the Project started a new ranger station in the northern Leakage Zone, in O'Som, in Central Cardamom National Park (1.5 km from Samkos WS), located 9 km from the northern boundary of the REDD+ Project Area. In September 2020, a second new ranger station became operational in the southern Leakage Zone, on the Preik Ta'Ok river estuary of Botum Sakor National Park, located 10 km from the southern boundary of the REDD+ Project Area.
Target 15.7	The Project will take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of endangered flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA029, SIA0031 and SIA0045 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on promotion of ecotourism.
Target 15.a	The Project will mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems

Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	\$18.1 millions of carbon credit sales have occurred since the project start date.

Target 15.b	The Project will mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	\$18.1 millions of carbon credit sales have occurred since the project start date.

Target 15.c	The Project will support efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities destruction. Anti-poaching patrols.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA018, SIA0021 and SIA0027 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on combating poaching and wildlife trafficking and the promotion of new sustainable livelihoods. In 2019 and 2020, the Project started to train civilians to become Southern Cardamom REDD+ rangers, as environmental ranger Agents under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment Provincial Department. Their on-the-job training has included Protected Area Law and legal procedures, rescue of wildlife caught in snares or transported by poachers, emergency wildlife care, patrol techniques, use of GPS, equipment maintenance, first aid and crime scene analysis and documentation. The Project provided 7 training events to 204 villagers who are service providers involved in the Chi Phat and Chhay Areng Community-Based Ecotourism (CBET). These trainings were on tourism hospitality, nature guiding, cooking skills and sanitation. In addition, the Project provides ongoing, on-the-job development, coaching and capacity building through mentoring and support. No training events were conducted in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
Target 16.4	The Project will significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA025 and SIA0028 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities on combating poaching and wildlife trafficking and the promotion of new sustainable livelihoods. The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project operates 7 ranger stations inside the Project Area, mandated with legal protection of the forest and wildlife. Rangers are based full-time within the stations, and conduct daily, systematic patrolling of the Project Area and Leakage Zones. Since the beginning of the project approximately 150 homemade guns and 775 vehicles involved in forest or wildlife crimes have been confiscated. 112 rangers supported by the Project were operational in 2018, 116 in 2019, and 124 in 2020. In 2019 and 2020, the Project started to train civilians to become Southern Cardamom REDD+ rangers, as environmental ranger Agents under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment Provincial Department. Their on-the-job training has included Protected Area Law and legal procedures, rescue of wildlife caught in snares or transported by poachers, emergency wildlife care, patrol techniques, use of GPS, equipment maintenance, first aid and crime scene analysis and documentation. In August 2019, the Project started a new ranger station in the northern Leakage Zone, in O'Som, in Central Cardamom National Park (1.5 km from Samkos WS), located 9 km from the northern boundary of the REDD+ Project Area. In September 2020, a second new ranger station became operational in the southern Leakage Zone, on the Preik Ta'Ok river estuary of Botum Sakor National Park, located 10 km from the southern boundary of the REDD+ Project Area.
Target 16.b	The Project will promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Since the project start date of January 1 2015 no grievances have been submitted to the Project.
Target 17.3	The Project will mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources

Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	\$18.1 millions of carbon credit sales have occurred since the project start date.

Target 17.5	The Project will work to adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Please see social indicators SIA045 and SIA0046 in Error! Reference source not found. for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities providing investment, technological support and other alternative income generation assistance. 71 women from 7 villages, organized into 6 groups in Areng Valley were coached in financial literacy to improve the effectiveness of their savings and loan activities, which were initiated in 2018. The positive outcome is a high number of loans provided by the savings and loan groups to the members, with 11 loans in 2019 (totaling \$1,800) and 13 loans in 2020 (totaling \$3,100).

Target 17.7	The Project will promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Community in general – present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being

Please see social indicators SIA047 and SIA048 in **Error! Reference source not found.** for more detail on the benefits provided by the Project's activities providing training on improved agricultural methods and systems and other activities that train on new technologies and methods.

Trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.

1. **Training on Agricultural Methods and Intensification:** Since 2004 Wildlife Alliance has supported a Community Agricultural Development Project (CADP) that initially worked with 187 families who undertook illegal swidden agriculture inside the forest within the Project Area. CADP worked to allocate legal land tenure for communities, provided training on modern agricultural techniques and financial literacy, and developed a community agricultural store and marketplace to link farmers with markets widely across southern Cambodia. CADP has increased the incomes and agricultural yields of members by >300%. Under the Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project, additional CADP Projects will be implemented for at least two communities located in the east of the Project Zone (Kamlot/Chay Reap and Romeng Sa) and, if REDD+ generates enough revenue, one other CADP Project will be implemented in the northwest, (O'some).

During the m₂ monitoring period trainings on agriculture intensification have focused mainly on high-value fruit tree (durian, longan, rambutan, avocados and jackfruit) orchard cultivation, such as creation of high soil rows and drainage channels to avoid rot during the wet season, organic soil enrichment, irrigation, fertilization, pest control, tree pruning and grass clearing.

2. **Community-based Eco-Tourism Development:** The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project supports Community Based Eco-Tourism in two areas within the Project Zone – Chi Phat (1 commune and 4 villages) and in the Areng Valley (3 communes and 8 villages). Chi Phat Community-Based Ecotourism (CBET) was established in 2007 with technical and financial support from Wildlife Alliance in order to provide alternative livelihoods to local people through tourism activities, reduce the threat to local natural resources, and conserve a region of exceptional natural and cultural significance. The CBET Project in Chi Phat currently supports 332 families in the commune who act as service providers and have received training on a suite of skills required to effectively manage and implement ecotourism.

At present, there are approximately 240 women participating in the Chi Phat CBET Project: CBET is actively encouraging more women to get involved and diversify their roles, including as forest and mountain bike guides. A large range of ecotourism activities have been developed by the community and marketing linkages with local and international tour operators have been established. Chi Phat CBET has been featured in international travel shows, magazines, including airline in-flight magazines, and the most popular and widely-used guidebooks. CBET Chi Phat has become one of the country's most successful community-based ecotourism projects and is financially sustainable.

Following the success of Chi Phat CBET, Wildlife Alliance began work in 2016 with eight additional communities in the Areng Valley to establish Stung Areng Community Based Eco-tourism (STAR- CBET). STAR-CBET operates within the SCRP Project Zone within the biodiverse Areng Valley. This remote valley has high plant and animal biodiversity and is particularly significant for Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*), forming a key part of the Cardamom Elephant Corridor, and for freshwater biodiversity including the Critically Endangered Siamese crocodile *Crocodylus siamensis* and the Endangered Asian arowana *Scleropages formosus*. The Areng Valley is inhabited by eight forest communities (total population 461 families), the majority of which are ethnic Chong. Currently, the Chong do not have sustainable livelihoods that would enable them to find sufficient revenues from the forest. Consequently, many Chong families rely on a combination of illegal hunting and logging combined with unsustainable swidden agriculture. Social assessments conducted by Wildlife Alliance have identified Community Based Ecotourism and access to micro-finance, as preferred sustainable development activities for promoting economic diversification and forest protection. More than 80% of families requested assistance for CBET development so that their children will have greater opportunities and access to education and capacity building for sustainable jobs in the future.

Wildlife Alliance has coached the villagers in the eight villages of Chhay Areng Valley to prepare for business, by providing skill building in hospitality and small business management, computer and financial literacy, cooking and nature guiding, and provided financial support to upgrade homestays, visitor centers, purchase trekking tents and equipment. 139 families have been identified and initially trained as service-providers, 9 homestays have been developed, three visitor substations have been built (bamboo structures), and 60 tents have been purchased, along with trekking equipment. STAR-CBET was officially opened for business by the Provincial Governor of Koh Kong in January 2018.

During the m₂ monitoring period the Project provided 7 training events to 204 villagers who are service providers involved in the Chi Phat and Chhay Areng CBETs. These trainings were on tourism hospitality, nature guiding, cooking skills and sanitation. In addition, the Project provides ongoing, on-the-job development, coaching and capacity building through mentoring and support.

No training events were conducted in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

3. **Micro-finance:** Women's Community Saving Credit Groups are under development in eight villages in the Areng Valley. During the m₂ monitoring period 71 women from 7 villages, organized into 6 groups and were coached in financial literacy to improve the effectiveness of their savings and loan activities, which were initiated in 2018. The positive outcome is a high number of loans provided by the savings and loan groups to the members, with 11 loans in 2019 (totaling \$1,800) and 13 loans in 2020 (totaling \$3,100)..
4. **Participatory Land Use Planning:** Wildlife Alliance has worked with the Royal Government of Cambodia and provincial, district, and commune authorities since 2003 to develop clear spatial land- use plans for the Southern Cardamom, including securing community land tenure across a total of 28 villages in 11 communes. This work has benefited 5,980 families including 3,024 in Project Zone communities. An additional eight Project zone communities have yet to receive clear land zonation and tenure and this is planned for completion during the REDD+ Project implementation period. In addition to confirming community land tenure, the Project will work to demarcate the zones of the three Protected Areas which form the Southern Cardamom REDD+

Project (Tatai Wildlife Sanctuary, Southern Cardamom National Park, Botum Sakor National Park). This demarcation clearly highlights community land and helps mark the boundaries of the strictly protected zones (Core and Conservation) which comprise the Project Area and which are reserved for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services.

During the m₂ monitoring period, the zoning and demarcation activities have continued, so that the land for local communities has been clearly delineated. 21 land use planning meetings were conducted with participation and support from local authorities. 603 demarcation posts were installed along the community land boundaries in Russey Chrum and Chi Kha Leu communes

5. **Strengthening Community Organizations:** Wildlife Alliance has supported the formation of three Community Organizations – the Sovanna Baitong Agriculture Association, the Chi Phat and Stung Areng Community Based Ecotourism (STAR-CBET) Associations which have all been legally registered by the Cambodian Ministry of the Interior. All three associations were established following elections and agreement on precise bylaws and benefit sharing mechanisms. The Sovanna Baitong Agriculture Association comprises 200 members and 6 Service Groups, the management committee for STAR-CBET comprises 15 members all of whom are ethnic Chong, and the Chi-Phat CBET management committee currently has 7 members.

The role of the Sovanna Baitong Agriculture Association is to manage agriculture inputs and outputs at favorable market prices (Marketing Group), to provide Agriculture Support to its members (Agriculture Support Group with Agriculture Store and Community Nursery), to manage the Community Fund (Community Fund Group), to manage the natural resources on which the farmers depend, i.e. forest buffer zone around the village, streams supplying water to the village reservoirs, fish populations in the streams (Natural Resources Group), to manage the community waste (Waste Management Group), and to provide health education to the members (Health Education Group).

The role of the CBET Associations is to manage the ecotourism activities, to provide guest reception and billing, to ensure that benefits are equitably shared between service providers and that rules and regulations, particularly those pertaining to natural resource management, are followed and respected by CBET service providers and tour operators. Wildlife Alliance provides technical support to the CBET Association Committees included providing training, study tours, and support to attend national and regional ecotourism forum and events.

During the m₂ monitoring period the Project assisted the 8 villages of Chhay Areng Valley to build their own organization, the Stung Areng Community-Based Eco-tourism (STAR CBET), which received legal registration with the Ministry of Interior in 2016. The next step in April 2019 was to secure land rights for the 8 villages so as to protect their ecotourism destinations from predatory outside tour operators, and by helping the communities to create 3 community protected areas (CPAs) in the 3 communes of the valley, Chumnoab, Pralay and Thmor Donpov.

To-date, the CPA Committees have been elected and endorsed by the Commune Councils.

6. **Enhanced Security and Law Enforcement:** Since 2002 Wildlife Alliance has worked across the Project Area partnering with the Royal Government of Cambodia to implement effective and professional law enforcement patrolling. During the m₂ monitoring period the Project operated 7 ranger stations inside the Project Area, mandated with legal protection of the forest and wildlife. Rangers are based full-time within the stations, and conduct daily, systematic patrolling of the

Project Area and Leakage Zones. During this period the number of rangers employed increased, with 112 rangers supported by the Project in 2018, 116 in 2019, and 124 in 2020.

In 2019 and 2020, the Project started to train civilians to become SCRP rangers, as environmental ranger Agents under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment Provincial Department. Their on-the-job training has included Protected Area Law and legal procedures, rescue of wildlife caught in snares or transported by poachers, emergency wildlife care, patrol techniques, use of GPS, equipment maintenance, first aid and crime scene analysis and documentation.

In August 2019, the Project opened a new ranger station in the northern portion of the Project Zone, in O'Som, in Central Cardamom National Park (1.5 km from Samkos WS), located 9 km from the northern boundary of the SCRP Project Area. In September 2020, a second new ranger station became operational to the south of the Project Area, on the Preik Ta'Ok river estuary of Botum Sakor National Park, located 10 km from the southern boundary of the SCRP Project Area.

Sensitization and Awareness Raising. The Mobile Environmental Education team activities to be conducted during the lifetime of the REDD+ Project, and will follow Wildlife Alliance's Kouprey Express (KE) model that focuses on communities surrounding Protected Areas, bringing environmental education to school children through interactive curricula and teacher training, and conducting edu-entertainment shows in the evenings for community adults.

During the m₂ monitoring period awareness raising of the SCRP project and activities was conducted in 25 villages of 10 communes and 4 districts of Koh Kong Province. In these three years, 1,311 students (of which 684 were female) and 2,824 community members were reached through sensitization and awareness raising events, school visits and community night shows. Education materials were also distributed, with 1,421 posters, 1,494 books, 577 t-shirts, 289 backpacks and 1,594 pens.

In 2020, an additional 4,988 people were reached for awareness raising activities rising during the Project's FPIC (Free and Prior Informed Consent) Process and other informal community meetings.

7. **Community Scholarship Fund:** The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project will create and manage a Community Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Fund pilot was first announced in July 2020 for a 4-year bachelor's degree at the Royal University of Phnom Penh and Royal University of Agriculture for the period of March 2021- March 2025. The start of the university year was delayed in 2020 because of the COVID Pandemic. The Fund was advertised through 2 district education departments (Botum Sakor and Thmor Bang) and then at the commune level, and then directly with students and parents in 13 target villages of the SCRP. To-date, we have received 13 applicants to the Fund, 6 from Chi Phat commune, 4 from Savanna Baitong village and 3 from Areng Valley communes. We are now awaiting the results of the applicants' high school examinations to determine which applicants can move forward to the university level.
8. **Direct Employment and Training on Income Generating Activities (IGAs):** During the m₂ monitoring period the Project was directly employing 32 villagers and conducting on-the-job training, in addition to the aforementioned training events. The number of people employed and their location are as follows:

- 12 CBET Managers from Chi Phat commune to conduct the jobs of Executive Director, Deputy Director, Guest Receptionist, Chief Accountant, Trekking Equipment Rental, Restaurant Manager, Boat Transport Manager, Motorbike Transport Manager, Forest Cook Manager, Accommodation Manager, Community Patrol Manager and Sanitation Manager.
- 11 CBET Managers from the 3 Chhay Areng communes to conduct the jobs of Executive Director, Deputy Director, Guest Receptionist, Chief Accountant, Trekking Equipment Rental, Restaurant Manager, Customer Transport Manager, Forest Cook Manager, Accommodation Manager, Community Patrol Manager and Sanitation Manager.
- 9 Agriculture Managers from Sovanna Baitong Village to conduct (a) jobs at the Community Orchard that sells high-value fruit (Orchard Manager who manages 12 workers, Orchard Technical Head, Night Guard) and (b) jobs at the village for the benefit of 200 families selling their produce (Agriculture Store Manager, Agriculture Association Chief, Nursery Manager, Irrigation Pump Operator), Truck Driver.

The SCRP expects to continue increasing the number of people directly employed by the Project, with them working across all of the Project components, including: community-based ecotourism, community agricultural development, law enforcement, education, biomass plot sampling. Priority will be given to members from Project Zone communities.