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USAID GREENING PREY LANG BASELINE SURVEY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2019

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Cover Photo: Trees blessed during the annual Prey Lang festival, Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary, Kampong Thom province. Credit: USAID Greening Prey Lang.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use
BMP	Best Management Practices
CF	Community Forest
COR	Contracting Officer's Representative
CPA	Community Protected Area
CTF	Conservation Trust Fund
ENSO	El Niño Southern Oscillation
FA	Forestry Administration
GDANCP	General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection
GESI	Gender & Social Inclusion
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
KII	Key Informant Interview
LOA	Life of Activity
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning
MoE	Ministry of the Environment
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
PA	Protected Area
PLCN	Prey Lang Community Network
PIRS	Performance Indicator Reference Sheets
PLARS	Policies, Laws, Agreements, and Regulations
PLEL	Prey Lang Extended Landscape
PLWS	Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
SMART	Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool
SOW	Statement of Work

USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
YEA	Young Eco Ambassador

INTRODUCTION

USAID has a long, rich history supporting the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) to conserve biodiversity, promote sustainable economic growth, and encourage social inclusion. USAID Greening Prey Lang will continue this work by focusing on the PLEL, which is situated across five million acres and four provinces in north-central Cambodia. The landscape is a mosaic of land cover and land use types—protected areas, concessions, and community protected areas—all of which are under severe threats from deforestation, wildlife trafficking, and the impacts of climate change.

The **Baseline Assessment Report** provides an update for ongoing activities related to USAID Greening Prey Lang assessments and baselines. Each activity outlined in this report will be completed according to its own schedule and is discussed in the corresponding chapter. The table below provides an orientation to the four sections of this report and how the activity contributes to our baselines.

Table 1. USAID Greening Prey Lang Activities Contributing to Baselines

ACTIVITY	CONTRIBUTION TO BASELINES	STATUS
Prey Lang Extended Landscape (PLEL) Assessment	Identification of critical watershed features and climate vulnerable areas (ecosystem and climate analysis). Identification of key organizations and institutions and capacities (institutional analysis).	90% complete, finalization will carry into Q1 and Q2 of FY20 as report will be co-branded with MoE. All findings incorporated into approve FY20 USAID GPL AWP.
Stakeholder Mapping	Identification of key stakeholders (government and civil society) in the extended landscape—input for PLEL assessment design and early identification of potential institutions/organizations to target for capacity building.	Completed and submitted under separate cover in Q3 FY19. Methods in Section 2, report table of contents in Annex A.
Indicator Roadmap Analysis	The roadmap analysis allows the USAID Greening Prey Lang team to revisit original target assumptions, better define indicators, and consider challenges and new information in order to develop detailed annual estimates for indicator targets. Most indicators start with a baseline of zero, but some indicators will have a baseline that will be determined through the roadmap exercise.	100% complete, detailed spreadsheets estimate targets by source and year. Revised MEL USAID Greening Prey Lang Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Plan with refined indicator definitions submitted and approved by USAID in Q3 FY19.
Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Baseline Summary	Documents inputs to the USAID Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU) calculator on how GHG emission targets were developed.	Completed—see Section 4.

I.0 PREY LANG EXTENDED LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

The PLEL Assessment serves multiple purposes, from establishing baselines to building networks and civil society participation in the PLEL and guiding project resources to key activities in the extended landscape related to climate resiliency. The research design and schedule are outlined in the sections below. The PLEL Assessment, coupled with the stakeholder mapping activity, will help USAID Greening Prey Lang determine key institutions and organizations for future capacity building and provide critical baseline information in the institutional analysis. Similarly, the baseline for watershed critical features will be identified within the ecosystem analysis section of the assessment.

The findings of the PLEL Assessment were endorsed by the MoE in early Q4 of 2019. The MoE requested that the final report be co-branded and disseminated in coordination with the MoE at the national and subnational level. Given the substantial reviews required internal to MoE for a co-branded product it is estimated that the final PLEL Assessment will be completed in Q1 of FY20.

I.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

I.1.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of the PLEL Assessment is to: 1) understand the historical trends and future projections for climate and biodiversity threats in the PLEL; 2) assess how these trends may affect livelihoods and ecosystems; and 3) identify existing and potential strategies and interventions to strengthen the resilience of livelihoods and ecosystems to climate and biodiversity threat-related impacts.

I.1.2 METHODOLOGY

The overall research approach includes six steps:

1. **Desk review** of relevant literature, data, and information;
2. **Scoping trip** (including key informant interviews with key actors and collection of secondary literature/data);
3. **Field assessment phase** (Focus Group Discussions [FGDs] that will be carried out in various locations within the three sub-watersheds);
4. **Data compilation and analysis** (component analysis and cross-analysis);
5. **Presentation of results** (presentation of findings to key stakeholders); and
6. **Development of recommendations** (facilitation of a participatory process in which key stakeholders co-generate recommendations based on their knowledge of the findings).

The composition of the PLEL Assessment Team is as follows:

- Dr. Neth Baromey, Team Leader
- Dr. Chhin Nyda, Climate Specialist (leads climate analysis)
- Dr. Oeurng Chantha, Hydrologist/Watershed Specialist (co-leads ecosystems analysis: freshwater)
- Mr. Chan Pheakra, Conservation Biologist/Forest Ecologist (co-leads ecosystem analysis: forests and lead protected areas analyses)
- Mr. Prom Tola, Livelihoods/Value Chain Specialist (leads value chain and livelihoods analysis)
- Ms. Chea Phallika, Governance Specialist (leads institutional capacity analysis)

The team will implement this research framework through four distinct but interconnected analytical components: climate, ecosystems (including ecosystem features and services and protected areas [PAs]), primary value chains and livelihoods, and institutional capacity. The assessment’s analytical components will be woven together into an integrated assessment that will generate evidence-based information on vulnerability to climate change and biodiversity threats to create a vision, strategy, and recommendations (shared among key stakeholder groups) for achieving the USAID Greening Prey Lang goal (*To improve and maintain the health of forest and freshwater ecosystems within and surrounding the Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary by consolidating the conservation and sustainable management of the Prey Lang Extended Landscape*). Table 2 presents the PLEL Assessment Research Framework, with the primary questions, organized by analytical component description and vulnerability variables: exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity.

Table 2. USAID Prey Lang Extended Landscape Assessment Research Framework

PRIMARY RESEARCH QUESTIONS	ANALYTICAL COMPONENT DESCRIPTIONS
EXPOSURE	
<p>What are the current/observed climate conditions?</p> <p>How is climate projected to change in the near term and in the long-term (i.e. 2050)?</p> <p>In addition to climate, what are other significant threats to biodiversity?</p> <p>How are these threats projected to change in the near term and in the long-term?</p>	<p>Climate Analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General climate characteristics of PLEL; mean annual rainfall, temperature, and seasonal variation (note differences across sub-regions); • Role of El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phenomenon and effects on average rainfall and average seasonal rainfall cycles in the PLEL; • Historical analysis of data on precipitation, temperature and extreme events in the PLEL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Precipitation and temperature trends; seasonal and annual variation; ○ Frequency and intensity of extreme events (tropical storms, droughts, heavy rainfall events); • Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) multi-model projections for the PLEL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Precipitation and temperature projections; ○ Projections related to frequency and intensity of extreme events; ○ Projections for frequency and intensity of ENSO events. <p>Ecosystem Features and Services (From Ecosystems Analyses):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of key biodiversity features (keystone and threatened species, species richness, and primary threats).
SENSITIVITY	
<p>How does climate change affect ecosystems and ecosystem services/products, especially forests and water resources? What are the future projected changes?</p>	<p>Ecosystems Analyses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystem Features and Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mapping of key landscape features (protected areas, river basins, watersheds, and sub-watersheds). Identifying spatial connections between ecosystems, watersheds, and protected areas;

PRIMARY RESEARCH QUESTIONS	ANALYTICAL COMPONENT DESCRIPTIONS
<p>How do other biodiversity threats affect ecosystems and ecosystem services/products, especially forests and water resources? What are the future projected changes?</p> <p>What role do protected areas (PAs) and other ecosystems of critical importance play regarding sensitivity of people and ecosystems to climate change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mapping of key biodiversity features (keystone and threatened species, species richness, and primary threats) and identifying spatially; ○ Identification of key ecosystem benefits (products and services that support livelihoods and economies in the PLEL: carbon storage, non-timber forest products [NTFPs], habitat quality of wildlife, nutrient retention, and sediment retention); ○ Analysis of sub-watersheds—hydrological systems, behavior, and water demands for human consumption and agricultural uses (irrigation); ○ Eco-hydrology vulnerability analysis (permanent to nonpermanent land cover ratio, socioeconomic data (poverty, Famine Early Warning Systems Network [FEWS NET] food security data, Human Development Index, population density). Spatially identifying critical hotspots within sub-watersheds where communities are most vulnerable to impacts of climate change and variability on hydrological systems; ● Protected Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identification/overview of protected areas in the PLEL; ○ Overlap between PAs, key landscape and biodiversity features, and ecosystem goods and services (e.g. importance of protected areas for resilience of ecosystems and communities in the PLEL); ○ Analysis and findings on current status of protected area management in the PLEL, including biodiversity threats particular to each PA.
<p>How have these threats (climate and other biodiversity threats) affected value chains (rice, ecotourism, NTFPs, etc.)? What are the future projected changes?</p> <p>How have these impacts affected the livelihoods of people that rely on these value chains? What are the future projected impacts on livelihoods?</p>	<p>Value Chains and Livelihoods Analyses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Primary Value Chains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Description of up to five value chains within the PLEL that have met with some success (many households are already benefiting from them) and have potential to be environmentally sustainable;

PRIMARY RESEARCH QUESTIONS	ANALYTICAL COMPONENT DESCRIPTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identification of climate and biodiversity threat risks across value chain stages, including production, marketing, export, and transport, and impacts on food security; ● Livelihoods: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Description of livelihood profiles within the PLEL (internal and external to the PAs); ○ Historical impacts of climate-related shocks and stresses on livelihoods in the PLEL, including differentiated impacts on women, men, and youth; ○ Existing coping mechanisms (short-term) and adaptive strategies (long-term) for households in the PLEL to mitigate and respond to climate-related shocks and stresses.
ADAPTIVE CAPACITY	
<p>What is the capacity of institutions to help households adapt to climate change and the negative impact of the threats?</p> <p>What role have institutions played in mitigating or responding to these impacts, particularly as it relates to reducing vulnerability and increasing the resilience of people and ecosystems?</p> <p>How have households responded to impacts on natural resources in terms of adopting new or different livelihood alternatives and practices?</p>	<p>Institutional Analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Roles and arrangements of PLEL-level institutions to mitigate, respond and adapt to climate-related shocks and stresses and biodiversity threats in the PLEL ● Discussion of capacity of local institutions and households to address projected climate change and biodiversity threat impacts—in-depth focus on findings from selected PAs and sub-watersheds
RECOMMENDATIONS & OPTIONS ANALYSIS	
<p>What strategies, recommendations, or options will help decrease vulnerability and increase resilience of people and ecosystems?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Integrated analysis of all components

I.2 PLEL ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

PLEL ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES	FEBRUARY				MARCH				APRIL				MAY				JUNE			
Monthly Quarters																				
Phase I: Induction and Desk Review																				
INDUCTION																				
Contract with the Team																				
Conduct Team Orientation																				
Design Analytical Components																				
DESK REVIEW																				
Literature Review																				
Identify Data Sources and Obtain Access																				
Draft Report including Bibliography, Data, and Component Design																				
Phase II: Scoping																				
Finalize Key Informant Interview (KII) Guide and Methodology for Identifying Communes																				
Arrange Logistics: Interviews with Key Stakeholders, Visits to Potential Communes, etc.																				
Conduct Scoping																				
Draft Scoping Report: Observations, KII Findings, and Representative Communes																				
Phase III: Field Research																				
Finalize Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Guide and Methodology (based on desk review and scoping data)																				
Arrange Logistics: FGDs in Communes Representative of Livelihood Profiles and KIIs																				
Conduct Field Research																				
Compile FGD Findings																				
Phase IV: Analysis																				

PLEL ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES	FEBRUARY				MARCH				APRIL				MAY				JUNE			
Compile Data by Component																				
Analyze Data by Component and Identify Major Findings																				
Present Key Sets of Data along with Findings by Components and Synthesize into Overall Findings (Cross-Analysis Workshop)																				
Define Preliminary Adaptation Pathways and Illustrative Activities																				
Phase V: Creation of a Shared PLEL Vision and Strategy																				
Prepare PLEL Presentation and Arrange Logistics for Stakeholder Workshops																				
Conduct Stakeholder Workshops to Share Findings and Generate Recommendations																				
Prepare Draft Report including Recommendations																				
Finalize Report																				
Disseminate Report via Learning Events																				

2.0 STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

This activity was completed in Q3 of FY19 and involved a rapid landscape-level stakeholder mapping exercise which provided the source material for development of the stakeholder engagement strategy. The team also presents the Gender & Social Inclusion (GESI) Strategy and Plan as a supplementary document to the work plan and provides guidance to strengthen the GESI responsiveness of the engagement strategy. The engagement strategy strengthens the ability of key stakeholders to engage GPL through tiered representation, throughout the life of the activity. USAID Greening Prey Lang will ensure that all social groups living in the PLEL, including the most vulnerable (landless, indigenous, and women-headed households), are represented and engaged effectively. Information, contacts, and results from the mapping have already been used to orient the PLEL Assessment. The table of contents of the final report are found in Annex A. Below, we discuss the background of, and methods used for, stakeholder mapping activities under USAID Greening Prey Lang.

2.1 OVERVIEW OF THE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Critical to the success of USAID Greening Prey Lang is a systematic and adaptive approach to stakeholder engagement codified in the USAID Greening Prey Lang stakeholder mapping. Our initial step towards effective stakeholder mapping is to map the key stakeholders in the PLEL with which the USAID Greening Prey Lang team will work; this mapping will be completed by the end of the second quarter of 2019. This strategy will be revisited after the PLEL vision and strategy have been defined in June.

2.1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STAKEHOLDER MAPPING ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

In conducting the stakeholder mapping exercise of PLEL (based largely on existing data), much is known and has been documented about potential PLEL stakeholders. The PLEL stakeholders are from various sectors (government, civil society, academia, and private sector) and can be grouped into spheres of interest and influence on multi-levels, from community, commune, and provincial to national levels. Formal and informal leaders will be identified from each stakeholder group.

2.1.2 PURPOSE OF THE STAKEHOLDER MAPPING ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The USAID Greening Prey Lang team will identify and target key stakeholder groups to be engaged and represented to co-generate and co-implement the PLEL vision and strategy. These stakeholders have the greatest stake and potentially greater influence (enabling or obstructing) over the outcomes of USAID Greening Prey Lang. The engagement strategy is grounded in the principles of stakeholder representation and meaningful engagement.

The three main objectives of the stakeholder mapping engagement are:

- To understand who is working in the PLEL at both national and sub-national levels;
- To understand each institution's mission/objective and interest in the PLEL; and
- To identify the key partners with which USAID Greening Prey Lang will engage.

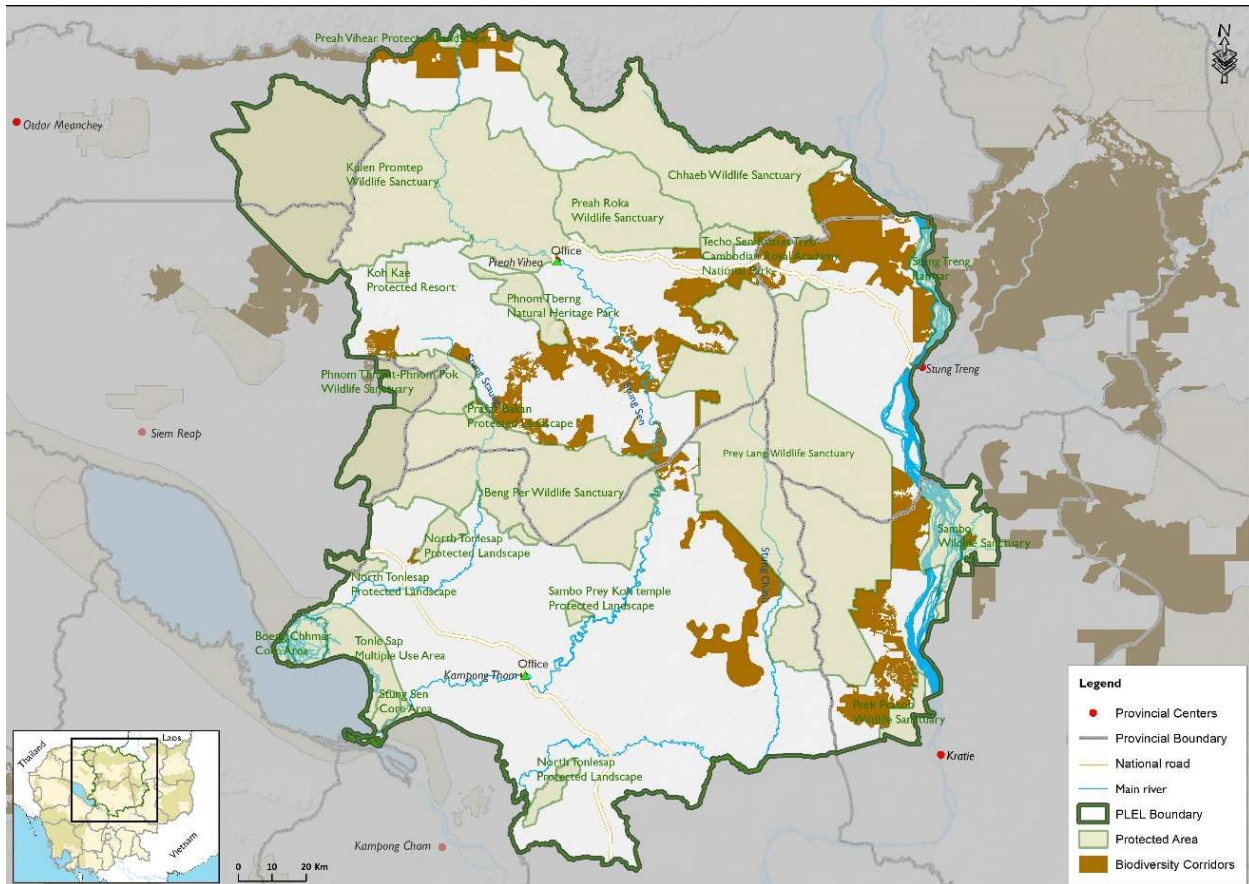
2.1.3 TARGET AREA FOR STAKEHOLDER MAPPING ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The geographic focus of USAID Greening Prey Lang is the PLEL. The PLEL is situated across five million acres (2 million hectares) and four provinces (Preah Vihear, Kampong Thom, Kratie, and Steung Treng)

in north-central Cambodia, and includes five protected areas (Prey Preah Roka Wildlife Sanctuary [Preah Roka], Chhep Wildlife Sanctuary [Chhep], Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary [Kulen Promtep], Phnom Tbeng Natural Heritage Park [Phnom Tbeng], and the Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary [Prey Lang]) and the three catchment basins hydrologically connecting these areas to the Tonlé Sap ecosystem.

The PLEL boundary has been adjusted based on biodiversity, ecosystem services, socio-economic, and governance criteria determined in the PLEL Assessment and based on consultations with stakeholders.

Figure 1. PLEL Boundary



2.1.4 APPROACHES TO STAKEHOLDER MAPPING ENGAGEMENT EXERCISE

There are different approaches to conduct stakeholder mapping and develop an engagement strategy in the PLEL. Much is known based largely on existing data and has been documented about potential PLEL stakeholders. Stakeholders will be from multiple sectors (government, civil society, academia, and private sector) and grouped into spheres of interest and influence at multi-levels (community, commune, provincial, and national). Formal and informal leaders will be identified from each stakeholder group.

To date, USAID Greening Prey Lang has engaged in a series of consultation workshops and field work missions as the approach to the engagement strategy. These include:

- Literature review,
- Consultation meetings with networks and partners,
- National stakeholder consultation workshop,
- Sub-national stakeholder consultation engagement, and
- Sub-national stakeholder consultation workshops.

2.2 LITERATURE REVIEW

Desk research is a way of generating knowledge and data from various existing sources, such as publications, articles, studies, and databases, to have a holistic understanding of the PLEL and livelihood options. The goal of the desk research is to identify and prioritize knowledge regarding existing stakeholders working in the PLEL.

Stakeholder mapping exercise is a collaborative process of research, debate, and discussion that draws from multiple perspectives to determine a key list of stakeholders across the entire stakeholder spectrum. In this regard, the literature review helped to identify relevant groups, people, and organizations.

Through an intensive literature review, the assessment team has created a master list of all relevant stakeholders working and making impacts on the PLEL. The master list will be regularly updated and maintained throughout the implementation of the project.

From the master list, 50 key stakeholders have been selected based on a set of criteria. It is important to note that the selected 50 key stakeholders will later be trimmed down to 30 key stakeholders to ensure meaningful and participatory stakeholder engagement. These 30 key stakeholders are limited to representatives from various landscape levels starting from district, commune, and grassroots levels.

Key stakeholder selection criteria include:

1. Demographic characteristics of the local population and location;
2. Clear structure of community groups in the PLEL;
3. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)/international NGOs (INGOs)/community-based organizations (CBOs) having at least three years' experience working in the PLEL;
4. Public/private sector actors who have socio-economic influence in the PLEL;
5. Research institutions/think tanks/academia benefiting communities in the PLEL;
6. Groups with strong interest in Protecting Natural Resources for Sustainable Landscape Management;
7. Cultural values and ethnic identity to ensure diversity;
8. Vulnerable groups (women, children, elderly, people with disabilities); and
9. Power to effect positive socioeconomic and environmental changes.

2.3 CONSULTATION MEETINGS WITH NETWORKS AND PARTNERS

Once the list of key stakeholders was identified, the team conducted further analysis to: 1) better understand their relevance to USAID Greening Prey Lang and the perspectives they offer; 2) understand their relationship to the PLEL and each other; and 3) prioritize stakeholders based on their relative usefulness for USAID Greening Prey Lang engagement.

To initiate stakeholder engagement, the USAID Greening Prey Lang team consulted/engaged with 13 government, private sector, and civil society stakeholders. These included people from Sustainable Water Partnership (SWP), Danmission, the General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection (GDANCP), East West Management Institute (EWMI), Wildearthallies (WEA), Young Eco Ambassador (YEA), Winrock (Human Trafficking Project), Cambodian Peace Building Network (CPN), Ponleu Ney Kdey Sangkheum (PNKS), CEDAC (Centre d'Etude el de Developpement Agricole Cambodigien- private sector), Live and Learn, Prey Lang Community Network (PLCN), and Article 19 organization to gain a better understanding of key players in the PLEL.

Through the initial meetings with networks and partners, the USAID Greening Prey Lang team (pictured below right):

- Understood partners' work and approach on how they engage their stakeholders and develop a mapping strategy, the partners' list of important stakeholders was also shared;
- Gained their advice and insights on what is working vs. what is not working, linked to their PLEL activities;
- For synergy building, gathered information on partners' existing activities within the PLEL, including trainings, livelihood development activities, local governance activities, successes and lessons learned, private sector engagement, law enforcement activities, and technologies for patrol (e.g. Prey Lang App, Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool [SMART]/SMART Connect);
- Understood the current situation of concessions inside Prey Lang and responses or mechanism/approach from networks;
- Discussed the PLCN's data collection related to illegal logging and the app that they used (via smartphone), as well as the potential roles and support that USAID Greening Prey Lang could provide in using the app, e.g. how to link up the PLCN app with SMART/Remote Sensing data; how to convince the government to accept the data that PLCN collected in Prey Lang; how to analyze and store the data; and how to gain support from the government for PLCN.
- Understood partners' approaches in tackling migration, e.g. through the employment app designed to assist/encourage people to apply for jobs in their local community; and
- Discussed environmental awareness-raising initiatives bringing private sector companies to invest in community livelihoods, e.g. YEA's approach to the Ministry of Environment (MoE).



2.3.1 NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION WORKSHOP

The success of USAID Greening Prey Lang will depend on meaningful engagement with all relevant stakeholders. Recognizing the need for a targeted, systematic, and adaptive approach to stakeholder engagement that USAID Greening Prey Lang needs to undertake, especially at project start-up, the USAID Greening Prey Lang team has embarked on this important stakeholder assessment exercise.

The national stakeholder consultation workshop (pictured below and on the following page) was convened on November 14, 2018 with 46 participants (14 women and 32 men) in Phnom Penh. The workshop was the first step in identifying key individuals and organizations at the subnational level with which USAID Greening Prey Lang should engage, collaborate, and explore stakeholder engagement mechanisms. Thus, the USAID Greening Prey Lang team plans to have consultation meetings and interviews with the identified stakeholders at the subnational and grassroots levels.



The purpose of this consultation was to have participants identify individuals and organizations at the sub-national level to be included in USAID Greening Prey Lang's stakeholder engagement strategy and to identify key thematic areas they would like USAID Greening Prey Lang to address. The participants were encouraged to share their organizational experiences and expectations for collaboration with USAID Greening Prey Lang related to the three thematic areas of nature, wealth, and power.

As the result of discussion, the group suggested fifteen subnational stakeholder groups: the Provincial Governor/Deputy Governor; Provincial Department of Environment; Provincial Department of Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction; Forestry Cantonment of Forestry Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries; Commune Council; CBOs such as PLCN; Community Protected Area Committee; Committee of Land Tenure Security; NGOs; community and network groups including livelihood groups (e.g. savings groups, resin group, chicken-raising groups, home gardening groups, water user groups); women, youth, and indigenous groups; agriculture cooperative (recognized by the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries [PDAFF]); research

academies; private sector; and individuals (influencers). Other important sources of local influence include: 1) monks and 2) tribal leaders.

Zoning and demarcation are important to consider, as this will reduce land conflicts between community areas and conservation areas. Nest protection for important species, hotspot habitats, and resin tree protection are also strongly recommended by the participants to the project to take forward as these have been successfully implemented by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Wild Earth Allies, and Conservation International. However, the participants strongly recommended that the project should not repeat: 1) forest/ecosystem restoration, 2) poor law enforcement, and 3) funding conservation activities that lack monitoring and accountability. Forest/ecosystem restoration is not a cost-effective activity given the current biodiversity and ecosystems situation spread over more than 7.2 million hectares in protected areas of Cambodia. Poor law enforcement creates problems for stakeholders as conspiracy with poachers could happen. Poor monitoring and accountability of conservation funds will never achieve outputs based on budget allocations.



2.3.2 SUBNATIONAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION EXERCISE

Meaningful engagement of stakeholders throughout the life of the project will ensure that key PLEL stakeholder groups have a vested interest in achieving and sustaining the PLEL vision. Findings will be shared with key stakeholders in a workshop setting where they will be asked to contribute to the development of recommendations based on the findings. Stakeholder representatives will inform their constituencies and actively engage them in USAID Greening Prey Lang implementation and monitoring. USAID Greening Prey Lang will meet with the PLEL key stakeholder group periodically (at least biannually at local and provincial levels) to share progress made, seek advice for improving performance and impact, and adjust the strategy based on lessons learned.

Objectives

- To understand the sub-national stakeholder roles and responsibilities, perspectives, experiences, expectations and interest for collaboration with USAID Greening Prey Lang;
- To understand the challenges and solutions in effectively engaging with subnational actors; and
- To explore engagement mechanisms, tools, and opportunities for partnership in achieving USAID Greening Prey Lang's objectives.

To fulfill the objectives above, the team scheduled data collection in four provinces of the PLEL in December 2018 by using a semi-structured interview questionnaire tool that we developed, tested and translated to Khmer. The interview questionnaires look into these criteria to help the team analyze each identified stakeholder:

- *Contribution (value)*. Does the stakeholder have information, counsel, or expertise on the issue that could be helpful to USAID Greening Prey Lang?

- *Legitimacy.* How legitimate is the stakeholder’s claim for engagement?
- *Willingness to engage.* How willing is the stakeholder to engage?
- *Influence.* How much influence does the stakeholder have? (Need to clarify “who” they influence, e.g., other community group, NGOs, decision makers, investors, etc.)
- *Necessity of involvement.* Could this group derail or delegitimize the process if they were not included in the engagement?
- *Social equity.* Do social groups (marginalized, women, youth, indigenous people, people with disabilities) need to be empowered

Field Work Method

The assessment team conducted two separate field trips (Trip 1: Kampong Thom and Preah Vihear, December 3-7, 2018; Trip 2: Steung Treng and Kratie, December 10-15) in order to gather information on identified stakeholders. Each field trip builds on the previous one, refining and validating findings as well as probing deeper for more insights. This was done through a variety of participatory methods and interview techniques.

Semi-structured interviews. This method was applied to gather information with the identified individuals through a set of predetermined questions. The semi-structured interviews allow informants the freedom to express their views in their own terms and new ideas to be brought up during the interview. In addition, the interviews provide reliable, comparable qualitative data for the assessment team to cross check the findings.

Focus group discussions. During the stakeholder assessment, FGDs were organized to gather information and knowledge from various community groups. To ensure quality of participation and inputs from all participants, four to eight participants were invited to each group. FGDs are useful to obtain insight into the target audience’s perceptions, needs, problems, beliefs, and reasons for certain practices, as well as to build group consensus.

2.3.3 SUBNATIONAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS

- **Kratie.** Subnational stakeholder consultation workshop, January 28, 2019;
- **Steung Treng.** Subnational stakeholder consultation workshop, January 30, 2019;
- **Kampong Thom.** Subnational stakeholder consultation workshop, February 20, 2019;
- **Preah Vihear.** Subnational stakeholder consultation workshop, February 22, 2019.

3.0 INDICATOR ROADMAP ANALYSIS

The USAID Greening Prey Lang technical team is in the process of building roadmaps to each USAID Greening Prey Lang performance indicator target. This analysis is being supported by the Tetra Tech Home Office MEL Specialist. USAID Greening Prey Lang staff were oriented in January to the approved MEL plan, especially indicator definitions and targets. Each performance indicator has a technical lead “champion.” The “champions” are responsible for: 1) estimating and strategizing to achieve the annual targets; 2) providing expert advice and interpretation on the indicator definition; and 3) reviewing indicator reports from the field to ensure accuracy and compliance with the definition.

The roadmap analysis led to an amended MEL Plan which refined indicator definitions and updated baselines as appropriate. This process helped USAID GPL reconsider strategies and providing ideas on how to better tailor data collection forms to meet project needs (streamlining and simplifying). A simple example of an indicator target roadmap can be found in Annex B. That simple roadmap for Indicator 4.1—communication products—shows each type of communication product and estimates the quarter and year that it will be produced. Many USAID Greening Prey Lang indicators are far more complicated. For example, Indicator 2.1 (on number of people with economic benefits) is using a roadmap that estimates number of households engaged in livelihood activities both inside protected areas (eco-tourism, NTFP value chains) and outside protected areas (Ibis rice). The number of people is calculated from the number of households participating, multiplied by five people (the average rural household size). For non-monetary benefits, the number of villages (number of people derived from census data) who are expected to benefit from improved tenure (community protected areas [CPAs], community forests [CFs]) or improved ecosystem services (adaptation to climate change activities) are estimated for the roadmap. The roadmap for the investment mobilized indicators (2.2 and 2.4) are being developed as part of the PLEL Investment Plan currently under development.

Thinking in detail about how to achieve the targets helps to drive the strategies and actions required for meaningful impact. At the same time, the USAID Greening Prey Lang team is considering additional data or approaches needed to produce case studies, success stories, and lessons learned that go beyond the performance indicators to communicate project impact.

Table 3 below is an example of how the results of the roadmap analysis lead to the MEL plan update and activities to capture and communicate project impact, noting any changes to the Performance Indicator Reference Sheets (PIRS) or baselines.

Table 3. USAID Greening Prey Lang Performance Indicators: Potential Adjustments Post Roadmap Analysis

INDICATOR <i>(similar indicators are grouped together)</i>	LIFE OF ACTIVITY TARGET	ADJUSTED LOA TARGET	CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO PIRS OR BASELINES	ADDITIONAL DATA CONSIDERATIONS FOR COMMUNICATING IMPACT
1.0. Number of hectares of biologically significant areas under improved NRM [natural resources management] as a result of USG [United	1,899,335	FY20 Pause and Reflect workshop to determine adjusted LOA target.	Yes, more information on what counts, baseline	Case studies or lessons learned for specific CPA, PA, or biological corridor zoning and management planning- to be shared nationally as part of a Community of Practice to streamline and harmonize approaches.

INDICATOR (similar indicators are grouped together)	LIFE OF ACTIVITY TARGET	ADJUSTED LOA TARGET	CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO PIRS OR BASELINES	ADDITIONAL DATA CONSIDERATIONS FOR COMMUNICATING IMPACT
States Government] assistance				
1.1. Number of hectares of biologically significant areas showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance	1,224,466	No	Yes, refined definition	New proposed definition will rely on annual data analysis based on latest land cover data. Multiple years of analysis paired with baseline calculations will provide concrete data on changes in forest cover within protected areas.
1.2. GHG emissions, estimated in metric tons of CO ₂ equivalent, reduced, sequestered, or avoided through sustainable landscapes activities supported by USG assistance	17.973 million	No	No	
2.1. Number of people with improved economic benefits derived from sustainable NRM and/or biodiversity conservation as a result of USG assistance	390,175	No	Clearer calculation instructions	Key value chains supported by USAID Greening Prey Lang should each have a case study quantifying changes in income or well-being for participating households in select villages. For example: 1) Ibis rice—changes in yield/ha, price/kg, and costs of production; 2) eco-tourism—number of visitors or home stays, gross income for various suppliers from eco-tourism; and 3) resin—changes in resin yield through Best Management Practices (BMP), increase in price/jerry can through group marketing or improved quality or access to new markets or value-added pre-processing. Case studies should quantify impact of USAID Greening Prey Lang, could include
2.3. Number of people receiving livelihood co-benefits (monetary or non-monetary) associated with the implementation of USG sustainable landscapes activities	500,744	FY20 Pause and Reflect workshop to determine adjusted LOA target.		

INDICATOR <i>(similar indicators are grouped together)</i>	LIFE OF ACTIVITY TARGET	ADJUSTED LOA TARGET	CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO PIRS OR BASELINES	ADDITIONAL DATA CONSIDERATIONS FOR COMMUNICATING IMPACT
				videos and interviews with community members.
<p>2.2. Amount of investment mobilized (in US\$) for sustainable landscapes as supported by USG assistance</p> <p>2.4. Amount mobilized (in U S\$) for climate change adaptation as supported by USG assistance</p>	<p>\$5 million</p> <p>\$701,000</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>Narratives in quarterly and annual reports are important to explain the numbers reported. Some investment sources merit a case study such as successfully funding conservation activities through a community investment fund or assisting a government agency to access Global Green Climate fund. Other narratives might describe successful leverage and coordination with other donors or programs. For 2.4, funded activities to increase climate change resiliency should be clearly explained and would make impactful media, Facebook, and newspaper stories.</p>
<p>3.1. Number of people that apply improved conservation law enforcement practices as a result of USG assistance</p>	<p>7,063</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Yes, additional information</p>	<p>Create case studies, lessons learned or success stories related to USAID Greening Prey Lang support for community patrols, improved prosecution, and/or applied technology. Select pilot communities in four quadrants of Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary (PLWS), conduct focus group interview to collect past monitoring data from community patrols and to determine what kind of assistance and training is critical (focus on patrols, focus on getting police involvement, focus on more prosecutions?). Repeat annual focus group interview to quantify changes over time.</p>

INDICATOR (similar indicators are grouped together)	LIFE OF ACTIVITY TARGET	ADJUSTED LOA TARGET	CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO PIRS OR BASELINES	ADDITIONAL DATA CONSIDERATIONS FOR COMMUNICATING IMPACT
<p>3.2. Number of institutions with improved capacity to address sustainable landscape issues and/or use climate information to improve resilience to climate change as supported by USG assistance</p> <p>3.3. Number of institutions with improved capacity to assess or address climate change risks supported by USG assistance</p>	<p>276</p> <p>300</p>	<p>No</p> <p>FY20 Pause and Reflect workshop to determine adjusted LOA target.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Narratives in quarterly and annual reports are important to explain the numbers reported. For institutions targeted for improved capacity technical assistance and training, baselines will provide background for good case studies describing progress made. For many other institutions participating in USAID Greening Prey Lang activities, highlighting specific examples of new skills or use of climate change information would make compelling success stories, media coverage, or Facebook content.</p>
<p>3.4. Number of people using climate information or implementing risk-reducing actions to improve resilience to climate change as supported by USG assistance</p>	<p>778,935</p>	<p>FY20 Pause and Reflect workshop to determine adjusted LOA target.</p>	<p>Maybe</p>	<p>Similar to 2.4, activities to increase climate change resiliency should be clearly explained and would make interesting media, Facebook, and newspaper stories.</p>
<p>3.5. Number of civil society (people) participating in planning, management, or enforcement for sustainable landscapes, improved NRM, or increased resiliency</p>	<p>9,033</p>	<p>Not clear yet</p>	<p>Yes, needs clarity as it is redundant with other indicators</p>	<p>Indicator eliminated in revised MEL Plan.</p>
<p>3.6. Number of people trained in sustainable landscapes supported by USG assistance</p>	<p>6,000</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Narratives in quarterly and annual reports are important to explain the numbers reported (for example, explaining the topics of the training, feedback from participants, and any follow-up actions taken as a result of the training).</p>

INDICATOR <i>(similar indicators are grouped together)</i>	LIFE OF ACTIVITY TARGET	ADJUSTED LOA TARGET	CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO PIRS OR BASELINES	ADDITIONAL DATA CONSIDERATIONS FOR COMMUNICATING IMPACT
3.7. Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation and/or other environmental themes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance	46	No	Yes, list of target PLARS and baseline	Narratives in quarterly and annual reports are important to explain the numbers reported. Some PLARS merit a case study or policy brief on the potential impact of a new policy or regulation while others are more self-explanatory such as CPA zoning guidelines. Some PLARS will be media-worthy.
4.1. Number of communication, outreach, and knowledge products	72	FY20 Pause and Reflect workshop to determine adjusted LOA target.	No	

4.0 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BASELINE AND TARGETS

Documented below are the answers to questions posed by the USAID AFOLU calculator, which were used to estimate reduced carbon emissions (answers are limited to dropdown lists provided by the calculator). The calculator offers several different modules (grazing, reforestation, agroforestry, forest management, and forest protection). The forest protection module was used as it most closely represents the major activities of USAID Greening Prey Lang within the protected areas. The 1.9 million hectares under Indicator 1.0 (hectares under improved management) were used for the calculation—not the entire area of the PLEL—to produce the estimated benefits in Table 4. Those 1.9 million hectares include protected areas, biological corridors, and community forestry areas. Calculator default values were used for carbon density and deforestation rates.

4.1 FOREST PROTECTION: Effectiveness Guide

Is this a policy initiative? **No**

Is the main driver of deforestation/degradation subsistence activities or commercial commodity production? **Subsistence**

Will the project work with local communities that have access to the project area to provide sustainable livelihoods that are not dependent on further deforestation/degradation? **Yes, with all**

What portion of the local communities will the project help secure land tenure rights? **Majority**

Will the project conduct monitoring (remote sensing, patrols, community monitoring etc) to detect and respond to incidents of deforestation/degradation? **Yes**

Is the project area easy to access? (e.g. has many access roads / rivers etc.) **Yes**

Will the area be well guarded? (e.g. guard stations on lookout posts) **No**

Does the project involve putting the project area under long-term legal protection or under a long-term community conservation agreement? **Yes**

Does the project involve building the capacity of the stakeholders that are/will be responsible for the protection of the area? **Yes**

Based on the answers provided, it is estimated that once operating at maximum effectiveness, the avoided deforestation and/or illegal logging element of the project will be 70% effective in reducing emissions compared to a project that was optimally designed.

The following deductions were made to your total maximum estimated effectiveness:

- A 10% effectiveness deduction was made because although insecure land tenure is a driver of deforestation/degradation, not all communities are being supported in clarifying it.
- A 40% effectiveness deduction was made because the project area is not well guarded and has many access points. This will make controlling deforestation agents difficult.
- A 10% effectiveness addition was made because the project is putting an area under long-term legal protection or a long-term community conservation agreement. This increases the chances of long-term protection/sustainable use of the project.

- A 20% effectiveness addition was made because the project involves capacity building of the stakeholders responsible for the project area. This increases the chances of sustained success in the future.

4.2 BENEFITS

Table 4. USAID Greening Prey Lang Estimated Carbon Reduction Benefits

YEAR	ESTIMATED EFFECTIVENESS FOR AVOIDED DEFORESTATION AND LOGGING (%)	ANNUAL BENEFIT FROM AVOIDED DEFORESTATION (T CO ₂)	ANNUAL EMISSION FROM COMMUNITY OFFTAKE (T CO ₂)	TOTAL ANNUAL BENEFIT (T CO ₂)	CUMULATIVE BENEFIT (T CO ₂)
2018	9	1,183,017	0	1,183,017 ¹	1,183,017
2019	18	2,373,667	0	2,373,667	3,556,683
2020	26	3,577,006	0	3,577,006	7,133,689
2021	35	4,797,979	0	4,797,979	11,931,667
2022	44	6,041,462	0	6,041,462	17,973,129
2023	53	7,312,306	0	7,312,306	25,285,435
2024	61	8,615,378	0	8,615,378	33,900,813
2025	70	9,955,601	0	9,955,601	43,856,414
2026	70	10,257,174	0	10,257,174	54,113,588
2027	70	10,557,071	0	10,557,071	64,670,659

¹ Highlighted text used for GPL annual and LOA targets.

YEAR	ESTIMATED EFFECTIVENESS FOR AVOIDED DEFORESTATION AND LOGGING (%)	ANNUAL BENEFIT FROM AVOIDED DEFORESTATION (T CO ₂)	ANNUAL EMISSION FROM COMMUNITY OFFTAKE (T CO ₂)	TOTAL ANNUAL BENEFIT (T CO ₂)	CUMULATIVE BENEFIT (T CO ₂)
2028	70	10,855,304	0	10,855,304	75,525,963

ANNEX A: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY REPORT CONTENTS

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ANNEX B: ORIGINAL ROADMAP FOR INDICATOR 4.I— COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS

GPL Indicator 4.1: Number of communication, outreach and knowledge products (such as success stories, fact sheets, and policy brief) (custom/output).

Quarter		Success Story*	Innovation story*	Factsheets**	Video Clip (1-min PSA)	Press Release	Policy Brief	High-Profile Events	Learning Exchange materials	Social Media Campaign		TOTAL Per Year
1	Oct-Dec 2018			1		1		1				
2	Jan-Mar 2019											0
3	Apr-Jun 2019											0
4	Jul-Sep 20	2	1				1					4
YR 1		2	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	7
5	Oct-Dec 20	2	1									3
6	Jan-Mar 20	2	1						1			4
7	Apr-Jun 20	2	1		1	1				1		6
8	Jul-Sep 20	2	1				1					4
YR 2		8	4	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	17
9	Oct-Dec 20	2	1									3
10	Jan-Mar 20	2	1			1			1			5
11	Apr-Jun 20	2	1			1		1				5
12	Jul-Sep 20	2	1				1					4
YR 3		8	4	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	17
13	Oct-Dec 20	2	1	1								4
14	Jan-Mar 20	2	1			1			1			5
15	Apr-Jun 20	2	1			1						4
16	Jul-Sep 20	2	1				1					4
YR 4		8	4	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	17
17	Oct-Dec 20	2	1									3
18	Jan-Mar 20	2	1		1	1			1	1		7
19	Apr-Jun 20	2	1			1						4
20	Jul-Sep 20	2	1	1			1	1				6
YR 5		8	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	20
TOTAL		34	17	3	2	8	5	3	4	2	0	78

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