

IN THE HANDS OF THE FISHERS (IHOF) WORKSHOP #8

**KOH KONG
CAMBODIA
AUGUST 11-14, 2003**



PRESENTED BY:

**PARTICIPATORY MANAGEMENT OF MANGROVE RESOURCES
(PMMR)**

&

**MANGROVE ACTION PROJECT
(MAP)**



SUPPORTED BY THE OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE

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KOH KONG, CAMBODIA AUG.11-14, 2003

CO-ORGANIZED BY

**PARTICIPATORY MANAGEMENT OF MANGROVE FOREST
RESOURCES OF CAMBODIA (PMMR)
&
MANGROVE ACTION PROJECT (MAP)**

SUPPORTED BY THE OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE

COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS:

CAMBODIA

Sre Ambel, Tonle Sap and Koh Kong Fisherfolk
PMMR, AFSC, FACT, CFDO, WWF, CEP, CZM,
OXFAM AMERICA, CFSP

THAILAND

Koh Yao Noi and Ban Pred Nai Fisherfolk
RECOFTC, CBET, REST

SRI LANKA

Small Fishers Federation of Lanka (SFFL)

MYANMAR

Mangrove Service Network (MSN)

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There are a great number of Community Based Coastal Resource management workshops which allow government officials, NGO's and the professional international community to come together to share experiences as practitioners of natural resource management. The number of opportunities for first hand natural resource users to do the same, in an international forum are rare. The In the Hands of the Fishers Workshops provide a venue where small scale (artisanal) fisherfolk can get together with their counterparts from other countries in the same region to share their experiences and build new skills and knowledge in the realm of community fisheries and community based coastal resource management (CBCRM).

The first IHOF workshop was held in Trang, Southern Thailand in August 1999, with participants from Sri Lanka, Thailand and Cambodia attending. A follow up workshop for these same participants was held in Sri Lanka in December, 1999. Four years later the "round-robin" cycle will be completed, as this eighth IHOF workshop brings participants back together to share their experiences over the intervening years, and build on the action plans laid out in the previous workshops.

Four **(4)** *main objectives* for IHOF #8 include:

1. Allow fisherfolk to meet, discuss and learn from each other, providing access to new ideas which will strengthen them in their roles as natural community leaders.
2. Promote the concept and precepts of co-management or community based management.
3. Provide the opportunity for participants to witness successful projects/models which can be applied back home in their local communities.
4. Develop networks amongst local people and CBCRM NGO's so that in future we have friends across country boundaries where we can go to ex-change information, and solve problems as we know that natural resources and issues do not follow national boundaries.

Mangrove Action Project sees IHOF workshops as an integral link in the local-global-local paradigm for problem solving which we promote. Initially, fisherfolk are involved in *local* investigations and identification of community level problems. Next, fisherfolk search *globally (internationally)* for information to help clarify the community issues, IHOF provides a forum where this second step can take place. Finally, fisherfolk go home and *act locally*.

We would like to thank the Open Society Institute for supporting this workshop financially.

Although this Eighth IHOF workshop completes the "round-robin" cycle for this group of participants (having hosted an IHOF workshop in each of three countries) it is not the end of a cycle of IHOF, but the start of a long-lasting partnership between fisherfolk who are of one fate.

FORWARD

This report documents the proceedings of the eighth "In the Hands of the Fishers" regional workshop held in Koh Kong, Cambodia, 11-14 August, 2003.

In overview, the first day of the workshop took place indoors, and focused on presentations by each of the attendant fisherfolk communities. The second day involved the participants in a full day field excursion to two local villages within the mangrove forests of Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary. The third day was back indoors and primarily allowed local NGO's to present on their community organizing and CBCRM efforts in Southeast Asia. The last day found the fisherfolk participating in one of two hands-on "tool-kit" workshops, one on improved cook-stove, the other on creating a village savings group and making food products from mangroves, such as herbal mangrove crackers, and sweet and spicy *Graspid* crabs.

Whereas oftentimes in this document we have summarized the proceedings, it includes entire transcripts of dialogues between fisherfolk and also of question and answers periods after fisherfolk presentations. This is in effort to emphasize the concerns and thoughts of the fisherfolk, and to provide readers of this document with insight as to what types of future support of fisherfolk initiatives are most important to the fisherfolk themselves. Finally a variety of appendices are added to the report providing information to supplement the proceedings.

**IN THE HANDS OF THE FISHERS WORKSHOP #8
KOH KONG, CAMBODIA AUG. 11-14, 2003**



PROGRAMME

**VENUE: BOPHA KOH KONG HOTEL
1ST VILLAGE, SMACH MEANCHEY COMMUNE
SMACH MEANCHEY DISTRICT,
KOH KONG PROVINCE, CAMBODIA
TEL: 016 350 123 / 011 741 040
TEL/FAX: (855) 35 936073**

SUNDAY AUGUST 10

19:00 Introductions/Name game
20:00 Welcoming Dinner

MONDAY AUGUST 11

07:00 - 07:45 Breakfast

08:00 - 08:45 Welcoming Addresses:
♦ Welcome by Mr. Pich Han First Deputy Governor of Koh Kong
♦ Welcome by Jim Enright - Mangrove Action Project
♦ Workshop opening by H.E. Thuk Kroeun Vutha -
Under Secretary of State of Ministry of Environment

08:45 - 9:30 Workshop Logistics

09:30 - 17:30 Local Community Presentations
30 minutes each (including translation) with
15 minutes for questions after each community presentation

09:30 - 10:00 SFFL Community A - Sri Lanka
10:00 - 10:15 Questions
10:15 - 10:30 Coffee/Tea Break
10:30 - 11:00 Koh Yai Noi, Phang-Nga Province, Thailand
11:00 - 11:15 Questions
11:15 - 11:45 Ban Pred Nai, Trad Province, Thailand
11:45 - 12:00 Questions
12:00 - 13:30 Lunch/Prayer
13:30 - 14:15 Koh Kong Community Presentation - Cambodia
14:15 - 14:30 Questions
14:30 - 14:45 Ice Breaker (Throwing a Cast Net) and Coffee Break
14:45 - 15:15 Sre Ambel Community/AFSC - Cambodia
15:15 - 15:30 Questions
15:30 - 16:00 Tonle Sap Community/FACT - Cambodia
16:00 - 16:30 Questions
16:30 - 17:30 Country Group Activity "Draw your counterparts village"
Sre Ambel - Koh Yao Noi
Koh Kong - Ban Pred Nai
Tonle Sap - Sri Lanka

18:30 Dinner

TUESDAY AUGUST 12

3

07:00 - 08:00 Breakfast

All day field trip to visiting fisherfolk communities in
Peam Krasoap Wildlife Sanctuary (PKWS), Koh Kong

08:00 Walk to pier
08:30 Boat Leaves
10:00 Arrival at Koh Kang
12:00 Lunch on Boat
13:30 Meeting with community at Koh Sralao
14:00 Splinter group leaves for mangrove ecology visit
15:00 Activity "Problem Identification, New Ideas and Solutions"
18:30 Dinner

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 13

07:00 - 07:45 Breakfast

8:00 - 9:00 Country Group Reports on Field Trip Experiences

09:00 - 12:15 MORNING SESSION - Three (III) NGO Panel Presentations

Panel I: Panel I will last one-hour. Panelists will be given 30 minutes to present (15 minute presentation and 15 minutes for translation). After Panel I, there will be a 30 minute question period, where questions can be directed at any panelist.

09:00 - 10:30 Panel I

Mangrove Service Network (MSN) Myanmar
Mangrove Action Project (MAP) - Indonesia Program
Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC)

10:30 - 11:00 Question and Answer Panel I

11:00 - 11:15 Break

11:15 - 12:15 Panel II

Participatory Management of Mangrove Resources (PMMR)
American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)
Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT)
Community Fisheries Development Office (CFDO) - Cambodia

12:15 - 13:30 Lunch

13:30 - 14:00 Panel II Continued

14:00 - 14:30 Question and Answer Panel II

14:30 - 14:45 Break

14:45 - 16:15 Panel III

OXFAM America
WWF
Culture & Environment Preservation Association (CEPA)

16:15 - 16:45 Question and Answer Panel III

17:00 - 18:00 Fisherfolk Only Discussion "Where should we go from here?"

18:30 Dinner

EVENING SESSION - Preparation for “Tool-kit” Presentations (Mandatory)

20:00 - 20:30 Introduction and Sign-Up for “Tool-kit” Presentations

Tool-kit Workshop #1: Cambodian Fuelwood Savings Project “Improved Cookstove”
Tool-kit Workshop #2: Community of Ban Pred Nai “Savings Group and Mangrove Utilization for crafts and food.”

20:30 - 21:00 Film: Cambodian Fuelwood Savings Project
“How to Build a Samaki Stove.”

THURSDAY AUGUST 14

07:00 - 07:45 Breakfast

08:00 - 12:00 MORNING SESSION “Tool-kit” Presentations

Group 1 Cambodia Fuelwood Saving Project
-Demonstration (cooking demonstration) Comparing fuel efficiency of traditional and improved cook stoves.

Group 2 Ban Pred Nai Community
- Setting up and running a savings group
- Cooking fried mangrove herbal crackers and other mangrove recipes.

12:00 - 13:30 Lunch

13:30 - 15:00 Fisherfolk Only Discussions

Group A “Fisherfolk Networking”
Group B “Local Conflict Issues”

15:00 Closing Speeches:
MAP and Assistant Governor Director of Koh Kong, Cambodia

15:30 - 16:00 Follow up

16:00 - 16:15 Workshop Evaluation: “Plus-Minus-Change”

19:00 Closing Ceremony and Dinner

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

5

Name	Sex	Organization
Thailand		
Ampon Padsart	M	Chairperson of Trad Mangrove Forest Network
Samnao Predkaew	F	Chairperson of Ban Pred Nai's Conservation Group
Amnuai Chumani	M	Community Leader
Anan Huangnam	M	Community Leader
Winai Huangnam	M	Community Leader
Jaruwan Kaewmahanin	F	RECOFTC - Researcher
Warrachat Kongkua	F	CBET Club, Koh Yao Noi
Prasit Keksap	M	CBET Club, Koh Yao Noi
Chomphoo Kaewprasert	F	REST - Volunteer Trainer
Sri Lanka		
Anuradha Wickramasinghe	M	Director of Small Fisher Federation of Lanka
N.D.T. Warnakulasuriya	M	Mangrove Ecologist
H.T.U. Fernando	M	Translator
T.A.K. Warnakulasuriya	F	Fisher
R.W.H. Gamage	F	Fisher
N.D.P. Paththayamaage	F	Fisher
Thawapalaratnam Sathasivam	M	Fisher
Myanmar		
U Win Sein Nang	M	Fisheries Expert
Daw Khin Pwint Oo	F	Rural Community Development & Gender Expert
Mangrove Action Project		
James Enright	M	MAP - SE Asia Coordinator
Benjamin Brown	M	MAP - Indonesia Coordinator
Farechah	F	Yayasan Akar Rumpun Laut
Rian Ali Brown	M	Ben's Son

Cambodia	Sex	Organizatrion
H.E. Thuk Kroeun Vutha	M	Under Secretary of State MoE (PMMR support)
Vann Monnyneath	M	CZM National Coordinator
Kim Nong	M	PMMR Team Leader
Khy An	M	PMMR
Nin Vanntha	M	PMMR
Eam Dyn	M	PMMR
Sous Sivutha	M	CEPA
Sim Bunthoeun	M	Oxfam America
So Sreymon	F	WWF
Toby Carson	M	WWF
Sem Viryak	M	CFDO
Hor Bros	M	AFSC Fisher
Chan Rotha	M	AFSC Team
Sour Siem	F	AFSC Team
Nur Chay	F	AFSC Fisher
Song Kheang	M	AFSC Program team leader (AFSC support)
Channarith	M	FACT/ Representative
Chum Kim lean	F	FACT/ NGO Network
Siem Sot	F	FACT/ Kg Thom Fisher
Eng Soeun	M	FACT/ Kg. Chhnang Fisher
Long Sochaet	M	FACT/ Pursat Fisher
Hot Han	M	FACT/Battanbang Fisher
Prem Bunhall	M	FACT/ Bantey Meanchey Fisher
Mout Salout	M	FACT/ Siem Reap Fisher
Krouch Pheng	M	Chief of Commune Chrouy Pros
Chup Tit	M	Chief of Commune Peam Krasaop
Koam Dum	M	Koh Sralao Fisher/ PKWS
Sok Hoeung	F	Koh Sralao Fisher/ PKWS
Un Yan	F	Chrouy pros Fisher/ Koh Kong
Kayeswar Man Sulpya	M	CFSP team
Hoeung Chuntheang	M	CFSP team (CFSP support)
Nget Long	M	CFSP team (CFSP support)
Leng Monipha	F	Research student (PMMR support)
Rang Sokha	F	Research student (PMMR support)



P R O C E E D I N G S

Day One - Monday, August 11

Welcoming Addresses

Mr. Pich Han - First Deputy Governor of Koh Kong

It is a great opportunity for the community of Koh Kong to work close with the international community, local institutions, academia, provincial offices and NGO's. We are looking forward to following up on this workshop by working and networking with involved groups in coastal resource management and sustainable livelihood alternatives.

Welcome by Jim Enright - Coordinator Mangrove Action Project-SE Asia

Four main objectives in the workshop:

- ✓ Allow fisherfolk to meet, discuss and learn from one another, provide access to new ideas skills and knowledge which will be useful to them as local natural community leaders.
- ✓ Promote concepts of co-management or community based management
- ✓ Provide participants with the opportunity to witness successful projects/models, and participate in hands-on demonstrations of sustainable technologies which can be applied back home in their local communities.
- ✓ Develop networks amongst local people and NGO's so that in future we have friends across country boundaries where we can go to exchange information needed to solve local problems because natural resource issues are not contained within national boundaries.

Thanks to Open Society Institute for support for this workshop, and also PMMR who have invested a lot of time and energy in organizing this workshop here in Cambodia.

Welcome by H.E. Thuk Kroeun Vutha - Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Ministry of Environment, I am delighted to welcome all of the national and international guests to participate in this "In the Hands of the Fishers" workshop. We are very enthusiastic about the opportunity that fisherfolk communities of Cambodia have to work with stakeholders from many regions to share their ideas and experiences and address issues, problems and recommendations on coastal resource management strategies. Degradation of natural resources is a region wide problem, and must be addressed in forums such as this. At present the Government of Cambodia has a clear policy to develop the country so as to reduce poverty by decentralizing the management of natural resources and empowering grass roots community action. I strongly believe that this workshop will bring a huge benefit to our participants in developing natural resource management strategies and sustainable livelihood alternatives for Cambodia and the other countries in the region.

SRI LANKA - Fisherfolk from Small Fishers Federation of Lanka (SFFL)

After an inspirational welcome dance, Anuradha W, Director of SFFL introduced the group including Douglas, master of mangroves, a very famous man. Anu provided a little background of relationship between the participants from Cambodia, Sri Lanka and Thailand. We are growing now because Burma is with us this year. Over the past 4 years, we have developed two mangrove centers in Northwest Province and Southern Province. After this workshop we will develop another center in Eastern Province. The centers are the knowledge base and resource base for fisherfolk, school children and academic leaders in Sri Lanka.

Douglas then presented a map of mangrove areas and of mangrove destruction mainly due to the prawn industry. Showed a map of depletion of mangrove areas. Mainly due to prawn industry. (4000 ha).

There followed pictures of mangrove demonstration center:

- ♦ Currently Awareness Programs are being carried out for :
 - ❖ School Children ❖ Politicians
 - ❖ Government Officials ❖ Fisherfolk
- ♦ Mangrove nursery and planting efforts by SFFL
- ♦ Distributing nursery plants for other organizations
- ♦ Exhibitions about mangrove conservation
- ♦ Experiments conducted
- ♦ Publications on the conservation of mangroves (for various audiences)

The benefits obtained through conservation of mangroves locally in Sri Lanka:

- ♦ Catching of fish, prawns and crabs
- ♦ Construction of houses for fisherfolk
- ♦ Firewood
- ♦ A nutritional drink prepared from *Sonneratia caseolaris*, as well as jam.
- ♦ Dying of fishing nets using bark of mangroves
- ♦ Consumption as a vegetable (*Acrosticum aurium*)

Every week various user groups visit the center. In the future we hope to build our program by implementing more sustainable livelihood programs and a boat based environmental education program.

Question & Answer for Sri Lankan Fisherfolk

Q: Cambodia - Are there many conflicts between stakeholders in Sri Lanka over the local resource?

A: Yes there are many conflicts. Primarily shrimp farm developments are a major source of conflict as many individual government officials personally benefit from shrimp pond development/construction through embezzlement of project money. They are also the owners of shrimp ponds.

Q: Cambodia - How do you try and resolve problems in the case of government corruption?

A: We have talented community organizers who have deep discussions with local communities.

During these discussions we present our case about conservation and community based management and learn from them their ideas and needs, and with a large enough constituency are able to approach government to mediate conflicts.

Q: Cambodia - I would like to here about the physical condition of the mangrove forest before and after community organizing.

A: Mangroves have been destroyed, and in some places they have been rehabilitated, but they need time to recover, therefore it is not possible yet to discuss the change in the mangroves due to our efforts. But there is a marked increase in the level of empowerment of the communities we have organized. This you can see through there actions and in comparison to communities who we have not yet worked with.

Q: Thailand - What are women's roles in conservation?

A: We have active women's groups that are responsible for community based mangrove management.

Q: Myanmar - What are the rights of the community with regards to being involved in mangrove management?

A: In our strong communities, we are the real decision makers. For instance, no one can fish in a lagoon near a village without the consent of the village, even if there is a provincial law about fishing or not fishing in a region it is often the local community who will implement the law or enforce it.

Koh Yai Noi, Phang-Nga Province, Thailand

PowerPoint presentation by Khun Warachat Kongkua "Community Based Eco-Tourism."

Community Based Ecotourism was embarked upon in 1995 to:

- ♦ Inform outsiders about our conservation efforts
- ♦ Generate income and improve income distribution for community
- ♦ Empower the community by participatory approach

Followed beautiful pictures of cliffs, beaches and underwater caves, with no text to allow the audience to enjoy the views. Bor Nam Saksit (Holy Water Well), and Tho Leb Meu Nang (The Sacred Pond) where described as special places tourists liked to visit.

Pictures of typical home-stays, including the bedroom, and a traditional dinner with the host family then followed. Boat rides, fishing activities and producing rubber allowed the eco-tourist to see villagers engaged in a typical day's livelihood. Tourists visit to the mangrove, and learn about the importance of mangrove to village life and the coastal ecosystem. The presentation ended depicting a farewell party and the ceremony for the World Legacy Award 2002 which Koh Yao Noi received from National Geographic Traveler and Conservation International.

Powerpoint presentation by Kuhn Prasit Kebsbab "Natural Resource Conservation on Koh Yao Noi Island."

Many major ecosystems and land use types are represented at Koh Yao Noi and all are healthy, intact and relied upon by local people. These include terrestrial forest, mangrove, seagrass, coral reef, and rice fields and rubber plantation. The population of Koh Yao Noi is 4500 people, 99% of whom are Muslim and 1% Buddhist. 80% of the population are fisherfolk, 15 % work rubber

plantations, and 5% are involved in business. Fisherfolk rely on their boats (Rua Hau Tong), and fish mostly with nets. Women fish side by side with their partners (husbands), and this may be unusual to visitors. Women are also active in the rice fields and rubber plantations, and have formed several functional groups including a savings group and eco-tourism club. Larger commercial trawlers and push-net boats used to be more of a threat to the coastal area, but the local community is active in eliminating these boats from our waters.

Three important aspects of villagers' involvement in coastal conservation are:

- ♦ To conserve our natural resources by learning to use natural resources sustainably
- ♦ To coordinate with outside organizations
- ♦ To negotiate if needed with outside organization and government organizations

Question & Answer for Koh Yao Noi

Q: Cambodia - Are there negative effects of tourism?

A: None so far, our ecotourism program is well managed.

Q: Cambodia - How is the money managed by the community from eco-tourism?

A: We have a committee which manages an eco-tourism package. 10% goes to the eco-conservation club (need clarification). Also if you receive money from a home-stay, you give 50 baht per person to the eco-conservation club for activities such as (youth camp, environmental education and awareness, mangrove planting etc.).

Q: Cambodia - Two parts - What is the main conflict in the region? How are natural resources shared by the community?

A: 1) Sometimes a family member is tempted to use a push-net (can make 10,000 Baht/day) while another family member still uses hand net (average income of 1000 B/day). For the most part this type of conflict has been resolved in the community, though we still face problems with outsiders fishing using push nets. We need to raise awareness beyond Koh Yao Noi about push-nets.

2) Every village in Phang-nga bay has open access to fishing for local communities.

Ban Pred Nai, Trad Province, Thailand

Background: Ban Pred Nai is located in Trad Province, Thailand and is bordered on the East by Koh Kong, Cambodia. Consisting of 12,000 rai of forestland Ban Pred Nai was originally a rice farming community. Today, traditional livelihoods are very dependent on mangrove forest products. Extensive shrimp farming was introduced to the community in 1982 and, at the time, had only a minimal negative impact on the environment. In 1985, outside investors came to Ban Pred Nai and part of the community turned to intensive shrimp farming. This resulted in water pollution and destruction of natural ecosystems, including the mangrove forests. The deterioration of mangrove forests resulted in a reduction in productivity and in turn lowered fisherfolk incomes suffered.. The once economically sustainable community suffered financial problems and mounting debts, which eventually put it on the brink of financial collapse.

In order to foster understanding and collaboration, Pred Nai villagers drew upon the strengths of local traditions and knowledge of village elders and with the support of Pra Subin Paneeto, a respected monk, began spreading the word amongst villagers to start a village savings fund group.

As their livelihoods became threatened, the community held discussions, consulted with outsiders and consolidated their efforts to eradicate shrimp farm investors from the area. They experienced various difficulties and some confrontations, but eventually they were successful. After the investors left, the community formulated its own regulations on the use of mangrove resources, in order to prohibit logging, and established a “Committee for Mangrove Conservation and Development.” In 1999 the community members were involved in mapping and creating a forest inventory which eventually led to developing a Forest Management Plan. The original Forest Management Plan included five zones each with its own committee. Since 2002 to simplify management practices the plan was modified to contain only two zones, a strict conservation zone, and a utilization zone under one management committee.

In addition, a trust fund was created to provide loans for farmers. Members of the community who violated the regulations on the use of mangrove resources were ineligible for the loan. Community regulations were created for the purpose of monitoring natural resources and environmental quality, and to identify roles of each group in the community. Currently the community of Ban Pred Nai is involved in a project creating artificial fish refuges traditionally called fish houses made from used car tires tied together in blocks are now being installed in canals to attract more fish.

Three main problems still facing the community: 1) destructive fishing practices, 2) coastal area erosion, 3) ineffective government policy and lack of government support

In July of 2003, school children from various APEC (Asia-Pacific for Economic Cooperation) counties came to Ban Pred Nai for mangrove coastal ecosystems study fieldwork. Visits from outside groups studying successful CBCRM efforts in Ban Pred Nai have helped instill pride amongst the community.

Question & Answer for Ban Pred Nai

Q: Cambodia - The artificial reef/fish house made from tires seems like a potential source of pollution, do you see that this could be a problem?

A: We talked about this problem, the artificial reefs are still in the experimental phase, we have thought that the tires may change the water current but do not yet know the outcome for better or worse.

Q: Cambodia - That did not answer the question of possible toxic effect of the tires, can you try to explain?

A: We work closely with the fishery department and are collecting data on this experiment, we expect that these tires will function like a coral reef. (We have also learned from other villages' experiences in Ranong province. We share results and lessons learned through meetings).

Q: Cambodia - Still about the “fish houses,” is there any data that the tires have resulted in an increase in fish production in those areas?

A: Our observations see that there is an increase in numbers of fish around the artificial reefs, and this bodes well for future managed fishing activities in the “fish house” areas.

Note: Jim suggested that later we can have a small group discussion about artificial reefs or “fish houses.”. There are two basic beliefs, artificial reefs attract, but do not increase fish production, just concentrate the fish. Others say after a period of time, coral may grow on the reef and it then becomes productive similar to a natural reef.

Q: Cambodia - Still about tires, is there concern about the tire reefs that if people were to use nets around the reef, the nets would get caught on the reef?

A: We have witnessed the tire reefs in another province, and this idea was applied in Ban Pred Nai. We have seen it work well in another province.

Note: Jim added that we could have a session on artificial reefs during small group discussion, on Wednesday or perhaps at night. He added that sometimes communities place artificial reefs to discourage trawl nets.

Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary (PKWS) Communities Presentation - Cambodia

Powerpoint Presentation by Mr. Korgn Dom and Sok Hoeung (From the village coastal management committee in Koh Sralao Community)

Who gets the benefit from Natural Resource Management in PKWS?

Local People: “Inside” local people (living in the PKWS area) and “outside” local people. Also Thai people come and use the PKWS area.

How do they use the natural resources?

- ♦ Clearing of mangrove area to make shrimp farm
- ♦ Construction from mangrove poles and bark
- ♦ Fishing (local and outsider) spear fishing, pots, traps, gill net, mangrove snail collection
- ♦ Enjoying and observing wildlife, (birds, bats, monkeys, dolphins and dugong although dugong have not been observed in a number of years)

How is the community involved in managing PKWS natural resources and who is involved?

Before community organizing, primarily the Departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery, local police and the military. Now the community is the main practitioner.

Conflicts exist with government and destroyers of natural resources (local and outside).

Strategies for resolving conflict:

First thing was to close down illegal charcoal kilns, but we have not yet had success providing alternative livelihoods to charcoal makers. Many people turned to fishing but being immigrants to the area from other areas of the Cambodian mainland, they are not accustomed to fishing for a livelihood. Slowly people are learning but need support in developing alternative livelihoods.

Current Works

- ♦ Capacity Building for:
 - o Local people
 - o Local authority
 - o Local business
- ♦ Community Organizing
 - o First through sustainable livelihood alternatives, which stimulated local people to self-organize.
 - o January 2000, local leaders of organized groups chosen
 - o Community committee created
 - o Community By-laws created
- ♦ Integrated Management
 - o With police, technical departments, community police
- ♦ Networking and Communication
 - o Community to community
 - o Community to local and provincial government
 - o Community to local authority
- ♦ Community Management
 - o *Community Action Plan*
 - ♦ Seagrass conservation
 - ♦ Construction of a patrol house
 - ♦ Village cleaning
 - ♦ Environmental cleaning
 - ♦ Monthly village meeting to learn and share experience
 - ♦ Penalties for crab trap theft (500 baht for stealing a crab pot).
 - ♦ Painting crab traps so that they are easily recognizable
 - o *Community Implementation*
 - ♦ About 50% of the action plan is being implemented
 - o *Results*
 - ♦ Strength
 - ♦ Entire community has been involved in reporting. The patrol also reports on illegal mangrove cutting.
 - ♦ Plant mangroves
 - ♦ Construct bat house
 - ♦ Weakness Community livelihood still very poor, which limits the communities involvement in management activities. Too concentrated on livelihood.
 - o *Challenge* (law, outside technology sometime not appropriate with local area like crab fattening, also there is a law regulating net size which Koh Kong fisher folk can not abide by. Community meetings better attended)
 - o *Recommendations*
 - ♦ Community capacity building
 - ♦ Networking
 - ♦ Supporting involved institutions
 - ♦ Empowerment of the local community.

Q: Ban Pred Nai - Are there still logging concessions in PKWS? How many?

A: No, mangrove logging is NOT legal in PKWS, this regulation is well managed and enforced 85% of the time in practice. We need to educate outsiders to also protect the mangrove.

Q: Cambodia - Is it difficult for the community to protect the mangrove without support from local government/authority? What is your approach in this case?

A: If the local offender does not want to cooperate, the community can go to the Department Of Environment (DoE) to intervene because they have a close relationship and the DoE has always been concerned about the welfare of the mangrove.

Q: Cambodia - If the DoE is unconcerned what can you do?

A: We will go to PMMR for help.

Q: Sri Lanka - How much of the community actually participates in the community organizing effort?

A: The total population is 325 families. At first only 93 families joined, then one year later 297 families join in these efforts and recently we can say that all families are participating in co-management.

Q: Thailand - Ban Pred Nai - I visited here in 1993 and noticed that you have bats in the mangrove forest, do you still have bats? Also dugong?

A: There are still many animals in the mangrove, and some mangrove areas are recovering, We still see Fishing Cats, bats, and other large mammals in these areas. The condition of the seagrass is being degraded by small fisheries like hand push net for grouper and especially grouper fry for export to Thailand. Dugong may be extinct from the coastal area here.

ICE BREAKER:



The group engaged in throwing a pantomime cast net.

Community efforts in Sre Ambel have been recognized by local and provincial governments this year

Objectives of community organizing:

- ♦ Local people join in fisheries management
- ♦ Reducing destructive fishing activities
- ♦ Improve and protect the fishery resources by sustainable management
- ♦ Preserve local culture
- ♦ Improve local livelihoods based on local fisheries resources
- ♦ Community members become involved in policy making processes

Activities:

- ♦ Networking
- ♦ Sustainable Livelihood Alternative development in community
- ♦ Participation in policy making
- ♦ Participation in community patrolling activity to curtail illegal fishing
- ♦ Work with sub-district government to influence fishery law
- ♦ Creating community by-laws
- ♦ Demarcating boundaries for community managed coastal area

Achievements:

- ♦ Community managed coastal area boundaries set
- ♦ Good coordination with local authority and technical department
- ♦ Video and radio broadcasts for public information
- ♦ Illegal fishing activity indeed reduced.
- ♦ Community managed coastal area of 15,350 ha.
- ♦ Provincial government recognized communities by-laws in May 2003 before the national election, but worries exist can this continue after the national election or not?

Threats/worries:

- ♦ Cooperation with difficult departments

Question & Answer for Sre Ambel

Q: Cambodia - Koh Kong - From the presentation it seems things are going smoothly now, then why is the community worried about the future of CBCRM?

A: Because according to the real situation before the national election, the fisheries department of Koh Kong worked closely with us to enforce laws against illegal fishing and other activities. But after the election, the community is confused, patrolling has ceased, and communications are unclear.

Q: What is the cause of this lack of communication? What has been the communities' response to overcome this difficulty?

A: Contact with the community chief of police, but the police said that they can not be involved so much in monitoring illegal fishing activity as it is the responsibility of the fishery department.

Before national elections, even the local authority and technical department used to be very involved, but during the short time before and after election time there is much confusion. Perhaps in that short time, the concerned departments were also asked by illegal fishing practitioners for protection, and it is unclear what side the police and fisheries departments will side with.

We started to make a community newsletter to ask the district governor for some help, the district governor agreed but no action has been taken.

Q: Sri Lanka - How successful have the community/government patrol groups been at controlling unauthorized fishing?

A: In the past very successful, beside the patrol, TV and radio broadcast publicized the laws and boundaries to outsiders.

Q - Ban Pred Nai - What were the sanctions against illegal fishers?

A - Destroy illegal fishing gear, boat was turned over to the fisheries department, where fines were administered according to fishery law.

Q - Indonesia - You spoke of demarcating boundaries, what was the process used to make boundaries, is this something that can be shared?

A - Cut the mangrove palm (Nypa) leaves to demarcate boundaries and also making community maps. We also make sign-board.

Q - Ban Pred Nai - Did boundary demarcation take place just by village committee or did you work with others?

A - Other stakeholders were called together such as local authority, fishery officer to join in creating boundaries.

Tonle Sap Community - Cambodia

Tonle Sap Community is the first inland fisheries group to attend IHOF in part because Tonle Sap is so important to Cambodia with regards to meeting people's protein needs. Cambodia depends on inland fisheries more than any other country in the world.

The community of Tonle Sap sang a traditional song, and introduced the IHOF participants province by province with a map as visual aid.

75% of animal protein intake by Cambodian people comes from Tonle Sap. 65 kg/fish per person/annum. There exists 566,000 ha of flooded forest around Tonle Sap (a unique eco-system).

Conflicts between family members often occur regarding fishing gear.

There is an increase in the use of:

- ♦ Electro shock gear
- ♦ Trawlers
- ♦ Small mesh gill nets

Fisheries practices do not follow the fisheries law

Fisherfolk from Tonle Sap region are working with FACT to participate in the fishery law/policy making process at the sub-district level of government. Fisherfolk have also participated in several study tours.

Recommendations

1. Community must have the right to protect and manage resource by themselves
2. Local authority and Tech. department should cooperate more in CBCRM process
3. Pass CBCRM regulations and then publish and distribute the draft of the fishery law as it applies to CBCRM.

Question & Answer for Tonle Sap Communities

Q: Ban Pred Nai - Is there any corrupting of law enforcement officers by illegal fishers?

A: Sure, the military and police accept bribes to protect fishers using illegal gear.

Q: Koh Kong - What have been your roles and what will you do in the future as your main activity, it was not clear from the presentation.

A: Community organizing and strengthening communities to the point where the communities are able to influence government fisheries policy.

Q: Koh Kong - With 266 communities that take care of this area you should have enough voices to influence law and regulations.

A: We do have strong support from the local community, but we need acceptance by the government still.



After listening to each communities presentations, the participants where challenged to see if they had obtained enough information from the presentations to draw a typical fishing village from another region, even though they have never visited that region. The following groups were paired and drew pictures of each others communities:

Sre Ambel - Koh Yao Noi

Koh Kong - Ban Pred Nai

Tonle Sap - Sri Lanka

After attempting to draw a picture of a foreign community, the groups were asked to get together to present their depiction of one another's villages.

The groups discovered that they had drawn some parts of the village correctly while other parts were wrong, for instance Koh Kong drew rice fields in Ban Pred Nai where no rice fields existed. In this way participants from different countries were able to exchange information about their home regions.

In breaking down this activity, we asked the group why some of their depictions were wrong. They answered that they had never been to the village, only heard about it through presentations. Thus it was discussed that the best way to attain new information is directly. The next day the group would visit two new villages in Peam Krasop. We asked that participants be mindful ahead of time to actively search for information. We asked them specifically to look for environmental and social problems as well as new ideas and solutions to problems that they might like to try out in their home regions. They would be responsible for reporting out their findings after the field trip.





Koh Yao Noi, An award winning eco-tourism program combines beautiful environmental excursions (left) with demonstrations about village livelihoods (right).



In **Ban Pred Nai**, Children involved in subsistence gathering of shellfish, crabs and fish amidst the mangroves (left), the verdict is still out on the usefulness of artificial reefs constructed from old tires (right).



Fisherfolk from **Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary** (Koh Kong) spoke of the difficulties in converting from industrial scale charcoal producers to artisanal fisherfolk. The transition to alternative livelihoods is a major challenge for both the community and community organizers active in the region.



The Sri Lanka group opened with a traditional dance of blessing for the workshop (left); Participants from Koh Yao Noi (Prasit, Warachat and Chomphoo) presented a simple and wonderful slide show of eco-tourism and conservation programs from their village.



The group from Tonle Sap had a representative from each of 6 provinces surrounding the Tonle Sap Lake (left). After listening to one another's presentations, participants from different regions were paired and asked to try and draw one another's fishing villages. Then the groupings got together to correct one another's drawings and continue to share information about their home regions. (Above right, and below). Another part of getting to know one another involved sticking a pennant denoting your home town on maps of South or Southeast Asia. (Above right: background)



All day field trip visiting two fisherfolk villages in Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary (PKWS):

KOH KANG VILLAGE



The village of Koh Kang is comprised of immigrants to the region from other areas in Cambodia. Their primary livelihood was charcoal production from mangroves of Peam Krasop region. As mangrove cutting in the Wildlife Sanctuary became illegal, villagers were forced to establish alternative livelihoods. The villagers came from a mix of coastal and terrestrial areas, but for the most part fishing skills had been forgotten or never learned. Thus it has been a struggle to learn the trade of fishing, for both subsistence and livelihood. PMMR has been working with the community since 2000 with a major focus on sustainable livelihood alternatives.



Although it is officially illegal to cut mangroves in the Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary, non-commercial scale logging is allowed by authorities. Indeed for some island communities there is little alternative. Mangrove wood is used in construction (lower left), and as biomass for cooking (lower right).



Upon arriving in the village, the IHOF participants talked informally with villagers, and also gathered around community leaders to hear the story of Koh Kang, and ask questions (top ellipse).

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Fishing with nets has gained popularity over the past several years, as well as use of mangrove crab traps (bottom left ellipse)

PMMR introduced kitchen gardens to the village, to supplement diets of fish and rice and provide nutrition for children and nursing mothers. We saw kitchen gardens at nearly every household (bottom right ellipse)

Part of the PMMR community development strategy included building a school for the village. PMMR provided funds for the foundation and timbers, and the villagers added the roof, furnishings and a volunteer teacher, a good example of partnership.



There are still many natural resource management issues in the village, livelihoods, presence of commercial shrimp farming, fresh water, waste management issues and mangrove and fisheries exploitation by outsiders are among some of the main issues.

The afternoon visit to Koh Sralao offered IHOF participants a better opportunity for dialogue with the local community. The group sat together to discuss the history of the village, environmental and livelihood issues, and changes in place since community organizing efforts with PMMR began.



With more land than Koh Kang, Koh Sralao villagers are able to undertake farming, gather terrestrial wood for fuel and building, and have better access to fresh water including several springs. Left, preparation of traditional medicine to both prevent and treat typhoid from seven herbs gathered from the nearby forest.

Before returning for home, IHOF participants held their own mini group discussions, defining and analyzing natural resource and socio-economic problems encountered on the field trip, and comparing these to problems in their own regions. Brainstorming on how the local community might prioritize and solve these problems took place. The IHOF participants were asked if they learned any piece of information during the field trip that they would like to find out more about and possibly adapt and apply in their home regions. These mini group discussions were recorded by note-keepers, and will be presented to the larger group the morning of Day Three.

MANGROVE ECOLOGY EXCURSION

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During the afternoon, a small group split off from the community discussion to take a closer look at the mangroves of Peam Krasop. Douglas from Sri Lanka, assisted the PMMR team with identifying several species of mangrove that will be included in mangrove field guide for the region. The group also visited some old-growth mangrove areas dominated by ancient orchid covered *Heritrea littoralis*.



Clockwise from upper left: Identifying mangrove species in question; old-growth *Heritrea littoralis*; This mushroom found only in mangroves cures fever; Hydrology in this dis-used shrimp pond was not restored before planting, questions exist about whether or not the plantings will survive; Mr. Douglas amongst the roots of an old *Xylocarpus granatum*, although much of Peam Krasop has been logged, sections of pristine old growth still exist.

P R O C E E D I N G S

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Day Three - Wednesday, August 13

Before the scheduled NGO panels, each country group reported out regarding their observations from the field yesterday which are summarized in the table below.

S r i L a n k a		
Problems Encountered	New Ideas/Concepts	Concepts to bring home
Water Pollution	Village management committee	Village management committee for conservation
Poor Environmental Hygiene	Patrolling group	Create patrolling groups
Industrial pollution/impact of polythene	Gender balancing /economy	
C a m b o d i a (S r e A m b e l and K o h K o n g)		
Cutting mangrove for making charcoal	Good cooperation with local authority and technical department.	Need to establish better cooperation with government
Shrimp farms (mangrove clearing)	Good sharing of information & participation among the people	Create a group for bringing information to the village committee, such as a group of fishers who report to the village committee
Coastal bag net	Importance of capacity building for local community	
Lack of formal education	Good relationships within the local community	
Local community does not enough rights to implement their own rules		
Lack of alternative livelihoods aside from fishing		
T h a i l a n d		
Shrimp farm	Regulation of Coastal Bag Net	Disallow coastal bag nets in channel
Coastal bag net	No charcoal producing	Create a strategy for seagrass management, start in a small area and expand it.
Drinking water & health service	Forest replanting	
Law/regulation implementation	Patrolling	
Waste management (water and solid)	Seagrass Conservation	
Housing (living over water not on land)	<i>Suggestions from Thai group:</i> ❖ Power of community can be used to negotiate with other organizations, for instance in Koh Yao Noi, the community can pressure the drag net to fish far from the shore (5 km) even though regulations state 3 km. ❖ Ban Pred Nai willing to work together to teach garbage management (separation, composting, landfill).	
Used oil		
Fishing gear stolen		

Problems Encountered	New Ideas/Concepts	Concepts to bring home
Cutting of mangrove forest for charcoal	Organized committee for natural resource management	Community by-laws
Shrimp farming	Training and study group	Continued trainings (technical and organizing)
Hunting	Produce the community by-law	Raise awareness on environmental protection
Illegal fishing activities	New vocation	Regulate fishing gear nets
Damage of seagrass	Community work is already approved by local authority	Replanting [flooded forest, upper watershed]
Use bag net	Good cooperation with local stakeholder	Stop illegal activities of all kinds
Changing from charcoal production to fishing without training	Local community have own sign boards to make clear the regulations	We will follow their lead for implementing in fresh water community
Lack of fresh water for consumption	Community has power to control illegal activities	Support one another and focus on participation
Education system limited	Good cooperation from community members	
Income not balanced	Clear management plan and success on controlling	
	There is public awareness on community by laws	



Q: From Jim for Koh Yao Noi - Your village is clean, and you propose the use of a landfill for dealing with garbage. How do you manage the garbage problem?

A: . Every day the municipality officer collects the garbage from roadside trash containers. Then garbage is separated, into glass, plastic, and cardboard/newspapers which are sold to a middle-man. This provides some revenue to the sub-district. Next, the remaining garbage is placed daily in a pit dug in the ground for incineration or for controlled burning. Each day, the incinerated garbage is covered using a layer of soil to prevent odors and control pests. Food waste is used to feed livestock/animals, so only wet, non-recyclable plastic garbage is buried in the pit.

Follow-up : Ben fact sheets from Indonesia Development of Education and Permaculture (Yayasan IDEP) on waste management, wastewater management, kitchen garden design, composting, and worm bins, which can be used to develop local media in Cambodia or elsewhere. To download copies of IDEP fact sheets, see www.idep.org

How do we take care of our wastes?

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS DON'T...



BURN GARBAGE
because....
the toxins (poisons) that are in some of the garbage will be released into the atmosphere, and the air that we breathe which will eventually make us all sick...



BURY GARBAGE
because....
the toxins (poisons) in some wastes seep into the soil around the area where they have been buried, and filter through to the water below the soil. This will damage the things that live in the area.



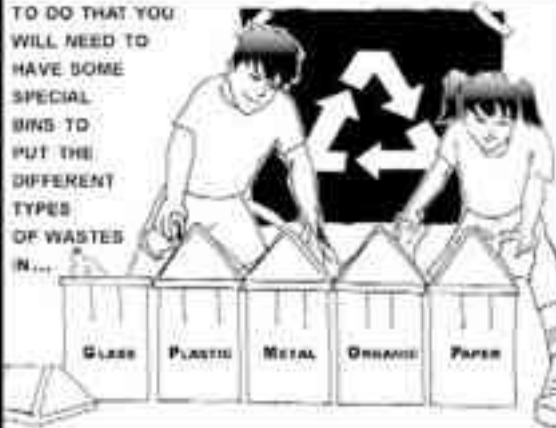
DUMP GARBAGE AROUND
because....
the toxins (poisons) in some garbage will be in the water & soil everywhere. Then living things & the environment will become sick as more & more poisons are everywhere.

YIKES! I DON'T WANT TO MAKE MYSELF OR OTHER SICK. BUT WHAT CAN I DO WITH ALL MY WASTES? THERE ARE LOTS OF THINGS THAT YOU CAN DO TO REDUCE YOUR WASTES & RECYCLE

WHAT YOU HAVE:

FIRST : YOU NEED TO SEPARATE WASTES

TO DO THAT YOU WILL NEED TO HAVE SOME SPECIAL BINS TO PUT THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF WASTES IN...



WHY SHOULD I SEPARATE MY GARBAGE ? WHAT FOR?



ORGANIC WASTES : (food scraps, leaves etc) you can use these to make compost, which is great food for your gardens !!!

PAPER WASTES : you can use your paper wastes to make beautiful hand made recycled paper. call Yayasan IDEP for details.

OTHER WASTES : old tires, buckets, cans, bottles etc. you can reuse in creative ways like shown above or call up your local recycling program to have them picked up.

REMEMBER !

PLASTIC is one of the types of garbage that is really dangerous for the environment. It is also very difficult to recycle. **SO TRY TO REDUCE YOUR USE OF PLASTIC!** When you shop use a cloth bag and don't accept any plastic ones !

plastic? no thanks !



YOUR LOCAL RECYCLING PROGRAM :

(in ubud) **BALI BUDDHA**
(0361) 976 324
(in kuta) **YAYASAN WISNU**
(0361) 735 320

NGO presentations lasted from morning to late afternoon. For the sake of brevity of this report, the presentations will not be recounted here. We include instead, a summary of the NGO presentation. For more information about the NGO's in attendance, see Appendix 1. We have included the transcript for the question and answer period, in hopes that follow-up activities may be based on issues raised during Q & A. At the end we have a picture page from the NGO presentations.

PANEL I

Mangrove Service Network (MSN) Myanmar - U Win Sein Nang

What is MSN? An NGO providing services in environmental conservation and grass roots community development. MSN participated in Mangrove Action Project's mangrove awareness day with programs on the Ayeyarwaddy Delta (during a typhoon!!!)

Let's take a look at a snapshot of MSN's activities in 2002-2003.

- Integrated Mangrove Management Project in Ayeyarwaddy Delta including: Rural Rapid Appraisal, Soil Analysis, Natural Condition Survey (120 acres in two community forest sites).
- Research on Gender Participants and its Dimensions in Plant Biodiversity (five townships in the Southern Shan State)
- Bridge Construction to facilitate communications between coastal villages.

For more information on MSN see Appendix II.

Mangrove Action Project (MAP) Indonesia Program - Ben Brown

MAP Indonesia presented on its involvement in the fishing village of Tiwoho, North Sulawesi in partnership with local NGO Yayasan Kelola. MAP gave a slide presentation on current developments of a Coastal Community Resource Center in Tiwoho, highlighting the use of local sustainable building materials. This involved the creation of a bamboo treatment center, which has also supplied treated bamboo for the center's walls and roof.

A furniture building workshop will be held in January 2004 to provide the local community with a livelihood alternative and at the same time create the center's furnishings. The center will act as a showroom for the bamboo furniture. The center utilizes a Wastewater Garden system designed by the Planetary Coral Reef Foundation utilizing 100% mangrove plants. In January 2004 the Asian Regional Cookstove Program will host an "Improved Kitchen Design and Improved Cookstove Workshop at the Center. The CCRC will then act as a distribution center for improved cookstoves, and also demonstration of institutional cookstoves for the production of sugar from Nypa Palm and Coconut Palm.

This CCRC is now operational, (although construction is not yet finished) and has hosted 8 workshops and trainings, and has received over 1000 visitors. This center will be linked internationally with CCRC's operating and being built in Sri Lanka, Honduras, Senegal, Nigeria and India. The presentation closed with Mangrove Rehabilitation project featuring hydrological restoration in 20 hectares of disused shrimp ponds adjacent to the Coastal Community Resource Center.

RECOFTC's vision, mission and objectives are guided by the potential of community forestry management regimes to contribute both to sustainable forest management and to the needs of more than a billion rural people in Asia who depend on forest resources for their livelihoods.

Training and capacity development, though crucial, are just two of the many elements required to enable rural people to effectively manage their local forest resources. RECOFTC seeks to do this by working in close collaboration with partners to actively support CF development in the region (see program/challenge.html).

The RECOFTC presentation focused on community organizing efforts in Ban Pred Nai, as well as hands on/action research/learning by doing activities. In the future, RECOFTC focus in the region will be on marketing and processing product outputs from sustainable livelihood projects, monitoring the effectiveness of these projects with regards to livelihoods and poverty alleviation, and connecting coastal communities to their upland network (connecting communities throughout the watershed).

For more information on RECOFTC see Appendix II.

Q u e s t i o n a n d A n s w e r :

Q: Cambodia: In the Indonesia presentation you highlighted the governments inability to implement community based programs, for instance unsuccessful planting of mangrove three times in a row. In all three countries, Indonesia, Thailand and Myanmar, how do you get the government to change?

A: Indonesia - Not by distribution of CD Roms or maps, or books or videos, not government meetings or trainings or programs, but intense local community work and organizing with concrete results, and force the government to come and see, participate and talk with local people about the results, not just a few local people but a significant amount.

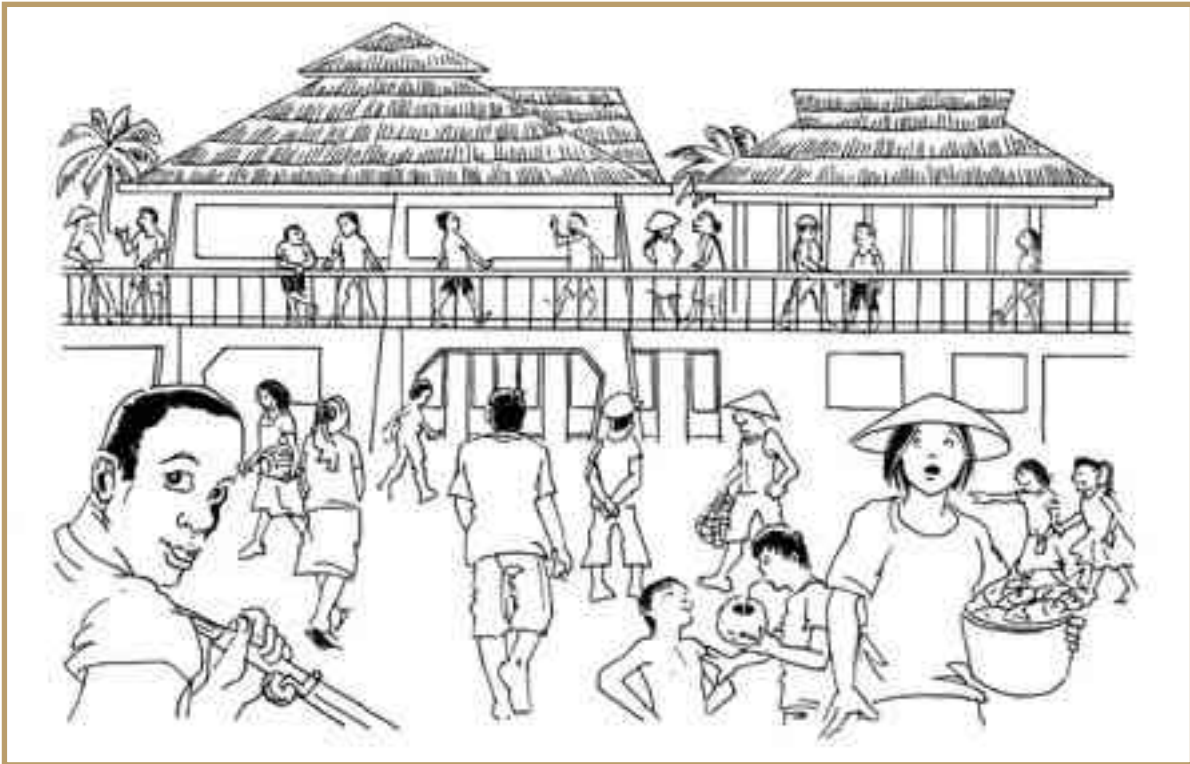
A: Thailand: Trainings for government to build capacity.

A: Myanmar: Trainings for government to build capacity.

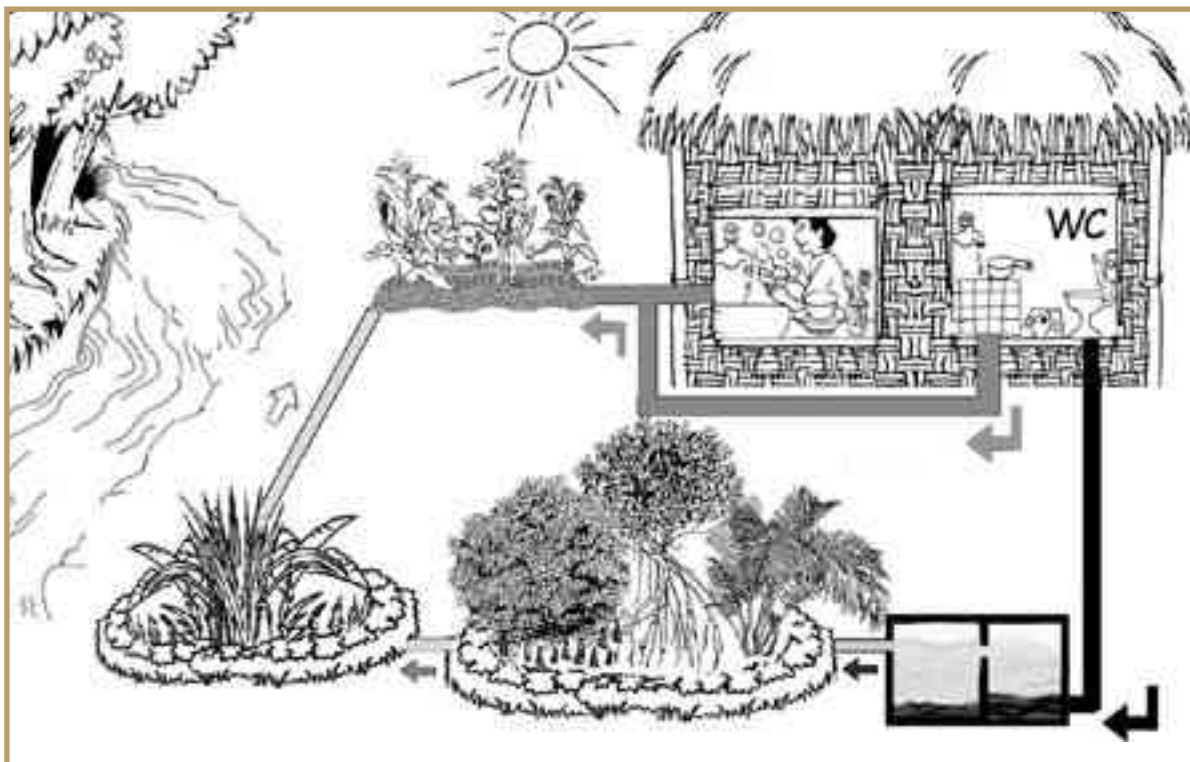
Q: Sri Lanka: How can you go about community organizing under the current military dictatorship (junta)?

A: Because we do not directly become involved in politics, we are allowed to be involved in community development for rural people and environmental conservation.

Q: Sri Lanka: This is about my appreciation and a request. The presenter from Indonesia is young, still a boy, but has been involved in the most important activity of development of sustainable livelihood alternatives. I talk about the bamboo treatment. We have 56 species of bamboo in Sri Lanka, but we can not use it. Please work with us to teach about the bamboo treatment method, which we will promote as a sustainable livelihood alternative amongst the communities of Sri Lanka.



Coastal Community Resource Centers: This center currently being developed in Indonesia sparked interest amongst IHOF participants, leading to discussions about developing a similar center in the Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary.



Waste Water Gardens™: An ecological, low-cost, low-maintenance solution to waste water treatment. Waste Water Gardens™ employ mangroves and wetland plants to greatly reduce levels of fecal coliform, nitrates and phosphates and other pollutants from septic and non-septic waste water. For more information visit the Planetary Coral Reef Foundation website; www.pcrf.org.

Participatory Management of Mangrove Resources (PMMR)

The PMMR presentation focused on their work with local communities in Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary

Background: Most people in PKWS no longer fish merely for subsistence purposes and while some people continue to use crab traps, other fishing gear is also used. Within Cambodia's 1987 Fishing Law, trawling and use of push nets within 20m of the shoreline is illegal, however, widespread use of trawling gear in the near-shore areas has occurred with the power persons allegedly being the biggest backer. Local fishers, who were unable to compete with modern fishing gear through small-scale fishing, started adopting new techniques by operating small trawlers and push-nets in shallow waters. With an increased demand on the fishery (and an increase in overall catch by larger boats), poor families find themselves in a difficult situation, noting that their standard of living in their coastal communities has decreased (relative to their observations five years ago) (Marschke, 2000). Consequently, conflicts within fishing communities have risen. Usually trawlers and push-nets destroy small scale fishing gear and, in general, the larger fishing gear wins. PMMR has had to take time to understand complex local realities before beginning a facilitation process to support conflict resolution mechanisms.

Lessons Learned: Many families came to PKWS with hopes of cashing in on lucrative resource extraction opportunities. However, as the government has cracked down on illegal charcoal production and logging and the resource base has significantly declined, those remaining in the area recognize the need to work towards better resource management and livelihood opportunities. Some villagers have now lived in PKWS for twenty years, and consider this home. For example, one woman talked about taking her children out to replant mangroves; another family talked about patrolling activities to ensure enough fish for their children to be fishers. The newly formed Village Management Committee (VMC), albeit young institutions, show enormous potential in helping to address livelihood diversification and management issues. Importantly, provincial authorities are lending their support to the PMMR team and to local initiatives.

Along with fostering learning opportunities, facilitation amongst various participants engaged in the CBNRM process has been integral to the work of PMMR. Relationships take time to build, especially amongst different institutions that do not often collaborate. What is emerging in Cambodia is a CBNRM process that is being driven by Cambodians, not by the donor community. The team is constantly adapting and re-focusing, especially as VMC's take on more and more responsibilities and as more 'lessons from the field' are shared at provincial and national levels. Ultimately, VMC's should be confident of their skills and abilities to be able to choose if they want to continue this process long after PMMR has phased out. For PMMR team members, these learning opportunities and deepened understanding of CBNRM can only be beneficial in working on other resource management initiatives.

Future Plans and Strategies:

- ❖ On-going facilitation with communities, outside and inside the protected area, on resource planning and management;
- ❖ Conflict resolution among stakeholder, institutions and local communities;
- ❖ Cooperation with institutions and community development partners to support Concept of sustainable livelihood work;
- ❖ Linking community work with provincial and national policy level change;
- ❖ Promoting CBCRM 'experiments' to other players and community development workers.
- ❖ Increase networking with all upland and coastal communities for strengthening of CBNRM's work.

For more information on PMMR see Appendix II.

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)

Two main projects: Community Forestry Project and Community Fishery Project

The project works in two districts of Koh Kong Province in southwestern Cambodia. AFSC emphasizes coordination with local fisherfolk, and other NGO's, but also recognizes that without coordination with government in Cambodia, you can not have a successful program. The Integrated Sustainable Livelihoods Project in Cambodia

The Integrated Sustainable Livelihoods Project attempts to empower rural residents with the knowledge and tools necessary to develop and maintain highly productive locally relevant strategies for sustainable livelihoods for themselves and their children, and to organize people into groups that can protect and manage sustainably the natural resources on which their livelihoods are based. Education, experimentation, demonstration, and networking are key elements of the project's work. Community development methodologies are used, and staff have natural resources management, animal health and production, sustainable agriculture, adult literacy, and community health skills. The project works in two districts of Koh Kong Province in southwestern Cambodia.

AFSC attended an In the Hands of the Fishers workshop in Trang, Thailand in 2000, where the presence of Thai trawlers in coastal waters was a large issue. For more information on AFSC, see Appendix II.

Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT)

FACT began with a historical look at sections of bas-relief on the wall of Angkor Wat depicting the interdependence between Cambodians, rice and fish as far back as the 11th-12th centuries. Traditional people from everywhere in Cambodia used to migrate to fish in the waters of Tonle Sap. This fish and rice production and consumption cycle continues to modern day.

Fishing rights (the 1956 Fishery Ordinance) evolved in Cambodia from a French system of lot allotment geared toward export. Fishing gear and allotments favor large-scale exploitation rather than subsistence fishing and community rights. The current fishing laws from 1987 provide most management power to the fisheries department and favors commercial fishing. This policy fails to address current fisheries problems. The current law relegates very traditional fishing gear to small fisheries and does not allow them to gain technical advantage, while it allows commercial fisheries to use high tech and damaging fishing gear. Resultantly the small fisherfolk can not make a living.

Fishing Conflicts: Poor people are often more concerned about subsidies than long-term solutions to resource issues. Rich fishers are out to become richer. Current Fisheries Reforms include a 56% reduction in commercial fishing area returned to traditional fishing lots, and a comprehensive review of fisheries policy.

For more information on FACT see Appendix II.

Community Fisheries Development Office (CFDO) - Cambodia

In October 2000 the government of Cambodia announced a major change in fisheries management policy. The core elements of the new policy are the reduction of fishing lot concession areas by 56%, the broader participation of fishing communities in the management of fisheries and a focus on the efficient, sustainable and equitable use of the living aquatic resources.

The establishment of Community Fisheries throughout the country is in the process of being legalized by the approval of the Sub-decree on Community Fisheries most probably by the second half of 2003. The sub-decree will legalize co-management arrangements between the community associations and the Department of Fisheries through the provincial offices. Each individual co-management arrangement will include the elaboration and approval of short and medium term fisheries management plans for the fishing area allocated to a particular Fishery Community.

To facilitate the establishment and development of the Community Fisheries, support and monitor their activities, the Department of Fisheries was authorized to establish a Community Fisheries Development Office (CFDO).

For the year 2003 the CFDO has defined the following priorities:

General

- ❖ Improvement of communication and cooperation with provincial offices and CF's.
- ❖ Build up support within the DoF and other government agencies on Community Fisheries management
- ❖ Strengthen coordination with NGO's and IO's working in Community Fisheries management
- ❖ Improve coordination and complementation of activities implemented by various projects and donors

Legal and Accreditation

- ❖ Approval of the sub-decree on Community Fisheries
- ❖ Formulation of implementing guidelines and policies on the various aspects of the sub-decree on Community Fisheries such as by-laws, rules, regulation, election of committee etc.
- ❖ CF Sub-decree dissemination and extension activities

Research and Development

- ❖ Community Fisheries Establishment:
 - Formulation of CF management planning and implementation guidelines
 - Identify alternative livelihood activities that community fisheries can undertake in order to be sustainable (poverty alleviation)
- ❖ Capacity building in CFDO, provincial offices, CFDO's and CF's
- ❖ Monitoring and Evaluation
- ❖ Setting up of monitoring system on projects and activities on Community Fisheries
- ❖ Setting up of a database on community fisheries in coordination with other NGO's and institutions
- ❖ Work with the legal and accreditation section on formulating mechanisms for appropriate dispute/conflict resolution

The CFDO priorities will be annually reviewed and formulated.

Q: Koh Yao Noi: Yesterday it was not clear to me that the local people were really involved in making and implementing policy, do they understand their role in implementing policy?

A: PMMR - With a bottom up approach, we can gain the momentum for local initiatives to gain government approval. It is not really the peoples' job to make and implement local policy for the long-term, but to begin the process and gain acceptance by government which leads to government implementation.

Q Cambodia: How do you get governments involved in local / provincial projects

A: PMMR - First I ask the institutions after the project is finished who will work with the local community. Who will follow up? Will it be the local authority, provincial government, or fishery department? What amount of natural resource knowledge do these institutions have? What do we need to do to build capacity of these institutions? What are their tasks/ roles? We try to clarify their roles for them. Finally we work on bridging local initiatives and provincial works to the national plan, and vice versa. Also there is the need to identify donors to support all of these works at various levels.

Q: Cambodia (Tonle Sap): Five (5) requests to the Department of Fisheries (FACT)

1. Need the DOF to help solve some problems which their community has previously requested help for in the flooded forests
2. Regulation needed on small fish and fingerlings collected for fertilizer and animal feed
3. Scoop nets with bait and line needs to be illegal
4. Fishing office closed the boundary?
5. Fishing lot owners still exists in areas that are supposed to have been returned to the communities, and are expanding their fishing lot areas.

A: Please prepare a letter or report to the Department of Fisheries so we can help solve these problems.

Q: Cambodia - To FACT. What kind of illegal scooping were you talking about in your presentation?

A: FACT - Illegal scooping is when the habitat is destroyed to obtain fish like when the flooded forest is cut to act as a barrier and then the fish are scooped.

Jim noted that there were a lot of challenging questions for the government fisheries departments from Cambodian Fisherfolk , and suggested they can have a round table discussion during dinner.

Panel III

Culture & Environment Preservation Association (CEPA)

CEPA's Role: Go between government stakeholders, donors and local community.

Current Activities:

- ♦ Facilitate Community Fisheries (Especially NE Cambodia)
- ♦ Facilitate Community Forestry
- ♦ Facilitate SeSan River Protection Project
- ♦ Environmental Education for University Students
- ♦ Newsletter "Nature and Life." There is also a TV program broadcast called "Nature and Life."

OXFAM America

What is OXFAM doing on community forestry in Cambodia?

- ♦ We provide funding support for our (7) partners
- ♦ Non-funding support such as training and workshops
- ♦ Lobbying, advocacy and policy change at regional national, and international levels

Major Lessons learned

- ♦ Emphasize local community participation in the consultation process
- ♦ Emphasize local community participate in natural resource management
- ♦ Good collaboration between NGO's and the government's technical department is essential in Cambodia even in community based initiatives.
- ♦ Community fisheries organizing has to have strong support from local authorities.
- ♦ Good networking among NGOs

WWF/OXFAM/IDRC

Case Studies and Networking Initiative Project (June2001-Nov 2003)

To promote CBNRM amongst government counterparts

Major Lessons Learned

- ♦ Identify effective programs in CBNRM
- ♦ Build a network link with other groups
- ♦ Improve understanding of policy which influences CBNRM in the field

There was no Question and Answer period for Panel III due to lack of time.



PREPARATION FOR MINI “TOOL-KIT” WORKSHOPS BY CAMBODIAN FUELWOOD SAVINGS PROJECT AND BAN PRED NAI COMMUNITY

The morning of Day Four will be dedicated to “Tool-kit” presentations. The term “Tool-kit” refers to practical sustainable livelihood alternative concepts and appropriate technologies for coastal communities. The Tool-kit presentations are hands-on mini-workshops focusing on sustainable livelihood alternatives and appropriate technologies that workshop participants have expressed interest in during pre-workshop communications.

The **Cambodian Fuelwood Savings Project (CFSP)** presented first. They displayed some portable cookstove and discussed that their workshop tomorrow would involve participants in cooking meals with both traditional and improved cookstove, and comparing the stoves in terms of ease of use and fuel efficiency. They would also discuss how some communities have created distribution centers for the portable cookstove, as a livelihood option and also as the most effective means of distributing the energy saving technology by utilizing existing markets as opposed to subsidizing distribution of efficient cookstove.

The Community of Ban Pred Nai informed participants that during their workshop, the fisherfolk from Ban Pred Nai would first discuss why and how they set up a savings group. They would then take participants through the procedure of simplified book-keeping used in their saving group. The next part of the presentation would entail the creation of product (mostly food products) made using mangrove leaves, herbs and even small crabs as raw materials. The presentation would conclude the workshop by demonstrating how to prepare a snack (fried crackers) made with *Acanthus ilicifolius* and other mangrove herbs.

So then the big group signed up on butcher paper for one of the two sessions and came back together to watch a film by CFSP on how to build a permanent cookstove called the Samaki stove.



MINI TOOL-KIT WORKSHOP OPTION #1

Cambodian Fuelwood Savings Project (CFSP):

Building, using and disseminating Improved Cookstoves (ICS)

Background: Cambodian Fuelwood Savings Project (CFSP) is the Cambodian office of the Asia Regional Cookstove Program (ARECOP). ARECOP was initiated in 1991 as a network of NGOs in the Asia region with a focus on improved cookstove (ICS) and sustainable biomass fuel use. In Cambodia 95 % of the population use wood/charcoal burning cookstoves, thus the reliance on fuelwood is great as are the potential negative impacts on forests. CFSP was asked to create a half day hands on demonstration on use and dissemination of improved cookstove, as the issue is important to many of the participants from not only Cambodia but rural areas of Thailand, and much of Myanmar and Sri Lanka. CFSP had not yet been active in the Koh Kong province, and was excited for the introduction to the region. Mangrove Action Project was also excited about the prospect of introducing a fuel-saving appropriate technology in a region where mangrove wood is the primary source of fuelwood for many local fisherfolk communities.



(Above) Three stoves were compared, traditional (foreground), new Lao bucket, new Thai bucket; (Top Right) Each group was given an equal amount of charcoal to cook the same amounts of rice, stir-fried chicken, and fish soup using the same size pots and woks. (Right) This group, using the traditional (non-improved stove) grew frustrated with their fire, and after fanning the flames finished cooking on another group's stove.





Results: The groups using the improved cookstove finished cooking 12 and 20 minutes before the group using the traditional stove. They saved an average of 200 grams of charcoal cooking that one meal. Over the course of a year, that would mean a household savings of 219 kilograms of charcoal. We didn't calculate how many mangrove trees that equals, but the efficiency of the improved cookstove was immediately apparent to the groups involved in the demonstrations



Cambodia Fuelwood Saving Project closed their demonstration by discussing their strategy for dissemination of improved cookstove. Instead of giving out free or subsidized stoves, they have found that training producers of traditional cookstove to build and sell improved cookstove was the most effective method of ensuring local acceptance.

CFSP talked about the opportunity groups had for *follow-up*. These include:

Cambodia

- a) Training to create a production and distribution node for portable improved cookstove
- b) Templates for building permanent improved cookstove.
- c) Contact WeNetCam (Wood Energy Network Cambodia) about Small Initiative Fund which are mini-grants for cookstove and biomass related projects.

Sri Lanka

Attendance of the August 19-22 workshop on improved cookstove and ergonomic kitchen design in hosted by IDEA in Galle, Sri Lanka.

Thailand and Myanmar

Availability of ARECOP trainers to come and help with assessment or creation of an improved cookstove workshop.

For contact information on CFSP, WeCamNet, IDEA, and ARECOP see

Community of Ban Pred Nai: Setting up a Village Savings Group

Background: Ban Pred Nai established a savings group in 1999 and have found it a successful tool in improving the quality of life among the community. A monk had traveled to Songkhla (Southern Thailand) and witnessed community savings groups operating successfully. Upon returning to Ban Pred Nai he presented the concept to the community, since he was respected people were willing to attempt it. Poor financial management has been noted before as the root cause of a community's inability to improve the quality of their life. Yadfon Association (a CBCRM NGO active in Trang Province) noted that after several years of conservation programs the local environment improved as did community fish catches, but there was a general feeling that peoples lives didn't really improve. The root cause of this was determined to be poor financial management. Even though fisherfolk had greater income, money for school fees or replacing fishing equipment was not available as funds were spent on luxury items (new motorcycle, VCD player, karaoke machine). Thus villagers were still forced to seek loans at high interest from loan sharks.

By setting up a savings group, communities keep money circulating within the village, can borrow from their own savings without collateral, access funds quickly, and pay a low interest rate.



When to Establish a Savings Group

- ♦ Poor economic situation in the community
- ♦ People in debt - can not get loan from bank or "middle-man"
- ♦ Community willing to share responsibility for each others financial situation
- ♦ Villagers forced to pay high interest to money lender (rich people)
- ♦ Trust in savings group committee

Benefits of Savings Group

- + Creates stronger community relations amongst members
- + Able to help poorer community members and students in 2nd year (social-welfare)
- + Members must take responsibility for loan and financial situation
- + Creates awareness amongst villagers about spending habits and need for financial management.
- + Creates unity, nearly all community members of Ban Pred Nai have joined savings group (600 people = 100%)

Steps In Establishing the Savings Group at Ban Pred Nai

1. A respected monk presented saving group concept
2. Community meeting
 - ♦ Present the Savings Group concept and potential benefits
 - ♦ Get feedback from villagers
3. Select Savings Group Committee Members
- 4) Recruit members for Savings Group, Make Regulations
- 5) Members managed 1st 4 years
- 6) Social Investment Fund (SIF) provides training for accounting and management of S.G.

Operational Notes

- ♦ Each individual purchases shares, one share = 10 baht (USD 0.25).
- ♦ Individuals determine how many shares they want to save each week or month.
- ♦ The accumulated shares (group capital or pot) can then be lent to the community
- ♦ A borrower must find two other members of the Savings Group to act as guarantors.
- ♦ A borrower then can borrow the total amount of shares that they themselves and the two gua-rantors own, plus 10%.

Ex. Group X: Jim (30 shares), Jaruwan (25 shares), Rian (75 shares)

Jim can borrow $30+25+75=130$ shares plus 10% = $130+13=143$ shares (1430 baht)

- Loan period 10 months, interest is 10% of the remaining balance of the loan.

Ex. Borrow 1000 Baht for 10 months

month 1: pay back 100 + 10 (interest) balance is 900 baht

month 2: pay back 100 + 9 balance is 800 baht

month 3 100 + 8

- The pot itself gains interest, with half of the interest going to the social welfare fund, and the other half of the money being redistributed as dividends to the members of the group

- Savings Group bank is opened one half a day per week

- If you default on your payment three months in a row you are out of the savings group. No one has ever defaulted because it is a great advantage to be part of the savings group.

In closing a question was raised.

Q: How do the money-lenders (loan sharks) feel about the Savings Group?

A: They do not support the S.G. because they are losing business, but the group is established for the benefit of the community, not the rich money-lenders.



Community of Ban Pred Nai: Cooking With Mangroves

Background: The group from Ban Pred Nai has developed various products, handicrafts and food items processed in the village for retail sale. The midrib of the Nypa palm leaf is used to weave hats and bags, small mangrove crabs (*Graspid* crabs) are prepared into a sweet and spicy snack food, and mangrove herbs are gathered as the main ingredient for mangrove crackers.



Aside from providing income to families that make the mangrove products, an added appreciation and importance is placed upon mangrove habitat because of the economic benefit it brings. We have heard at IHOF's before of the mangrove being described as the fisherfolks' kitchen, so let's take a look at preparing a snack with ingredients from nature's pantry.

Fried Mangrove Herbal Crackers (*Kaow Kriep* or *Krupuk*)

The main ingredient in this snack are herbs collected from the mangroves. This recipe used young leaves from *Acanthus ilicifolious* (Holly mangrove) and *Aegialitis annulata* (Club mangrove). Other herbs may be used depending upon local tastes and availability. Never use an herb unless you are sure it is edible. The best way to know is to ask older community members, but also a *very* small nibble in the field will be a good indicator. Extremely bitter or acidic leaves should be left alone. Pleasant green tasting herbs that do not irritate the tongue are usually safe. Also when harvesting, be sure to harvest from a clean healthy area, and make sure not to overharvest, meaning take several leaves from many plants, do not remove entire plants and *do not* disturb the roots.



Acanthus ilicifolious (Holly mangrove)



Aegialitis rotundifolia (Club mangrove)



Ingredients:

- 1 kg flour (cassava, sago or nypa)
- 1 clove garlic
- 1.5 teaspoons salt
- 1.5 teaspoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon black pepper powder
- fresh mangrove herbs, one bunch the size of a bunch of lettuce or spinach at the market.

Preparation:

1. Chop garlic, and mangrove herbs very fine (can use a blender or mortar and pestle to make a paste).

2. Boil garlic and mangrove herbs in a liter of water for three minutes.

3. Little by little add the boiled herbs and water to 1 kilogram of flour while stirring the flour mixture

4. When the flour mixture has cooled down a bit, form into a dough with your hands.

5. Then you roll the dough into a piece of banana leaf and tie off the ends with some string or plastic or a flexible twig.



6. When you have enough of these, you steam them in a pot (put some water under a rice sieve and boil the water) for one full hour. Here the group used an improved cookstove which burned so hot that they had to take out some fuel.



7. Then you let the whole thing sit overnight (can be refrigerated). In the morning you open the banana leaves and slice the dough into thin silver dollar size pieces. These you put on a tray and let dry in the sun for the whole morning until hard.



8. After drying in the sun they are ready to fry in hot oil in a wok. You place a few pieces in at a time and turn them over after 5 seconds, and cook for about 10 seconds more.



9. Remove crackers from hot oil using an oil draining spatula & place on a paper-lined tray to absorb oil.



10. You can eat the crackers hot, or allow them to cool and then store them in sealed plastic bags or airtight storage containers.

Enjoy!

FISHER FOLK DISCUSSIONS

On Day Three, the fisherfolk participants got together and decided they would like some time to themselves to have discussions in smaller groups to exchange ideas, problems, ways in which solutions have been attempted, lessons learned and also some technical information such as how to plant mangroves, or make more mangrove products. One and a half-hours were allotted to the fisherfolk for this purpose. They were split into two groups with translators and no facilitators beside note-takers who very rarely stepped in for a brief comment or mediation. Below are minutes of these important discussions. We hope these minutes will prove useful to allow the fisherfolk and NGO staff determine appropriate follow-up activities

Group 1) Discussion on Networking and Follow-up Activities (Th = Thailand, C = Cambodia, SL = Sri Lanka)

Th - How can the fisherfolk stay in touch, work together?

C/Th - Meetings (every 2-3 months regionally) and study groups/study tours

SL - Formalize a resource management network where fisherfolk from different regions are actively involved in some kind of co-management

SL - Exchange more technical information on savings group/micro credit

Th - Network not just involved in resource management but economic development

C - Must strengthen local network first, then regional and international

SL - Share info on all aspects of CBCRM and do not forget marketing and sales

C - Remember the main (one) reason we link together is to conserve natural resources, and the reason we conserve natural resources is for the benefit of local communities. Our main question is how?

C/Th/SL - Link through NGO's vis-à-vis:

- ♦ Study tours
- ♦ Publications
- ♦ Internet
- ♦ Workshops (like IHOF)

C - OK. Who and how to achieve it?

C - More IHOF workshops in new locations with the same participants

SL - We have the leaders here, we should make a working group from participants here.

C - Contact AFSC, DANIDA, FACT and other groups to help with

- ♦ Study tours
- ♦ Publications
- ♦ Internet
- ♦ Workshops (like IHOF)

C/T - Need to choose representatives from our regions to be involved in regional [SE Asia] and International networking.

T - If we have a meeting or study tour between Koh Kong and Ban Pred Nai for example on waste management, we can then send info/results to our larger network

C (Tonle Sap) - Need to connect some specific regions

- ♦ Ex. Fresh-water inland lake communities with Fresh-water inland lake communities
- ♦ Ex. Fresh-water inland lake communities to upper watershed
- ♦ Delta to Delta

END OF NETWORKING DISCUSSION

Sre Ambel - Need technical assistance and financial support for mangrove rehabilitation

SL - After IHOF #9 in SL on mangrove rehabilitation, we can do a similar workshop in SE Asia. [All participants were interested (Koh Kong, Sre Ambel, Trat) and Douglas of SFFL wants to be involved].

Ban Pred Nai - We can send resource people/villagers to help with savings group and waste management for instance to Koh Silao.

Tonle Sap - More public awareness on flooded forest is needed, as is technical information for rehabilitation of flooded forests

Group 2

Issues / Topics for Discussion

1) Types of Community Organizing

- ♦ Illegal fishing (Th)
- ♦ Environment and resource management (C)
- ♦ Gender issues in community roles (SL)

There was a group brainstorm on possible discussion topics, each country suggested at least 2 topics so we ended up with about 8 different topics. We then chose the above 3 topics for discussion, one selected by each country.

Below are notes of the third discussion on Gender issues in community roles

SL - The Sri Lankan group presented a case study project related to gender roles that was undertaken by the SFFL in North West Sri Lanka. Time Frame was 1-3 years, and the project started in 2001. The project demonstrated that if local youth who were idle most of the time after leaving school were given training and a small amount of seed capital as a loan they could start small enterprises and supplement the family's income. Instead of a woman being solely dependent on the husband's fishing income, she also generate income and therefore her status in the family. With training on setting up saving banks and on wise money management (expenditures) the family's situation could be improved

SL - Survey in Northwest Sri Lanka showed that even with good catch, family still in poverty due to indebtedness to middlemen

- ♦ Women's role to manage household and income for household
- ♦ Youth drop out and no employment leads to problems such as drugs and crime
- ♦ Solution: establish fishery organizations in 27 villages
- ♦ Training on financial management > savings bank
- ♦ Savings increased
- ♦ Training for woman income generation activity

H.E. Yuth Phou Thang - Second Deputy Governor of Koh Kong Province

This four day workshop has provided a good opportunity for all national and international participants to express their opinions and share experiences with each other:

- ♦ On the importance of community involvement in fisheries resource management
- ♦ Examples of cooperation between local community and local authorities and technical departments

Moreover each participant has made new acquaintances and friends, national and international who will become an important network to strengthen community initiatives locally. The importance of local communities in natural resource management can not be overlooked. Local communities must have influence on government resource management regulations to ensure equitable use of resources and resolution of conflicts. We come from different countries with different cultures, but our resource problems are similar and much may be learned in forums like the In the Hands of the Fishers Workshop.

Jim Enright - Coordinator Mangrove Action Project, SE Asia Program

I would like to thank Kim Nong and all the PMMR team for the excellent work in organizing and making all the local workshop arrangements so that everything has run very smoothly. A lot of people work hard behind the scenes, like the cooks, at a workshop like this so I would like to extend our thanks to those people as well. I know PMMR is particularly busy at this time with their other project work, so I appreciate the special efforts they have made for preparations for this workshop in Koh Kong, which is quite a distance from Phnom Penh. I would also like to extend a special thanks to all our translators who have worked extremely hard so that we could all communicate with each other and be understood. At IHOF workshops, we do not use professional translators, but the NGO representatives who accompany the local fisheries so we are grateful to you all, as we could not have shared experience and ideas without you.

We are also grateful to our funders, the Open Society Institute, who have made it financially possible for all of us from 5 countries to be here together in Koh Kong, Cambodia

We have now reached the end of the IHOF workshop, but our hope is that this is just the just beginning. We hope a new process has begun with the new concepts gained, successful projects observed and with new contacts and friendship made during the workshop so that we will be approaching old problems with new ideas and energy. One concrete way for these new insights to be carried to the field is that for the first time this workshop has some funds available to carry-out three small scale pilot projects or "Toolkit" projects as MAP likes to refer to them here in Cambodia. At the end of past workshops we heard participants say "now we have good ideas and would like to try them when we return home but where do we find the funds to do a projects?" so this workshop has incorporated that idea for follow-up. We look forward to receiving a mini-proposals from the communities and NGO representatives from Sre Ambel, Koh Kong and Tonle Sap.

MAP is a large international network of individuals, NGOs, community leaders, researchers and students interest in mangrove conservation and restoration so we hope you now feel part of this network and there will be opportunities for us to work together again in the future on community coastal resources issues. The final IHOF workshop report will contain everyone's contact information so that we can keep in touch with each other. As I said earlier this not the end but the beginning.

F O L L O W U P

Many new ideas, and insights were gained during these four days. Again, IHOF is not a terminus to Community Based Coastal Resource Management efforts, but the start of new opportunities for partnership and the exchange of information. Follow-up is the responsibility of all IHOF participants, be they fisherfolk, NGO's government or organizers. Briefly, the group was made aware of several immediate follow-up opportunities such as trainings, or funds available and provided with contact information. We re-count these opportunities here.

Previous Follow-up to IHOF Workshops

An outcome of past IHOF workshops has been partnership between MAP and IHOF workshop participants to build on skills, knowledge and new ideas learned at the IHOF workshop.

- Ex.1) A training on utilization of Nypa palm in Indonesia or Sri Lanka.
- Ex.2) A follow-up IHOF workshop in Medan, North Sumatra Indonesia as a follow-up to IHOF # 3 for participants from Thailand, Malaysia and West Indonesia.
- Ex.3) Development of a small-scale fish-ball processing facility in Sri Lanka
- Ex.4) Development of Coastal Community Resource Centers in Nigeria, Honduras and Indonesia

Tool-kit Follow-up Projects - Cambodia

A small amount of follow-up money is available for small community projects. Community organizers from Cambodia were provided with a simple format for mini-proposals that could be filled out together with local fisherfolk communities in order to help fund a small sustainable livelihood or appropriate technology project or training. MAP has \$4000 total to support three \$1000 mini-tool-kit projects plus NGO facilitation support..

Improved Cookstove Follow-up

IHOF participants interested in follow-up on improved cook-stoves were provided with contact information for their respective countries (See Appendix 1):

Cambodia: CFSP and WeCamNet offering technical support and mini-grants. Participants from the Tonle Sap region as well as CFSP are interested in follow-up in the Tonle Sap region. Currently improved cookstoves are used and distributed in two provinces of Tonle Sap, plans to increase this to six provinces are in the works.

Sri Lanka: IDEA, August 19-22 Workshop in Galle on Improved Cookstove and Kitchen Design

Thailand and Myanmar: ARECOP can provide technical trainers and support for interested groups.



Evaluation of the IHOF workshop is a very important part of the learning process. Both participants and organizers benefit from a critical assessment of the impacts of the workshop, and a sharing of thoughts and feelings about the program.

Evaluation serves as an affirmation of the hard but meaningful work the workshop participants have done. It highlights some of the problems participants encountered and lead to suggestions which will improve future IHOF workshops. The Plus-Minus-Change evaluation method used here is also an easy to use and valuable tool that fisherfolk leaders and community organizers may wish to use in their home regions.

“Plus-minus-change”

- The IHOF group was split into country groups (in order to eliminate translation)
- In notebooks or on a large piece of paper, each country group created three columns and labeled them “plus,” “minus,” and “change.”
- Country groups consider the question “How well did the IHOF workshop go? Did it help address our economic needs and conservation goals?”
- Each country group was asked to list what they liked about the IHOF workshop under the “plus” column and what they did not like under “minus.” The “change” column is for listing any changes they recommend for future IHOF workshops.

Below is an unedited table of their responses:

T H A I L A N D

(+) ☺	(-) ☹	(Δ) change
Government sector joined the workshop.	Too much presentation of NGO's	More field trip more time spent outside
Participants are very kind and friendly.	Too long in the conference room	Need good video program at night, will help every community to know each other more and more
Two kids came, that is good.	The NGO's presented the same thing	Should work in small groups on field trip
Demonstration of the stove.	Time for sharing experience is too short	In each group, should have one issue to focus on in during the field trip, that we can find the deep information
Exchange in the field trip with local community.	Not enough group discussion	Should have a success project for presentation.
The occurrence of a field trip during the workshop.	Time too short for presentation by local communities	Should conduct the workshop in the area that has the problem, Koh Kong is fine, but make sure for the next workshop to be in an appropriate location
Sharing of international experience.	Field trip in a big group, difficult to get deep info better to be in a few small groups	Koh Yao Noi -conduct the workshop in a village, sleep and eat there, if you do it in a hotel who gets the benefit, if we sleep with a family in a coastal community we can get deeper information

(+) ☺	(-) ☹	(Δ) change
Happy to see the community fisheries organizations and the CBNRM organizations.	Short time / schedule did not fit to the program	Food should be prepared based on local needs
Learned about improved cookstove	Lack of documents	Schedule should be fitted to the program
Learned how to make a snack from mangroves	Short time for comments questions and clarification	Should have more time given to the floor
New ideas	Some presentations were very long but meaningless	Specific topic of presentation & time keeping is needed.
Good communication among participants (intra and international)		Community wanted to join a ny workshop in different countries.
Learned about other fisher-folk experiences		More experience / knowledge should be introduced.
Understanding each other		
Sharing experiences		
Learned how to managed family finances		
Well organized		
Good facilitation		

M Y A N M A R

(+) ☺	(-) ☹	(Δ) change
Chance to learn about other NGO's functioning in each country	To give out brief notes of each NGO's presentation to the participants or to each country reps in hard and/or e-copies!! Change for next workshop	
Good chances to get to know each other and exchange views		Bring a medical kit [Note: MAP did bring a first aid kit, but perhaps need to announce this more clearly in the future]
Got a new concept of community fishery management		On site photocopier (optional)
A good program for local community to come up with their ideas and get other people's country's ideas, by opening up a space given for them		

S R I L A N K A

Note: Sri Lanka did not follow the plus minus change method.

Translation: It is not fine, improvement is necessary in the next workshop.

Food: Please consider other countries religion and culture and provide familiar food

Discussion:

- ♦ Group discussions should be categorized subject wise (i.e. legal, community development, existing problems). It will reduce time and provide ways to arrive at constructive solutions
- ♦ It is not necessary for the discussions of the administrative structure of the NGO's.
- ♦ Participants need a better opportunity to share technical innovations (i.e. ways to plant mangroves)

Field Trip:

- ♦ Field visits are very important, and have the best potential to provide new skills and knowledge
- ♦ Not good for all the participants to visit one village at the same time. Should have broken into three groups on three boats and visited two villages each. Then come back to the conference and shared experiences.



Design & Layout: Ben Brown - Mangrove Action Project

Editor: Jim Enright - Mangrove Action Project

Illustrations Courtesy of:

Ibnoe Marsanto, Rappy-lution

&

CUSO Indonesia- Kuilu 1.0 (Collection of Photos and Illustrations on CD-ROM)

Special Thanks to all “In the Hands of the Fisherfolk Workshop #8” participants and organizers, who helped edit this document and provided information, before, during and after the workshop. We look forward to working together with you all in the near future.

APPENDIX I: Contact Information for Participating Organizations

Organization	Participants	Contact Information
Mangrove Action Project (MAP)	Jim Enright, MAP, Southeast Asia	Southeast Asia Coordinator Yaotak Building B-206, 31 Vienkapang Road Amphur Muang, Trang 92000 T H A I L A N D Tel : 075-226258 E-mail: mapasia@loxinfo.co.th
	Benjamin Brown, MAP Indonesia Coordinator	Jalan Adhyaksa IV/77 Banteng Baru 1/29 SDHJ, NGK, Sleman Yogyakarta, 55581 INDONESIA TEL: 62-274-885310 E-mail: map-indo@dps.centrin.net.id
Yayasan Akar Rumput Laut (YARL)	Farechah	Women's Programs Outreach E-mail: arybrown@dps.centrin.net.id
	Rian Ali Brown (Faerchah and Ben's son)	
SRI LANKA Small Fishers Federation of Lanka (SFFL)	Mr. Anuradha Wickramasinghe Director, Small Fishers Federation of Sri Lanka	P.O. Box 01 Pambala, Chilaw 61000 SRI LANKA Tel/Fax: 94-32-47960 Tel: 94-71-51519 94-32-48707 sffl@sri.lanka.net
	Mr. N.D.T. Warnakulasuriya, Mangroves Program Coordinator	
	Mr. H.T.U. Fernand, Finance Officer/Translator	
	Ms. T.A.K. Warnakulasuriya, Fisher-women	
	Ms. R.W.H. GAMAGE, Fisher-women	
	Ms. N.D.P. Paththayamage, Fisher-women	
	Mr. Thawapalaratnam Sathasivam, Community Fisher Leader	

Organization	Participants	Contact Information
MYANMAR Mangrove Service Network (MSN)	Mr. U Win Sein Nang Fisheries Expert	Mangrove Service Network 48(A), 2nd floor, Corner of Baho and Minn street , Sanchaung, 11111, Yangon, Myanmar Contact: “Donald Kyaw Hla” dkyawhla@mptmail.net.mm
	Ms. Daw Khin Pwint Oo Rural Community Development & Gender Expert	thitlwin@myanmar.com.mm
THAILAND RECOFTC & Ban Pred Nai, Trat Province	Mr. Ampon Padsart, Chairperson of Trat Mangrove Forest Network	No. 31, Mu 2 Ban Prednai, Tambon Huang Nam Khao, Muang district, Trat 23000 Cell phone: 01-5203314
	Ms. Samnao Predkaew, Chairperson of Ban Pred Nai's Conservation Group	No. 3, Mu 2 Ban Prednai, Tambon Huang Nam Khao, Muang district, Trat 23000 Cell phone: 09-5428925
	Mr. Amnuai Chumani, Village leader	No. 28/2, Mu 2 Ban Pred Nai, Tambon Huang Nam Khao, Muang District, Trat 23000 Tel: 039-524721
	Mr. Anan Huangnam, Village leader	No. 15, Mu 2 Ban Pred Nai, Tambon Huang Nam Khao, Muang District, Trat 23000
	Mr. Winai Huangnam Village leader	No. 16, Mu 2 Ban Pred Nai, Tambon Hunag Nam Khao, Muang District, Trat 23000
	Ms. Jaruwan Kaewmahanin, (RECOFTC) - Researcher	Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC) Kasetsart University P.O. Box 1111, Bangkok 10903, Tel. 66-2-9405700 ext.3242 Fax 66-2-5614880 Contact: Ms. Jaruwan Kaewmahanin E-mail: ojwkm@ku.ac.th
CBET	Mrs. Warrachat Kongkua, CBET, Koh Yao Noi	Responsible Ecological Social Tours Project (REST) 109/79 Mooban Yu Chareon Pattana, Ladprao Soi 18 Ladyao, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900 THAILAND Tel: +66 2 -938 7007 Fax: +66 2 -938 5275 E-mail: rest@asiaaccess.net.th URL: http://www.ecotour.in.th Contact: Ms. Chompoo Kaewprasert E-mail: ckaewprasert@yahoom
	Mr. Prasit Kebsap, CBET, Koh Yao Noi	
	Ms. Chompoo Kaewprasert, Responsible Ecological Social Tours Project (REST) Volunteer Trainer	

Organization	Participants	Contact Information
CAMBODIA Participatory Management of Mangrove Forest Resources of Cambodia (PMMR)	Kim Nong - PMMR Team Leader Khy An - PMMR Team Nin Vanntha - PMMR Team Eam Dyna - PMMR Team	PMMR - Nature Conservation & Protection Department, Ministry of the Environment #48, Samdech Preah Sihanouk Ave Tonle Bassac, Chamkarmon Phnom Penh, CAMBODIA Tel/Fax: 855 023 21 41 08 855 023 21 25 40 Mobile: Kim Nong int. + 855 + 12 77 28 78 Nin Vanntha int. + 855 + 11 87 24 36 Khy An int. + 855 + 16 82 56 44pmmr@online.com.kh
American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)	Dung Vuthy - AFSC Team Leader Chan Rotha - AFSC Team Sour Seim - AFSC Team Hor Chay - AFSC Fisher Nur Chay - AFSC Fisher	Tropang Village, Sre Ambel Commune, Sre Ambel District, Koh Kong Province CAMBODIA Tel: 035 940 740/012 694 460 E-mail: 012694460@mobitel.com.kh
Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT)	*Channarith - FACT Team Leader *Chum Kim lean - NGO Network *Seim Sot - Kg Thom Fisher *Eng Soeun - Kg Chnang Fisher *Long Sochaet - Purat Fisher *Hot Han - Battanbang Fisher *Tang Sankuy - Bantey Meanchey Fisher *Mout Salout - Siem Reap Fisher	Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT) #35, St. 178, (CCC Building), Phnom Penh P.O. Box 2295, Phnom Penh-3, CAMBODIA Tel: (855) 23 213 482 Fax: (*55) 23 214 429 Email: factpp@camintel.com.kh, fact@everyday.com.kh
Koh Kong Community Council & Fishers	Krouch Pheng - Chief of Chrouy Pros Community Chup Tit - Chief Peam Krasaop Community Koam Dum - Koh Sralao Fisher Sok Hoeung - Koh Sralao Fisher Un Yan - Chrouy Pros Fisher	Contact Person: Ky An (PMMR) E-mail: Khy_an_585@hotmail.com
Oxfam America	Sim Bunthoeum Fisheries Adocasy Officer East Asia Regional Office	#41, Street 352 Boeung Keng Kang I PO Box 883, Phnom Penh, Cambodia Mobile: (855) 12 918 326 tel/fax: (855) 23 210 357 E-mail: sbunthoeun@oxfamamerica.org Web: www.oxfamamerica.org www.oxfammekong.org

Organization	Participants	Contact Information
Culture & Environment Presevation Association (CEPA)	Sous Sivutha	Culture & Environment Presevation Association (CEPA) # 40, St. 352, Boeung Keng Kong 1 Khan Chamkar Morn, Phnom Penh, CAMBODIA P.O Box: 1486, CCC BOX: 357 Tel: (855-23) 720 062 Tel/Fax: (855-23) 369 179 E-mail: cepa@bigpond.com.kh
World Wild Fund for Nature (WWF)	So Sreymon Toby Carson	World Wild Fund for Nature 28, Street 9 Tonle Bassac, Chamkarmon P.O. Box 2467 Phnom Penh, Cambodia Tel:(855) 23 218034 Fax: (855) 23211909 E-mails: sreymoms@everyday.com.kh toby@everyday.com.kh
Community Fisheries Development Office (CFDO)	Sem Viryak	Community Fisheries Development Office 186, Norodom Blvd P.O. Box 582, Phnom Penh Cambodia Tel: (855) 23 21 92 56 Fax: (855) 23 42 07 48 E-mail: cfdo@camnet.com.kh
CZM	Vann Monnyneath - CZM National Coodinator	Environmental Management of the Coastal Zone - Cambodia Ministry of Environment & Danida Coastal Cordinating Unit No.48, Samdech Preh Sihanouk Tonle Bassac, Chamkarmon Phnom Penh, Cambodia PO Box 2298 Tel: (855 34) 934 121 Fax: (855 34) 211 406 E-mails: coastal@czmcam.com MONYNEATH@czmcam.com
CFSP	Kayeswar Man Sulpya Hoeung Chuntheang Nget Long	Cambodia Fuelwood Saving Project (CFSP) Phnom Penh Contact: Mr. Mao Rotha Email: cfsp2@bigpond.com.kh
Research Students	Leng Monipha Rang Sokha	E-mails: monipha2003@yahoo.comE-mail rangsokha@yahoo.com

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) CAMBODIA Integrated Sustainable Livelihoods Project in Cambodia

The Integrated Sustainable Livelihoods Project attempts to empower rural residents with the knowledge and tools necessary to develop and maintain highly productive locally relevant strategies for sustainable livelihoods for themselves and their children, and to organize people into groups that can protect and manage sustainably the natural resources on which their livelihoods are based. Education, experimentation, demonstration, and networking are key elements of the project's work. Community development methodologies are used, and staff have natural resources management, animal health and production, sustainable agriculture, adult literacy, and community health skills. The project works in two districts of Koh Kong Province in southwestern Cambodia.

OXFAM America (OA) and OXFAM Great Britain (OGB) and FACT Fisheries Program

Background of Oxfam America's Fisheries Program:

Since 1997 Oxfam America has been working regionally in East Asia on various programs. Specifically with regards to fisheries in the region, we are working with countries in the Mekong Watershed such as: China, Burma, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam. Fisheries Programs include, "My Mekong," "My Tonle Sap," and the "Mekong Learning Initiative."

Collaboration and Achievements:

There is steady progress in the fishery programs of Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos conducted through OA, OGB and OCAA regional and country programs. Much focus has been placed on capacity building for communities and co-management of Mekong Watershed inland fisheries (partners and project descriptions are available in the OMI database: including at least 8 partners in Cambodia, 3 in southern Laos and 2 in the Mekong Delta in Vietnam, and 1 each in Thailand and China).

OGB and OA continue to be actively involved in networking and advocacy around fisheries legislation in Cambodia. From May to date, Oxfam staff in Cambodia co-facilitated a review of regional and national consultations on the community fisheries sub-decree involving government and other stakeholders (FACT and the CBNRM Initiative/WWF). The process culminated in a National Stakeholder Review Workshop featuring "Results of the Consultations on the Community Fisheries Sub-decree" on September 11-12, 2003.

Parallel to this process is an ongoing evaluation of the impact of fisheries reform on the livelihoods of poor fishers conducted by OGB, OA and partners. Field work has been completed and the preliminary findings have been presented to government, NGO and community stakeholders.

Coalition-building and networking on fisheries in the region is strongest in Cambodia, led by the Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT). FACT signified its intent to form an Assembly of Fishers - an adaptation of the Assembly of the Poor in Thailand - as a voice of civil society, particularly of fishers groups in Cambodia. Key areas of action are to raise the voices of communities on fisheries legislation, awareness raising and advocacy for resolution of fisheries conflicts in the inland and coastal areas, and monitoring of development projects with impact on fisheries in Cambodia, e.g. the ADB Tonle Sap Environmental Management Project. FACT will become an independent entity from the NGO Forum on Cambodia as of 2004.

Research on inland fisheries trade has been limited to date. Advocacy and campaigning beyond fisheries legislation in Cambodia have not materialized particularly where the program approach focusing on community / co-management of fisheries remains the priority and the desired approach (particularly of partners in Vietnam and Laos) towards impacting changes in local level policies on water and fisheries management.

My Mekong

The My Mekong project is about communicating the compelling messages of the local people to a very broad Mekong citizenry and to the outside world. It is a collection of six mini-projects across the region which will, in more ways than one, aim to creatively and effectively convey the message from the Mekong's most intimate stakeholders that the people of the Mekong need to be included in decisions about the use of the River and its resources-decisions that govern their livelihood, their social, cultural lives, and their future.

The project may express local people's sentiments on whether in the midst of the rapid changes and exploitation of the river resources; they do feel that it is indeed "My Mekong".... The unique initiative is a collaborative undertaking between Oxfam America and local partners.

Community Fisheries Development Office (CFDO)

In October 2000 the government of Cambodia announced a major change in fisheries management policy. The core elements of the new policy are the reduction of fishing lot concession areas by 56%, the broader participation of fishing communities in the management of fisheries and a focus on the efficient, sustainable and equitable use of the living aquatic resources.

The establishment of Community Fisheries throughout the country is in the process of being legalized by the approval of the Sub-decree on Community Fisheries most probably by the second half of 2003. The sub-decree will legalize co-management arrangements between the community associations and the Department of Fisheries through the provincial offices. Each individual co-management arrangement will include the elaboration and approval of short and medium term fisheries management plans for the fishing area allocated to a particular Fishery Community.

To facilitate the establishment and development of the Community Fisheries, support and monitor their activities, the Department of Fisheries was authorized to establish a Community Fisheries Development Office (CFDO).

The CFDO envisages the establishment of strong, self-reliant community fisheries throughout Cambodia. It promotes equitable access to aquatic resources, sustainable management and improvement in fisheries development livelihoods. The CFDO has a research and development section, and sections concerned with legal issues and monitoring and evaluation.

Regional Community Forestry Training Center (RECOFTC)

RECOFTC's vision, mission and objectives are guided by the potential of community forestry management regimes to contribute both to sustainable forest management and to the needs of more than a billion rural people in Asia who depend on forest resources for their livelihoods.

Training and capacity development, though crucial, are just two of the many elements

required to enable rural people to effectively manage their local forest resources. We seek to do this by working in close collaboration with partners to actively support CF development in the region. program/challenge.html

How We Work: The Challenge

Community forestry represents a growing movement to improve how forest resources are managed and enhance the livelihoods of more than a billion people in Asia who depend on forests for their survival. It can also be seen as a means to recognize indigenous capacities and rights, maintain ecological diversity, or strengthen local institutions and forest governance structures.

The growing awareness that community-based forest management approaches are more viable and sustainable than past conventional and top-down forest management approaches presents a major shift in emphasis in how forest resources are governed.

The reasons for this include concerns about environmental degradation, rise of civic institutions, equitable access to resources and recognition that local participation is essential for sustainable forest management.

Over the last two years, RECOFTC has undertaken a critical review of how it operates. This has culminated in the development of a new Strategic Plan for 2001-2006 and Three-year Program. This plan of action is guided by a reading of community forestry development in the region and our past work:

1. The need to link field processes and capacity building initiatives to organizational and institutional changes governing the management of natural resources.
2. A shared framework within RECOFTC and between RECOFTC partners for diagnosing and designing community forestry. To address this, RECOFTC adopted an analytical framework.
3. The shared recognition that regional activities need to be grounded and there has to be long-term commitment to support community forestry development at the national level. This has led to the development of three program areas to clearly distinguish modes and mechanisms for operating at different levels.

Mangrove Service Network (MSN)

Mangrove Service Network (MSN) was formed in December 2001 with well experienced professionals who worked as the project staff of the four HDI projects under UNDP (from 1992 to well over 2001) and some are project-related professionals with devoted and sustained enthusiasm in the environmental conservation and community development.

MSN, with its all-out efforts, is determined to work in participation with the communities in the fields of environmental conservation, sustainable livelihoods and community development in the rural areas of Myanmar with availability of resources. MSN primarily acts as a service provider, making contact with external financial institutions, Local NGOs as well as private enterprises, in order to promote development activities.

Technical expertise of MSN

1. Accountancy
2. Community Based Forestry Extension
3. Small-scale Fishery and Livestock Extension
4. Agriculture Extension

5. Promotion of Home based (Cottage) Industry
6. Gender and Development
7. Social Mobilization (Rural Capacity Development)
8. Rural Survey and Information
9. Rural Infrastructure Development
10. Micro Income Generation

Objectives

1. To dedicate in the environmental conservation through community participation not only in the mangrove forest area but also in other possible areas as well;
2. To render services for community development in the fields of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock, Cottage Industry, Gender Development and Rural Infrastructures;
3. To promote the capacity of the rural community through training, workshops and Information, Education, Communication (IEC) materials;
4. To work for the development of grass root community by organizing funds and services from external sources and donors interested in people-centered approach in poverty alleviation.

Services Available

- Socio-economic surveys, data collection, participatory monitoring and evaluation for community development;
- Promoting environmental conservation through production and popularization of fuel wood efficient stoves, establishment of nurseries, plantations, soil conservation, river bank stabilization, etc., and collaboration with other organizations;
- Organizing technical assistance to promote local capacity for self-reliance in the fields of forestry, agriculture, fishery, livestock and cottage industry;
- Organizing trainings, study tours, workshops, contests, distribution of IEC materials, etc., to promote awareness, exchange of information and networking to build up the capacity of community-based organizations;
- Providing services for formation of target groups, including women development groups, community-based organization committees, drafting rules & regulations and village action plans;
- Services for provision of income generation supports to poor families and giving appropriate technical trainings;
- Making contact with external financial institutions, NGOs, as well as private enterprises in order to enhance development activities;
- Rendering services with the participation of community in the field of rural infrastructure development activities (e.g., construction of schools, bridges, drinking water ponds, village feeder road, etc.,) and resource centers for participatory technological development (PTD) trials.
- Facilitating Scholars/Researchers in help providing on the issues of environmental concerns and on issues to address the needs of marginalized population.

Organization of MSN Service Team

MSN was initially organized with (17) members registered as a Partnership Firm Act since 8 January 2002 and enrolled at Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development (NPED). MSN represents and warrants to other party that the organization is a legally organized and duly authorized to enter relevant laws and has the right, power, sound financial standing and authority to enter into any Agreement.

Activities carried out by MSN during 2002 - August 2003

Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA): Conducted Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) for the JICA Study Team. It is a study on Integrated Mangrove Management through Community Participation in the Ayeyarwaddy Delta, Myanmar. A field survey was made in 23 villages of Bogalay and Laputta Township, in September 2002 and the whole work of research was engaged until December.

Research on Gender participation and its Dimensions in Plant Biodiversity: A team of five members from the MSN was engaged in a field visit in December 2002. A Survey was conducted in Kalaw, Pinlaung, Pindaya, Nyaungshwe and Ywangan Townships in Southern Shan State, Myanmar under the assignment of the FAO Regional Office in Bangkok.

Soil Analysis: A prior study on Soil Analysis was made for the project on Integrated Mangrove Management through Community Participation in the Ayeyarwaddy Delta. The laboratory test was taken in coordination with the Agricultural Research Institute (ARI) of Myanmar.

Natural Condition Survey: With its team of Forestry and Soil Specialists, MSN carried out Natural Condition Survey (NCS) for the same study on Integrated Mangrove Management through Community Participation in the Ayeyarwaddy Delta.

Pilot project area covering 1200 acres in two community forest sites in the Pyinalan Reserved Forest, Laputta Township, Myanmar was fielded in collaboration with Forest Department of Laputta.

Household Survey on Villages Participating in Community Forestry Program in the Ayeyarwaddy Delta: Five senior researchers from the MSN took a field research in 20 villages of the Kadonkani Reserved Forest area, Bogalay Township, Myanmar in April 2003. The research is mainly for academic purpose that the empirical findings will be laid in the work of a PhD scholar.

Survey for Rural Socio-Economic Study of Myanmar Agricultural Sector Review (UNDP/FAO - MYA / 01 / 008): (4) survey team of MSN made survey and RRA at the (16) villages in (8) townships difference Agro-Ecological Zone of Myanmar during 15 September to 31 October for the Rural Socio- Economic Study of Myanmar Agriculture Sector Review Project UNDP/FAO - MYA/01/008

Participation in INGO/ NGO activities: A Fishery Expert of the MSN attended the “Expert Round Table on the Preparation Phase for the Indo-Myanmar Hotspot” under the sponsorship of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. The Workshop was held in Yangon in August 2003.

MSN Fishery Expert and Community Development / Gender and Development Facilitator were invited by the US Based Mangrove Action Project (MAP) to the “In the Hands of the Fishers” Workshop. It was held in Cambodia in August, 2003.

Project of Participatory Management of Mangrove Resources PMMR

The Project of Participatory Management of Mangrove Resources (PMMR) was created since December 1997 of funding and supported by International Development Research Centre, in Canada (IDRC). This project was implemented by Department of Natural Conservation of the Ministry of Environment (MoE) for Cambodia with cooperation among provincial technical departments of Koh Kong on the program on Community-Based Coastal Resources

Management (CBCRM). The project was also gotten the technical advising by Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, Canada too.

PMMR 's Vision

PMMR plays important role recognizing linkages between the environment, the economy and equity and promoting measures that contribute to broader social and environmental development issues in the coastal community. The PMMR's vision is:

- ◉ To reduce of unsustainable use of natural resources;
- ◉ To rehabilitate and protect of social, cultural and natural environment that has sustained damage by over twenty years of civil war and over-exploitation;
- ◉ To integrate of relevant institutions or organizations for sustainable economic development;
- ◉ To protect and promote environmental quality and public health through the prevention, reduction, and control of pollution and natural degradation;
- ◉ To ensure rational and sustainable conservation, development, management, and use of the natural resources of the Kingdom of Cambodia;
- ◉ To encourage and enable the public to participate in environmental protection and natural resource management;

PMMR 's Mission

PMMR aims to provide expertise and leadership in researching and achieving sustainable environmental development at local, national, regional and global levels. PMMR is always prepared to expand knowledge in the field of public administration (locally, provincially and nationally), by sponsoring training workshops and conducting research in public policy and administration. This project brings together domestic and international partnerships to share information and resources, to seek new and innovative ways to help engage in and solve social problems, and to develop and refine knowledge and skills in policy suitable to development and analysis. In the other hand the PMMR has helped the technical Departments at MoE to develop a wide array of plans for ensuring, implementing, and capacity building among to relevant stakeholders:

- ◉ Research networking and Designating National Environmental Plan for each region in Cambodia;
- ◉ Identifying important environmental issues and important natural resource management issues that are related to socio-economic development; and setting forth measures to ensure environmental management;
- ◉ Conducting research, assessing the environmental impact on natural resources, and providing the concerned organizations and local community with recommendations to ensure that all resources are managed in an environmentally rational and sustainable manner;
- ◉ Collaborating with concerned stakeholders to develop an inventory indicator for environmental and human health;
- ◉ Providing at the request of the public, information on its activities, and encouraging public participation in environmental protection and sustainable natural resource management.
- ◉ Promoting and facilitating the establishment and development of Public Participation in Natural Resources Conservation and Protection etc...

PMMR has been closely working with national, provincial and community levels, and has had strong cooperation from local and international organizations. The exchange of ideas and experience between organizations has been improving development in the local commu-

nity. People are learning from each other in the participatory research, through formal and informal meetings, in training and workshops. They have the freedom of talking, listening and reflecting on their ideas. This is the beginning of human development in Cambodia context through PMMR's work.

Culture and Environment Preservation Association (CEPA)

CEPA is an organization dedicated to the preservation of the cultural and environmental wealth, diversity and environmental resources of Cambodia. It achieves its goals through activism, advocacy and lobby and through the provision of education and information to graduate students and communities working for their cultural and ecological survival.

Background of Organization

Culture and Environment Preservation Association (CEPA) was founded in 1995, by a group of four socially aware and activist university graduate students, committed to the issues of Natural Resources Management. CEPA has now seven years of experience in working on these critical issues of environmental protection, particularly in the fields of rural communities and fisheries.

CEPA realizes and believes that the problems of natural resource management and the environment are first and foremost the most important problems facing the country and are in need of immediate and permanent solutions. Initially, few NGOs were interested in this type of work. We established the "Culture and Environment Preservation Association" in order to address these critical issues.

CEPA is a non-profit organization and not related to any political party in Cambodia. CEPA was registered on April 10, 1996 and is officially recognized by the Ministry of Interior of Royal Government of Cambodia.

Summary Background of Activities

From its outset, CEPA has received financial support from JVC, Oxfam UK/I (current Oxfam GB, Oxfam America and Rockefeller Brothers Fund), CAA, Pact and Canada Fund.

First Phase 1996-1998: In the first phase of eighteen months (1996-98), CEPA operated several project components including:

1. Environment and Natural Resources Management Training course,
2. Newsletter publication and dissemination,
3. Networking and Advocacy,
4. Library development,
5. Mangrove replanting.

The CEPA monthly newsletter, Nature and Life, has been publicized and widely disseminated to government institutions, NGOs (Cambodian NGOs and International NGOs), Universities, Faculties, Colleges, other provincial government staff and departments as well as to the general public and to rural communities.

CEPA works in collaboration with a wide range of local, national and international environmental agencies. CEPA actively attends, participates in and contributes to workshops, seminars, study groups and international coalitions. CEPA is a key member of the Environmental Working Group of NGO Forum on Cambodia (EWG) and a member of Asian Resources Tenure Network (ARTN) and country co-coordinator for Rivers Watch East and Southeast Asia (RWESA).

Second Phase 1998-2000: In the second phase, (June 1998 - May 2000), with more experience, CEPA continued its programme work by addressing more actively the key strategic environmental issues in Cambodia. CEPA also developed a long-term organizational strategy based on a more formalized approach to context analysis and Strategic Planning.

CEPA has also continued and consolidated its previous project activities. The CEPA Training course on Environment and Natural Resources Management which involved trainees from different sources like universities, government institutes and NGOs continues to be valued for its content, its methodology and its unique field research component. "Nature and Life" continues to grow in size and significance. There are now between 1200 and 2000 readers of this popular styled bi-monthly publication, which is unique among Cambodian NGOs.

CEPA has in the last five years successfully initiated a field programme of work in Stung Treng province based on community organizing and development principles which works for the empowerment of local fisher-folk in fishery resource management, protection and sustainability.

Third Phase 2001-2002: During its third phase (June 2001- May 2002) CEPA has continued its programme by focusing on key issues connected to the environment in Cambodia by developing long term organizational strategies to more accurately identify and clarify fundamental objectives with programme planning based on the current and the changing socio-economic and political situation in the country.

CEPA has continued the previous projects mentioned in phase one, but which are now more focused and effective. These programmes include:

1. Environmental Activist Training programme, which targets are students from the Agricultural University and Phnom Penh University,
2. Advocacy for Sustainable Development Programme, which has many components such as newsletter publication called "Nature and Life",
3. Joint conduct research with Fishery Action Coalition Team (FACT), fisher-folks and NGO networking at provincial level, documentation or library,
4. Community Based Fishery resources Management in Stung Treng.

This phase of project implementation, May 2000 to June 2002, received financial support from Oxfam G.B, Oxfam America, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF), and Pact of Cambodia.

Fourth Phase 2002-2005: CEPA's fourth phase plan is for a three years period (2002-2005). This phase sees a consolidation of work previously done but also anticipates the implementation of new activities directly related to our previous experience and expertise.

These new activities will be planned based upon the recommendations of the external evaluation, "From Strength to Specialization and Sophistication" that was undertaken in February and March of 2002.

CEPA has become a confident organization capable of forcefully addressing the challenges of preserving Cambodia's natural resources and the social and economic rights of rural populations who rely on traditional access to the benefits of the forest and fisheries resources

Problem Statement (General)

Cambodia is affected by a whole host of serious social, economic and cultural problems. Poverty continues to be the number one prevailing issue affecting the vast majority of the pop-

ulation, now estimated at over 12 million. Between 80% and 90% of the population live in rural areas; about 30% of them are without enough to eat on a daily basis.

Chronic problems of health care, the lack of primary education and the means for sustained social development persist. Other problems are drug trafficking, sexual exploitation both which are growing due to lack of law enforcement and implementation in combination with an increasing stream of tourist, of which a part actually is a result of the poor law enforcements.

There continues to be a regularly reported large number of cases of domestic violence and violence against women: some of this is, in part, due to the chronic problems of poverty and economic limitations. The number of street children in urban areas is increasing. Achieving social and economic stability and security in Cambodia's difficult environmental context is demanding in time and labour and requires courage and dedication.

Natural disasters - both floods and droughts - seem to have increased the last two to three years and have increased rural people's vulnerabilities and deepened their poverty.

Corruption, while reportedly slowing, affects budgets and decision-making in official circles and drains off valuable resources. Corruption in the government's management of land, fisheries and forestry remains endemic, despite stated official commitments to reform. There are huge disputes in Cambodia over land, forestry and the fisheries and, perhaps after corruption and the legacy of 30 years of war, these natural resource management conflicts are among the most serious issues in the country. They affect Cambodia's future well being, its approach to sustainable development and the efforts to root a culture of human rights within a liberal democratic framework.

Urbanization is a big problem in many developing countries, as is the situation in Cambodia.

Natural Resource Depletion:

Currently, the depletion of natural resources is a problem appearing throughout the country, especially within forestry and fishery. The wildlife is endangered and violations against the rural communities' economical and cultural rights occur repeatedly.

The root causes of deforestation are illegal logging, the unscrupulous over-allocation of forest- and land concessions, logging licenses, fires (intentional, unintentional or natural) and unfettered growth of human demands. Intentional fires are e.g. burning forest to catch wild animals, slash-and-burn cultivation of the highlanders and burning trees to tap resin. Unintentional fires could be carelessness of some tourists and natural causes due to hot climate. Wildlife habitat is disappearing consequently as a rapid rate with the loss of the forest cover. People hunt illegally for medicines, restaurants, and many other purposes.

The fisheries resource is also decreasing because of water pollution, the destruction of the flooded forest, over-fishing, erosion, the change of river's eco-system, siltation, illegal fishing and hydropower dam construction on cross-boundary rivers upstream (also an increasing threat inside Cambodia). There is an absence of law and regulations, fishery sub-decree (the fishery law is still being drafted), the lack of law enforcement and many people that lack awareness of the value and fragility of fishery resources.

The depletion of natural resources has a disastrous impact on ecosystem, on cultural and social practices, especially indigenous culture, which steadily causes increasing instability in society. Drought in some areas and frequent and increasing severe flooding in other areas result in a dramatic decrease in rice production. People do neither have food nor income and

consequently become poorer and poorer and, in turn, cause an increase in urbanization rates.

The experience is that men will be working with low salaries and children and women will become prostitutes or beggars in the city. Some Cambodians will cross the border as migrant workers to find jobs in neighboring countries. Because of natural disasters and exploitation of the forests, wildlife will lose its protective shelters and food and will migrate to other parts of the country or simply die. Many species will be endangered or exterminated and future generations will only know these species from books and stories.

Indigenous people's identities risk to disappear if their culture and life style are changed so dramatically and part of the identity of Cambodia will be lost forever. They will be in a situation of distrust, polarization, exploitation and growing gaps in the between the very rich and the very poor. These influences result in a broken society.

Solutions

CEPA has worked on environment preservation, protection, and the restoration of natural resources for a long time. The sustainability of natural resources requires the preservation of forest, fishery, wildlife and the promotion and protection of the economical rights of local communities that are the very nature of Cambodian society.

In order to solve problems of natural resources and economical rights, especially the forest degradation, the decline of the fishery, the depletion of wildlife and human rights violations, environmental protection agencies are faced with many daunting tasks: they must reduce use of fuel wood, the unsustainable use of forestry products, illegal logging, illegal wildlife trade, illegal fishing, issuing license to exploitative concessionaires as well as take measure to strengthen law enforcement. Organizations like CEPA must balance the value of natural resource environment, economics and the needs of society, and empower local communities by involving them in decisions in laws and policy making and their enforcement. These are vital and fundamental steps in poverty reduction.

When local communities have enough food and good health they can increase their income, and improve their living standards further. Then human rights will be boosted, people will have jobs, and children will have opportunities to go to school if also general living standards are improved.

CBNRM Learning Initiative

The CBNRM Case Studies and Networking Initiative is facilitated by a cross-institutional, multi-disciplinary core group of researchers in Cambodia, with partners from various levels and departments of government, NGOs, networks, learning institutions, communities and other civil society groups working in Upland, Lowland, Mekong and Coastal areas.

The CBNRM Initiative is co-supported by:

- ▣ World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- ▣ Oxfam America
- ▣ International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
- ▣ Regional Community Forestry Training Centre (RECOFTC)
- ▣ Mekong Learning Initiative and LeARN

The project supports linkages to locally based approaches that empower local communities to participate actively in the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources through:

- Community Forestry
- Co-Management of Fisheries
- Participatory Land Use Planning
- Participatory Protected Areas Management.

The overall goal of the project is to promote CBNRM as an integral component of the socio-economic development policies and strategies of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC).

Specific objectives and challenges of this initiative include:

1. Capacity Building
2. Lessons Learning
3. Networking
4. Policy Support

Ongoing activities of the program include the development of a conceptual and analytical framework for Cambodia-based CBNRM, as well as capacity building through case study writing to enhance research, documentation, and analysis skills, networking of CBNRM supporters throughout the country and in the region, and supporting the consultative process for the development of relevant legal frameworks.

Cambodia Fuelwood Saving Project - CFSP

Fuelwood, the main energy source of Cambodia.....Technological inputs.....to establish national wood energy policy.....to minimize deforestation.....to mitigate the health hazards of the users.....to establish the sustainable way of wood energy utilization.....

Firewood Context and CFSP History since 1997

Fuelwood and other biomass energy are the main sources of energy in Cambodia; it represents 96.3% of national fuel consumption (NIS, 1999) and 97.7% of the energy demand for household cooking nation-wide (NIS, 1997). Average fuel wood consumption in Cambodia per household per day is 3.5 kg

In urban areas, choice of energy sources are broader, nonetheless fuel wood and its derivative (charcoal) account for 83% of urban domestic energy needs (RWEDP, 1998). Small enterprises such as brick kilns, bakeries, and food processing units also use fuel wood extensively.

Considering the lack of pragmatic action on wood energy policy, Cambodia Fuelwood Saving Project - CFSP undertook the task of reforming the countries energy use patterns. Starting in 1997 in Kompong Chhnang Province, CFSP now has improved cookstove distribution networks firmly established in five provinces of Cambodia.

Outcomes 2000 and beyond

1. Development of a national action plan on wood-energy
2. Establishment of a national steering committee to guide the national action plan on wood energy.
3. An autonomous and effective capitalization entity (WeNetCam) and continuation of its activities (promotion of communication tools, follow-up on key actions, data base maintenance, organization of regional meetings)
4. Provide Cambodian government with data on supply and demand of fuel wood in order to develop appropriate legal instruments to regulate wood energy utilization in Cambodia.
5. Sales of portable improved wood fueled stoves equaling 20,000 units per year of New Lao Kompong Chhnang Model stoves and 15,000 units per year of New Lao Bucket stoves.
6. Equip 150,000 households with improved cookstove through commercialization in four years time, thus saving 2,210,000 tons of fuel wood over a ten year period, creating 90 permanent jobs for producers of improved cookstoves at a total income of US\$80,000.year.
7. Dissemination of 20,000 owner built permanent stoves (Samaki cookstove, Palm Sugar Stove) over 4 years which will save 1,000,000 tons of fuel wood over a ten year period.
8. Total Fuelwood Saving of 3,205,000 tons of fuel wood, equaling 5525 hectares of forest.
9. Research and Development on other ICS models.
10. 30 technicians and 50 extension workers trained by CFSP II for the dissemination of owner built stoves in rural areas.
11. Various pedagogical supports on improved cookstoves and other biomass energy related matters
12. National Protocol on laboratory cookstove testing and field cookstove testing.
13. Improvement of existing cookstove models (New Lao bucket and Kompong Chhnang)
14. Develop and design high capacity cooking stoves for urban street food stalls and portable cookstoves for mobile food vendors in urban areas.
15. Feasibility study on the firewood substitution for household and small scale business.
16. Validation of a specific kiln and process for efficient charcoal making in the community forestry context including mangrove forests (introducing the practice of pruning).
17. Innovating wood-energy energy management in Cambodian community forestry.
18. Study on the potency of biomass gasification and its applications for rural areas (drying, cooking etc.)
19. Series of encouraging actions (credit program, training sessions, partnership) to facilitate technological improvements resulting in reduction of firewood consumption.



โรงเรียนเรือรักเจ้าพระยากับตาวิเศษ

MAGIC EYES CHAO PRAYA BARGE PROGRAM

“Teaching Environmental Literacy to Today’s Students
and Tomorrow’s Leaders”



Before heading for Cambodia, International Participants from Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand spent half a day on the Chao Praya river aboard a converted traditional rice barge.



The Magic Eyes Chao Phraya Barge Program is one of the most innovative environmental education programs in Thailand. Magic Eyes Barge Program provides a unique outdoor experiential learning opportunities for Thai and foreign students and adults to discover the environment, history, and culture of the Chao Phraya River Watershed and its wider connections in Thailand.



Picking Benthic Macroinvertebrates:

Amidst the roots of water hyacinth an invasive plant (introduced from Indonesia by the old King) now dominant in the Chao Praya, live snails, insects, and crustaceans called benthic macroinvertebrates

Certain species indicate clean water, while others indicate polluted water. The group identified the different critters using illustrated keys.



Using the boat and the river as our classroom, Magic Eyes staff use real life, up close, hands-on experiences to guide participants to a deeper understanding of the connections between people and the environment. The trip turned out to be an excellent team building experience for IHOF participants before heading to Cambodia and also served as a wonderful introduction to Environmental Education for those who have not yet been involved in this type of experiential learning. Participants discovered a small section of the Chao Praya River, which has served as a lifeline to Bangkok through the ages.

Contact Us: Magic Eyes Chao Praya Barge Program

Tel: (66-2) 439-4746 or (66-2) 439-4746 Fax: (66-2) 439-4754

E-mail: barge@loxinfo.co.th

www.magiceyes.or.th/barge

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**APPENDIX V: MINI PROPOSAL FORMAT FOR
FOLLOW-UP “TOOLKIT” CAMBODIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

Program Name	IHOFF # 8 Toolkit Follow-up Projects in Cambodia
Proposing Community/ Group/ Organization	Name of Community/Group/Organization Address: Telephone Number: E-mail:
Contact Person	Name
Length of Project	
Program Location(s)	
Program Participants	Local Coastal Communities/NGO's/Others?
Project Goals	What are the major community development problems that the project is supposed to solve? What are the major conservation issues that the project is supposed to resolve?
Project Outputs	What will happen that ensures that purposes are achieved?
Project Activities	What activities will have to be done to achieve the project outputs? (List)
	Specifications of costs/inputs of each activity. (List)
Project Program Budget	Total Program Cost in USD or Thai Baht
	How will the costs and other inputs be recorded?
Project Summary	Here you can write a paragraph about the project, to help clarify .

APPENDIX V: MINI PROPOSAL FOR KOH SRALAO COMMUNITY ON “VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL WASTE MANAGEMENT”



Program Name	Village Environmental Waste Management Project
Proposing Community/ Group/ Organization	Koh Sralao Community/PMMR Project Address: Koh Sralao Village, Koh Kapik Commune, Koh Kong District, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia. Telephone: (855) 16 82 56 44 E-mail: Khy_an_585@hotmail.com
Contact Person	Mr. Kim Nong (PMMR project leader) Telephone Number: Mobile: (855) 12 77 28 78 Fax/Phone: (855) 23 21 41 08 E-mail: pmmr@online.com.kh
Length of Project	30 days
Program Location(s)	Koh Sralao village
Program Participants	Implementers: - Representatives of each household (community members and other local people are living in Koh Sralao) - Koh Sralao Village Management Community (VMC) - Koh Sralao Village Development Council (VDC) Facilitators: - Koh Kapik Commune Development Council (CDC) - administrative - PMMR team- technical and general facilitator for entire process
Project Goals	- To solve household waste management problems that result in contamination of local environment. - To reduce disease in the village that is caused by the contact with waste contamination - To educate and build the capacity of villagers on appropriate of waste management systems. - To improve and create appropriate management system for waste engine oil and gasoline from fishing boats (Reduce oil spilling or discharge into coastal water) which will improve health of coastal ecosystem, biodiversity in the coastal area and local communities health.
Project Outputs	- Qualitative and Quantitative improvement in the environmental condition of both village and coastal areas. - Reduction in disease - Increased quality of life - The villagers will gain knowledge and experience on waste management. - Stimulation of local people from nearby villages to participate in waste management, knowledge and skill sharing - Assist VMC and VDC to develop a management plan for their own areas of implementation.
Project Activities	1. Lobbying for policy support from local Government (Provincial and District Governors) on project implementation. 2. Contact with expertise on waste management from technical department for technical support. 3. Initializing a training/workshop in one village and call for villagers and some key persons to join this workshop. Participatory discussion: (a) to discover strategies for waste management,

APPENDIX V: MINI PROPOSAL FOR KOH SRALAO COMMUNITY ON “VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL WASTE MANAGEMENT” - CONTINUED

Project Activities (continued)	(b) to raise awareness about negative impacts of waste pollution on health and livelihoods of villagers. 4. Providing rice support the villagers to encourage them to participate in activities of waste cleaning and management. 5. To strengthen a community action plan relate to monthly waste management. 6. To strengthen on community’s internal rule or regulation on waste management.
	Specifications of costs/inputs of each activity 1. Equipment for waste management works (e.g., plastic bag, hoe, rake) = US\$ 286. 2. Organization of training/workshop for local people in one village US\$ 110. 3. Rice for encouragement support for villagers on waste cleaning (5,000 Kg) US\$ 1,250. 4. Local transportation US\$ 1005. 5. Other expend US\$ 40
Project Program Budget	Equipment: - Plastic bag: 300 bags * US\$ 0.25 = US\$ 75 (i) - Hoe: 10 hoe * US\$ 3.5 = US\$ 35 (ii) - Rake: 80 rakes * US\$ 2.2 = US\$ 176 (iii) Workshop Organization: - Organize workshop with 100 people + snack: US\$ 60 (iv) - Material and equipment for workshop US\$ 50 (v) Rice Support: - Rice 5,000Kg * US\$ 0.25 = US\$ 1,250 (vi) Local Transportation: - Dang Tong to Koh Sralao village US\$ 100 (vii) Other Expenses (photograph, documentations...): US\$ 40 (viii) Total: (i) + (ii) + (iii) + (iv) + (v) + (vi) + (vii) + (viii) = US\$ 1,786
	Notes: PMMR will be responsible for expenditures beyond US\$ 1000 (US\$ 786) PMMR will provide assistant for local community to manage budget expenditures.
Project Summary	Due to lack of knowledge and experience of the community of Koh Sralao on household waste management, waste contamination has become a problem in the village. This leads to negative impacts on both human and environmental health and the livelihoods of local people. In some cases of disease occurs in the village due to a household waste. More over, household pollution affects the health and biodiversity of nearby coastal ecosystems. The waste management project will provide vilalgers with appropriate waste management concepts and help the villagers consider appropriate strategies for management of waste, environment, human health, and livelihoods. This waste management project will function as a pilot demonstrations project for other villages in the region.

APPENDIX V: MINI PROPOSAL
KOH KYONG - COMMUNITY COASTAL PATROLS

Program Name	Appropriate Community Coastal Patrols
Proposing Community/ Group/ Organization	Koh Kyong Community Fishery Project/ AFSC Address: Chikorkrom Commune, Sre Ambel district , Koh Kong province, Cambodian.Telephone: 035 940 740 or 012 694460E-mail: 012 694460@mobitel.com.kh
Contact Person	Mr. Song Kheang (Natural Resource Component Manager) Telephone Number: 016 956006 E-mail: 012 694460@mobitel.com.kh
Length of Project	Long-term project implementation.
Program Location(s)	Chhikhor Krom Commune, Sre Ambel District, Koh Kong Province.
Program Participants	Implementers: Community fishery committee members and community people. Facilitators: Chhikhor Krom Commune Council (administrative) ISLP - NRMP team act general program facilitators.
Project Goals	⊙ The committee members and community people will have enough capability to enforce better fishery resource protection through regular patrolling. ⊙ The community fishery committee members and community people who joint fishery protection will become more efficient and incureless risk through utilization of safer, faster boat.
Project Outputs	R.1.1. One faster boat to lead the activities will be purchased and maintained by community members to support the activities. R.1.2. Increase in participation of traditional community boat users to assist the regular patrol R.1.3. Better access and response time of the community fishery committee and their members in protection of the fishery resource.
Project Activities	- Boat selection - Patrol boat purchase - Set up policy and guidelines for utilization of patrol boat - Particpoatroty planning for implementation of patrolling - Designation of community members to join patrolling activities - Construction of safe moorage for patrol boat - Assigned people take over responsibility of boat use and maintenance. Specifications of costs/inputs of each activity - Boat selection (food and trip expenses) = \$ 40 - Boat and engine cost including transportation = \$1,300 Other costs to be associated with project In-ind from AFSC/ISLP.

APPENDIX V: MINI PROPOSAL
KOH KYONG - COMMUNITY COASTAL PATROLS (CONTINUED)

Project Program Budget	For equipment: Boat : \$ 700 Engine : \$ 600 Total MAP share = \$ 1, 300
Notes	If MAP cannot commit the total amount, the remainder will be provided by local community contribution and AFSC/ISLP. ISLP - NRM team will provide assistance to local community in management of financial transactions and record keeping.
Project Summary	The Koh Kyong community fishery project takes place in 4 villages in Chhi Khor Krom commune of Sre Ambel district, Koh Kong, which is located along the Kampong Som Bay. Around 90 % of the total population considered the fishery resource as the main source of the cash income. These traditional fishing activities are facing the increased pressure from trawlers and other modern fishing gear which are fishing illegally in shallow waters. These problems were addressed by the government fishery department; however, their attempts to resolve these issues have yet need increased community involvement. In the district there is only one fishery officer with no means to enforce fisheries laws or combat illegal fishing activities. This leads to the rapid decline of the fishery resource, which is the main source of livelihood for local communities. With facilitation from the ISLP/AFSC, the community fishery project has been established and has been officially recognized by the official authorities. Enforcement rules and regulations to protect the fishery resource have been promoted with the good local contribution such as forces for patrolling and protection of the resource. However, enforcement does not run smoothly. It is partly due to the lack of appropriate equipment, in this case a fast, reliable boat. Although the villagers contribute traditional boats for enforcement activities, the contribution can not made regularly due to their use in community fishing activities. Slow traditional boats are easily out-run by illegal trawlers and other boats. This leads to apathy from the committee members and their community people who joint patrolling and protection of the fishery resource. Therefore, the community members would like to request the purchase of a fast boat which will help the community committee members and their community people to increase their effectiveness and commitment in resolving the issue of illegal fishing activities in local coastal waters.

