

LEADING STORIES

World Environment Day 05 June in Areng, Koh Kong Province



June 03, 2020, the NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) cooperated with local communities, the authority of Chom Nuab Village, in Areng, Koh Kong Province, which organized National and World Environment Day 05 June under the theme Biodiversity Conservation, Land Governance and Natural resource management for all. The event was attended by 130 participants who are from local authorities, Chom Nuab community, Professors from the Royal University of Agriculture, and the Royal University of Phnom Penh. Dr. TEK Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO Forum, said that we organized this environment day to share knowledge, experience on sustainability, community ecotourism, ethnic identity, forest governance, land governance, natural resources biodiversity conservation in between communities, CSOs, local authorities, and universities. He added that we chose Areng to celebrate the event because we want to encourage the community to participate in the conservation of biodiversity, land governance and natural resources in Areng, and this area is the last rain forest in Cambodia, as well as in Asia, it is better to contribute to global environmental sustainability, our planet sustainability, community livelihoods, and local community development, especially



to preserve the CHONG indigenous culture. With this great opportunity, he also urged the community to actively participate in biodiversity conservation, environmental protection, and sustainable natural resources in the present time and future generations. Mr. HUENG Pov, Chief of Chom Nuab Communities, his commitment, and encouragement for the local community's love and care for the environment in which they depend on. He encouraged the community to participate in communal land registration which follows government planning, it is preserved indigenous people's traditional identity, culture, language...etc. He urged the community to help preserve the local forest which considers the forest is our life, our foods, and our medicine". Professor VORN Monin, Former Dean of the Royal University of Agriculture and an advisor of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, explained more on the key term of the environment. Professor explained that we depend on the environment, the environment combined social, cultural, natural resources, and sometimes we indirect use of it. Professor urged that people in this area should not afraid of indigenous community self-identification of land registration. We can spread

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out Chong's culture and language to tourists. Besides this, we can improve the environment through land governance for the sustainable development. Mr. OUCH Mara, Professor Department of Natural Resources and Sustainability at the Royal University of Phnom Penh, shared an experience of community fishery which provide study tours and site visit in their eco-tourism for tourists, which promoting their place and local products for the income. The professor stressed his interests of the Areng community is to turn the area into an ecotourism site, especially in the Areng area rich of potential natural, wildlife, mountain, landscape...which benefit for this sector.



World Environment Day 05 June in Pursat Province



In the morning, June 04, 2020, the NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) cooperated with Environment and Society Organization, community forestry networks in the Promoy protected areas and local authorities in Veal Veng district, Pursat Province. The National and World Environment Day 05 June organized at Pramoy Pagoda, under the theme Biodiversity Conservation, Land Governance and Natural resource management for all. The event was attended by 89 participants who are from monk, local authorities, community forestry network in Pamoy, rangers in the



Protected Area, and Professors from the Royal University of Agriculture, and the Royal University of Phnom Penh.

Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of the NGO Forum, said that we organized this environment day to share knowledge, experience on sustainability, community ecotourism, ethnic identity, forest governance, land governance. Natural resources and biodiversity conservation between communities, CSOs, local authorities, and universities. He added that we encourage the community to participate in the conservation of

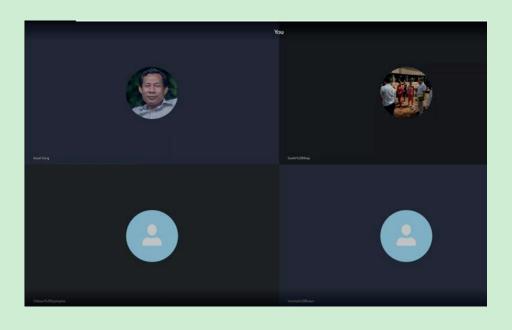


governance biodiversity, land natural resources in Promoy Protected Area, it is better to contribute to global environmental sustainability, our planet sustainability, community livelihoods, and local community development. With this great opportunity, he also urged the community to actively participate in biodiversity conservation, environmental protection, and sustainable natural resources which are to save and preserve in the present time and for future generations.

Land Rights and housing network (LAHRIN) Member Online Meeting,

On May 08, 2020, the NGO Forum on Cambodia (NGOF) coordinated affected community representatives and members of Land Rights and housing network (LAHRiN) to conduct online meeting via skype to update progressive information and finalized the two reports of land dispute cases, effected by ELC of Roy Fang Compeny in Sangke II, Cheb district Preah Vihear and by irrigation development project in Reaksa, Rovieng district, Preah Vihear province. There were 10 paticipant (1 famele) as representative of various NGOs including NGOF, DPA, PKH, ADHOC and affected community representatives. The outputs of the meeting are:

- All those members are well understanding about the updated information in the reports and strategic advocacy road map.
- The reports were finalized after their inputs consolidation.





The success of Chambok Eco-tourism community depends on the community



Mr. Touch Morn, Community leader of Chambok Eco-tourism, described that the success and significant achievements of the Chambok community today are the results of the efforts of the community members.

Mr. Morn said on 23 June 2020, he expressed the main successes of the community include the conservation of forests, patrol, and protect wildlife and natural resource in the area. Communities can get income from the tourists from the visiting, bird watching, swimming in the community six waterfalls, bats, camping and food can also be arranged for tourists. He remembers all the support of Mlup Baitong, civil society organizations, donors, local authorities, and the Ministry

of Environment, which has always been a catalyst for his community and his community to become a role model.

Mr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of NGOF, is delighted and appreciative of Mr. Touch Morn for his leadership, management, and ownership of the community to the protected areas and the eco-tourism site of Chambok! He encouraged and whished Mr. Touch Morn and all community committee members

to stay healthy and keeping active in the development and conservation of Chambok. We have to protect the common property.

Land and forestry programs and all NGOF programs are actively involved in the forestry protection and conservation of natural resources. While this Mid-Year Reflection 2020, on June 23, 2020, we participate in the activity to plant more trees in the Chambok community and learned more for the community.



Second Steering Meeting to Review Network Progress Achieved in Last Quarter

On 15 May 2020, the steering committee and secretariat of Network for Development of Food Security and Safety in Cambodia organize the second steering meeting to review network progress achieved in last quarter and plan for the upcoming step. The meeting was also updated the COVID-19 situation and its project activity implementation, particularly prevention activity from COVID-19 on the ground. Furthermore, there was a discussing on the main agenda to be discussed and informed in the second NDF-C quarterly meeting that will be organized shortly.





Mid-Year Reflection



On 23-27 June 2020, the NGOF has organized its mid-year program reflection with 25 staffs including 5 females aiming to: 1)- To increase awareness on policy implementation, 2)-To strengthen staff capacity on outcome harvesting and preparation for finalizing six months report, 3)-To review key priorities and revise operational plan and budget, and 4)-To maintain good working environment and team building.

As results, five main outputs have been produced from the mid-year program reflection. Those include: 1)- Staff would aware on policy implementation and be able to comply to the policy, 2)-Staff have capacity to produce quality report, 3)-Finalized six-month narrative report based on comments from the NGOF's

executive management on 17th June 2020, 4)-Finalized the six-month operational plan and budget for July-Dec.2020, and 5)-Maintained good team spirit among the NGOF's staffs as they have got time to relax, team building creation, and reflection on their past actions as well as taking initiatives making things better in order to move forward with the long journey with the NGOF's families.

At the end of day 4, Dr. Tek Vannara, Executive Director of NGOF, made a closing remark by expressing his sincere thanks and appreciation to all staff members who work hard for these 4 days. He summarized on the main achievements which have been made by all of the team members during the 5-day mid-year program reflection. One of the main achievements is that

our staffs has learned more about good experience form the Chambok eco-tourism community. We gained more knowledge of community development and understood more about community challenges related to community forest protection. He expressed that another key achievement is that we have finalized a draft narrative report of program's outcome harvesting for last 6-month (Jan-June 2020) as well as finalized the revision of next 6-month operational plan and budget for July -Dec 2020 to adapt and cope with the current situation of COVID 19 pandemic. Last but not least, he highlighted that we achieved network reflection as it helped our secretariat to better understands their role and importance for the member as well as to pay more attention to their role and responsibility. Finally, the midyear program reflection was happily ended with a good team spirit as the staffs have expressed their enthusiasm to move forward with a new energy toward achieving the implementation of the next 6-month (July-Dec.2020) program activities. For detail, please see detail progress of mid-year program reflection in following pages of this report.

The meeting was also updated the COVID-19 situation and its project activity implementation, particularly prevention activity from COVID-19 on the ground. Furthermore, there was a discussing on the main agenda to be discussed and informed in the second NDF-C quarterly meeting that will be organized shortly.









HIGHLIGHT STORIES

The First Online Consultation Meeting of CSO-REDD+ Strategy of Cambodia

On Tuesday morning, May 12, 2020, the NGO Forum on Cambodia facilitated the online consultation meeting to collect inputs for the draft Action & Investment Plan for the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy of Cambodia for submitting to the National REDD+ Secretariat of Cambodia. There were thirteen participants (including one woman) from Diakonia, Forum Syd, RECOFTC, PKH, AFD, FLO, CTO, EHE, and CRDT. While WCS submitted their inputs separately to the meeting. As a result, the meeting members became aware about the draft Action & Investment Plan for the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy of Cambodia. Also, we have discussed and agreed on key inputs and decided to have the next meeting on Tuesday, 19 May 2020 to finalize inputs prior to submitting to the REDD+ Secretariat of Cambodia.



BWG Monthly Meeting

The Budget Working Group (BWG) Monthly Meeing was organized on 29 May 2020 via online. There were 13 participants joint the meeting. This meeting aimed for:

- Introduce the objectives of the meeting
- Review and adopt the previous meeting minutes on 30-April-2020
- Update the progress of the development of guideline for budget analysis
- Update members' achievements and way forward
- Discuss on Joint Education Development Policy Brief/Statement to advocate for MoEYS priorities Budget allocation for 2020 or 2021
- Discuss to define the specific topics for member's capacity building

The BWG meeting was finished according to the plan set by producing a lot of results include BWG members realized the joint action plan, understand ACCESS way of working and got the last updated from roadmap for develop budget analysis guideline.





On The Media





Topic: Access to Environment Information

Date: 10 June 2020

Speaker: Mr. HOK Menghoin, Environment and Agriculture

Program Manager of NGOF

Source: VOD Facebook

Read more at: https://bit.ly/2ZWeWVQ

UPCOMING EVENTS/HOLIDAYS 2020

01 July

National Consultation and Validation Workshop on Draft Report of Analysis of Policy Aspects on Non-Communicable (NCD) in Cambodia

07 July

Forum on Mekong Wetland, Water Governance and Climate Change

08 July

Validation Workshop on the Draft Research Study on Impact of Natural Rubber Investment in Cambodia

22 July

Quarterly Member Meeting

04 August

The meeting between civil society organizations and the media

09 August

Celebrate the 26th International Day of Indigenous Peoples

10 August

1st regional conference on land and natural resource governance

25 August

Launching Result of Open Budget Survey 2019 and Cambodia Budget Website

26-28 August

Training on "OPERACY"



THANK YOU!

The NGO Forum on Cambodia would like to thanks to our local and international donors that always support our good causes missions to support Cambodians in need.

Working Together for Positive Change



















































The NGO Forum on Social Media!