

# Southern Cardamom REDD+



## Jurisdiction

Cambodia

## Methodology

Ecosystem Conservation

## CCB (Climate, Community & Biodiversity)

Version 3

## Project proponent

Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC), Ministry of Environment

## Carbon standard

VCS 1748  
SD Vista



## Solutions

The project has implemented a direct threat-based approach to protect the forest and safeguard wildlife, featuring a unique boots-on-the-ground law enforcement model that focuses on training, supervising, equipping, and mentoring the Cardamom Forest Protection Program (CFPP) unit. The effective field-level partnership between staff from the project, the Ministry of Environment, and the Military Police is a key ingredient of the project's success. The CFPP unit members are well paid and receive life insurance and full health benefits, have the capacity and equipment to work effectively and safely, and are led and motivated by inspirational supervisors. This is critical to the success of the project, where a culture of excellence in conservation, zero tolerance for corruption and achieving high performance has been cultivated.

The project also partners with communities and governments to generate sustainable income opportunities for the local community, and works with more than 15 villages to implement sustainable community-based ecotourism.

## Project Overview

The Cardamom Rainforest Landscape is one of the last unfragmented rainforests remaining in Southeast Asia and is a critical part of the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot at threat from relentless illegal logging and poaching. This area is significant for its ecosystem services, wildlife and community livelihoods conservation and serves as the region's most important watershed, climate regulator and carbon sink. Using global best practices for forest protection and community development, the Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project protects >445,339 hectares of this crucial tropical rainforest ecosystem in Southwest Cambodia.

- Key People - >16,000 local people in 29 villages, including an indigenous community in Chhay Arieng
- Wildlife - Giant ibis, Sunda pangolin, Asian elephant, Sun bear, Pileated gibbon, Yellow-headed temple turtle
- 445,339ha protected
- 27,627,237 tCO<sub>2</sub>e emissions avoided to date

## Sustainable Development Goals

- ✓ No poverty
- ✓ Zero hunger
- ✓ Good health and well-being
- ✓ Quality education
- ✓ Gender equality
- ✓ Clean water and sanitation
- ✓ Decent work and economic growth
- ✓ Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- ✓ Reduced inequalities
- ✓ Sustainable cities and communities
- ✓ Responsible consumption and production
- ✓ Climate action
- ✓ Life on land
- ✓ Peace, justice and strong institutions
- ✓ Partnerships for the goals

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