

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA NATION RELIGION KING

RETROSPECTIVE REPORT ON CAMBODIA'S APPROACH TO REDD+



Retrospective Report on Cambodia's Approach to REDD+

December 2021

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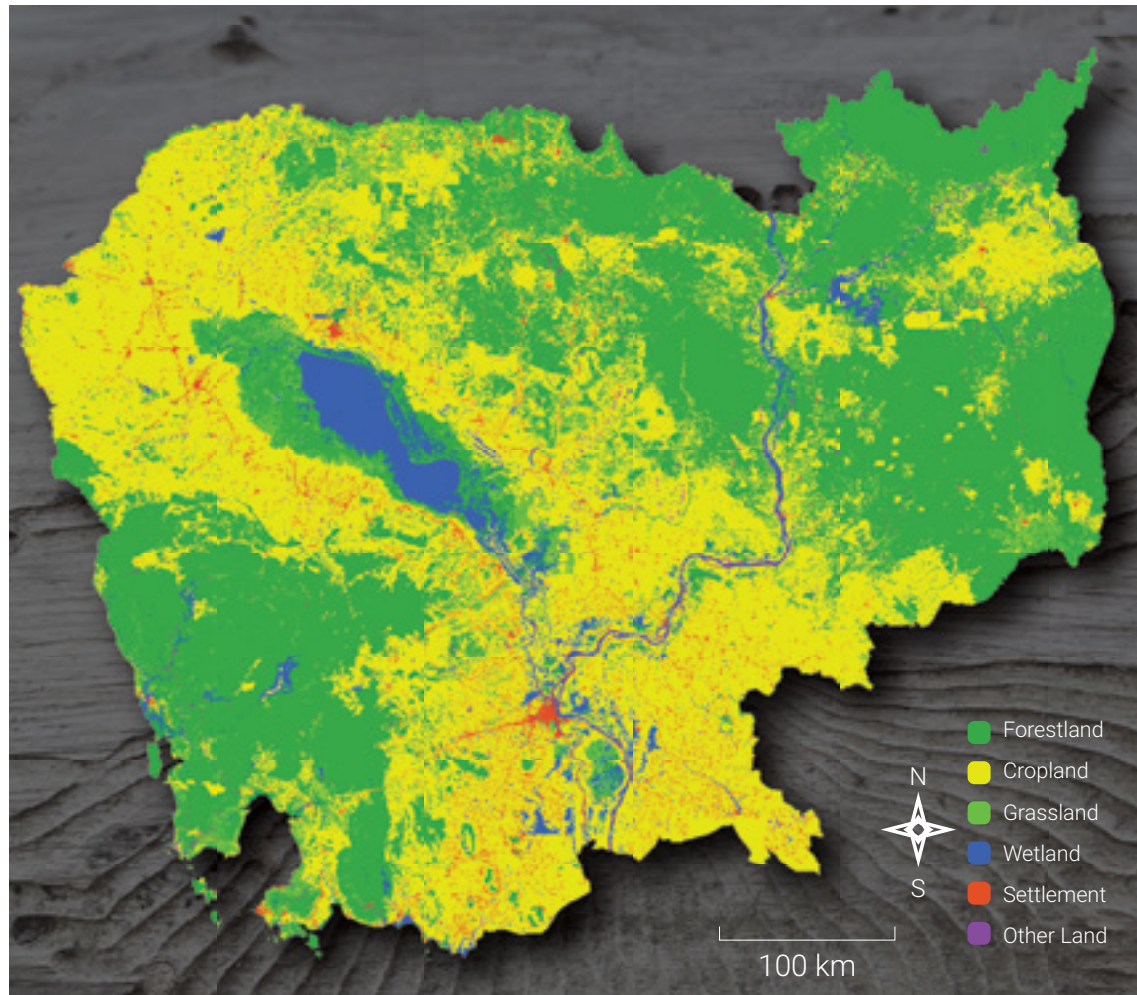
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1. A VITAL RESOURCE UNDER PRESSURE



Cambodia has among the richest repositories of biodiversity in South-East Asia. Its legendary forests offer unique habitat for a wide range of biological diversity and are deeply interconnected with culture and religion. Dotted with ancient temples, forests remain places to seek solace and spiritual reflection. Their resources are also vital for supporting livelihoods and Cambodia's efforts to move towards sustainable development.

Graph 01: Land use/land-cover map of Cambodia in 2018 (source: RTS)



Code	Land Use	Area Ha
● FL	Forestland	2,798,659
● CL	Cropland	1,038,708
● GL	Grassland	3,205,140
● WL	Wetland	122,412
● S	Settlement	593,501
● OL	Other Land	31,293

Yet forests in Cambodia are under profound pressure. In 2010, forests covered over 57 percent of land area. By 2018, the share had fallen to around 45 percent.¹ These losses come at a time when the urgency of the climate crisis is apparent around the world, amid fires, droughts, floods and other natural disasters occurring everywhere. Cambodia is among the countries most at risk of climate consequences. It is already facing losses and damages in terms of human lives, livelihoods and the national economy, and the degradation of natural resources.²

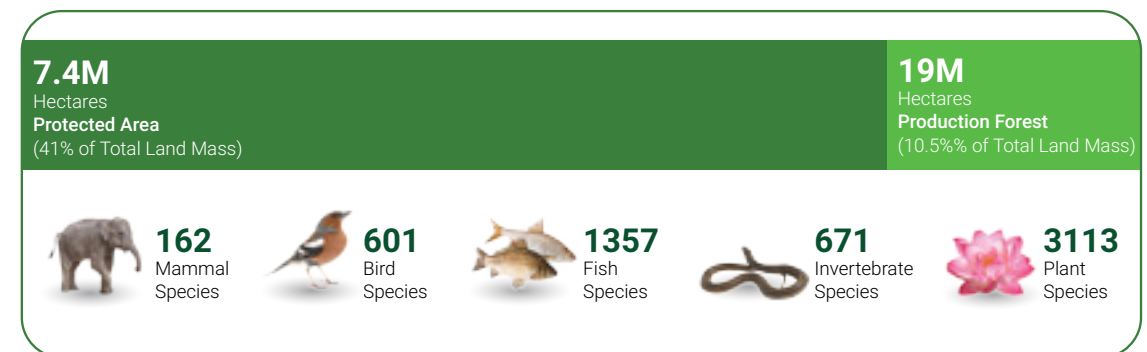
As a signatory to the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change, Cambodia is pivoting to meet a global call for greater climate ambition, including by pioneering strategies to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming and adapt to climate fallout. Much of its effort focuses on its forests, where reducing deforestation and forest degradation, coupled with conservation and sustainable forest management, could contribute to reducing emissions and removing carbon from the atmosphere.

In 2020, Cambodia issued an updated five-year national climate action plan known as a Nationally Determined Contribution or NDC. The plan's ambitious targets include cutting overall greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 42 percent by 2030, half of which would be achieved through changes in forestry and other land use. Cambodia also aims to achieve achieving zero deforestation by 2040.³

Cambodia has a strong foundation already in place to achieve these goals, having spent a decade preparing to implement a mechanism known as REDD+, shorthand for reducing deforestation and forest degradation while conserving and sustainably managing forests. Formally recognized by the Paris Agreement, REDD+ is part of a historic global opportunity to generate finance for sustaining forests, reducing emissions, and improving the lives of people in developing countries.

Intended for policymakers, forestry professionals, civil society advocates, sustainable development experts and others with some knowledge of climate and forestry, this booklet tells the story of Cambodia's journey to REDD+. It covers the process, achievements and innovations, and future plans. In providing a basic introduction to how REDD+ can work, it demonstrates the potential value of the mechanism, including Cambodia's pioneering work on a "nested" system for regulating carbon accounting. The experience should be of interest to other developing countries that, like Cambodia, are seeking to strike a complex balance between development and climate priorities.

Graph 02: Forest management and biodiversity condition in Cambodia



1. Second National Forest Reference Level to the UNFCCC (2021).
 2. Updated Nationally Determined Contribution (2020).
 3. See: <https://ncsd.moe.gov.kh/dcc/news/press-release-cambodia%E2%80%99s-updated-ndc-under-unfccc>; <https://ncsd.moe.gov.kh/resources/document/CambodiaNDCUpdated>.



2. PROGRESS, SO FAR, COMES WITH COSTS



Forests have been important in Cambodia's impressive recent development gains. Having emerged from conflict and deep poverty in 1999, it is on the way to becoming a middle-income nation. Yet progress has come with environmental costs, including a rapid decline in forest cover as land has been cleared for other uses. Roadbuilding projects weave through ancient stands of trees. Entire forests are cut down for agriculture and settlements. Without alternative energy, demand for fuelwood remains high, especially in rural areas where 75 percent of the population lives.⁴ Capacities to sustainably manage forests are limited.

Poverty continues to play a critical role as well, with the majority of rural people depending on forest resources for livelihoods as well as food, shelter and medicines. Other pressures come from growing regional and global demand for the raw materials that Cambodia's forests still provide.

While Cambodia's forests have helped it prosper, their continued loss threatens the country's future, particularly as it prepares for an era where climate change may reduce the size of the national economy by 10 percent by 2050.⁵ Key sectors of the economy, including agriculture and tourism, depend on intact forests and the "ecosystem services" they provide. For example, they protect people from floods, landslides and other natural disasters, in addition to keeping emissions out of the atmosphere. By one accounting, the economic benefits from intact forests are five times higher than gains from cutting them for small-scale agriculture and charcoal production.⁶

Some of these benefits, while crucial, are longer term and harder to see amid daily pressures to develop, which have only grown more acute during the economic downturn stemming from COVID-19. A common perception is that forest conservation is costly and can be put off until later. Too many financial benefits still seem to come from cutting down trees to use land for other purposes.

Through REDD+, Cambodia is seeking ways to balance some of these competing priorities, since the mechanism can generate finance to preserve forests and produce development gains. It can, in the shorter term, make living trees more valuable than dead ones.



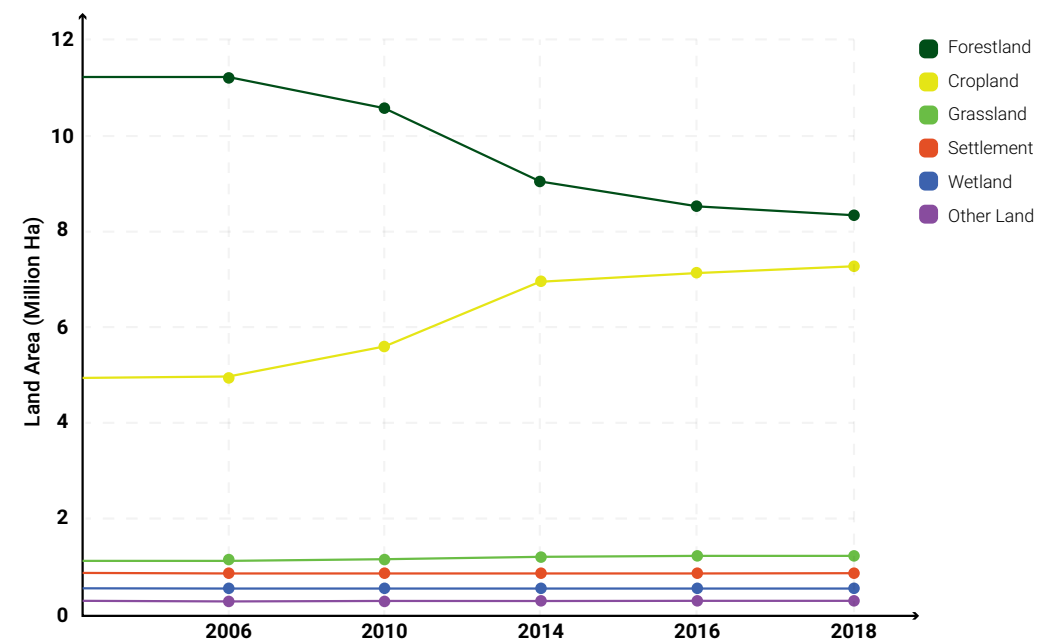
Box 01: What happens when you cut down a tree?

A tree stores carbon. Trees grow by "breathing" in carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and using it to create stems, leaves, fruits, roots and trunks. When a tree is cut down and burned or allowed to rot, it releases carbon dioxide back into the atmosphere.

Globally, deforestation and forest degradation are leading causes of global warming, producing about 15 percent of carbon emissions. The trunks and leaves of trees and other forests plants contain 80 percent of above-ground terrestrial carbon. Around 40 percent of below-ground terrestrial carbon lies in plant roots and in soil beneath the forest floor.⁷



Graph 02: Forests are on the decline through land use changes (Source: RTS – AIP-NRS)



4. See: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.RUR.TOTL.ZS?locations=KH>.

5. See: https://www.kh.undp.org/content/dam/cambodia/docs/ResearchAndPublication/CEGIM%20CC_Full%20report_EN_FA_1.pdf.

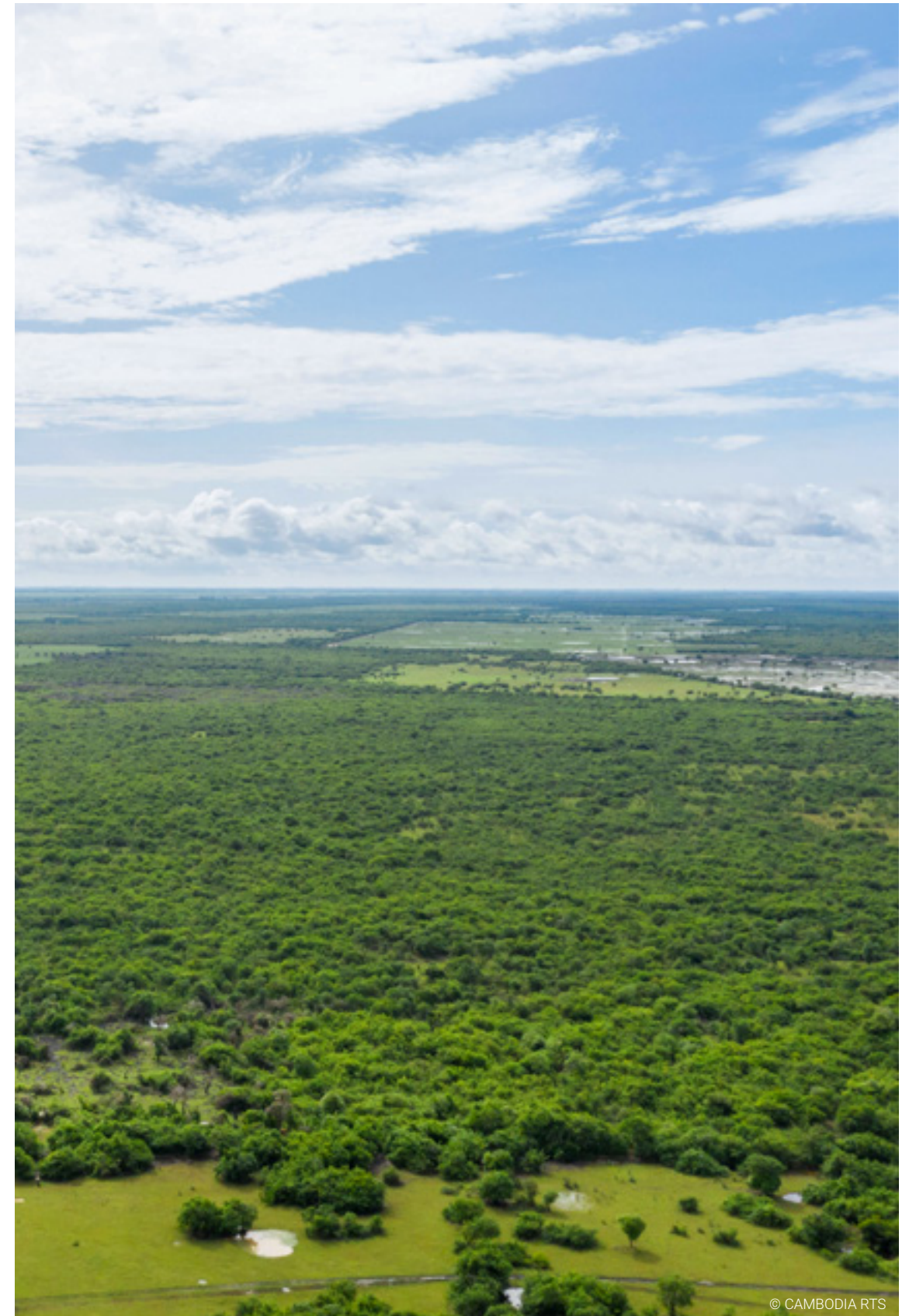
6. See: <https://blogs.worldbank.org/eastasiapacific/valuing-ecosystem-services-provided-forests-pursat-basin-cambodia>.

7. See: <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/what-redd; What Is REDD book>.

Box 02: Why do forests disappear?

The National REDD+ Strategy has identified diverse drivers in land-use changes that result in forest loss. These include:

1. Improved access to remote forested areas, coupled with commercial logging, infrastructure projects and inadequate government capacity to manage forests in these areas.
2. Uncertain land tenure, land speculation and unauthorized encroachment on forest lands.
3. Rapid expansion of agriculture into forest lands, large-scale agro-industrial economic land concessions, and the distribution of land titles under social land concessions between 1996 and 2012.
4. Unauthorized logging and unsustainable harvesting of forest and non-timber products.
5. Insufficient forest governance, law enforcement, and monitoring of forest and land use.
6. Increasing regional and global demand for raw materials such as rubber and sugar.
7. A growing population accompanied by greater demand for agricultural land.
8. Rural poverty and a lack of alternative livelihoods.
9. Migration into forest areas, weak implementation of land laws, inadequate environmental and social impact assessments, and a lack of state land registration and forest estate demarcation.



3. REDD+: A PATH TO PROTECT, SUSTAIN AND ENHANCE FOREST COVER



REDD+ has emerged as a way for developing countries to draw in finance that helps achieve climate, environmental and development goals. It works by tapping resources in industrialized countries, multilateral organizations and private businesses. They provide finance so that developing countries can preserve and enhance carbon stocks in forests, and reduce emissions caused by deforestation or forest degradation.

REDD+ initiatives can take place locally and nationally. They might entail stronger laws and better conservation incentives, improved monitoring systems, more protected areas, better fire-control management, ending unsustainable logging or promoting sustainable forestry practices. Developing REDD+ involves three stages: readiness, implementation, and payment for results in reducing emissions and increasing greenhouse gases through forestry activities.

Different programmes support countries to move forward on REDD+. They include the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society and Indigenous Peoples, and the REDD+ Programme under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change or UNFCCC. The Green Climate Fund has become one of the major multilateral source of finance to provide payments for REDD+ results. Through voluntary carbon markets, private companies have increasingly purchased carbon credits from forestry projects. These credits help businesses meet their own emissions objectives while financing conservation efforts.



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Where did REDD+ come from?

REDD+ emerged from a series of global agreements, starting in 2005 with the seminal Conference of the Parties to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Momentum around reducing forest degradation and deforestation began to build after that point, and REDD+ was formally endorsed by Parties to the Convention in the 2007 Bali Action Plan. It recognized that by sustainably managing forests, countries can both prevent carbon release and remove carbon before it reaches the atmosphere. In 2013, Parties adopted the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ to provide comprehensive guidance on implementing and financing REDD+ programmes, with an emphasis on coordinating efforts nationally and across localities.

The 2015 Paris Agreement endorsed REDD+. Industrialized countries, having contributed most greenhouse gas emissions historically, committed to supporting developing countries to take appropriate climate action. This promise includes the provision of adequate climate finance. The NDCs, required of all Parties to the agreement, are important for defining climate goals and needed resources to implement them, including through REDD+.



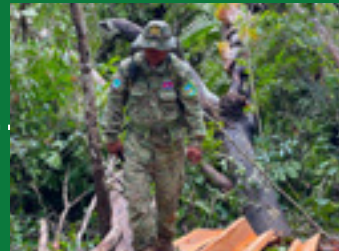
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Box 03: Where did REDD+ come from?

In the 1990s, the REDD concept first emerged. It centered on reducing emissions from two key activities resulting in forest loss: deforestation and degradation. But over the years and rounds of international talks, the concept has evolved. REDD+ incorporates three additional activities: conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. REDD+ has become a mechanism for developing countries to monitor progress in using these five activities to protect and conserve tropical forests.



Reducing Emissions From Deforestation



Reducing Emissions From Forest Degradation

REDD+



Conservation of Forest Carbon Stocks



Sustainable Forest Management



Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks



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4. CAMBODIA GETS READY FOR REDD+



Globally, Cambodia was an early mover on REDD+. Even before REDD+ formally began operating on an international scale in 2007, the Government passed the 2002 Forest Law, which provides a framework to establish protected forests and community forestry. The 2008 Protected Areas Law laid the foundation for creating new national parks and biodiversity conservation corridors. By 2018, land area under protection had increased to just over 41 percent, up from 18 percent in 1993.

Despite its legislative achievements, Cambodia has still struggled to find adequate resources for protection on the ground.⁸ Illegal deforestation remains widespread and difficult to stop. Tackling it requires scaled-up investment in measures such as clarifying land tenure, improving community livelihoods, ensuring effective law enforcement and regular monitoring.

The Government sees REDD+ as a promising opportunity to mobilize new resources. In 2017, it endorsed the 2017-2026 National REDD+ Strategy. With support from international partners, it hoped to stem what had already become alarming rates of deforestation and biodiversity loss while maintaining development gains for people who rely on the forests for livelihoods and other resources.



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8. <https://www.ecosystemmarketplace.com/articles/cambodia-embarks-on-building-a-nested-system-to-protect-remaining-forests/>

To start getting ready for REDD+, the Government devised a roadmap. It defined various elements that would make programmes robust and reliable – and attractive to finance. These encompassed well-crafted national strategies, better management capacities, consultations with the diverse people affected by decisions on forests, frameworks for eventual benefit sharing and safeguards, and systems to measure and monitor performance.

Early preparations entailed establishing a REDD+ taskforce and technical teams, along with groups dedicated to steering broad-based consultations and integrating gender dimensions across the process. A communications strategy raised awareness. In 2013, the Government began pursuing forest management and environmental governance reforms. The National Council for Sustainable Development emerged in 2015 to chair the REDD+ taskforce and foster decision-making across different ministries, an effective way to link core economic, social and development concerns.



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In 2016, the Government agreed to shift the management of conservation areas to the Ministry of Environment, a major move that led to the transfer of 1.6 million hectares of protected forests to the Ministry from the Forestry Administration. By 2018, land area under protection had increased to just over 41 percent, up from 18 percent in 1993.

An Environment and Natural Resources Code was developed to define a legal framework for sustainable natural resource management and development. Environmental and social impact assessments were introduced to avoid, mitigate and minimize adverse consequences from development activities.

Box 04: REDD+ on the ground

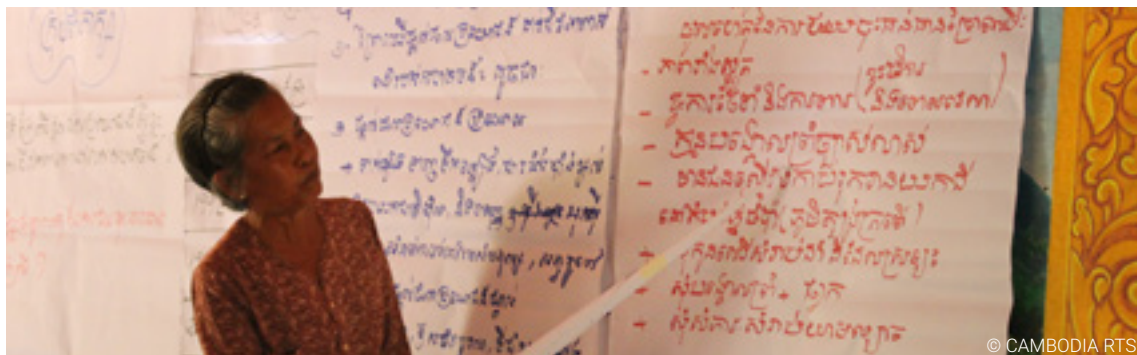
Cambodia implemented some of the world's first pilot REDD+ projects. The Seima Protection Forest, for example, has evolved to the point of successfully selling carbon credits on the voluntary carbon market. Resources raised have financed the protection of the Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary and supported surrounding communities, including to develop livelihoods and land use plans and improve forest management.

By 2020, Cambodia had raised over \$11 million from companies in Europe, Japan and the United States for three forest conservation projects.⁹ Besides the Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary, the projects include the Southern Cardamom Wildlife Sanctuary and Tatai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Through the UN-REDD Programme and the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme, communities have conducted pilot projects such as using small grants to purchase solar panels to charge batteries. Community members pay a small fee to use the batteries. The money is pooled in a community fund that supports local forest patrols.

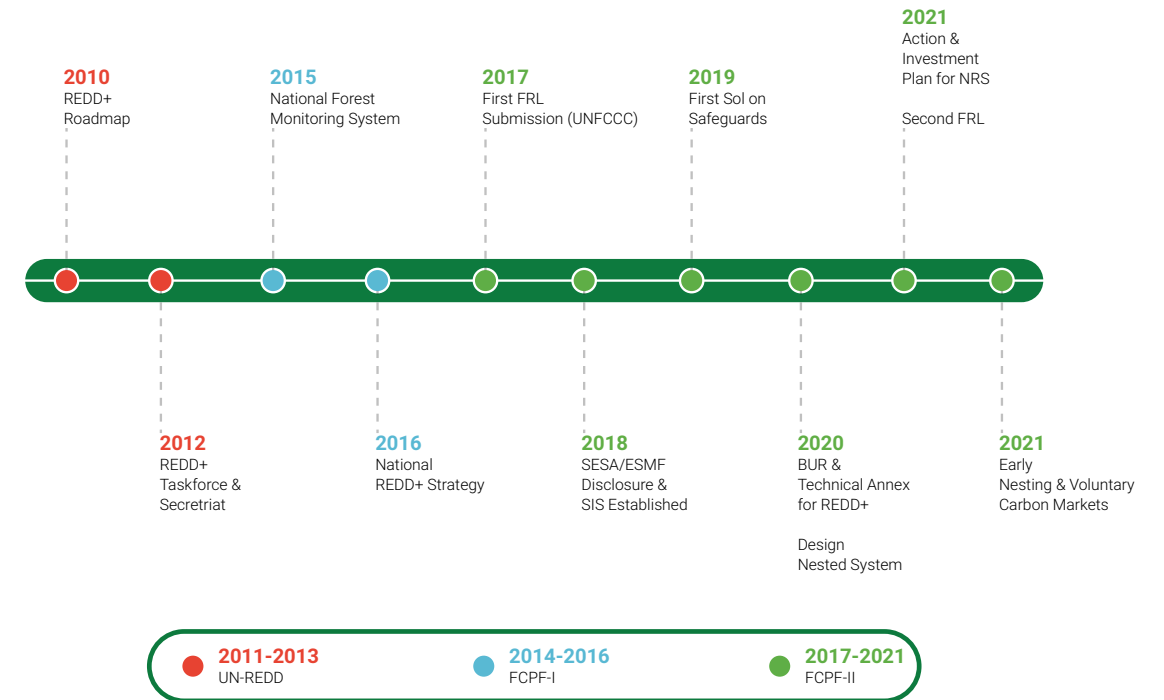
These experiences have spurred momentum in preparations for REDD+ and built a repository of knowledge in managing unique landscapes, such as flooded forests and mangroves. Both are important sources of food and income for local communities and offer high rates of carbon sequestration. As the Government moves the national policy agenda forward, it has drawn on regular consultations with stakeholders, including from local communities, to learn from their insights and a wealth of practical solutions.

- Sources:
- <https://www.terraglobalcapital.com/oddar-meanchey-community-redd-project-cambodia>
 - https://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1650
 - https://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1748
 - https://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1689
 - <https://www.jcm.go.jp/kh-jp/methodologies/97>



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Graph 04: Cambodia's Road to REDD+



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⁹ <https://www.ecosystemmarketplace.com/articles/cambodia-embarks-on-building-a-nested-system-to-protect-remaining-forests/>, <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/increase-carbon-credit-sales-sought>.

5. PUTTING THE PILLARS IN PLACE



Cambodia's initial efforts to prepare for REDD+ galvanized momentum, particularly after the Government set an ambitious goal: readiness for implementation by 2021. Starting in 2017, progress accelerated through developing four pillars that are foundational to success with REDD+. These guide planning, measurement, monitoring and safeguards (see Figure 2).

Graph 05: REDD+ builds on four pillars



As the first pillar the milestone was the adoption of the National REDD+ Strategy in 2017. It detailed the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and outlined measures to address the damage, enhance forest cover and contribute to sustainable development.

Box 05: National REDD+ Strategy

Objective: reduce deforestation and forest degradation while promoting sustainable management, conservation of natural resources and contributing to poverty alleviation.

To address the various direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, the NRS promotes three key SOs:

- SO 1.** Improve management and monitoring of forest resources and forest land use;
- SO 2.** Strengthen implementation of sustainable forest management;
- SO 3.** Mainstream approaches to reduce deforestation, build capacity and engage stakeholders.

The transformational effects arising from the NRS implementation:

- ▶ Conservation of remaining natural forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks;
- ▶ Enhancement of sustainable local livelihoods through communities' empowerment;
- ▶ REDD+ implementation through inter-sectoral coordination and stakeholders' engagement at national and subnational levels.

That same year, Cambodia's first NDC stipulated that forestry would be a priority in both mitigating and adapting to climate change. The NDC defined forest-related actions in energy production, manufacturing, transport, waste, and renewable energy for irrigation and solar lamps. It demonstrated how REDD+, while explicitly linked to forests, can reach diverse sectors of the economy.

The strategy builds on national policies for forest management, and tackles pressures on forests through better land use planning and natural resources management, and enhanced capacity for monitoring and enforcing regulations. It promotes more sustainable forest management practices, livelihoods and private sector investment. It defines clearer rules around land tenure, sustainable agricultural models and renewable sources of energy.

Full implementation of the strategy would mean that Cambodia could both conserve its remaining natural forests and enhance its ability to retain and absorb carbon. Empowered communities would be able to use resources without pressuring their environment. Close engagement of people in managing forests would advance social inclusion and gender equality, both of which are emphasized across the strategy.

The second pillar is an assessment called the Forest Reference Level. Cambodia submitted its first Forest Reference Level to the UNFCCC in 2017, covering 2006-2014. In 2021, a second round covering 2010-2018 tracked carbon emissions from deforestation and removals through enhanced forests and forestry practices. It made future projections to gauge the performance of REDD+ activities compared with the first assessment. By 2021, Cambodia could demonstrate that emissions from deforestation had declined during 2015-2016 and 2017-2018 compared to 2006-2014.

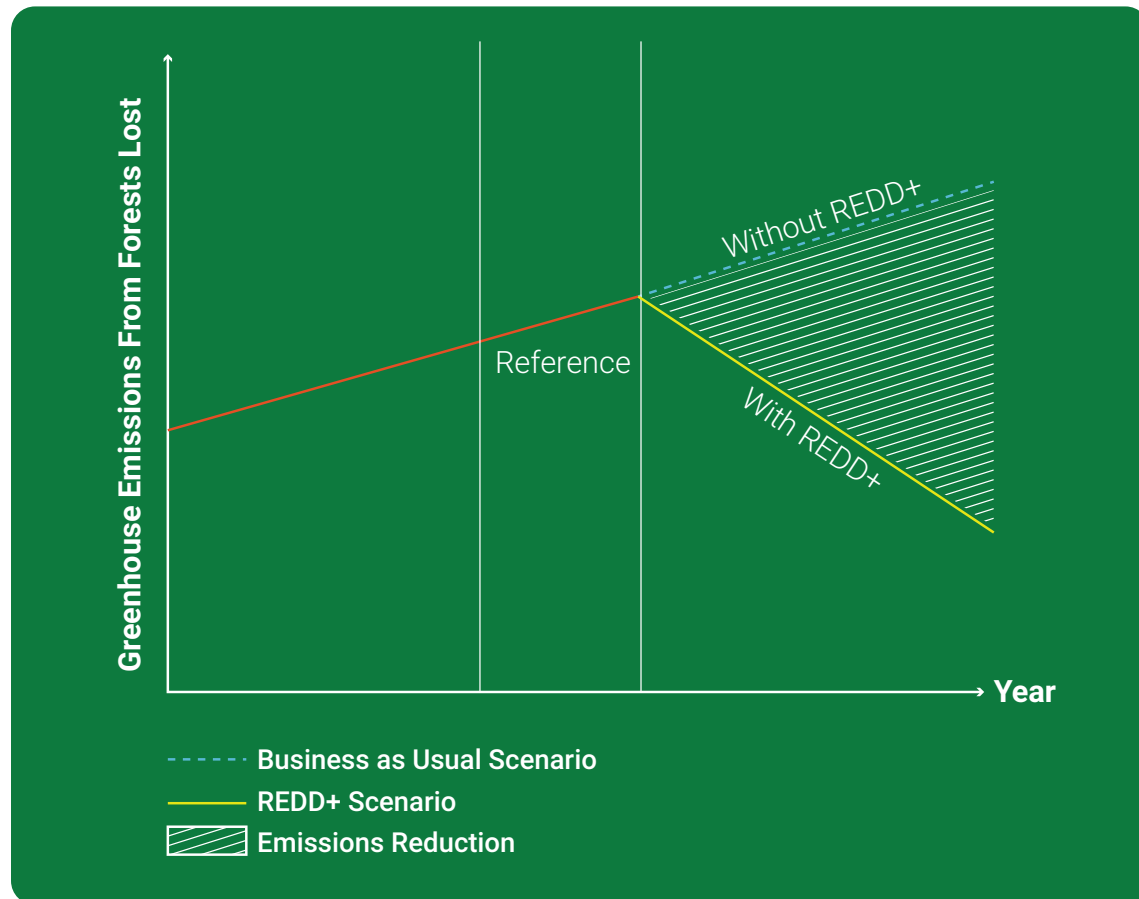


As the third pillar of REDD+, also in 2017, Cambodia launched the National Forest Monitoring System to track REDD+ activities and improve data on forest carbon stocks and forest cover changes. It adopted a national forest definition and land use classification system and set up a spatial monitoring tool based on Google Earth to analyse global alerts on forest loss. A system is now being developed to issue early warning alerts on deforestation in protected areas.

The fourth pillar of REDD+ is a Safeguards Information System, introduced in 2019. It entails regularly monitoring seven social and environmental safeguards that apply to all REDD+ initiatives. Examples include ensuring transparency in forest governance, and fully upholding the rights of local and indigenous communities. The system makes visible any risks and possible impacts from REDD+ activities, and what needs to be done to reduce and manage them.

By 2021, an Action and Investment Plan, forecasting a total cost for the National REDD+ Strategy of nearly \$186 million by 2030, was in place. It orchestrates resource mobilization and investments in line with the strategy and updated NDC commitments. Economic analysis to develop the plan found that a REDD+ path would curb emissions from forests while preserving ecosystem services and delivering more carbon and non-carbon benefits than a non-REDD+ one. It predicted a savings of nearly 360 megatons of carbon equivalent, worth about \$1.8 billion on international markets.¹⁰

Graph 06: REDD+ can more emissions to a downward trajectory



10. At \$5 per ton of CO2e.

As part of operationalizing its Action and Investment Plan plans for REDD+, Cambodia has clarified the mandates of responsible national and local institutions, and issued guidelines for coordination, monitoring and reporting. Nationally, the Ministry of Environment has overall responsibility for REDD+, working with the REDD+ Taskforce and technical units on policy, measurement and reporting, safeguards, and monitoring and evaluation. A formal Consultation Group maintains regular ties to NGOs, forest-dependent communities and companies involved in agriculture, among others, while a Gender Group keeps a spotlight on gender equality. At the subnational level, provincial and district administrations oversee and coordinate REDD+ within their jurisdictions. Implementing partners from the Government, NGOs and local communities carry out REDD+ projects.

Box 06: Running the numbers on funds for conservation

Cambodia's primary sources of finance for climate and environmental initiatives include the government budget, official development assistance, REDD+, payment for ecosystem services schemes, the Environment and Social Fund, the National Forestry Development Fund, and taxes, fees, royalties and other charges.

Expenses for forest and biodiversity conservation in 2018 reached \$112 million, but needs were estimated at \$305 million, leaving a \$195 million financing gap.

Financing solutions include:

Carbon credits: By 2020, REDD+ had generated more than \$11.6 million through sales of carbon credits in the voluntary carbon market.

Ecotourism in protected areas: This yielded more than \$25 million in 2020.

Pilot payment for ecosystem services schemes: These could produce more than \$5 million a year in the Kbal Chhay Multiple Use Area and Phnom Kulen National Park.





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6. “NESTING” OR GIVING CREDIT WHERE IT IS DUE



Cambodia has reached an advanced stage in its REDD+ journey. The national strategy, systems for assessment and monitoring, safeguards and a financing plan all support its ability to tap finance from a wide range of funding sources including international donors and voluntary carbon markets. But when major money is at stake, a critical element is the ability to prove that emissions reductions are highly credible and trustworthy. To provide this kind of guarantee, Cambodia is now among a handful of countries developing a technically sophisticated “nested” regulatory framework that should help it fully capitalize on the promise of REDD+.

A longstanding challenge has been that REDD+ projects use different data and methods to measure forest-related emissions and the contributions of mitigation measures. This makes it difficult to accurately report progress. It can lead to double counting, or variations where some projects receive more money for less effort. Discrepancies over time could erode public and private finance and even popular support for forest protection.

To address this challenge, Cambodia is now among a handful of countries developing a technically sophisticated “nested” regulatory framework. A nested system works by setting common rules and methods to account for and track emissions reductions and uphold safeguards. It aligns measurements across individual projects, areas of the country and by the national government. In defining how baselines and reference levels are set, it ensures that starting points are the same. Equal efforts receive equal rewards, and benefits are fairly shared. This greater transparency and environmental integrity in turn send a positive signal to international donors and markets, with high-quality carbon credits potentially opening doors to new streams of finance beyond national budgets and donor contributions.

A nested system is challenging to design and implement, requiring close links among different institutions, processes and data, all backed by the creation and enforcement of regulations. Cambodia has taken a staged approach. During a transition period in 2021, REDD+ projects will continue to operate as usual. After 2022, all REDD+ projects must follow new regulations on emissions tracking and register in a National REDD+ Project Database to gain government authorization.

The regulations, known as Prakas, provide official, legal standing and structure to nesting in Cambodia. They define measurement methodologies and eligibility for and registration in the national database. They will guide progress towards fully realizing nesting, which will occur as data become sufficiently robust and various functions such as registration and reporting on safeguards are fully institutionalized.

Box 07: Public and private interest in nesting is growing

Countries such as Japan, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland as well as the European Union have highlighted Cambodia's strides in accounting for forest-related carbon and announced collaborations in line with the Paris Agreement. NGOs and carbon finance companies are also eager to support nested REDD+ projects, using the new guidelines.

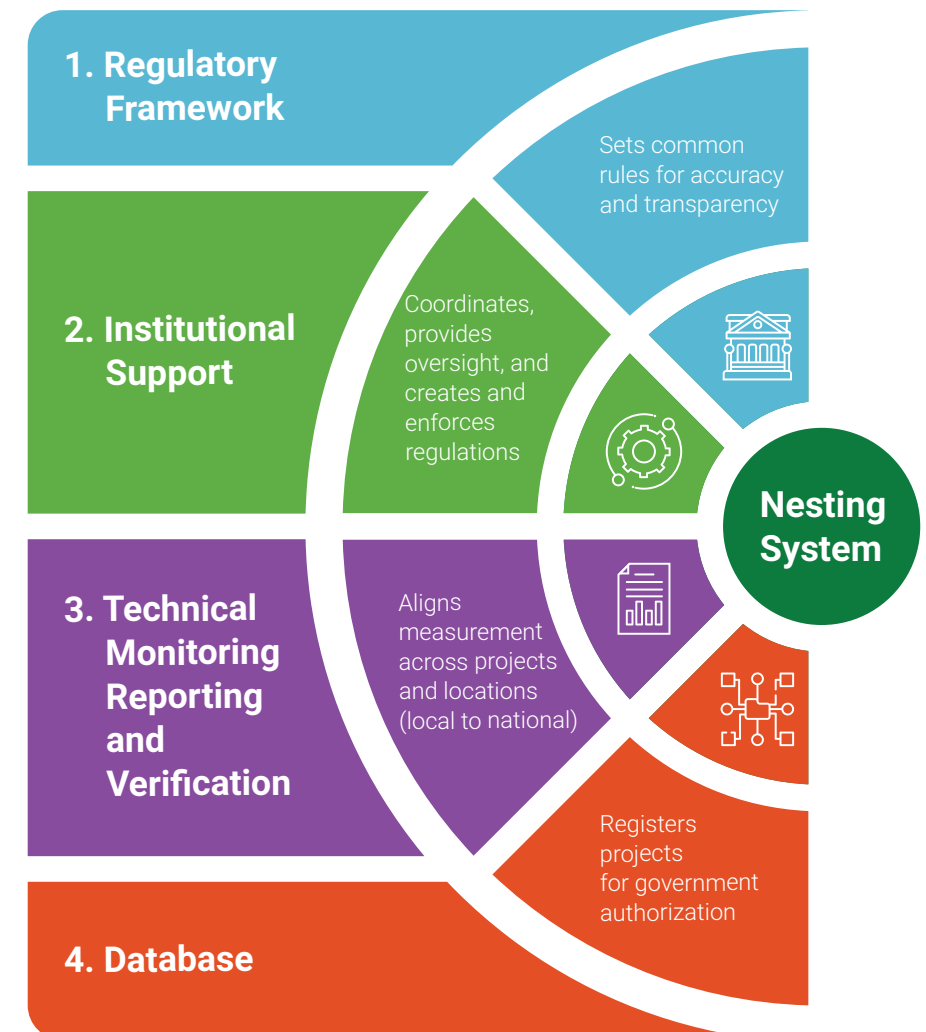
Several private companies have expressed strong interest in buying carbon credits from nested projects, given greater integrity assurance. They are closely watching how Cambodia will lead in this area.

Box 08: A new drive for carbon market integrity

The Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative is a new platform bringing together government, business and other actors to drive markets that are credible, transparent and aligned with net zero emissions goals. Through ongoing consultations, it is proposing standards for high-quality markets that could channel significant private sector finance into mitigating emissions. Cambodia is participating in the effort, including by highlighting its progress on nesting as an approach that directly supports the goals of the initiative.

Graph 07: What does nesting look like?

The REDD+ Taskforce Secretariate under the guidance of the Ministry of Environment has been developing a framework for a nested system. The figure below illustrates the thematic representation of the building block for the development of the nested framework being followed.





7. TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION: NEXT STEPS



Given Cambodia's updated NDC commitments, REDD+ will be essential for financing ambitious actions to accelerate progress. The fundamentals are in place to jumpstart rapid change, and Cambodia today offers great hope for demonstrating the far-reaching potential of REDD+. This includes the nesting system with its significant contribution to improving the quality and integrity of the process of issuing carbon credits and its potential for drawing in new sources of public and private finance.

Yet Cambodia also needs to close some gaps, with one immediate priority is to expedite a system to channel REDD+ finance and sustain costs for operations, in a predictable fashion. Another important initial investment would be to develop a comprehensive national forest inventory. It can provide useful insights for economic planning and investment choices as well as data on biodiversity indicators and forest health.



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Since success with REDD+ will largely hinge on the implementation of policies and regulations like the Prakas, which give legal clarity to projects and investors, and provide clear guidelines to project developers. A meaningful involvement of a broader base of national institutions is required. Ministries managing forestry and the environment have played significant roles so far, but sectors such as agriculture, energy, infrastructure and mining have been less involved, even as they drive deforestation and contribute to emissions. Integrating REDD+ in their core plans and allocating finance accordingly could encourage more involvement along with closer coordination across sectors.

Insufficient technical and operational capacities remain persistent concerns, including to measure and monitor progress on forest cover and emissions, integrate gender equality considerations, and implement social and environmental safeguards. Shortfalls are typically worse at the subnational level, requiring focused training and guidance.

Cambodia's National REDD+ Strategy rightly called for improved land use planning. Further clarifying procedures for allocating land could incentivize local communities to adopt more sustainable management of natural resources and livelihoods. This might improve land security tenure particularly for indigenous communities. Much depends on clear coordination between central and subnational institutions, adequate funding, and the regular and meaningful involvement of local communities in making decisions.

Overall, Cambodia's experience shows the complexity of establishing REDD+. The process has taken time and effort. But it has also clarified the value and feasibility of this approach. From the beginning, the goal has been ensuring that forests continue to provide goods and services for people while helping to slow global climate change and sustaining biodiversity. Through REDD+, that goal is increasingly within reach.



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