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## Tumring REDD+ Project

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The Tumring REDD+ Project (TRP) is a multi-partner initiative designed to promote climate change mitigation and adaptation, restore biodiversity and create alternative livelihoods under the United Nation scheme of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+). The 41,166 ha TRP lies on the southwestern edge of the recently declared Prey Long Wildlife Sanctuary (PLWS) in central Cambodia. The Prey Long Wildlife Sanctuary contains the largest remaining area of lowland evergreen forest in Cambodia and forms part of the Indo-Burma Hotspot, one of the worlds' 34 biodiversity hotspots (Mittermeier, et al., 2004; CEPF, 2011).

The PLWS is the primary watershed of central Cambodia that regulates water and sediment flow to the Mekong River and Tonle Sap Lake. An estimated 700,000 Cambodians depend on these watersheds for irrigation and fisheries. Its forests are also recognized for their importance in securing rural livelihoods, with more than 250,000 people, mostly indigenous Kuy, living in and or adjacent to them (CI, 2011).

The Tumring REDD+ Project (TRP) is an important buffer area for the PLWS. It houses important biodiversity including the endangered pileated gibbon (*Hylobates piletus*) and sunda pangolin (*Manis javanica*) as well as a host of other threatened species. It also stores carbon, whose release in the atmosphere through deforestation results in the emission of large quantities of greenhouse gases (GHG), which contribute to global climate change. Thus, protecting the TRP forests is critical for mitigating global climate change, conserving biodiversity, and ensuring the provision of ecosystem services to a marginalized indigenous community. By reducing the deforestation in the TRP Project Area it will result in a reduction of 3.9 million tCO<sub>2e</sub> emissions over a 10-year timeframe.

Despite its global importance, uncontrolled small-scale land conversion of forest to agricultural land by migrants and conversion to agro-industrial plantations by the private sector make the Tumring area one of most threatened forest landscapes in Cambodia. Rural communities depend on small-scale agricultural production to support their livelihood. A lack of sufficient employment opportunities for the growing rural population combined with a lack of knowledge regarding improved agricultural techniques drive the local population to clear forests for cultivating commercial crops.

The drivers of deforestation are predominantly a high demand for new agricultural and cash crop land in the TRP Project Area, and throughout Kampong Thom Province in general. The population in the province and the area around the Project has significantly increased over the last several decades. This is from both in-migration and also an increase in child birth rates. Currently, there are low education rates in the area, due to the need for children to work on the families' farms during the day, perpetuating the cycle of poverty and therefore deforestation. Additional drivers of deforestation include illegal logging, fuel gathering and charcoal production. These activities are primarily undertaken by members of the local communities to provide additional sources of income.

The primary method for the identification of stakeholders in the TRP was through a SBIA workshop that was held in Sandan District Hall, Kampong Thom Province, November 9 – 11, 2015. This workshop had 28 participants, who were all identified by local experts as leaders or representatives of the Project stakeholder groups. Additionally, the expert knowledge of the Project Proponent was used to identify any project stakeholders who were not previously identified during the SBIA workshop.

In response to the threats to the TRP, the Forestry Administration (FA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), in consultation with the Korean government, decided to try to protect the southwestern edge of the Prey Long landscape. The protection of the TRP will be achieved by both increasing the level of protection of the Project Area, but by also providing project activities to the communities that are designed to mitigate these drivers of deforestation. One project activity is the



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employment of additional rangers and community members force. The current ranger/community member force suffers from inadequate equipment and training. The Project will provide invaluable support to this program. Two very important project activities are assisting local communities with promoting effective land use planning and granting secure land tenure. Additional, project activities will promote new income generating activities and improved agricultural methods. These will help create greater financial security in the communities, and therefore less need to perform unsustainable resource extraction from the Project Area.

The Project's climate benefits include the avoided emission of approximately 2,111,581 t CO<sub>2</sub>e during this first monitoring period and over 11 million t CO<sub>2</sub>e over the lifetime of the Project. The Project will generate substantial community and biodiversity co-benefits. New and sustainable livelihood opportunities, such as alternative income generating activities (IGAs) and initiatives to stimulate investment in businesses will be designed to reduce pressure on the environment while significantly increasing community well-being. Additional programs will address food security, improve health and education facilities, as well as raise environmental awareness. Biodiversity co-benefits will be achieved through greater protection of the ecosystem predominantly by means of increased security and improved monitoring.

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| <b>Project name</b>  | Tumring REDD+ Project  |
| <b>Project location</b>  | Cambodia, Kampong Thom Province  |
| <b>Project Proponent</b>   | Royal Government of Cambodia, Forestry Administration<br>Contact Name: Chhun Delux<br>Email: chhundelux83@gmail.com<br>Phone: 070 4464 905               |
| <b>Auditor</b>   | Organization: S & A Carbon<br>Contact Name: Pablo Reed<br>Email: pablo.reed@saacarbon.com<br>Phone: +1 971 235 7835                                      |
| <b>Project Start Date, GHG Accounting Period and Lifetime</b>            | Project start date: 01 January 2015<br>GHG accounting period: 01 January 2015 – 31 December 2045<br>Project lifetime: 01 January 2015 – 31 December 2045 |
| <b>Project Implementation Period of Verification</b>                     | 01 January 2015 – 31 December 2019   |
| <b>History of CCB Status</b>   | The Project received its validation under the CCB Standard on 28 June 2018. This is the Project's first verification.                                    |
| <b>The Edition of the CCB Standards Being Used for this Verification</b> | This project is being verified under the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition of the CCB Standard.  |
| <b>Gold Level Criteria</b>   | Not applicable, no Gold Level Criteria   |



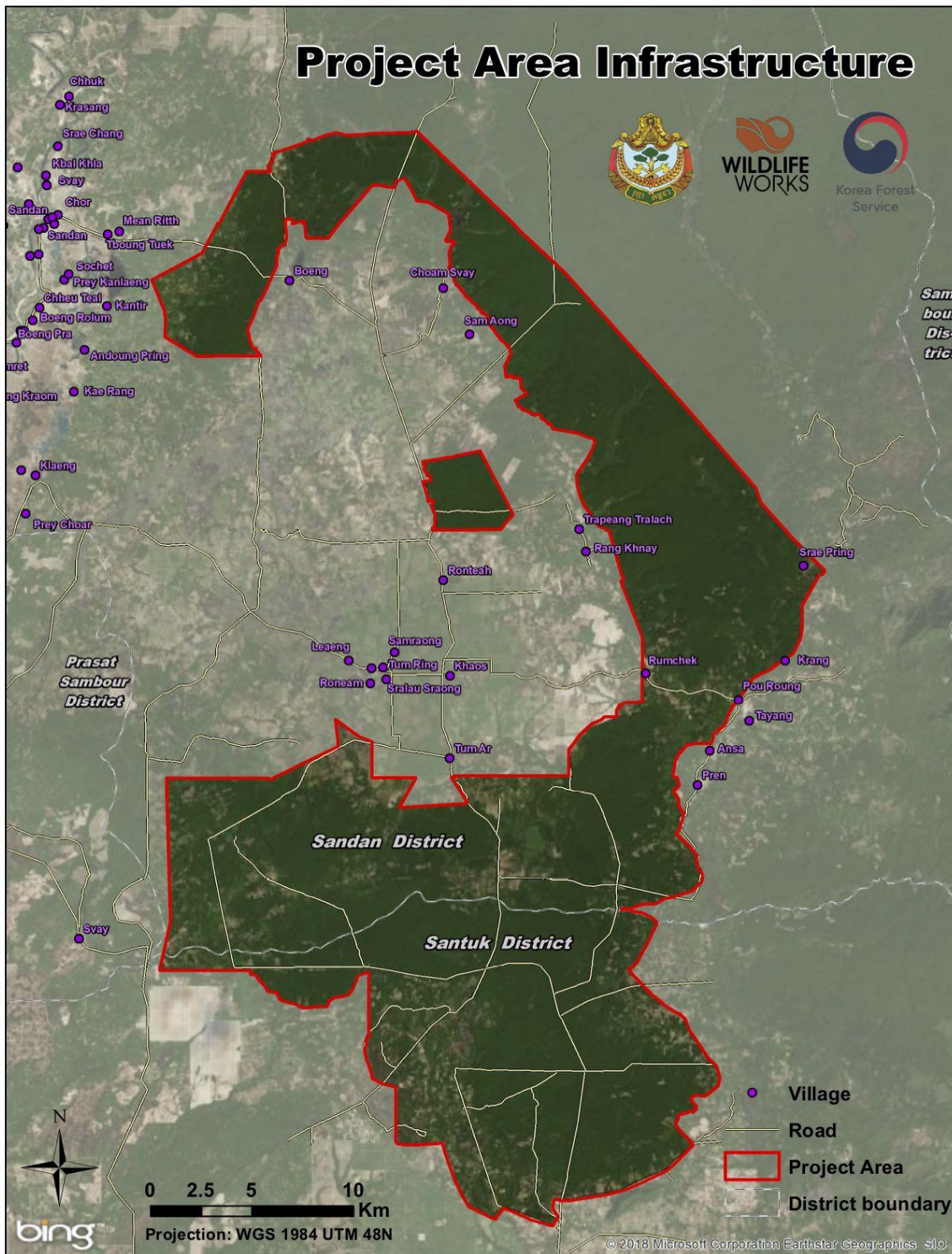
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| <b>Date of completion and version number of this version of the MR</b>   | Date: November 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2019<br>Version: 3.0  |
| <b>Project Identified Communities, Community groups and Stakeholders</b> | <b>Villages:</b> Svay, Tbaeng Chas, Andoung Pring, Prey Kanlaeng, Kanti, Boeng, Sam Aong, Choam Svay, Tboung Tuek, Trapeang Tralach, Rang Khnay, Rumchek, Krang, Pou ROUNG, Trayang, Ansar, Pren, Srae Pring, Leaeng, Roneam, Ronteah, Tum Ar, Kbal Damrei, Samraong, Sralau Sraong, Khaos.<br><b>Stakeholders:</b> Agriculturalists, Charcoal producers, Firewood gatherers, Subsistence hunters, Women, Youth, Landless – Migrants, Community Forests, Local authorities, Police and military |



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The Tumring REDD+ Project Area, and identified communities